

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Scholarly Communications and Information Technology Program

GRANT REPORTING COVER SHEET

Date of Submission	May 22, 2014	
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Project		
Project Title	Sustaining Digital Humanities Training Through THATCamp	
Reference Number		
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Grant Balance	\$0	
Interest Credited to Date	\$53.00	
Reporting Period	April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014	
Award Period	April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2014	
Principal Investigator(s) and Title(s)		
Name(s)	Amanda French	Research Assistant Professor
Email(s)	amanda@amandafrench.net	
For Internal Use Only		
Date Received		
Date Reviewed		
Recommendation		

Sustaining Digital Humanities Training Through THATCamp

Final Report to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
22 May 2014
Amanda French & Sean Takats
Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media
George Mason University

Summary	2
Purpose	2
Progress	3
Problems	5
Personnel	5
Plans	5
Publications (selected)	6
Budget Variances	7
Intellectual Property	8
Appendices	9
Appendix 1: List of THATCamps	9
Appendix 2: THATCamp Website.....	17
Appendix 3: THATCamp Council Charter	20

Summary

Purpose

Our purpose for the past two years has been to ensure that thousands of humanities graduate students, faculty members, and professionals all over the world can learn digital methods from one another cheaply, enjoyably, and well by ensuring the survival and flourishing of THATCamp, The Humanities and Technology Camp. Ever since the

first THATCamp was held at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media in 2008, our novel "unconference" has attracted a passionate following: as of April 2014, well over six thousand people have been to at least one THATCamp. Nearly 95% of participants who completed an evaluation form found THATCamp useful: when presented with the statement "Overall, I found the THATCamp useful," 56.1% of participants strongly agreed and 38.5% agreed (full results at <<http://j.mp/thatcampresults>>).

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's generous support in 2010-2012 was crucial to THATCamp's early success; with Foundation support in 2012-2014, we have created a self-sustaining infrastructure for THATCamps in years to come.

Progress

We proposed five key deliverables over the two-year grant period:

1. To support at least 30 more THATCamps between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2014;
2. To add social networking features to the THATCamp website;
3. To review and expand the help documentation for THATCamp organizers and participants;
4. To hold an event called THATCamp Leadership to build support for the THATCamp model among academic leaders; and
5. To establish a volunteer THATCamp Coordinating Council to assume the responsibilities of the THATCamp Regional Coordinator by March 31, 2014.

We successfully executed each of these deliverables, often going well beyond the original proposal's specifications:

1. We supported 101 THATCamps held between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2014. Another 39 THATCamps are currently scheduled to run after March 31, 2014. (See Appendix 1: List of THATCamps)
2. We launched a redesigned THATCamp website <<http://thatcamp.org>> in June 2013 with key features aimed at increasing social interaction and making the site easier to manage and use, including:
 - a. "befriending" for THATCamp participants,
 - b. user forums,
 - c. a user directory of more than 6000 THATCamp participants,
 - d. "favoriting" of blog posts,
 - e. a network-wide view of blog posts and other activity from all THATCamps,
 - f. a built-in registry for new THATCamps that automatically creates shell THATCamp sites and lists new THATCamps in a directory,

- g. a searchable and browsable THATCamp directory that allow users to find THATCamps by region, date, or name, and
- h. built-in collaborative note-taking with the "Participad" plugin.

All these features were designed for the purpose of making the THATCamp project as a whole self-sustaining. Since our last report, we continued to refine these new features and fix bugs. (For screenshots of the redesigned website, see Appendix 2: THATCamp Website.)

