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Crowdsourcing Metadata: the Revolutionary Cataloging Interface and How it Can Help YOUR Library Expose and Promote Hidden Collections

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Crowdsourcing Metadata: the Revolutionary Cataloging Interface and How it Can Help YOUR Library Expose and Promote Hidden Collections

Presenter 1 Title

Cataloging and Metadata Librarian

Session Type

Event

Abstract

The crowdsourcing of metadata to expose and promote hidden collections is a significant and growing development in libraries, archives and museums, and offers hitherto unparalleled mass-collaborative potential for digital humanities projects. Originating from the field of citizen science, the online Zooniverse platform has been successfully utilized for this purpose by institutions including the Imperial War Museum, the Folger and the Huntington. This session presents recently published original research[1] in order to analyze and explain the automated quality control features of this major metadata crowdsourcing digital platform. The results, it is argued, are truly revolutionary. We conclude with a brief description of the 'Project Builder' feature which enables other institutions – and perhaps even yours – to create new experimental projects aimed at exposing hidden collections via the online crowdsourcing of robust, reliable and accurate metadata.

[1] Barber, S.T. (2018). The Zooniverse is expanding: crowdsourced solutions to the hidden collections problem and the rise of the revolutionary cataloging interface*, Journal of Library Metadata*, 18:2, 85-111. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1080/19386389.2018.1489449

Location

Keywords

Hidden collections, Crowdsourcing, Zooniverse, Operation War Diary, Digital Humanities, Metadata, Quality Control, Mass collaboration

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Crowdsourcing Metadata

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CSU Fullerton

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"If it's not online, it doesn't exist"

Association of Research Libraries (2007)

HIDDEN COLLECTIONS - PROBLEM

"uncataloged or inadequately described materials that are hidden from the view of library users for that reason"

(Prochaska, 2008)

resources "unknown to, and unused by, the scholars it is our mission to serve"

(Tabb, 2004)

"millions of items and collections – untapped knowledge resources – that are inaccessible to scholars"

(Yakel, 2005)

"one of the most serious and daunting issues facing the profession"

(Hubbard & Myers, 2010)

HIDDEN COLLECTIONS - SOLUTIONS

"flexible" approach to cataloging level

increased collaboration

+ experiment?

LIVERPOOL
LIVERPOOL FC
THE MIGHTY REDS

CROWDFUNDING?

INDIEGOGO

KICKSTARTER

gofundme

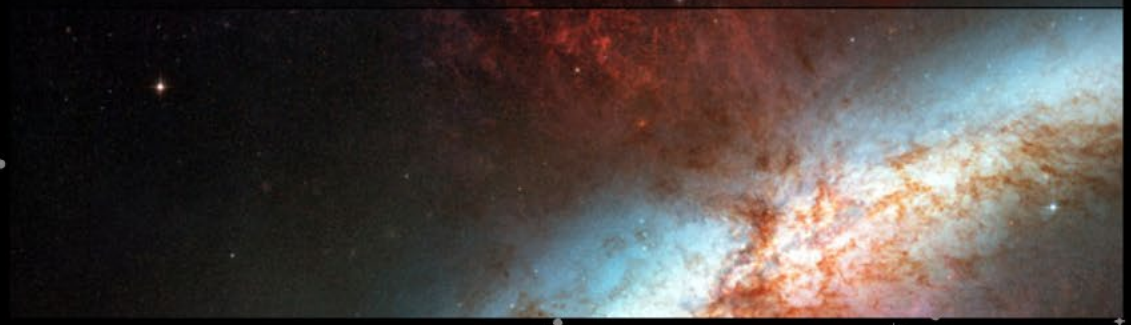
CROWDSOURCED DATA?

