

# DDI Alliance Executive Board Meeting

## 8 February 2023

*Present: Libby Bishop, Bill Block, Cory Chobanik, Maggie Levenstein, Jared Lyle, Steve McEachern*

### Executive Board Vacancy

A call for nominations to fill the vacant seat on the Executive Board was distributed in January. Voting will be distributed to designated member representatives the week of 13 February.

### Updating the Strategic Plan

Bill will update the 2021-2023 [strategic plan](#) by removing outdated information and summarizing existing content. The updated plan will be presented for discussion and approval at the annual Meeting of Members, with a focus on questions of: how will this updated plan influence what the community does, and how will the membership, especially the working groups and committees, go about implementing it?

### Inviting Community Representatives to Upcoming Meetings

Bill will be inviting representatives from key DDI activities to join an occasional Executive Board meeting to make sure the Board is informed on the day-to-day activities of DDI work. It was noted that Board members are also interested in attending events and meetings; people don't have to come to us as the only option for information sharing.

### Coordination with Scientific Board

Bill and Jared meet quarterly with the Scientific Board Chair and Vice-Chair. Bill noted that he is impressed with the work of the Scientific Board and emphasized the need to support their work.

Two decision points to share from the January coordination meeting:

- The proposed date and time for the combined annual Meeting of Members and the Scientific Community Meeting is Tuesday, 20 May, from 13:00-17:00. A save-the-date will be announced soon to the DDI community once details are finalized with IASSIST organizers.
- DDI Alliance funding requests for FY24 (July 2023-June 2024) will be distributed later this month after the Scientific Board distributes their updated Scientific Work Plan. (For reference, the March 2022 call for proposals: <https://ddialliance.org/announcement/seeking-ddi-alliance-funding-requests-for-the-upcoming-fiscal-year-july-2022-june-2023>.) The application deadline for funding requests will be 10 April. The Executive Board will review funding requests during the May meeting. Funded groups will be invited to describe and pitch their funded work as

part of the annual meetings. This will inform the community about upcoming work and could lead to the recruitment of more participants.

## Marketing & Partnership Working Group Review

The Marketing & Partnerships working group has been dormant since the past Chair, Barry Radler, retired. The working group was formed as one of the key recommendations from the 2011 Breckenhill external review of the DDI Alliance, which found “that the emergent [DDI] stakeholders do not see themselves as well served although they very strongly support and need the DDI ‘products’ and tools. The broader need for an external/outward-facing Marketing Plan and implementation strategy to promote even more take-up of the standards and Alliance membership needs to be addressed.”

At the next meeting (on April 4th), the Board will review the original charge of the Marketing & Partnerships working group and discuss next steps for the group. Jared will prepare a summary of the original charge, as well as solicit input about next steps for the group from key stakeholders, including the Scientific Board, the Technical Committee, the Training Working Group, and members of the Marketing & Partnerships Working Group.

## Supporting Tools Development

The Board discussed the importance of tools development in supporting DDI and FAIR adoption, including:

- Encouraging open-source API development, which reduces the barrier to entry and allows others to create value-added solutions.
- SDMX as an example of cost sharing for open-source tools development.

## Upcoming Executive Board Meetings

- April 4 at 8am EDT
  - Marketing & Partnerships Working Group review
- May 3 at 8am EDT
  - FY2023 (July 2022-June 2023) budget review
  - FY2024 (July 2023-June 2024) funding requests review