3. Our part-time Documentation Coordinator, Rebecca Onion, helped complete 28 help pages and three short videos aimed at supporting THATCamp participants and organizers before she left her position with us in September 2013. Her work in expanding and revising the THATCamp site's help documents was again designed to help make THATCamp self-sustaining: THATCamp organizers and participants have less need for individual advice when there is a well-written and easily findable body of help.
4. On October 10, 2013, we held THATCamp Leadership at the Mason Inn conference center at George Mason University <<http://leadership2013.thatcamp.org>>. Among the sixty registered participants were four deans, eight scholarly association executives, four department heads, four digital humanities center directors, four foundation officials, one state humanities council director, one vice-provost, and thirteen THATCamp organizers. Unconference discussion sessions formed by the participants included "Digital Humanities and Online Education," "Sustainability Outside the Neoliberal Box," and "Defining and Developing the Skills Important to Digital Scholarship" as well as a discussion session with several experienced THATCamp organizers on "How to form a THATCamp Coordinating Council."
5. We formed a seven-person THATCamp Council that stands ready to support THATCamp organizers and participants, uphold THATCamp values, resolve community conflicts, create and revise community documents and policies, and set the long-term direction of the THATCamp project.

An initial draft of a THATCamp Council Charter benefited from two phases of comment: first by THATCamp founders Tom Scheinfeldt, Dan Cohen, Jeremy Boggs, and Dave Lester and then by the entire THATCamp community. The Charter outlines the responsibilities and structure of the THATCamp Council as well as defining Council eligibility, the Council election process, and the responsibilities of the THATCamp Council Chair. A community-drafted

document, the Charter grew from 1631 to 2055 words after 10 days and 92 comments. (See Appendix 3: THATCamp Council Charter.)

As outlined in the Charter, the Council consists of one RRCHNM appointee and six elected Council members whose 2-year terms are staggered. Elections will be held once every year in March to elect candidates to three open Council seats. During this year's initial election, we had 9 candidates for 4 open seats, and 89 THATCamp community members voted. Election results were announced on March 26, 2014: the seven initial THATCamp Council members are Patrick Murray-John (chair), Frédéric Clavert, Amanda French, Jeff McClurken, Anastasia Salter, Tom Scheinfeldt, and Micah Vandegrift.

Problems

We experienced a few minor problems planning and executing THATCamp Leadership. First, when planning the event we initially encountered some difficulty recruiting senior leaders like provosts, presidents, deans, directors of graduate studies, and state humanities council representatives. Second, we also scheduled THATCamp Leadership during what became the October 2013 federal government shutdown, which made it impossible for several registered federal employees to attend in their professional capacity. Third, we experienced some technical issues voting for session proposals. In spite of these challenges, THATCamp Leadership proceeded with a full slate of 60 registrants and a wide-ranging agenda with lively sessions and enthusiastic participants.

Although attendees were excited to participate in THATCamp Leadership, it is not yet clear how effective the meeting will prove for building support at high levels for the THATCamp model. In general THATCamp has been a grassroots effort, and the usual practice is for a fairly low-level student, faculty member, staff member, or association member to make a persuasive argument for the support of a THATCamp to his or her own local leadership. That practice has worked well in the past, and we are confident it will continue to work well in the future.

Personnel

We noted two imminent personnel changes in our last report, both of which have since occurred. Tom Scheinfeldt left the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media in July of 2013, with Amanda French, THATCamp Coordinator, assuming Scheinfeldt's duties as principal investigator on the grant. Our part-time Documentation Coordinator, Rebecca Onion, left her position as planned in September 2013. There have been no other changes in grant-funded personnel since our last report.

Plans

On firm footing thanks to the generosity of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the THATCamp Council looks forward to keeping THATCamp fun, productive, and

collaborative for many years to come, with the help of the THATCamp community, the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, and any and all humanists and technologists who wish to learn or teach digital methods.

Publications (selected)

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Budget Variances

The planned expenditures for the two-year grant period were \$268,053 and actual expenditures for the two-year grant period were \$268,053. The two most significant budget variances by category were for Participant Support and for Professional Services: we had budgeted \$57,405 for THATCamp Leadership participant support and staff travel but spent \$47,997, and we had budgeted \$10,000 for Professional Services but spent \$22,700. We had fewer attendees at THATCamp Leadership than we had anticipated, and many of those who did attend lived locally in the Washington D.C. area and therefore did not draw heavily on allotted funds for transportation and lodging. As our interim report stated, Professional Services costs were \$7,700 higher in the first year of the grant due to cost overruns on website development and design: the July

payment of \$5000 for WordPress developer/consultant Boone Gorges for work completed on that project in early June 2013 fell in the second year of the grant budget.