CROWDSOURCED DATA

CROWDSOURCED METADATA

ZOONIVERSE

GALAXY ZOO



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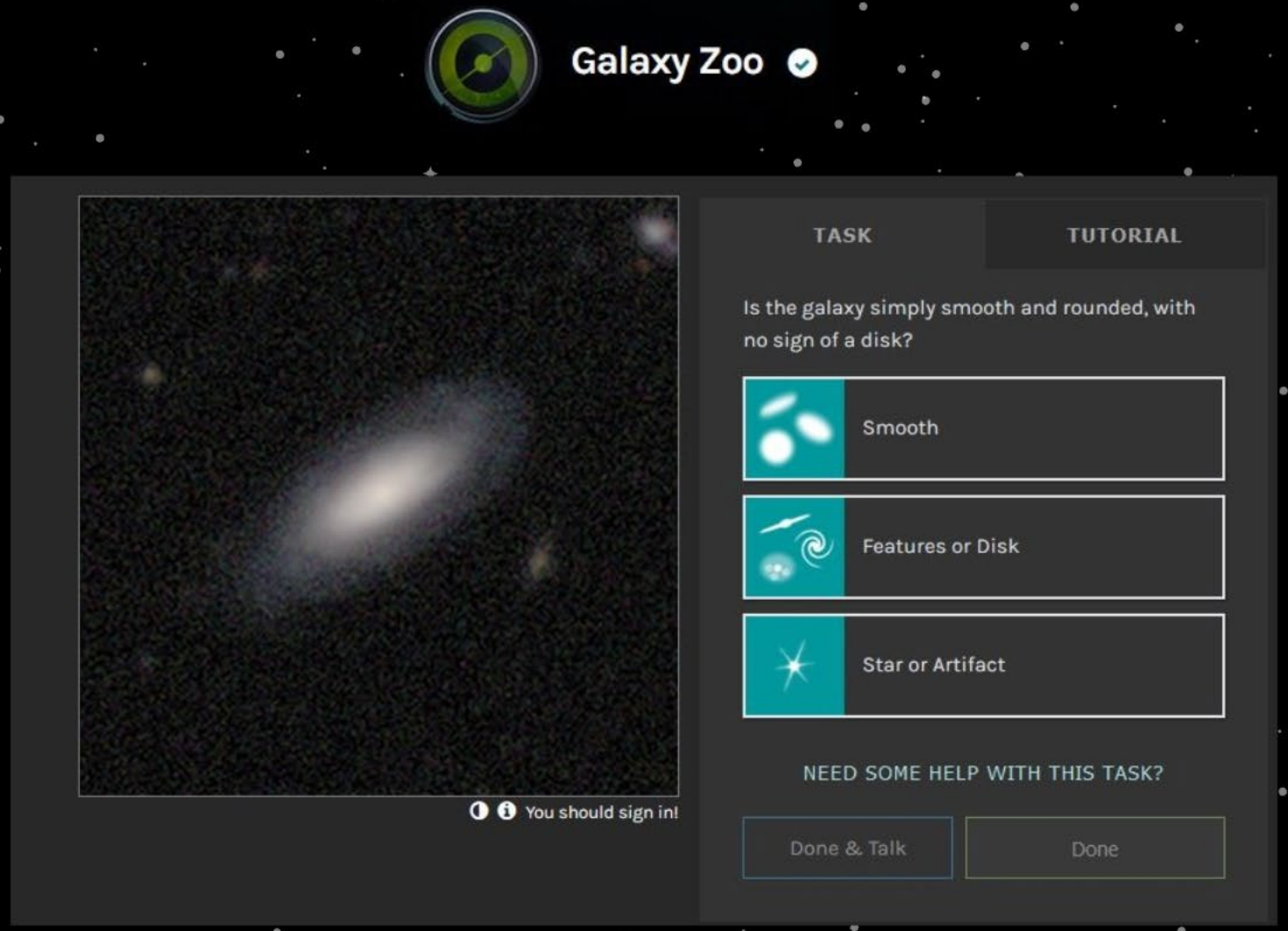

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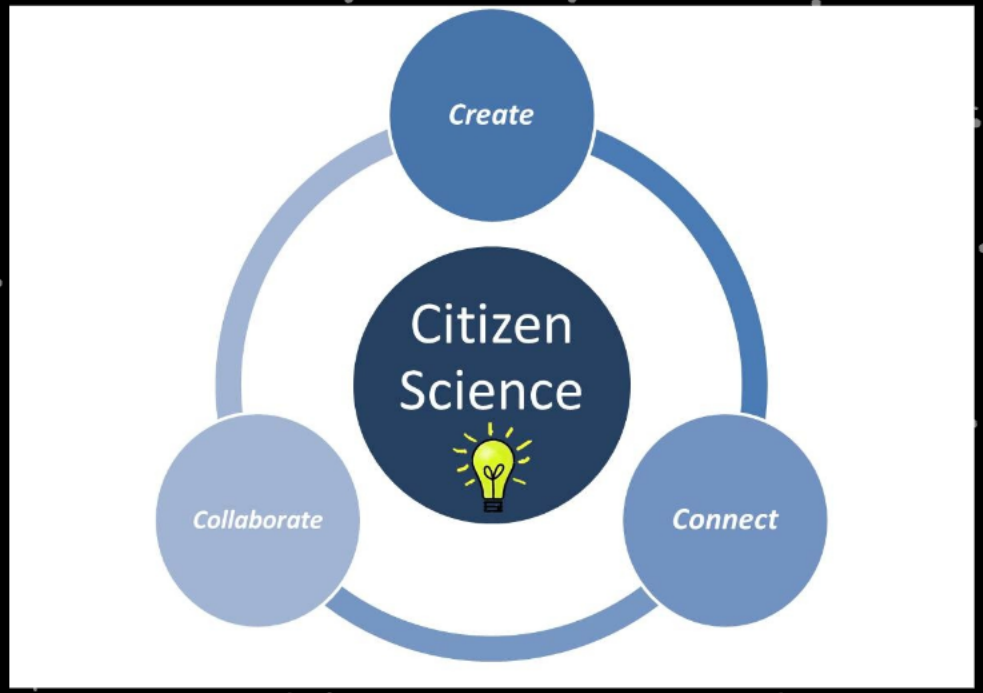

