

Keeping the Conversation Alive...

Using tiaa-forum.org as a tool for the workshop community
between workshop events...

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Keeping the conversation happening...

- Motivations for NAATW workshop(s)
- Purpose of tiaa-forum.org
- What's new at tiaa-forum.org?
- (demonstration)
- What's coming (soon?) at tiaa-forum.org?
- Where should we be heading from here?

What happens at a workshop...

1. Networking

- Relationship discovery and building
- Shared experience

2. Inspiration, discovery, new perspectives

- In a new place, everything seems different
- Common problems, common solutions...

3. Questions and answers

- Discovering the right questions probably more important than answers...

4. Support/reinforcement

What can (does) happen on tiaa-forum.org?

tiaa-forum.org:

This forum is for AA members to share about using technology for accomplishing the primary purpose of AA. ...

(excerpt from "About our Community" post on forum)

1. Much the same as what is happening at a workshop
2. Broader reach than a once a year happening
3. Persistent collection of conversations/knowledge...
4. Questions/answers
5. Experiences/stories

What's available at tiaa-forum.org?

1. Questions
2. Answers/information
3. Community
4. Geeky stuff:
 - a. Why Discourse?
 - b. Discourse.org
 - i. meta.discourse.org
 - c. rails/ember app packaged in a Docker container

Demonstration of tiaa-forum.org

- Sign up
 - Introduce yourself...
 - Updating profile
- FAQ
- Different viewing options
 - Categories/New/Latest, etc.
 - Watching topics/threads
- Posting:
 - New topics
 - Replies

What's coming next at tiaa-forum.org?

1. WordPress front end

- Improved SEO
- Allows some “content” for non-members
- Improved new member process
- Support for donations
- Forum url will change to discourse.tiaa-forum.org
 - Change url on bookmarks and Discourse mobile app

2. Resources (technology?) useful to the AA community open to the public

- Links to websites(?)

Where should we go (evolve) from here?

1. Do you find the forum, as it is now, useful?
 - What would make it more useful to you and your organization(s)?
2. What features/changes would best support/promote our community?
 - Should we allow people to just sign up w/out an invite?
 - Should we provide an ability to “list members?”
 - Should we become more “social?” If so, how would we do that?
3. What can we do to encourage more “non-technical” participation?
4. Should/can we branch out to support other (perhaps related) community discussions?
 - eg Archives Central Office Managers PI etc

Help! Please...!

- Front end design/UI experience
 - Graphical and functional design support
 - Navigation choices
- WordPress experience
 - Plugin evaluations
 - Plugin development
 - General maintenance and security
- Rails/Ember/Docker programming and support experience
 - New functionality (plugins?) for Discourse

Thank you!!!

- Forum administrators:
 - Dennis, Juha, Keith, Lew, Lois, Rob
- Forum/community members
 - 175+ and counting...