Intellectual Property

All code developed for the THATCamp website (including the THATCamp Registrations WordPress plugin and the THATCamp Base, THATCamp Book, and THATCamp Note WordPress themes) is publicly available on GitHub at <github.com/chnm/thatcamp-org>. The Participad plugin for WordPress is separately available at its own website at <participad.org>, on GitHub at <github.com/boonebgorges/participad>, and in the WordPress plugin repository at <wordpress.org/plugins/participad>. Links to these repositories are available on the THATCamp website at <thatcamp.org/website>. All the above code is released under the GNU General Public License, available at <<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/gpl.html>>. All written and video documentation for THATCamp is marked with a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 license, available at <creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>. The term "THATCamp" is trademarked by George Mason University, but is freely licensed to those who agree to the terms given on the THATCamp Registry at <<http://thatcamp.org/registry>>.

Appendices

Appendix 1: List of THATCamps

March 31, 2012 - April 1, 2012
THATCamp Iowa City 2012
Iowa City, Iowa, United States

April 18, 2012
THATCamp National Council on Public History 2012
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States

April 20, 2012 - April 22, 2012
Great Lakes THATCamp 2012
London, Ontario, Canada

April 20, 2012 - April 21, 2012
THATCamp Virginia 2012
Charlottesville, Virginia, United States

April 25, 2012
THATCamp@Penn 2012
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

April 28, 2012
THATCamp Ohio State University 2012
Columbus, Ohio, United States

May 5, 2012
THATCamp Piedmont 2012
Davidson, North Carolina, United States

May 18, 2012 - May 20, 2012
THATCamp Museums NYC 2012
New York, New York, United States

June 1, 2012 - June 3, 2012
THATCamp Liberal Arts Colleges 2012
Austin, Texas, United States

June 14, 2012 - June 15, 2012
THATCamp Historically Black Colleges and Universities 2012
Atlanta, Georgia, United States

June 15, 2012 - June 16, 2012
THATCamp CHNM 2012
Fairfax, Virginia, United States

August 10, 2012
THATCamp CAANA 2012 – Computer Applications in Archaeology North America
Charlottesville, Virginia, United States

August 25, 2012
THATCamp Brisbane 2012
Brisbane, Australia

September 14, 2012 - September 15, 2012
THATCamp Research Triangle Park 2012
Chapel Hill, Virginia, United States

September 14, 2012 - September 15, 2012
THATCamp Southern California 2012
Fullerton, California, United States

September 20, 2012 - September 22, 2012
THATCamp Kansas 2012
Lawrence, Kansas, United States

September 22, 2012
THATCamp Digital Frontiers 2012
Denton, Texas, United States

September 24, 2012 - September 28, 2012
THATCamp Paris 2012
Paris, France

September 28, 2012 - September 29, 2012
THATCamp Philly 2012
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

October 5, 2012 - October 6, 2012
THATCamp New York 2012
New York, New York, United States

October 13, 2012 - October 14, 2012
THATCamp Theory 2012
New Brunswick, New Jersey, United States

October 13, 2012
THATCamp Oral History Association 2012
Cleveland, Ohio, United States

October 19, 2012 - October 20, 2012
THATCamp New England 2012
Providence, Rhode Island, United States

October 20, 2012 - October 21, 2012
THATCamp Hybrid Pedagogy 2012
Portland, Oregon, United States

