

Public Invention Quarterly Report Q1, 2019

-- Robert L. Read, 3/29/2019

This is the first quarterly report of the official corporation Public Invention, whose first official meeting was February 15, 2019.

Organization Actions

- On February 15, 2019, the first board, consisting of 10 persons, was appointed, including a Secretary, Marc T. Jones. Robert L. Read (Rob) was appointed President and Treasurer and founding board member, having a term of 3 years.
- On March 18, a SWOT analysis was held in which several board members discussed strategy. It was decided to organize the 43 extant invention projects.
- On March 28, 2019, a gift of \$5,000 was received from Robert L. Read.
- On March 28, a checking account at Wells Fargo was opened and \$5,000 deposited. Quickbooks has been established as a bookkeeping system.

Public Inventing

Invention Projects

Throughout this quarter, progress was made on a number of Public Invention Projects (mainly by Rob):

- The [TriadBalance](#) project was completed. This is a new form of interactive GUI element for expressing trinary balance, such such as “Mind/Body/Spirit” or “Strength/Cardio/Flexibility”. It is rare for a Public Invention project to be so small as to be completed so quickly. A volunteer, Sean Johnshon, proofread and code reviewed this.
- The [SocialTetrahedrons](#) project was completed. This was a project done mainly for outreach, at the instigation of Mark Frazier. It is hoped he will promote Public Invention through this project.
- Significant progress was made on the [SegmentedHelices](#) project, which grew out of the 2018 Mathathon held by Public Invention. This project aims to produce an academic publication. The contributions are:

- Interactive 3D JavaScript code which demonstrated the ability to design a helix based on the face normals and twist of repeated prismatic sub-units,
- A proof of the observation that repeated subunits always produce a helix, and
- Algorithms (almost close-form expressions) for the calculation of the parameters of such a helix, allow such helices to be “designed” from the subunits and vice versa.
- Significant work was undertaken with David Jeschke, founder of Xtramath, on a project which he has not yet agreed to make a Public Invention project, although we have agreed to decide on April 15th.

Outreach and Communication Efforts

In addition to the Social Tetrahedrons project which was undertaken mostly for outreach, Rob wrote two articles which were published on Medium in the magazine “Hacker Noon”:

- [Public Invention Project #40: A Wheel for Painting Very Thin Lines](#), having 38 reads at the time of this writing and having generated some conversation on twitter and linked-in, and
- [43 Public Invention Projects That Need You](#), having 180 reads at the time of this writing.

Rob established a sub-reddit: <https://www.reddit.com/r/PublicInvention/>.

Additionally, Stephanie Liu and Rob met to develop a strategy for attending/hosting events that promote Public Invention.

Goals for Coming Quarters

- Organize the Invention Projects into a map and other forms that make them easier to understand
- Identify and promote the top 3 projects (probably Rapid E. Coli detection, the Tetrobot, and the Segmented Helix project.)
- Apply for 501c3 status
- Complete the Segmented Helices Project to the level of ready-for-publication
- Plan a Public Invention event in conjunction with some other organization
- Develop a fundraising strategy
- Improve our web presence, perhaps by hiring a web designer
- Perform a branding exercise
- Establish a “shop” for selling swag and merchandise
- Announce the Social Tetrahedrons and Triad Balance projects.
- Recruit an Invention Coach other than Rob.

