Johns Hopkins University Open Source Programs Office (OSPO)
2021 Annual Report

The JHU OSPO advanced multiple activities and programs to support the research, teaching, and translation mission of the University and Health System and generated substantial impact on a global scale. Specifically, the OSPO:

- Supported "semesters of code" as a Fall 2021 undergraduate course focused on software engineering. Stephen Walli, an executive at Microsoft, taught the course that included a lecture component spanning a range of software related topics and student participation in a set of real-world, open source software projects with mentors from those projects. Projects included the Public Access Submission System (PASS), OpenCRAVAT (an NIH funded project at Hopkins), Semester.ly (a JHU student project), Lutece (an international project), and Microsoft Powershell.
- Working with OSPO++, published an updated open source primer as part of the National Academies Roundtable for Aligning Incentives on Open Science toolkit, which has already been cited as an exemplar for how other communities can advance the work of the toolkit.
- Completed the engineering and redesign evaluation for the Public Access Submission System (PASS) with the Eclipse Foundation.
- Demonstrated the use of Lutece, an open source municipal services platform developed and used by the City of Paris, at a west Baltimore neighborhood center (St. Francis Neighborhood Center). President Daniels provided recorded remarks at an event in Paris showcasing this demonstration.
- Secured a $30,000 gift from GitHub for open source policy related work and contributed to the recent Schmidt Futures grant led by the Institute for Data Intensive Engineering and Science (IDIES).
- Sponsored a workshop for the Observational Health Data Sciences and Informatics (OHDSI) community related to open source software sustainability and community development. Paul Nagy is Hopkins' representative to ODHSI. This work could result in a new sustainability model for tools such as PMAP.
- Continued to provide operational support for multiple open source projects throughout Johns Hopkins including through the enterprise GitHub account. Based on our current evaluation, the education GitHub account will be sufficient for the OSPO, which would result in an annual savings of $50,000 (but would require use of JHU logo on GitHub's website).

It is worth mentioning that three universities – all with funding from the Sloan Foundation – have launched OSPOs. The aforementioned open source primer from the National Academies toolkit recommends the creation of a network of university-based OSPOs in the US, emulating a recommendation by the European Commission. It is reasonable to assert that there will be several new university-based OSPOs in 2021.