October 22, 2012
THATCamp Wellington 2012
Wellington, New Zealand

October 24, 2012 - October 25, 2012
THATCamp Poland 2012
Lublin, Poland

October 27, 2012
THATCamp Boise State 2012
Boise, Idaho, United States

October 27, 2012

THATCamp Accessibility 2012

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

November 2, 2012 - November 3, 2012

THATCamp Vanderbilt University 2012

Nashville, Tennessee, United States

November 3, 2012

THATCamp Digital Humanities and Libraries 2012

Denver, Colorado, United States

November 12, 2012 - November 14, 2012

THATCamp Caribbean 2012

Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, United States

December 16, 2012

THATCamp Jewish Studies 2012

Chicago, Illinois, United States

January 2, 2013

THATCamp Modern Language Association Boston 2013

Boston, Massachusetts, United States

January 3, 2013

THATCamp American Historical Association 2013

New Orleans, Louisiana, United States

February 9, 2013

THATCamp QueensU 2013

Kingston, Ontario, Alabama, Canada

February 11, 2013 - February 12, 2013

THATCamp College Art Association 2013

New York, New York, United States

February 16, 2013 - February 17, 2013

THATCamp Florida 2013

Orlando, Florida, United States

February 18, 2013 - February 19, 2013

THATCamp Western New York 2013

Geneseo, New York, United States

February 23, 2013

THATCamp Libraries 2013

Boston, Massachusetts, United States

February 27, 2013

THATCamp Society of Early Americanists 2013

Savannah, Georgia, United States

March 1, 2013 - March 2, 2013

THATCamp Lehigh Valley 2013

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, United States

March 8, 2013 - March 10, 2013

THATCamp Southeast 2013
Atlanta, Georgia, United States

March 15, 2013 - March 16, 2013
THATCamp Feminisms South 2013
Atlanta, Georgia, United States

March 15, 2013
THATCamp Feminisms West 2013
Claremont, California, United States

March 16, 2013
THATCamp Feminisms East 2013
New York, New York, United States

March 22, 2013 - March 23, 2013
THATCamp Piedmont 2013
Charlotte, North Carolina, United States

March 29, 2013
THATCamp Black Grads 2013
Newark, New Jersey, United States

April 12, 2013
THATCamp ACRL 2013
Indianapolis, Indiana, United States

April 13, 2013
THATCamp London 2013
London, United Kingdom

April 17, 2013
THATCamp National Council on Public History 2013
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

April 19, 2013 - April 21, 2013
THATCamp Games 2013
Cleveland, Ohio, United States

May 17, 2013
THATCamp NOLA (New Orleans) 2013
New Orleans, Louisiana, United States

May 24, 2013 - May 25, 2013
THATCamp Epic Play 2013
Seattle, Washington, United States

May 28, 2013
THATCamp Ghent 2013
Ghent, Belgium

June 1, 2013
THATCamp Kentucky 2013
Lexington, Kentucky, United States

June 7, 2013 - June 8, 2013
THATCamp CHNM 2013

Fairfax, Virginia, United States

June 13, 2013
THATCamp Digital Pedagogies 2013
London, United Kingdom

June 19, 2013
THATCamp Publishing 2013
Boston, Massachusetts, United States

June 20, 2013 - June 21, 2013
THATCamp Performing Arts 2013
New York, New York, United States

July 12, 2013 - July 14, 2013
THATCamp IMMERSe 2013
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

July 13, 2013
THATCamp Australian Historical Association (OzHA) 2013
Wollongong, Australia

July 22, 2013
THATCamp Buenos Aires 2013
Buenos Aires, Argentina

August 9, 2013
THATCamp Wisconsin 2013
Waukesha, Wisconsin, United States

August 9, 2013 - August 10, 2013
THATCamp Alabama 2013
Tuscaloosa, Alabama, United States

September 13, 2013
THATCamp Kansas 2013
Lawrence, Kansas, United States

September 19, 2013 - September 21, 2013
THATCamp Digital Frontiers 2013
Denton, Texas, United States

September 26, 2013 - September 27, 2013
THATCamp Humanities + Engineering 2013
Schenectady, New York, United States

September 27, 2013 - September 28, 2013
THATCamp Philly 2013
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

September 28, 2013
THATCamp Southeast Missouri 2013
Ironton, Missouri, United States

September 28, 2013
Great Lakes THATCamp 2013
Southfield, Michigan, United States

Sustaining ... THATCamp, Final Report

October 5, 2013 - October 6, 2013
THATCamp Pittsburgh 2013
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States

October 5, 2013 - October 6, 2013
THATCamp Alt-Ac 2013
Berkeley, California, United States

