National DigiFoundry Kickoff Event

Date: October 25, 2023

Facilitators	Meeting Metrics	Video Recording Link	NDF Site
John Huggins, UTSA Kevin L. Jackson, Forward Edge-AI	Attendees: 70 Duration: 56 minutes	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_J2hH-d8GMY	https://nscc.utsa.edu/NDF.html

Event Agenda:

- Welcome
- NDF Overview & Current Status
- Founding Member Introductions
- NDF Infrastructure Overview
- Inaugural Workgroups
- NDF Operational Cadence
- Annual Meeting (January 2024)
- Q&A

Summary:

The National DigiFoundry (NDF) held a kickoff meeting to introduce the program and its goals. The NDF is a partnership funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and led by the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and Forward Edge-AI (FEAI). The program aims to explore global standards and best practices for the use and exchange of digital assets. The meeting covered various topics, including the program's agenda, infrastructure, working groups, and operational cadence. The NDF has three initial working groups focused on: 1) climate change related disaster response, 2) healthcare research publishing, and 3) secure information sharing. The program plans to hold quarterly meetings with the first annual meeting in January 2024 and aims to achieve full operational capability by December 2024. The meeting also discussed the use of tokens for funding and governance within the NDF, as well as the potential involvement of government agencies and the private sector.

Agenda Highlights:

1) **Welcome**
   - Dr. Anna Brady-Estevez, National Science Foundation, explained the purpose and importance of the NDF in her opening remarks.
2) **NDF Overview & Current Status**
   - Mr. Kevin Jackson, FEAI, outlined the four current work group funding options.

3) **Founding Member Introductions**
  - Representatives from three of the four Genesis Block Founding Members spoke on why they joined the NDF and how they foresee advancing the utility and security of digital assets.
    - Mr. Benjamin Diggles – Constellation Networks
    - Mr. Talha Khan – IBM
    - Mr. Mark Stoner – BioCrowd

4) **NDF Infrastructure Overview**
  - Mr. Mani Shanker, FEAI, provided a status update on the NDF DAO infrastructure and website.

5) **Inaugural Workgroups**
  - Ms. Melissa "Lisa" Olivia, U.S. Department of the Treasury, described the organization's support of the Climate Change Disaster Response Working Group and it how it links to the Department's 50 States Initiative.
  - Mr. Mark Stoner of BioCrowd described the purpose and goals of the Healthcare Research Publishing Working Group
  - Mr. Diggles described the purpose of goals of the Secure Information Sharing Working Group.

6) **Annual Meeting (January 2024) // Q&A**
  - Dr. Huggins moderated a Q&A session, announced plans for an in-person event in January 23-24 2024 to be held at the UTSA in San Antonio.
  - Mr. David Houston, U.S. Department of State, congratulated the NDF on its progress thus far. He also shared his thoughts on how the NDF's construct could improve the US Government's understanding of digital assets and how they can be used to improve society.