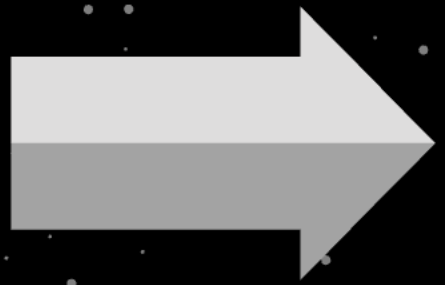

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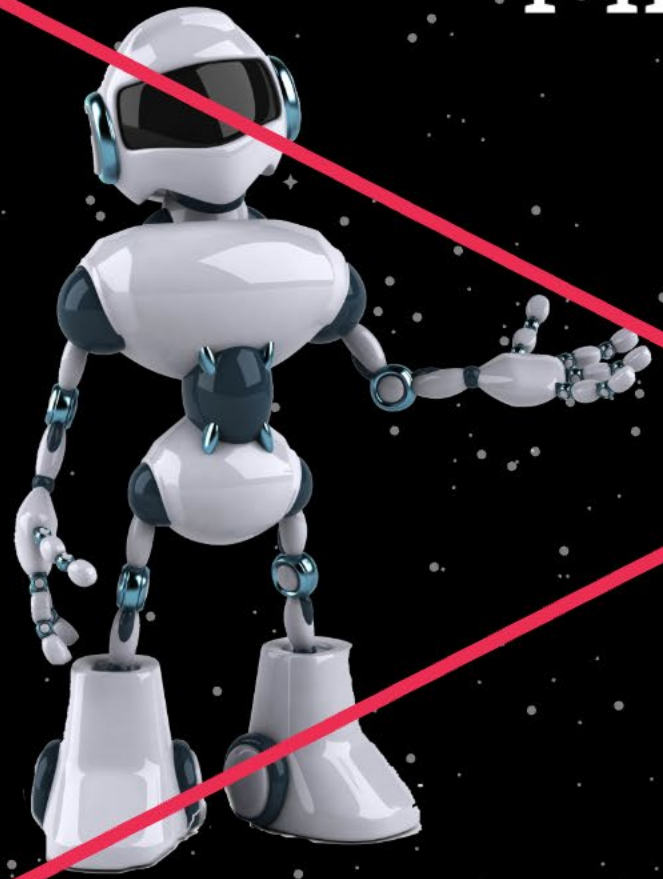

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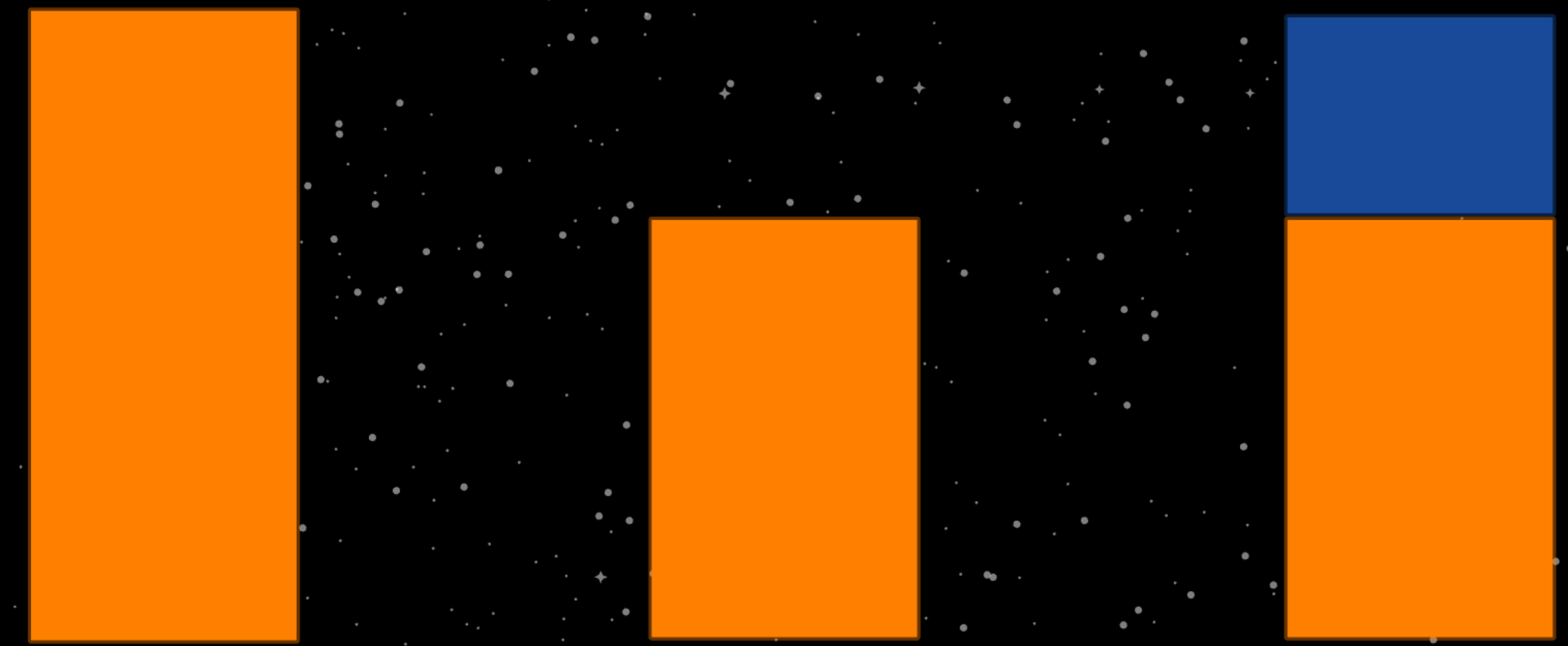