THATCamp Maine 2013
Orono, Maine, United States

October 10, 2013
THATCamp Leadership 2013
Fairfax, Virginia, United States

October 17, 2013 - October 19, 2013
THATCamp Saint-Malo 2013
Saint-Malo, France

October 18, 2013 - October 19, 2013
THATCamp New England 2013
Storrs, Connecticut, United States

October 25, 2013 - October 26, 2013
THATCamp Harrisburg 2013
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, United States

October 30, 2013 - October 31, 2013
THATCamp Sydney 2013
Sydney, Australia

November 1, 2013 - November 2, 2013
THATCamp Vanderbilt University 2013
Nashville, Tennessee, United States

November 2, 2013
THATCamp Boise State 2013
Boise, Idaho, United States

November 5, 2013 - November 8, 2013
THATCamp Caribbean 2013
Habana, Cuba

November 7, 2013
THATCamp Digital Humanities & Libraries 2013
Austin, Texas, United States

November 8, 2013 - November 9, 2013
THATCamp Switzerland 2013
Basel, Switzerland

November 8, 2013 - November 9, 2013
THATCamp Virginia 2013
Charlottesville, Virginia, United States

November 9, 2013

THATCamp St. Louis 2013
St. Louis, Missouri, United States

November 14, 2013 - November 15, 2013
THATCamp México 2013
México DF, Mexico

November 22, 2013
THATCamp American Academy of Religion 2013
Baltimore, Maryland, United States

November 28, 2013
THATCamp Wellington 2013
Wellington, New Zealand

December 15, 2013
THATCamp Jewish Studies 2013
Boston, Massachusetts, United States

December 18, 2013
THATCamp UGR 2013
Granada, Spain

January 5, 2014
THATCamp AHA 2014
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

January 14, 2014 - January 15, 2014
THATCamp The Hague 2014
The Hague, Netherlands

February 11, 2014
THATCamp College Art Association (CAA) 2014
Chicago, Illinois, United States

February 15, 2014 - February 16, 2014
THATCamp Florida 2014
Orlando, Florida, United States

February 17, 2014 - February 18, 2014
THATCamp Haifa 2014
Haifa, Israel

February 21, 2014
THATCamp Lehigh Valley 2014
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, United States

March 14, 2014 - March 15, 2014
THATCamp New Souths 2014
Richmond, Virginia, United States

March 19, 2014
THATCamp NCPH
Monterey, California, United States

March 28, 2014
THATCamp Digital Knowledge 2014

Raleigh, North Carolina, United States

March 29, 2014 - March 30, 2014
THATCamp Southeast 2014
Atlanta, Georgia, United States

March 29, 2014
THATCamp Community College 2014
Mount Laurel, New Jersey, United States

Appendix 2: THATCamp Website

[Sign up for an account](#) | [Reset your password](#)

THATCAMP

AboutCampsPeopleActivityHelp



THATCamp, The Humanities and Technology Camp, is an open, inexpensive meeting where humanists and technologists of all skill levels learn and build together in sessions proposed on the spot. [Learn more...](#)

Organize a THATCamp

 New THATCamps by Email

 New THATCamps by RSS

News

Introducing the THATCamp Council
March 26, 2014

Upcoming THATCamps

March 28, 2014

THATCamp Digital Knowledge 2014
Raleigh, North Carolina, United States

March 29, 2014
- March 30, 2014

THATCamp Southeast 2014
Atlanta, Georgia, United States

March 29, 2014

THATCamp Community College 2014
Mount Laurel, New Jersey, United States

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THATCAMP

AboutCampsPeopleActivityHelp

News

Introducing the THATCamp Council
March 26, 2014

Twitter

Tweets

 **Liz Covart** @lizcovart 3m
Congratulations to the new THATCamp Council via @thatcamp, #dhist #dh #THATCamp histry.us/1hwT42S

 **Aria Chernik** @ariachernik 39m
@jahernododson & I just posted our proposal for @thatcamp on digital pedagogy & institutional change dk2014.thatcamp.org
t1 Retweeted by Jennifer Aherndodson
Expand

 **Aria Chernik** @ariachernik 39m

THATCamps

Region: Date:

