

2017-02 Fedora Newsletter

This is the February 2017 edition of the Fedora Newsletter. This newsletter summarizes the most significant activities within the Fedora community over the last month.

Call for Action

Fedora is designed, built, used, and supported by the community. An easy and important way that you can contribute to the effort is by helping resolve outstanding bugs. If you have an interest in gaining a better understanding of the Fedora code base, or a specific interest in any of [these bugs](#), please add a comment to a ticket and we can work together to move your interest forward.

Software development

4.7.1 Release

The Fedora 4.7.1 release is now [available](#). This is a backwards compatible refinement of the previous release, focused on improvements and bug fixes to the REST-API and the core code base.

Standards

Fedora API Specification

The Fedora community is working to establish a clearly defined specification for the core Fedora services. This specification details the exact services and interactions required for a server implementation to be verified as "doing Fedora".

The [draft specification](#) has been published and is looking for community comments. Following this round of input, we plan on an initial release of the specification in the spring of 2017.

Community-driven Activity

Import/Export Tooling

One of the design goals of Fedora is to simplify the process of both getting your resources into and out of Fedora in a standardized way. This enables the reuse of Fedora resources in other contexts, such as exporting to a separate preservation system, as well as provides a pathway for migrating across Fedora installations, such as migrating from a LevelDB backend to PostgreSQL. Half of the problem is solved with the existing GET/POST interactions for RDF and non-RDF resources provided by the Linked Data Platform API. The other half should be addressed by tooling external to Fedora. In addition to the basic import/export of simple RDF and non-RDF resources, there is also significant community interest in supporting import/export of BagIt bags. The third import/export sprint was completed in December, and stakeholders have had an opportunity to [test the new functionality and provide feedback](#). If you would like to try out the utility please check out the [README file](#) for instructions.

API Extension Architecture

The [first milestone release](#) of the API Extension Architecture is now publically available. A Docker-based demonstration of API-X with accompanying step-by-step evaluation guide has been prepared for those who are interested in concretely exploring API-X and providing valuable feedback. Please take a look at it, give it a try, and **provide feedback by February 9**. An [introductory video](#) providing an overview of API-X can also be found on YouTube. This milestone and demo represent the culmination of a year of [design and development](#) effort from a broad swath of the [Fedora community](#), and has been helped along by an [IMLS National Digital Platform grant](#).

The API-X team holds regular monthly meetings. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, February 16 at 1pm Eastern time.

Conferences and events

In an attempt to simplify the task of keeping up with Fedora-related meetings and events, a Fedora calendar is available to the community as [HTML](#) and [iCal](#).

Upcoming Events

Hydra Regional Meeting

The next West Coast Hydra Regional Meeting will be on February 10, 2017 at McHenry Library at UC Santa Cruz in Santa Cruz, CA. Anyone near the West Coast who is interested or invested in Hydra is invited to attend, including Hydra implementers, developers, and interested onlookers. If you plan to attend, please [register for free](#).

Mid West Fedora User Group Meeting

The second Midwest Fedora User Group meeting will take place February 28th to March 1st. Please take a moment to [fill in the sign-up form](#) and select your preferences. If you are proposing any sessions, please add them to the [event wiki page](#).

IDCC

The [12th International Digital Curation Conference \(IDCC\)](#) will be held in Edinburgh from February 20-23, 2017 bringing together digital curation professionals and educators with data producers and consumers to consider digital curation in a multi-disciplinary context. David Wilcox, Fedora product manager for DuraSpace, will offer a full-day Fedora workshop, "Curating Digital Content with Fedora," on Thursday, February 23. The main conference runs from February 21-22. Workshop registration details may be found on the [conference website](#). There is a £90 charge for the workshop paid to conference organizers.

Code4Lib

The annual Code4Lib conference, which takes place March 6-9 in Los Angeles, CA, is an annual gathering of technologists from around the world, who largely work for and with libraries, archives, and museums and have a commitment to open technologies. The conference will feature several Fedora-related workshops, including [Fedora Import/Export](#), [Islandora in the Wild](#), and [Performance and Scale Testing of Fedora](#). Please [register](#) in advance if you plan to attend.

DC Area Fedora User Group Meeting

The Washington D.C. Area Fedora Users Group meets twice annually to share project updates, exchange ideas, and collaborate on Fedora-related activities. [The next meeting](#) will take place March 22-23 at the Library of Congress. The meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend.

LDCX

[LDCX](#) is an annual unconference that brings together leading technologists in the libraries, archives and museums (LAM) spaces, to work collaboratively on common needs. The event will take place March 27-29 at Stanford University. Registration is complimentary, and please register at the [LDCX 2017 Eventbrite](#) if you are interested in attending.

Hydra Developer Congress

The [Hydra Developer Congress](#) emphasizes community code exchange and moving community development goals forward. This can include, but is not limited to, [the topics listed in this year's agenda](#), as well as development issues and recommendations that may surface as priorities from the Hydra community, working groups, and interest groups. If you are a developer with a signed Hydra contributor license agreement (CLA) -- or are confident that you can submit a signed CLA by mid-March -- and you're available to attend the meeting, please [register online](#). Registration is complimentary.

Previous Events

South Central States Fedora Users Group Meeting

The South Central States Fedora Users Group met [January 11-12 in Houston, TX](#). The meeting included presentations on current implementations, discussion for users considering Fedora, a workshop on Fedora, PCDM, and the new Import/Export utility, and conversations intended to foster collaboration among users and in support of the Fedora project.