



Spring 2020 Report

Federalism Index Project

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Spring 2020 Report: Impact Overview

2018 Constitution Week Conference on American Federalism

- Video and transcripts available here:

<https://www.uvu.edu/ccs/events/past-events/2018-constitutionweek.html>

Completion of Website 2.0

- using Wix and Domo in tandem to provide a more accessible user experience

Publication of Regulations Dashboard Prototype

Successful Recertification of Continuing Legal Education course on the “Principles of Federalism” (October 3, 2019)

Website Analytics Last 30 Days

- Visits: 188, +98%
- Blog Post Views: 60, +186%
- Unique Visits: 89, +207%

*Source: FIP Wix Data. Date range: April 22- May 20, 2020

Social Media Campaign and launch of “Federalism Month”

- Page Views: +63%
- Post Reach: +725%
- Post Engagement: +2,039%
- Video Views: +1,500%
- Page Followers: +100%

*Source: CCS Facebook. Dates range: Last 28 Days (April 23-May 2020)

Extras

With careful budgeting in January 2020, we have been able to complete a number of high-ROI projects not included in the original contract. We invite you to explore these exciting new additions:

- Successful Launch of the Federalism Index Blog
- 9 published articles available at <https://www.federalismindex.org/blog>
- Creation of the first national “Federalism Committees” Dashboard, available at:
<https://www.federalismindex.org/federalism-committees-overview>
- Launch of video interview series with Federalism Scholars and Practitioners:
<https://www.federalismindex.org/blog>
- Federalism education at UVU: “Principles of Federalism Course”
*561 UVU students. Source: Canvas Instructure Feb 4, 2018 - May 21, 2020

"Federalism is for everybody"

Heather Gerken,

Yale Law School

Our Vision

The aim of the Federalism Index is to help educators, state leaders, and ordinary citizens better understand the vital significance of federalism, one of at least two essential structural protections of the US Constitution. The Federalism Index will make a significant contribution to restoring a basic understanding of the Constitutional framework envisioned by the Founders. Our goal is to make significant strides in becoming the premier academic hub for federalism education and the study of intergovernmental relations in the Intermountain West.

“I consider the foundation of the Constitution as laid on this ground that ‘all powers not delegated to the United States, by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states or to the people.’ To take a single step beyond the boundaries thus specially drawn around the powers of Congress, is to take possession of a boundless field of power, no longer susceptible of any definition.”