CROWDSOURCED LIBRARY METADATA

REVOLUTIONARY CATALOGING INTERFACE

OPERATION

WAR DIARY

REPORTS FROM THE FRONT

The story of the British Army on the Western Front during the First World War is waiting to be discovered in 1.5 million pages of unit war diaries. We need your help to reveal the stories of those who fought in the global conflict that shaped the world we live in today.

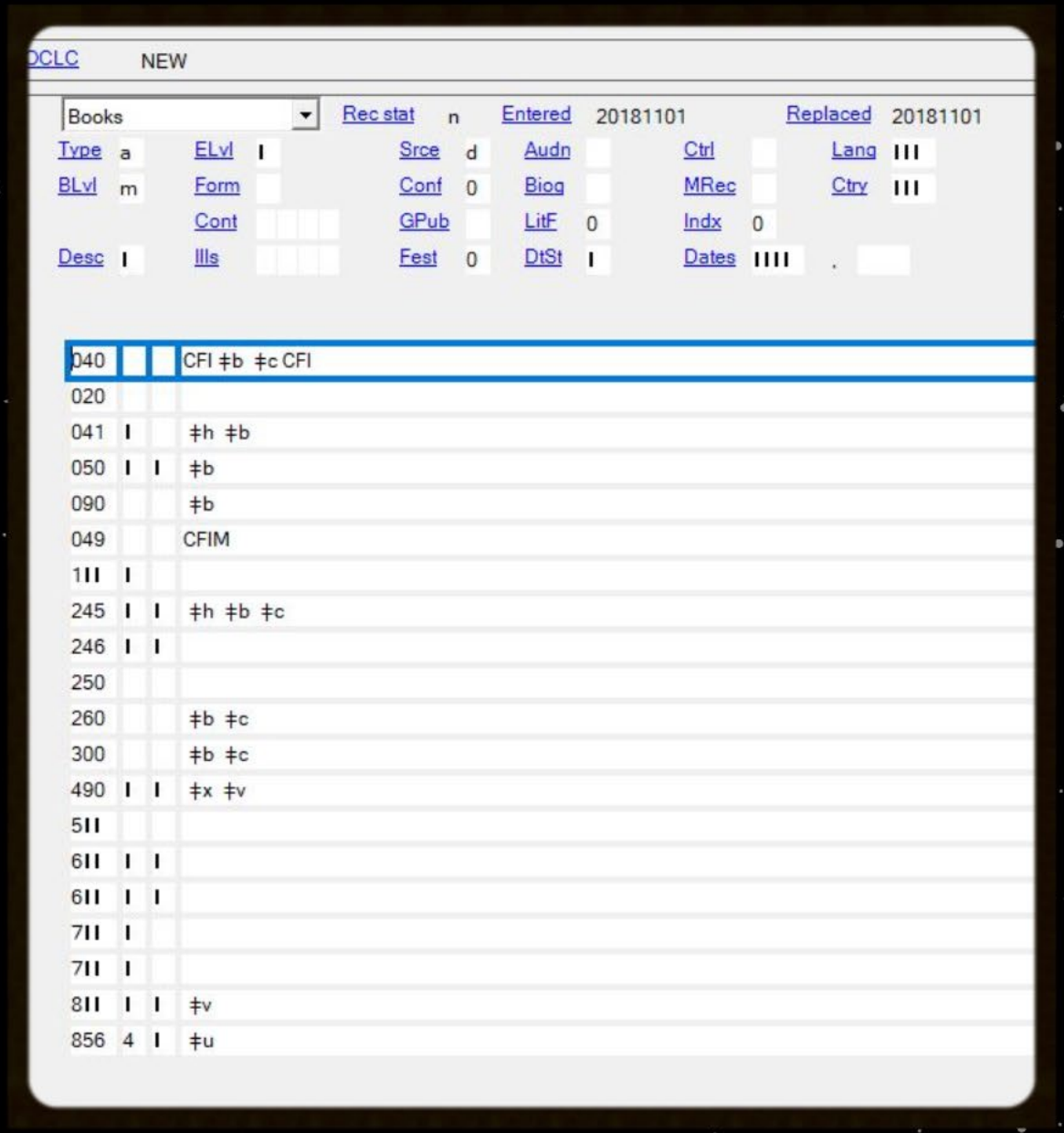
GET STARTED!