Viewing group 1 to 20 (of 197 groups) 1 2 ... 10 →

August 17, 2014

THATCampSAA 2014
Washington DC, District of Columbia, United States
Created Mar 21, 2014

October 24, 2014 -
October 25, 2014

THATCamp Vanderbilt University 2014
Nashville, Tennessee, United States
Created Mar 21, 2014

 New THATCamps by Email

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THATCAMP

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News

Introducing the THATCamp Council

March 26, 2014

Twitter

Tweets

Liz Covart

@lzcovart

4m

Congratulations to the new THATCamp Council via @thatcamp. #dhist #dh #THATCamp histry.us/1hwT42S

Aria Chernik

@ariachernik

39m

@jaherndodson & I just posted our proposal for @thatcamp:tp on digital pedagogy & institutional change dk2014.thatcamp.org

Retweeted by Jennifer Aherndodson

Expand

Aria Chernik

@ariachernik

39m

People

Viewing member 1 to 20 (of 5,990 active members) [1](#) [2](#) ... [300](#) →

GuestUser

Patrick Williams

Amanda French

gabrielhankins

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THATCAMP

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News

Introducing the THATCamp Council

March 26, 2014

Twitter

Tweets

Liz Covart

@lzcovart

4m

Congratulations to the new THATCamp Council via @thatcamp. #dhist #dh #THATCamp histry.us/1hwT42S

Aria Chernik

@ariachernik

40m

@jaherndodson & I just posted our proposal for @thatcamp:tp on digital pedagogy & institutional change dk2014.thatcamp.org

Retweeted by Jennifer Aherndodson

Expand

Aria Chernik

@ariachernik

40m

Activity

aria.chernik

wrote a new post, [Articulating the Affordances of Digital Pedagogy and Knowledge to Institute Programmatic Change](#), on the site [THATCamp Digital Knowledge 2014](#) [right now](#)

Talk Session Proposal by Jennifer Aherndodson and Aria Chernik

Digital pedagogy does not denote merely the practice of "teaching with technology." Similar to Jesse Stommel's notion of [hybrid pedagogy](#), we [...]

Jennifer Dekker

changed their profile picture [right now](#)

Laurie

Amanda Hagood

are now friends [right now](#)

Laurie

Ed Palmer

are now friends [right now](#)

Sustaining ... THATCamp, Final Report

Page 18 of 24

Appendix 3: THATCamp Council Charter

THATCamp Council Charter final draft, 3/11/14

(see <http://j.mp/1eXcdOP> for 1st & 2nd drafts)
(see <http://j.mp/1fpi4N1> for 3rd draft)

This document outlines a structure and process for the THATCamp Council, which will take over the general governance of THATCamp after Dr. Amanda French completes her four-year term as THATCamp Coordinator on March 31, 2014.

Responsibilities of the Council

- Supporting THATCamp organizers, participants, and would-be participants, especially by
 - answering questions on the THATCamp forums
 - creating and revising help documents on thatcamp.org
 - managing THATCamp social media accounts
 - attending and/or organizing THATCamps
- Upholding core THATCamp values
- Setting the long-term direction of the THATCamp project
- Creating and revising community processes, policies, and governance documents
- Resolving community conflicts

Structure of the Council

- The Council will have seven (7) members.
- One member of the Council must be a current employee of the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (RRCHNM), which holds the trademark for the term “THATCamp” and which has committed to providing long-term hosting for the thatcamp.org website network.
- RRCHNM will appoint a representative to the Council, chosen through an internal process of their determination. Others affiliated with RRCHNM may run for the Council through the regular process. (See **Elections of the Council** below.)
- The Council will appoint a Chair from among its members at its first meeting of the year. (See **Responsibilities of the Council Chair** below.)
- Council members will be granted Super Admin privileges on thatcamp.org, which will enable them to create, edit, and delete THATCamp sites, users, and forums, as well as to manage plugins and themes on the network.

