NNIP Camp 1- Civic Switchboard Follow-up

* Aaron Brenner- Areas outside of large urban centers, this kind of project encouraging connecting with such communities
  + Bob Gradeck- Outreach to other communities without current connections b/c of lack of capacity
  + Seema Iyer- Need to get a handle on our own cities/communities. In Baltimore, many different library systems (Enok Prep, UMD, Morgan State, JHU,etc.)
* Randy Morris, Matt Nowlin, Tony Fast- Synopsis of project? Long-term values?
  + Aaron Brenner- Public+Private libraries working with civic open data portal. Got excited about how this encouraged data sharing more generally, building audience in libraries and relationships between traditional librarians and NNIP partners (as data librarians). Got the sense that this was unusual. Relationship must be coordinated to not duplicate work, understand all forms of knowledge; each data ecosystem is a little different, so no single model at a national-level and they’re working on workshops, resources, etc.
* James Neal- Programmatic aspects of what this project tries to do?
  + Eleanor Tutt- Data literacy/Data 101 programs; opportunities to stumble upon annotating physical versions of data in library.
  + Matt Nowlin- Examples of how you raise awareness?
    - Eleanor- Zine Camp for teens, Data 101 with string and simple examples
    - Gradeck- Build network through events, Brigade meetings, happy hours, etc.
  + Aaron Brenner- Part of what we’re doing is identifying aligned goals and constituencies between libraries and data partners. Core of the project is different from place to place. Infrastructural support (document of library’s role in this will be on their website: metadata consultations, data schema feedback, etc.)
* Seema- In Baltimore, connected with Enok Prep to create MOU to collect data. Used library card ownership as indicator for local library system. Hosting library fellow since we don’t have library science skills. Right now, many libraries are too tactile for our need. Need help with keyword identification, publishing, etc.
* Randy Morris- Have MOU with library?
  + Seema- Get it through confidentiality agreement because it is geocoded to address. Given yearly through data transmission.
  + Michelle Frisque- In Chicago, this is done monthly through city data portal at a branch level. Discovered this when she went to library meeting and saw data presented, they said, “it’s your data.” She was
* Bob Gradeck- Have gotten help from library as a publisher, and helping them with programming decisions.
* Tony Fast- What age demographics does that
  + Michelle Frisque- **User branches strategically with civic tech groups to pilot their products.**
  + Eleanor Tutt- We’ve been doing this with . Will share training model with Michelle for program in the fall.
* Annette Vee @ Pitt has writings on CS competencies.
* Liz Monk- Barriers of working with library?
  + Randy Morris- The University Research Library is on our board, but we’ve found that there’s been funding competition between us. But we have worked to complement one another on external grant applications. One on hand, it’s good that we’re taking a back seat to support the library, but we’re also concerned about job security.
  + Seema Iyer- It’s not clear that there are always joint funding opportunities between civic data orgs and libraries.
  + Michelle Frisque- With individual privacy concerns, we can’t always disaggregate at the individual level. We heard from a library that one of their mapping exercise could be helpful to them, but we’re not always familiar with what each other are currently researching or working on.
  + Randy Morris- Getting conversation going about research and having libraries plug-in with data portal is important.
* Tony Fast- Have used libraries to schedule meet-ups; especially on campuses to bring students who are otherwise hesitant to leave campus. This allows us to leverage funding that universities have for local communities.
* Katie Prichard- Where’s the payoff- should I go to public libraries or private university libraries? **What do I need to devote in a targeted way in terms of staff time investment to build this relationship? (Randy concurs with this question)** It was also helpful to get a glossary of terms to translate between our code words and librarians.
  + Bob- For the amount of time that this takes, it depends on what you need. Relationship building was often framed as “I have a need, and you can help me with it” at first, and they built from there.
    - Aaron- Some consultations are formal and related to grant writing and project specific; some are very informal.
      * Eleanor- There is some extra time necessary for this, but this is often the time that you would spend to do your work better.
      * Bob- And this helps improve the data and metadata that we’re publishing for both community members and reducing load for librarians.
    - Matthew- Right now, a lot of research librarians are desperate to be a bigger part of the research process.
    - Michelle- I like to do something that’s low touch to test the waters, make sure they’ll show up. For instance, I’ll help you get space and promote. And getting a sense of potential for partnership from network.
      * Seema- Regarding networking, I discovered at a data day several years ago both how smart and civically engaged public librarians are, and that they wanted more from BNIA (I had no idea). And we found a way to do something to kick the partnership off.
* Tony- A lot of hackathons for social good curate data sets that are bespoke, but are separate from
* Rebecca Hefner- Being with the city, we go wherever we can for advice on data structuring. Our relationship with the university libraries is new, and we don’t have a lot of time for it. I would love to see the library be federation of liberated data (so I don’t have to do it), to understand what should be on data portal, how to get people to use it, etc. I see libraries to both be that partner and ask questions about data management that I don’t know to ask (e.g., matching data standards across levels of bureaucracy)
* James- We fund professional development; is there a need for training librarians with these competencies?
  + Yes
  + Matthew: I do a lot of this stuff, but there wasn’t anyone telling me how to do this.
  + Jake Cunliffe: We coordinate with local libraries about diversity initiatives, for instance with infrastructure construction. We had an end goal of training people to do data entry themselves (so far, we’re still doing this ourselves, but we have the ability to do these trainings for self-reported data).
  + Seema- There’s still a question, especially in the public library system, of who to train. Probably not the line-staff (although they should know we exist). We mostly interact with Grants Resource Management Center, since they need our data to apply for grant funding (this kind of grant-writing center for nonprofits is common).
    - Matthew: In Universities, there are several different data management, emerging technologies centers (often have many titles, but librarians will know who to contact)
    - Bob/ Aaron: We wrote a blog post about different models and titles in university libraries [civic-switchboard.github.io](http://civic-switchboard.github.io)
    - Eleanor: We’ve trained our substitute pool to show others in the system as they transfer around (also train line staff). We also taught folks through a scavenger hunt (both for training, and to give us feedback).
  + Aaron- There have been a lot of changes over the past 5-10 years, and now libraries are moving closer to what NNIP partners are doing.
  + Michelle- we’re also trying to train people within programmatic groups. We want those people working on different issues to speak confidently about our data products. It’s taking a lot of time to train different librarians about this, but it’s been fruitful. Onboarding and translating is one of the main goals of library- to understand which organizations to direct people towards.
    - Randy- That network building is one of my job responsibilities, too.
    - Seema- We also came to the realization that computer scientists could help with metadata, but we found that librarians are much better since its an issue of communicating data.
    - Aaron- Librarians will also get a lot of working with you, it’s a two-way relationship.
* Rebecca- Seema talked about fellowship position, it’s making me think of a staff-swap program. Have people thought about that?
  + Seema- Now that I’m thinking about expansion, anyone in Michigan since [teachingwithdata.org](http://teachingwithdata.org) is housed at University of Michigan and and data library is there too
  + Liz- You don’t have to have a relationship built-in to apply to the workshop. We want to offer a space to get these groups to sit together.