Working together with Citizen Historians during the First World War Centenary

ZOONIVERSE IWM IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUMS The National Archives

OPERATION WAR DIARY

- 2 Get tagging!
- Date
- Time
- Place
- Person
- Unit Activity
- Army Life
- Casualties
- Unit strengt
- Weather
- Map sheet
- Grid ref
- Other unit



OPERATION WAR DIARY

Barber	3
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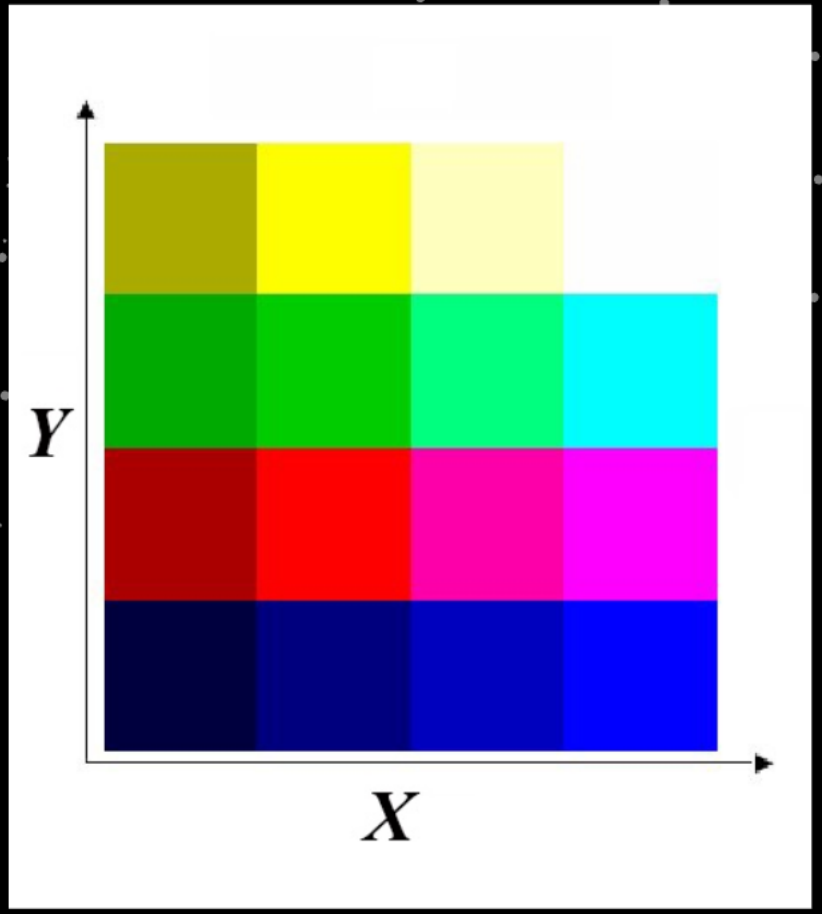
Barbar	1