- Council terms (including the term of the Chair and the RRCHNM representative) are two years long, but members can hold an unlimited number of terms if they are reelected or reappointed.
- Each year in March, the Council must hold an election of Council members. (See **Elections of the Council** below.)
- Any THATCamp Council member or community member can propose amendments to the Charter or the dissolution of the THATCamp Council at any time. Such a proposal must be placed on an openly available agenda that is submitted to the THATCamp community for comment at least one week before a Council meeting. (See **Meetings of the Council** below.) Five Council member votes in favor are required in order to amend the Charter or dissolve the Council.

Meetings of the Council

- The Council will meet at least three times per year for the purpose of discussing and (if necessary) voting on issues of interest to the THATCamp Community. In general, meetings can take place online, via conference call, or in person. Meetings must by default be open to the THATCamp community.
- When the Council meets, an agenda must be posted on the open web at least one week beforehand. (See **Responsibilities of the Council Chair** below.) The THATCamp community should easily be able to comment on the agenda, and the Chair should add community-suggested items to the meeting agenda at least one day before the meeting.
- The Council will in general govern by rough consensus. When rough consensus fails, any Council member can call for a vote on any issue at any time, but the majority of the Council must agree that there has been sufficient discussion and must consent to put the issue to a vote. At least five Council members must be present and at least five votes cast in order for the Council to be quorate and the vote to be valid and binding. All present members of the Council may vote, including the Chair and the RRCHNM representative. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair has the power to decide the issue.
- By default, meetings can be blogged, twittered, photographed, recorded, and posted online by any Council member. The votes of individual Council members are also by default public.
- Notes from each meeting and the outcome of any vote taken must be posted on the open web within one week after the meeting.
- The Chair will have the power to convene a private meeting whose internal debates are not shared with the THATCamp community, but private meetings must still have a public agenda and public notes that report the outcome of any vote taken, though not the votes of individual Council members.
- Agendas for and notes from all meetings, including private meetings, will be retained according to the [Commonwealth of Virginia retention schedule](#) for “Agendas, Schedules, and Informational Documentation for Meetings” (series 10035).

- Current Council members will be granted access by the Chair to the private, restricted mailing list council@thatcamp.org for as long as they remain Council members.
- The THATCamp community can communicate with the THATCamp Council via the [THATCamp forums](#), the [@thatcamp](#) Twitter account, and any other means provided by the Council.
- If the Chair refuses to convene a meeting in a timely manner, any member of the Council may convene a meeting.

Eligibility for the Council

- Anyone who has helped organize a THATCamp will be eligible to serve on the Council.
- Each member of the Council is expected to be actively, collegially, and reliably engaged with the THATCamp community and with the other members of the THATCamp Council during her or his term on the Council.
- If any Council member misses two scheduled Council meetings in a row, that member may be asked to resign his or her seat on the Council.

First Election of the Council

- Dr. Amanda French, Dr. Tom Scheinfeldt, and Dr. Patrick Murray-John will be appointed to one-year terms on the first Council in March 2014.
- The first Council election will be held in March 2014. Subsequent elections will be held every year in March. The election in March of 2015 will replace Drs. French, Scheinfeldt, and Murray-John with members who will serve two-year terms. (See **Elections of the Council** below.)
- Anyone who is eligible may run for one of the 4 open council seats: the election ballot has no maximum number of candidates. Candidates must inform Dr. French of their intent to run by writing info@thatcamp.org by March 15th, 2014. (See **Eligibility for the Council**.)
- Elections will be conducted in two rounds when necessary. Both rounds will be conducted by [partial bloc voting](#), in which each member of the THATCamp community may vote once each for 3 candidates for the 4 open seats. In the first round of voting, the THATCamp community will vote on a ballot with a minimum of 4 candidates and no maximum number of candidates. To ameliorate the effects of [vote splitting](#), if 12 or more candidates stand for election, a second round of voting will be held in which the slate will consist of the 8 candidates who received the most votes in the first round of voting. If two or more candidates tie for 8th place in the first round, the second-round ballot will include all 8th place candidates.
- Elections will be conducted using the [YOP Polls WordPress plugin](#), which will be configured thus:
 - Voters must log in to thatcamp.org to cast a vote.

