

InternetNZ Community Projects progress report

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Computer Science Field Guide and Unplugged website

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The InternetNZ grant is to "vastly improve the CS Field Guide (and include more emphasis on internet technologies), to make the Unplugged website more useful for educators (particularly tying it in better with new curricula), and to have a subsidised service available for Canterbury schools, where we work with the school to introduce these subjects into their mainstream programme."

The contract was signed off on 12 August 2015, and the project runs to February 2016, so it is currently only at early stages. Nevertheless, good progress has been made.

The objectives and progress to date are as follows:

<p>Present to December 2015: develop two new introductory videos for CS Field Guide chapters and ;</p> <p>investigate an improved format for delivering the CS Field Guide.</p>	<p>Initial work to plan the videos is underway, including arranging contract(s) with the video production company.</p> <p>The improved format for the Field Guide is underway, with new layout and infrastructure designed, and nearly all existing material converted to the new format.</p>
<p>Present to January 2016: run PD for Christchurch computing teachers who are yet to engage with the new material, with a subsidised in-school PD service.</p>	<p>Tracy Henderson, Caitlin Duncan, Jack Morgan and James Atlas have been interacting with local schools to provide PD and planning support for Kaiapoi North, Ilam, Springston, Ladbrooks, St Margarets College, Linwood College and providing support for an Ellesmere cluster initiative to complete a computational thinking day, which included PD for teachers from Clearview, Ellesmere College, Aidenfield Christian School, Halswell School, Ladbrooks School and Templeton School. A Google Plus group has been established for teachers to communicate outside of formal PD contact, and in addition they fill out a form reflecting on each lesson they deliver based on the PD. For the</p>

	remainder of the year we plan to continue visits at a similar rate, and will provide support over the Term 3/Term 4 holidays and in January 2016 as teachers prepare for the new year.
April to December 2015: develop a revised framework for Field Guide built-in interactives. The platform for the Field Guide to be updated to provide a better interface.	The new framework has been designed by Jack Morgan and Marcus Stenfert Kroese, based around Github, and an improved editing interface. The new editor is being finalised (to properly render the text).
October 2015 to March 2016: develop new examples for chapters that have only one example,	Will begin in October once the new framework is finalised.
December 2015: run CS4HS event (PD event for all computing teachers), releasing the majority of the new material above.	Planning for this is well underway, with 130 high school teachers registered already, including 75 registrations to come for an extra 2 days of workshops (5 days total).
December to February 2016: develop more videos and interactives, by hiring students over the summer, for release in the new school year.	A summer position has been advertised.

Spending against the budget to 31 September is as follows:

\$5K: develop better interactive material and examples in the CS Field Guide (one student during the year to develop a framework, and one working over the summer).	A \$1,000 scholarship has been given to the student working on the framework. The remainder has been advertised as a scholarship for the summer work.
\$8K: develop the CS Unplugged material to better support curricula by providing PD support for teachers, running trials in schools and writing it up	\$1,900 to date: Approximately \$500 has been used to run PD for teachers, plus \$400 committed to incentives for teachers to give us feedback on the curriculum material as it is deployed, and \$1000 put towards costs for the CS4HS event.
\$7K: about 4 of the remaining introductory videos for the CS Field Guide.	No expenses to date.