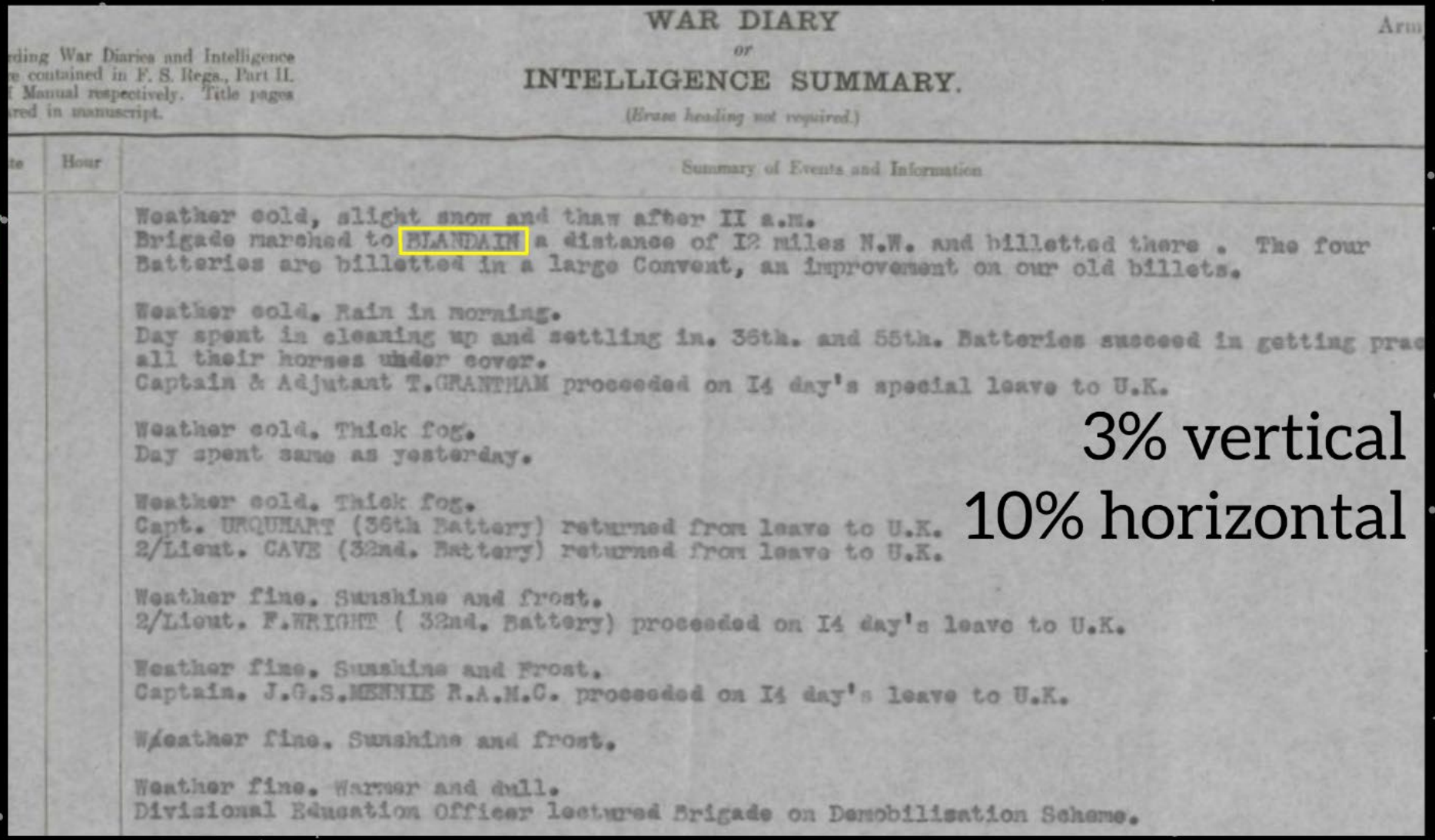
consensus principle

OPERATION WAR DIARY



clustering algorithm / proximity mapping

OPERATION WAR DIARY



WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erase heading not required.)

Army

ding War Diaries and Intelligence
e contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.
f Manual respectively. Title pages
red in manuscript.

te	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
		Weather cold, slight snow and thaw after II a.m. Brigade marched to BLANDAIN a distance of I2 miles N.W. and billetted there . The four Batteries are billetted in a large Convent, an improvement on our old billets. Weather cold. Rain in morning. Day spent in cleaning up and settling in. 36th. and 55th. Batteries succeed in getting prac all their horses under cover. Captain & Adjutant T.GRANTHAM proceeded on I4 day's special leave to U.K. Weather cold. Thick fog. Day spent same as yesterday. Weather cold. Thick fog. Capt. URQUHART (36th Battery) returned from leave to U.K. 2/Lieut. CAVE (32nd. Battery) returned from leave to U.K. Weather fine. Sunshine and frost. 2/Lieut. F.WRIGHT (32nd. Battery) proceeded on I4 day's leave to U.K. Weather fine. Sunshine and Frost. Captain. J.G.S.MENNIE R.A.M.C. proceeded on I4 day's leave to U.K. Weather fine. Sunshine and frost. Weather fine. Warmer and dull. Divisional Education Officer lectured Brigade on Demobilisation Scheme.

