Last year, the Fedora community worked together to kick-off development of Fedora 6. Built on top of the Oxford Common File Layout, this new version of Fedora, which will be released next year, promises to meet the varying needs of our diverse community.

The University of Wisconsin - Madison General Library System is an enthusiastic supporter of Fedora 6, as we believe it has strong potential as the reference next-generation open source repository platform. Fedora 6, using the OCFL storage specification, promises to be particularly well-suited for preservation and long-term management of digital resources, as the repository can be built (and rebuilt, and migrated) entirely from simple files on disk or in cloud storage. The development team is working hard to make sure that this next version is not only durable, but also scalable to many millions of objects, and performant in a variety of settings.

As an institution with millions of objects currently managed in Fedora 3, we have also been involved in the development of a suite of tools and practices for migrating Fedora 3.x repositories to OCFL (and from there, to Fedora 6). A tested and proven migration path from Fedora 3 to Fedora 6 is critical to the long-term success of the Fedora project, and we are pleased that the Fedora leaders and LYRASIS have made migration a top priority.

- Scott Prater, Digital Library Architect, University of Wisconsin - Madison
Some critical resources aiding research and information sharing on COVID-19 and the history of pandemics are stewarded in Fedora-based repositories. Highlights include the National Library of Medicine’s digital collections of historical content on quarantine and UNC-Chapel Hill’s Coronavirus Resources in the Carolina Digital Repository.

Fedora repositories also steward valuable cultural heritage collections around the world. Examples include the University of Padua in Italy and the Federal State Library in Vorarlberg, Austria, both of which use the Phaidra repository framework.

“Influenza spread by droplets sprayed from nose and throat” from NLM digital collections.

“Botanical wall chart from the University of Padua digital collections.”