

COVID-19: internal comms & culture



Internal channels



- Our internal channels are being used much more.
- Main one that is being used now is

Slack instant messaging platform

- Widely used before but we are now making much greater use of it for chat, general discussion, information sharing, employee support etc.
- Also LifeSize VC, Zoom VC for larger groups etc.







SLACK – channels





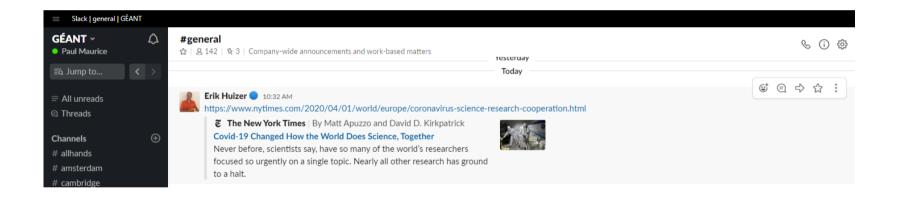
 Our Slack has a lot of different channels covering all sorts of discussions:

- Dedicated #COVID-19 channel for people to discuss their concerns and share and receive information
- #general
- #marcommsinternal team discussion
- #random

SLACK – channels



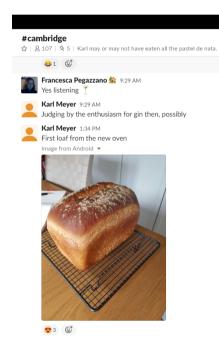
- CEO buy-in our CEO and Exec team make a lot of use of this leading by example
- Some of it is useful, e.g. article sharing

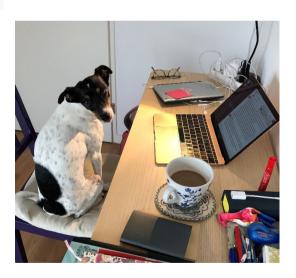


SLACK – channels



Some of it is just fun... and a little bit scary...









Zoom meetings – weekly All Hands Meeting now online



- We now have our weekly All Hands Meeting on Zoom with 100+ attendees
- And our marcomms team has an optional daily VC around noon so we can just dial in and catch up with our colleagues like we would chat over the desk.





Zoom meetings – water cooler



- We have a virtual meeting room where people can go just for a casual chat like you would around the water cooler or coffee machine throughout the day.
- This is a drop in/out channel





Virtual pub...



 And Friday afternoon drinks in the kitchen are now online too!



We used to have a Friday afternoon drinks in the kitchen (Cambridge and Amsterdam) and this is now done via Zoom – where people can log on and socialise virtually.



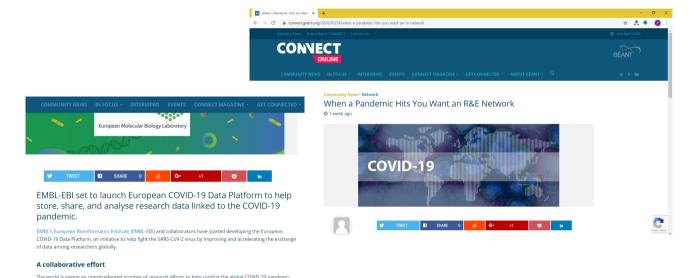
... drink is optional!



Marcomms work



The comms team is sharing and publishing content showing how GÉANT and the NRENs are helping to support research into COVID – and I believe this in itself is improving morale for staff – they are proud to be working in a community that is helping.



Understanding the biology, epidemiology, transmission, and evolution of the virus puts the scientific community

Culture



- Pre-COVID we started working on defining and communicating GÉANT values and culture
- This work has gone on hold while we have bigger priorities
- Culture and values are stronger and more valuable in times of crisis. They are what hold the organisation (and the community) together when we are not physically in the same place.
- It's great to see that the words I wrote around the GÉANT values can be seen in action every day...
- ... but the actions we see every day from our colleagues are more powerful than any words.