Place

y

3% vertical
10% horizontal

x

OPERATION WAR DIARY

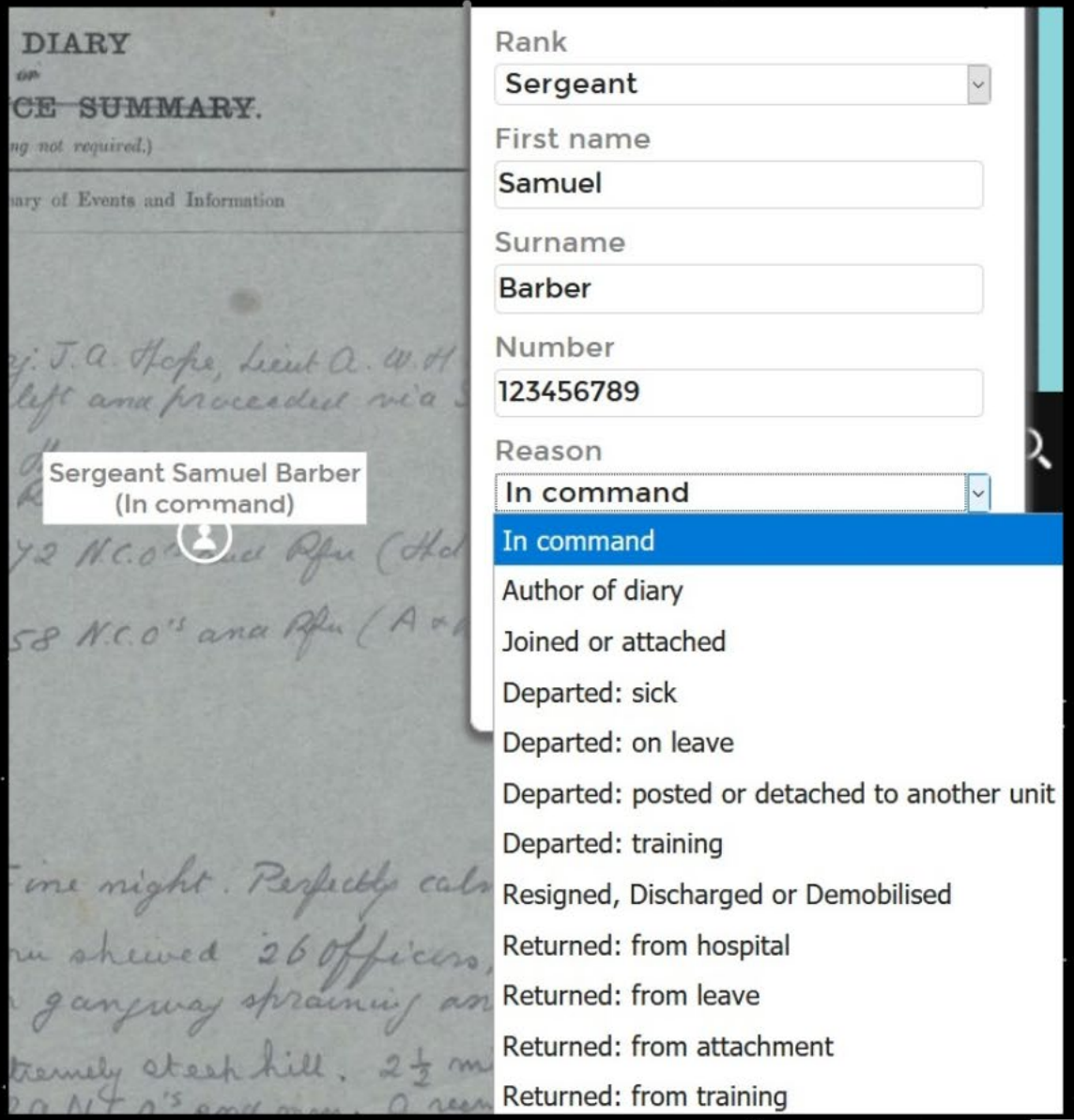
OPERATION WAR DIARY

OPERATION WAR DIARY

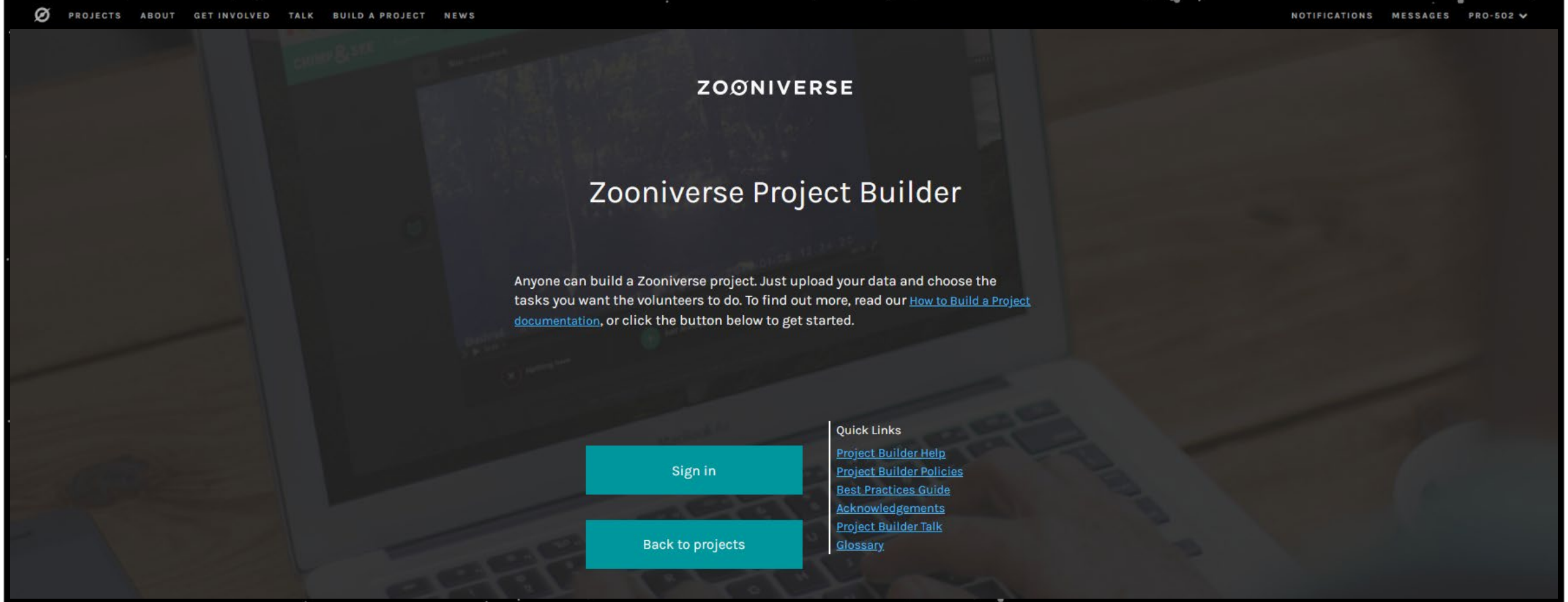
Rank

None ▼

- None
- Assistant Paymaster
- Battery Sergeant Major
- Bombardier
- Brigadier
- Brigadier General
- Captain
- Chaplain
