Conversation between GiveWell and Webcite on 4/10/13

Participants

- Dr. Gunther Eysenbach – *Project Initiator*, Webcite
- Elie Hassenfeld – *Co-Executive Director*, GiveWell

Summary

GiveWell spoke with Webcite (http://www.webcitation.org/) to discuss Webcite's current funding needs. GiveWell has used Webcite to archive web sources in GiveWell's reports since early 2010.

Note: This set of notes was compiled by GiveWell and gives an overview of the major points made by Dr. Eysenbach in the conversation.

Who works at Webcite now?

There is a small research group the Center for Global e-Health. This project is subsidized by other research grants. There is no dedicated funding for this project.

Why is this fundraising campaign happening now?

Dr. Eysenbach is trying to decide whether Webcite should continue as a non-profit project or a business with revenue streams built into the system. The fundraising campaign helps him see if there's a need out there and if they're willing to pay.

Webcite is trying to raise $25,000-50,000 to migrate the database to ore stable software infrastructure. Approximately $20,000-30,000 of needed funds would go to pay for an engineer to do this work. Webcite also hopes that an improved system allows it to better track usage.

Webcite is considering ways to build in some revenue streams to its service. If it does this, it would require approximately $10,000-20,000 in legal services to advise it on questions of copyright law.

What is the current level of interest in and use of Webcite?

The Wikimedia Foundation has expressed interest in Webcite as a way to archive links on Wikipedia but the funds would only cover the specific request Wikimedia had (to archive all links on Webcite) so Webcite still requires additional funds.

The current size of the archive is 2 terrabytes.