

February 2017 Update

This monthly update will provide news about SNAC Cooperative activities and will be sent to our Cooperative Members listserv.

Recurring Email Updates

The Communications Group intends to send out a comprehensive email on the first of each month that contains news from the Steering Committee, summaries of Working (Interest) Group activities, policies, documentation, and technical updates. In order to gather this information, members of the Communications Group will contact volunteer representatives from each Working Group on or about the 15th of each month whereupon they will provide a template that representatives can use to provide information.

General Updates from Interest Groups

Communications:

On January 13, the group conducted its first conference call. One task was to review and assess all of the Cooperative's communication platforms. Did you know there are 9?? They include the [listserv](#), [bulletin board](#), [website](#), [Gitlab](#), a [Wiki](#), [Google Drive](#), UserVoice, [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).

The group concluded that overall, the listserv and Google Drive currently appear to be serving the needs of the Cooperative well and proposes that the Interest Groups continue to use these platforms for public dissemination of information and documentation, and reserve the bulletin board for side conversations. The Twitter and Facebook accounts are being revived by Dina Herbert (see below for announcement) and the website [contact form](#) is being managed by Sarah Wells. Gitlab will continue to serve as a resource for developers and UserVoice as the app used for tracking user requests and bug reports. While the SNAC Wiki is currently empty, the group may consider potential use in the future.

SNACSchool:

On January 13, the SNACSchool Interest Group completed a first review of the training outline that Jerry presented at our meeting on December 7.

Standards and Editorial Policy:

The Standards and Editorial Policy Interest Group have prioritized three specific policies that required directional input and review before the SNAC development team could codify requirements and specifications for the relevant SNAC maintenance system areas. Various subgroup teams from the Standards and Editorial Policy group were tasked with the development of these policies. The policy recommendations were created and initially reviewed by a Jan 20 due date and is as follows.

1. [Record ownership policy](#) to determine who has authority over identity constellation records.
2. SNAC identity [related resources policy](#) to specify the required element set for related resources.

3. [Repeatable assertion policy](#) for SNAC identity elements to determine which areas of the SNAC identity constellation record should be repeatable.

Subsequent Technical Interest Group vetting and development team requirements and specifications update will now be conducted.

Requesting Your Feedback

Reminder to contribute your thoughts to [Daniel](#) on the use of <entityId> (see his January 11 e-mail to snac-coopmembers@lists.village.virginia.edu). Does the Cooperative want to continue to use it for ISNI identifiers? Only ISNI identifiers? Or are there other candidates? For example, our own ARK?

Reminder that Daniel would like to hear from you regarding potential implications of the new property in Wikidata for SNAC IDs: P3430, <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Property:P3430> (see his January 9 e-mail to snac-coopmembers).

As an ongoing issue, Daniel is also interested in hearing suggestions for ways to expand the Cooperative membership. He's especially interested in expanding the diversity of the group, both in terms of types of repositories and geographic location (see his January 17 e-mail to the snac-coopmembers).

SNAC Social Media

During the month of February, the SNAC Twitter Feed (@SNACcooperative) will be tweeting about SNAC resources for Black History Month. Please check it out at <https://twitter.com/SNACcooperative>. It would be great if you can retweet or interact with the posts. If you have suggestions for content or questions please email Dina Herbert, NARA SNAC Liaison, at dina.herbert@nara.gov.

User Interface Workshop at UCI

A SNAC user interface workshop at UCI took place on January 27. Catalogers, archivists, and metadata librarians from UCI met for a half-day workshop facilitated by Kelly Spring using the test instance of the user interface. Participant feedback recorded on the [user interface testing template](#) was submitted to the SNACSchool Interest Group.

Real! Live! SNAC data

Beginning January 25, production work on real data can be done through the editorial interface (see Worthy's January 25 e-mail to snac-coopmembers@lists.village.virginia.edu) via this URL: snac-web.iath.virginia.edu. SNAC will retain the enhancements (modifications and creation) that you make. In other words the contents of the underlying database will not be "reset."

For development, demonstration and experimentation with the editorial interface on a separate instance of the database, use this URL: snac-dev.iath.virginia.edu

Developers will on occasion "reset" this database and will have "beta" versions of modifications to the interactive interface for testing before installing them on the production interface. This instance of SNAC contains an incomplete copy of the data from snac-web. Any modifications: edits or creates, to Constellations here will not be permanent and will not make it to snac-web.