

Minutes of Steering Committee

Meeting No.12

2020.12.08

FINAL

Attendees

- [JB] Justin Baker
- [MS] Manodeep Sinha
- [NL] Nooriyah Poonawala-Lohani (Chair)
- [NM] Nicholas May

Apologies

- [HP] Heidi Perrett
- [RL] Rebecca Lange

Discussion

For the detailed agenda see: [GitHub Issue 18](#)

1. Approval of Previous Minutes

See link: [Minutes from Meeting No.11](#) - Passed unanimously.

2. Actions:

Online Events:

- [All] Find potential presenters and share with [NL].
- [NL] To confirm date, time and format with Matthias Liffers.

Various potential speakers have been contacted (from AARNet, NeSI, Pawsey SC), but none are confident talking about the proposed topic: specifically the 100TB data size. Therefore, the committee agreed that a similar topic, i.e. sharing data via executable notebooks, but dropping the size specification.

The event is now being planned to run soon after Australia Day (i.e. Wed. 27th - Fri. 29th Jan, 2021) in a panel format. It was noted that we should draft a set of questions for the panel to get the conversation started.

International RSE Survey 2020

- [NM] To confirm RSE-AUNZ involvement and pass nominations on to co-ordinators. **done**

International Council of RSE Associations

- [NM] To share the draft proposal with the committee. **done**
- [All] Provided feedback on issues found within the draft proposal (due Mon. 9th Nov.) **done**
- [All] Volunteers needed (max. 2) for positions as RSE-AUNZ reps on council. **done**

Election 2020

- [MS] Confirm new dates with the returning officer [ML] and scrutineer [GR]. **done**
- [All] Follow up with potential nominees. **done**

Website

Folder and template for draft website posts: [Website Posts](#)

- [All] Create posts for the website about outputs/results from the following:
 - [HP] Oversee post: Workshop and BoF at eResAus 2019
 - [NL] Oversee post: eResNZ 2020.
 - [HP] Share lists of attendees for eResAus 2019 events. (reassigned)
 - [All] Contribute to the posts.
- Create posts about the outcomes of RSE sessions at eResAu 2020.
 - [NL] Oral Presentation - Research software engineers : Creating a community and an identity within complex research ecosystems
 - [RL] BoF session - Training
 - [JB] BoF session - RSE Impact Stories
 - [NM] BoF session - Best Practice for FAIR and Sustainable Research Software

Meeting SC #12

- [NM] Send invite (.ics) for SC Meeting No.12. **done**

3. International Collaborations

International Survey 2021

The australasian representatives, MS and NL, have met with Simon Hettrick to coordinate plans for the next survey. Outcomes include:

- Provisional date for full rollout is Mar-Apr 2021.
- A pilot rollout is expected for Jan. 2021, and volunteer users will have to be recruited to provide feedback.

- Standard questions are being updated. E.g. replace FOR codes with the recently released version.
- Additional questions are being discussed. The committee discussed potential updates, such as the 'Top 3 professional skills and characteristics of RSEs'.
- A proposal to add a Maori language translation to the survey is being investigated.

International Council of RSE Associations

It was noted that the first meeting of the Council has been planned for Jan. 15th 2021. The RSE-AUNZ reps, JB and NM, will update the committee on outcomes at the next meeting.

4. Election 2020

The committee was informed that no nominations were received within the revised nomination period dates (see below). Therefore, it was agreed that the 2020 election process should be concluded and that the four committee positions should become casual vacancies.

The 2020 election dates were as follows:

- Nomination: Mon. 12th Oct. - Sun. 15th Nov.
- Confirmation: Mon. 16th - Sun. 22nd Nov.
- Voting: Mon. 23rd - Sun. 6th Dec.
- Results declared: Mon. 7th Dec.

The committee discussed the potential reasons for the lack of nominations. It was agreed that one reason could be the lack of activity within the RSE-AUNZ community: specifically, posts to read, events to watch/participate, and online discussions. It was noted the RSE-AUNZ has been active in the wider eResearch community, through conferences and working groups, but there are few opportunities for our community to work together.

It was agreed that the committee should work towards a program of activities (posts, events, etc.) for the community to boost participation in 2021.

5. Collaboration with the ACS

The committee was informed of an opportunity to enhance the engagement of RSE-AUNZ with the Australian Computer Society (ACS). We have been approached by the new President of the Victorian Branch of the ACS with the goal of exploring ways to enhance our collaboration.

The committee recognized that this is a potential source of speakers that could increase information flow to the RSE community on professional software engineering practice. The committee will continue engagement so that specific opportunities can be exploited.

6. Any Other Business

- Proposed and agreed that the co-chairs will write an end of year post.
- It was noted that NL has been featured in a RSE Stories podcast.
- NL has submitted two proposals for sessions to run at eResNZ conference in Feb. 2021.
- Next Meeting: Tues. 19th Jan. (provisional)

Actions Carried Forward

Online Events

- [NL] Confirm the subject for the panel and find potential speakers.
- [NM] Add committee gmail accounts as admins to the RSE-AUNZ youtube account.
- [All] Add suggested questions for discussion to the [planning doc. for Event #1](#)

International Collaborations

- [MS, NL] International RSE Survey 2021:
 - [All] Notify MS or NL if you would like to volunteer for the pilot.
- [NM, JB] Report outcomes from the first meeting of the Int. Council of RSE Assocs.

Website

Folder and template for draft website posts: [Website Posts](#)

- [MS, NL] Create post: end of year message from the co-chairs.
- [NM] Draft posts for events:
 - NL featured on RSE Stories: [Equal Footing](#).
 - NeSI story about [NZ RSE Conference](#).
- [All] Create posts for the website about outputs/results from the following:
 - [HP] Oversee post: Workshop and BoF at eResAus 2019
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Steering Committee Meetings

- [NM] Create Doodle Poll for SC #13.

Next Meetings

- Scheduled: Provisional date of Tue. 16th. Jan. 2021
Date and time to be confirmed.

Notes

These minutes have been drafted under part of the [Chatham House Rule](#). This promotes openness, and inclusion, by not attributing any specific comment to any individual/s. The exception is that participants are necessarily listed as attendees of the Steering Committee meeting.
