INTERACTIVE FICTION TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION 2016 TRANSPARENCY REPORT

2016 was the first year of IFTF's existence, and we're commemorating it the way we plan to commemorate every future year: with a transparency report that covers what projects we've initiated, what money we've received, and how we've allocated it. Although this report does not go all the way to completely open bookkeeping, we hope that it will help the community understand what we're working on and how we're funding these endeavors.
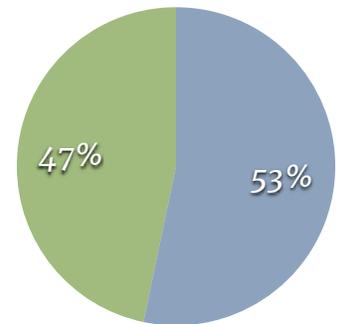
Projects

This year we announced two projects: taking stewardship of the Interactive Fiction Competition, and a project to improve the accessibility of interactive fiction. We also announced our intent to embark on a third project, taking stewardship of the Twine interactive fiction authoring system.

While IFTF as an organization has taken over hosting for IFComp and invested some money in legal advice regarding how to best support Twine, these projects are all in their early stages, and none of them have submitted budgets to us yet. Therefore, this year we will not split our transparency report into separate sections for each project. There is nothing to report on yet. Expect to learn in more detail about each project in 2017.

Donations

In 2016, we received a total of $2683.84 in donations. 53% of donations have come from our founders, whereas 47% are individual donations from the interactive fiction community. This balance reflects the youth of our organization: before we were publicly announced, we needed to have some cashflow, and as a result our founders (i.e. the current board of directors) provided most of the budget.

On the pie chart to the right, you will notice a third donation category, "institutional donations." Institutional donations are donations from corporations and private foundations. In this report, we've separated out these no-strings-attached donations from grants, because grants are given for a specific purpose and sometimes have benchmarks associated with them. For much of 2016, we did not qualify for institutional donations, as we had not yet achieved nonprofit status. (We have now, so don't worry, your donations are tax-deductible!)

In 2017, we expect that individual and institutional donations will grow and the proportion of our income donated by our founders will be greatly reduced. We encourage individual donors to look at their company's handbooks, since some companies (e.g. Google) have donation-matching programs that can amplify the power of your dollar!

Please note that in 2016 we did not keep track of in-kind donations or donations of time and professional expertise. Expect more detail on these

donations in our 2017 report as we determine the right way to represent them.

Grants

We chose to set up IFTF before applying for grants; as a result, we received none in 2016. However, grants are a central part of our funding strategy going forward. In 2017 we hope to see all of our projects at least partially funded by grants.

Outgoing funds

In 2016, 72% of our outgoing funds have been spent on professional services (legal advice and graphic design). Through this expenditure, we've been able set IFTF up as a nonprofit and create an IFTF logo. We've also recieved valuable advice on how to best structure our IFComp and Twine projects. We always expect professional services to represent part of our budget, but in 2017 we hope to need less help, as we move into different phases of our projects.
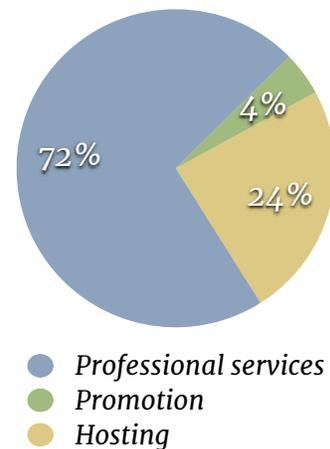
Our next largest expenditure, 24% of our outgoing funds, is hosting fees. This year, IFComp was transferred to our servers. We expect this portion of our budget to grow in 2017 as we begin to steward more IF projects.

It's important to note that, because we haven't tracked donations in kind or donations of professional expertise, this chart does not account for everything we've done. For example, our website has been designed, our PR managed, and our hosting configured through volunteer efforts.

Overall financial health

From the perspective of IFTF's budget, 2016 went as well as can possibly be expected. We've done what we need to do, gotten set up, and we're humming along.

The biggest concern is our ongoing costs. At the moment, our monthly "burn rate" (the amount of money we need to pay our recurring obligations each month) is only $22.50, in the form of server costs. Some costs are billed annually (legal services, filing fees, domain renewals); we estimate approximately $650 in these costs.

All together, our annual burn rate is around $890. However, all our costs are likely to grow as we take on more projects. What's more, we have much larger aspirations. In order to do more than simply provide a safe haven to keep IF projects online, we'll need to do some serious fundraising.

Looking forward, 2017 is a year of great risk and great rewards. We have a lot to do to qualify for the grants and institutional giving that will be necessary for the organization to succeed, but we feel confident that we'll rise to the challenge.

IFTF Budget, 2016

Donations	
Founder	$1406.00
Individual	$1232.84
Institutional	$0.00
Total income	$2638.84
Payments	
Professional services	$800.00
Promotion	$49.68
Hosting	$268.13
Total expenditures	$1117.81
Net Total	$1521.03