6. Biographies

Jonathan D. Amith, PI/Project director (Ph.D. Anthropology; Yale, 2000). Amith, an independent scholar and has researched the language and culture of two Nahuatl languages and one Mixtec language for over two decades. He has received two three-year NSF DEL grants to study modern Nahuatl, first (2005–9) in the central Balsas Valley, Guerrero, and then (2008–present) in the Sierra Nororiental, and another NSF grant (2010–present) and an Endangered Language Documentation Programme (School of Oriental and African Studies, London) grant (2010–13) to study the Mixtec language spoken in Coastal Guerrero. Recently he has received three awards (ELDP, NSF, NEH) to study comparative ethnobotany of the Sierra Nororiental de Puebla in which, in collaboration with John Kress (Smithsonian) he is pioneering the use of DNA barcoding to identify sterile (non-flowering and non-fruiting) plant specimens collected in Indigenous communities as part of an effort to document traditional ecological knowledge. Amith has published in linguistics, history, and anthropology. He has curated an exhibit of Indigenous protest art, produced and codirected an award-winning documentary film, and edited an anthology of Nahuatl-language texts (book and 6-CD set) distributed to Nahuatl-speaking communities by Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Lenguas Indígenas. He has managed ambitious projects comprising large groups of diversely trained collaborators including computational linguists, phoneticians, biologists, native language speakers (whom as part of his grants he has trained in the skills necessary for language and cultural documentation), and video teams.

Eric Remy, Co-director for digital technologies (Ph.D., Chemistry, Stanford, 1994). Remy is the Director of Instructional Technology and Training at Gettysburg College. Following his postdoctoral studies, he switched fields to educational technology and has spent the past 18 years developing innovative programs to enhance teaching and learning with technology at USC, Virginia Tech and Randolph College prior to joining Gettysburg in 2007. He currently oversees the instructional technology group at Gettysburg and works with faculty across the curriculum on teaching and student research projects: a recent example project in the Digital Humanities was the development of a website mapping the relationship between ancient Islamic maps and modern day ones. He has developed projects with PHP, Java, Javascipt, Perl and MySQL and platforms such as Drupal, Moodle and the Google Maps API.

Bill Ogilvie, Vice-President, Public Sector and Lead at Civic Actions, Web development team. Ogilvie has over thirty years experience in applying technology to a variety of government and industry solutions. He began his career in governmental relations as a lobbyist in the Military Resale industry and later represented the technology interests of a government contractor. Before joining Civic Actions in 2014, Ogilvie had led the sales efforts for Enterworks, an enterprise software company focused on Product Content Management. Ogilvie's background in technology, government contracting, sales, and developing startup companies gives him a unique background to develop the public sector business for CivicActions. His years building enterprise software companies has led him to the conclusion that open source software is the future for governmental organizations. In this project, Ogilvie will be the contact person in charge of project escalation; Elizabeth Raley is be the project manager.

Elizabeth Raley (BFA, Wayne State University 2004). Raley joined CivicActions in 2010 as a project manager and to oversee quality assurance given her skills in bringing people together to improve processes, exceed expectations, and enhance communication through interactive media. Agile is a development methodology that has been customized at Civic Actions to promote successful interaction among individuals with different levels of expertise to complete a project. For example, as project manager on a collaboration platform project for DSCA, a large federal agency, she has led a team of over ten engineers and user experience professionals through countless successful releases. She has also served as project manager on building sites for C2ES (formerly The Pew Center for Climate Change), Denver Public Library, EatFresh (San Francisco Human Services Agency), FosterClub, GlobalMDP

Program (Columbia University), Netpop, and SACNAS (Society for Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science). Prior to working at CivicActions, Raley spent five years at the software company Casting Networks as Director of Project Management. There she helped form the project manager and quality assurance groups along with introducing and implementing Agile methodologies, which she has presented in various public forums and workshops (Drupalcon Chicago 2011, the Community Media Drupal Summit 2012, and Drupal GladCamp 2014).

Emily Lott, Botanical consultant Emily J. Lott (M.S., Sul Ross State University, 1979) is a specialist in identification of Mexican plants, particularly of the tropical deciduous forest of Mexico's Pacific slope. She is reecognized as an authority on the flora of the Chamela Biological Station and has published several articles and invited book chapters on that subject, in addition to other topics (descriptions of new species, etc.). Lott has collaborated on many Mexican research projects with ecologists, anthropologists, entomologists, and conservation groups. A specialty is teaching non-botanists to recognize dry forest trees and shrubs in the field. Formerly an Investigador (researcher) at the National Herbarium of Mexico (MEXU, UNAM), She is a research associate at the Plant Resources Center, University of Texas at Austin, Texas, and is curator of SERO, the herbarium of the Sociedad para el Estudio de los Recursos Bioticos de Oaxaca, (SERBO). In 2013 she was awarded the Medalla al Merito Botanico by the Sociedad Mexicana de Botanica.

Victor W. Steinmann, Botanical consultant (Ph.D. Botany; Claremont Graduate University, 2000) Steinmann, a researcher at the Instituto de Ecología, Centro Regional del Bajío, in Pátzcuaro, Michoacán, Mexico, is an expert on the plant families Euphorbiaceae and Urticaceae and has published extensively on the distribution and diversity of these two families in Mexico as well as on their systematics. He has more than twenty years of experience working on floristic projects in Mexico, and in addition to his specific expertise in these two families, Steinmann is extremely familiar with Mexican flora in general, a skill that makes him a particularly valuable collaborator of a project of such wide-ranging scope as the present. He is presently collaborating with and advising Amith on his ethnobotanical work in the Sierra Nororiental de Puebla, and is currently leading a project funded by the Mexican Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad to prepare an internet-based informational system on the trees of Mexico.