



Profiles

Profile of the Web-Based Infrastructure Implementation Task Force

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The Web-Based Infrastructure Implementation Task Force has been meeting since January 2018, continuing the work of the previous Web-Based Implementation Task Force. The Task Force has worked to realize the recommendations from that group. I completed my interview with Chair David Macaulay by e-mail on January 10, 2020.



Photo Courtesy of David Macaulay

What is the origin of the Web-Based Infrastructure Implementation Task Force?

The Task Force was struck to follow up on the work of the previous Web-Based Infrastructure Task Force, which developed a set of requirements for a new system to manage our membership database, event

management, financial transactions, and website. Our work has involved two phases: investigating available options and making recommendations to the board (described by previous chair Paoshan Yue in the December 2018 issue of the *Newsletter*), followed by the current efforts to migrate to the new platform, Wild Apricot, that was selected on the basis of those recommendations.

Who are the other members of the Task Force?

Currently, the Task Force is composed of four teams addressing the various functional areas being migrated:

- Membership Database: Christine Radcliff (leader), Char Simser, Amanda Echterling
- Web Management: Matt Jabaily (leader), Melissa Cantrell, Rebecca Tatterson, and myself
- E-Commerce: Jessica Ireland
- Event Management: Mary Ann Jones

Our liaison to the Board is Lisa Martincik.

How does the work of the Web-Based Infrastructure Implementation Task Force build on the work of the Web-Based Infrastructure Task Force?

As I mentioned previously, we have been concerned with practically implementing the migration to a new platform that best meets the requirements that were formulated by the Web-Based Infrastructure Task Force.

What has been your process so far?

In the first phase, the group identified "organization management" solutions and evaluated them in terms of the requirements formulated by the Web-Based Infrastructure Task Force (see Pasohan Yue's interview in the December 2018 *Newsletter*). This mainly involved attending online demos, asking questions, and so on, resulting in a report with recommendations presented to the Board in the summer of 2018. Once the selection was made by the Board, the workgroups were organized to manage the migration work in various functional areas. I took over as chair at that point, and my role has been to maintain oversight of the overall process and facilitate communication between the teams, which have worked largely independently in focusing on their specific areas.

Have any specific initiatives emerged from the work of the initial task force?

Not as such—our main concern was to maintain the level of service provided via the previous system, while taking advantage of any specific improvements the new system made possible. There has been a concerted effort to simplify the structure of the website.

When will the final report of the Task Force be presented?

The launch of the new website and related systems is currently scheduled for mid/late January 2020. The Task Force's annual report will be submitted in May.

Do you have any additional comments?

It has been really gratifying to witness the hard work of the task force members as they navigate the specifics of the migration in their various areas. Overall, I can say that their dedication and ingenuity has made the process a very smooth one so far, and I anticipate that NASIG members will be very pleased with the results.