- Each voter must vote only once for exactly 3 candidates for the 4 open Council seats.
- Each voting period will remain open for one week.
- The 4 candidates earning the highest number of votes at the end of the second voting period (if any) will serve on the Council.
- Results of the election will not be displayed until after each election period.
- Voters will be encouraged to elect a Council whose members are of diverse countries, ranks, fields, ethnicities, and genders.
- In the event of a tie for the last open seat after the second round of voting (if any), a runoff election will be held between the tied candidates. Such an election will be conducted by the [simple plurality](#) system, in which each voter votes once for one candidate.
- Dr. Amanda French will serve as Chair *pro tem* until the first Council meeting. At the first Council meeting, the Council will appoint a Chair.
- Dr. French, Dr. Scheinfeldt, Dr. Murray-John, and an additional Council member to be chosen at the first Council meeting will serve one-year terms. The remaining 3 Council members will serve two-year terms.

Elections of the Council

- Each year in March, the Council must hold an election of Council members. Since the RRCHNM representative is appointed, and since the 2-year Council terms are staggered, each year there will be 3 open Council seats.
- Current Council members may run again for their own seats.
- Anyone who is eligible may run for a Council seat: the initial election ballot has no maximum number of candidates. Candidates must inform the Chair of the Council of their intent to run by the last day of February. (See **Eligibility for the Council**.)
- Elections will be conducted in two rounds when necessary. Both rounds will be conducted by [partial bloc voting](#), in which each member of the THATCamp community may vote once each for 2 candidates for the 3 open seats. In the first round of voting, the THATCamp community will vote on a ballot with a minimum of 3 candidates and no maximum number of candidates. To ameliorate the effects of [vote splitting](#), if 9 or more candidates stand for election, a second round of voting will be held in which the slate will consist of the 6 candidates who received the most votes in the first round of voting. If two or more candidates tie for 6th place in the first round, the second-round ballot will include all 6th place candidates.
- Elections will be conducted using the [YOP Polls WordPress plugin](#), which will be configured thus:
 - Voters must log in to thatcamp.org to cast a vote.
 - Each voter must vote only once for exactly 2 candidates for the 3 open Council seats.
 - Each voting period will remain open for one week.

- The 3 candidates earning the highest number of votes at the end of the second voting period (if any) will serve on the Council.
 - Results of the election will not be displayed until after each election period.
- Voters will be encouraged to elect a Council whose members are of diverse countries, ranks, fields, ethnicities, and genders.
- In the event of a tie for the last open seat after the second round of voting (if any), a runoff election will be held between the tied candidates. Such an election will be conducted by the [simple plurality](#) system, in which each voter votes once for one candidate.
- If a member of the Council leaves the Council before the end of her/his term, a simple plurality election must be held to fill the vacant seat. If the RRCHNM representative leaves her/his employment at RRCHNM before the end of her/his term, s/he must also leave the Council, and RRCHNM must appoint a new representative to serve the remainder of the term.
- If the Chair leaves the Council or resigns her/his position as Chair, either mid-term or at the expiration of her/his term, the Council must appoint a new Chair at its first meeting following the Chair's departure. The outgoing Chair should coordinate the date and place for this meeting as her/his last act as Chair, and the meeting should take place no more than one month following the Chair's departure.
- Changes to the election process must be discussed with the THATCamp community and voted on and approved by a quorate Council. (See **Meetings of the Council**.)

Responsibilities of the Council Chair

- Coordinating the date, time, and place (or online "place") of Council meetings, with every effort to choose times and technologies that enable all members of the Council to be present
- Ensuring that a draft agenda is available for comment at least one week before any Council meeting
- Incorporating community comments on meeting agendas into revised agendas
- Finalizing Council meeting agendas no less than one day before the scheduled date
- Determining whether a Council meeting should be private (see **Meetings of the Council**)
- Deciding issues in the event of a tied vote
- Posting required notes from meetings within one week of the meeting
- Determining whether to record meetings and, when meetings are recorded, determining whether to post the recording on the open web
- Taking primary responsibility for managing access and permissions to THATCamp.org and council@thatcamp.org for incoming and outgoing Council members