2015-04-06

Notes from the TSI Administrative Team Meeting, April 6, 2015

Attending: Kate Harcourt, Jim LeBlanc, Xin Li, Bob Wolven

The aim of this meeting was to discuss last week's Columbia and Cornell internal meetings concerning our individual projects (including IT) and to continue discussion of a 2CUL component of the Linked Data for production (LD4P) grant. Cornell met as the LTS Linked Data Steering Group and Columbia met with Stephen Davis. Both meetings produced questions and concerns about technology requirements and use cases. The meetings surfaced basic questions about the goals of LD4P and defining the need/role of shared cloud space and local infrastructure. Questions also came up concerning the degree to which LD4P could be naturally folded into LD4L obviating the need for a second Mellon grant and the feasibility of Columbia contributing as part of 2CUL without its own local infrastructure.

What our contributions can be in an LD4P grant are also becoming more unclear as Mellon seems less inclined to approve sub-grants. It is not clear that contributing our rather specialized data to a shared cloud space would be a grant-worthy contribution.

The Administrative Team decided that it is unable to articulate a 2CUL role in LD4P without a better understanding of Stanford's thinking, especially in regard to a shared cloud space and why both a cloud and local space are necessary. It does not seem possible to make a decision to move forward without bringing IT staff from Columbia, Cornell and Stanford together in a virtual meeting before the May deadline. The goals of such a meeting would be:

1. To better understand Phil's current thinking about LD4P and the role of 2CUL.
2. To have our technical staff (Simeon and Stephen in particular) understand the proposal well enough to support us if we move forward.
3. To reach a common understanding of the cloud and local work spaces and their relationship with one another.
4. To understand what production in a shared linked data environment means and what it would take to implement.

Kate and Jim will craft an invitation to Phil. Jim will talk to Simeon on the costs and time it would take for Columbia and Cornell to share, create, maintain, store and display linked data together.