- Colonel
- Colour Sergeant
- Company Quarter Master Sergeant
- Company Sergeant Major
- Corporal
- Driver
- Drummer
- Farrier
- Farrier Sergeant
- Field Marshal
- Fusilier
- General



ZOONIVERSE PROJECT BUILDER



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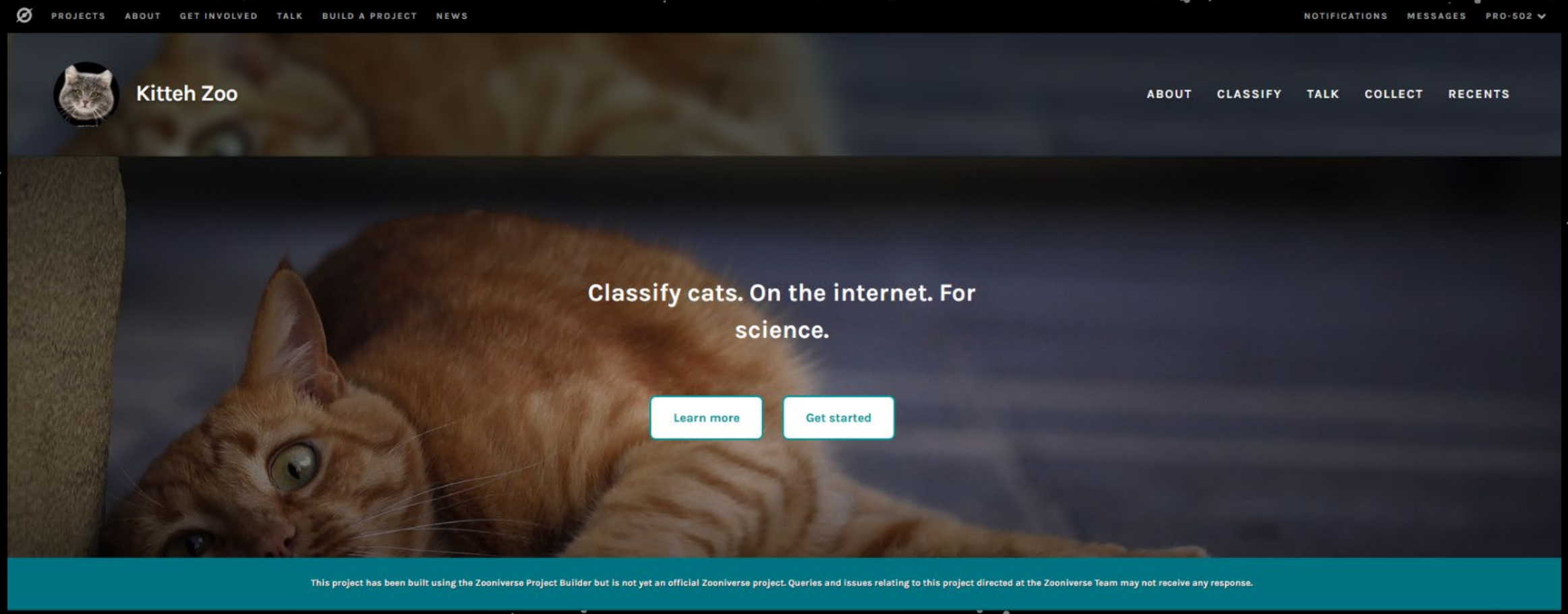

QUESTIONS?