————— *Thomas Jefferson* —————

Federalism Index Team



Andrew Bibby
Director



Samuel Hill
*Senior Research Fellow
and CCS Ambassador*



Johana Linford
Senior Research Fellow

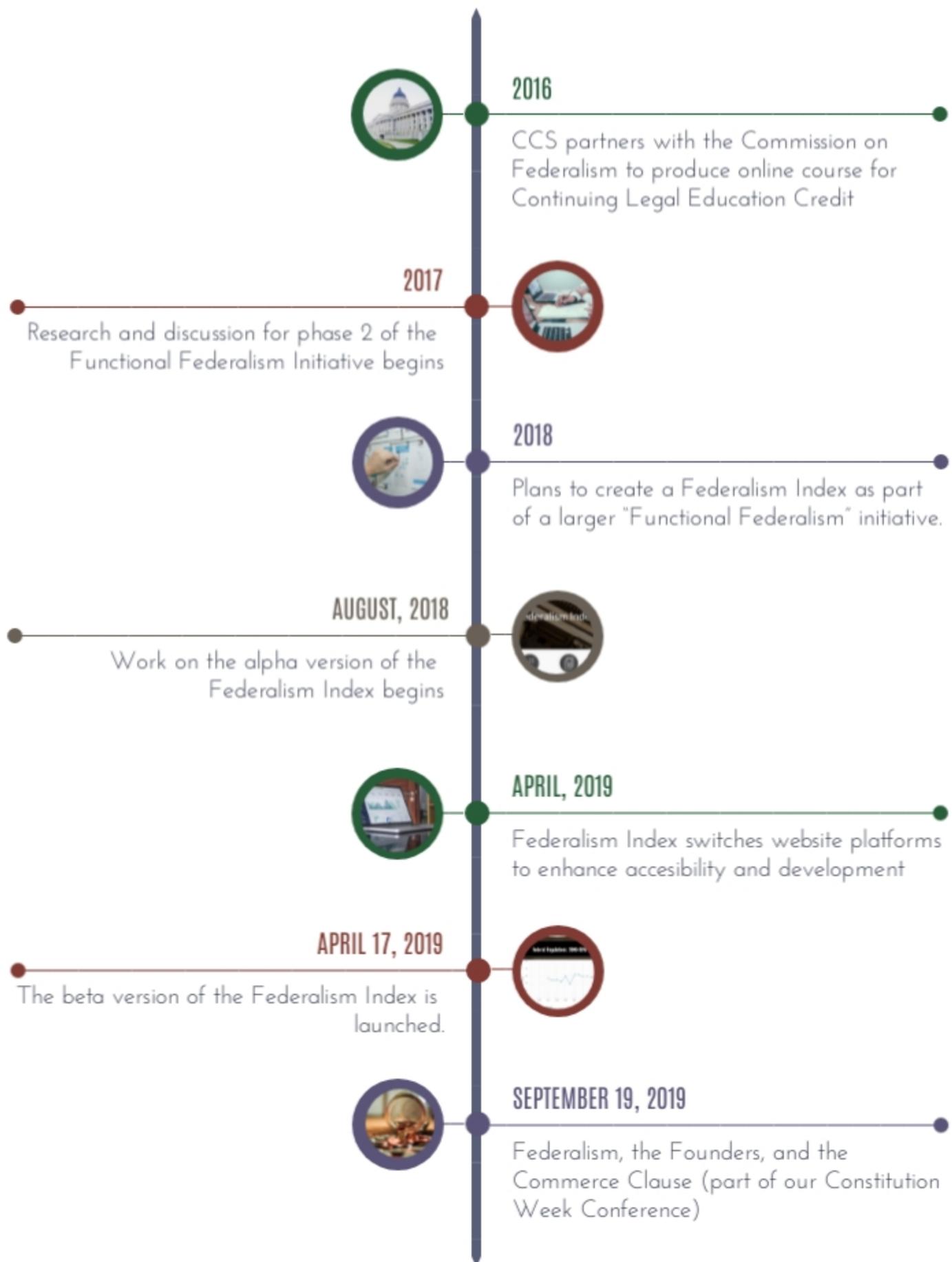


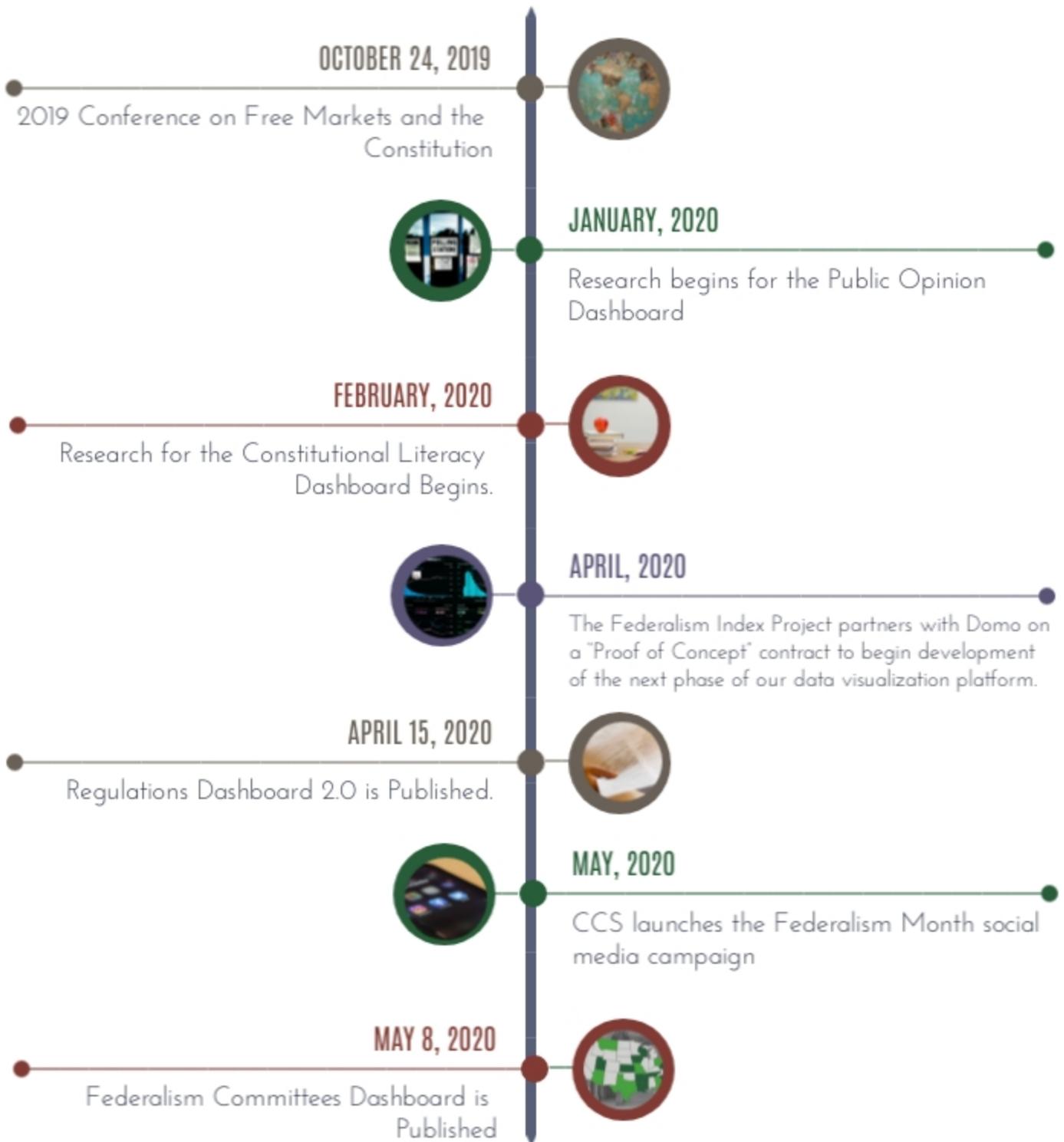
Emily Linford
Site Editor



Michael Burggraaf
Student Researcher

Federalism Index Timeline





"A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

———— James Madison ————

Dashboard Pipeline

PHASE	DETAILS	Q1												Q2							
		JAN				FEB				MAR				APR			MAY		1		
		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		4	11
Projects																					
1	Website Redesign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website overhaul Adoption of Domo analytics Publication of "Beta" 	Website overhaul				Domo analytics				Beta website											
2	Regulations Dashboard Prototype <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Orders Rules Affecting States Economically Significant Rules Regulatory Spending Rules and Regulations in Pages 	Executive Orders Sub Index				Rules Affecting States Sub Index				ESR Sub Index				Regulatory Spending Subindex				Regulations in Pages Subindex			
3	Constitutional Knowledge Dashboard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confidence in Educational Institutions Constitutional Literacy Civic Education Federalism Education 	Confidence in Educational Institutions Subindex				Constitutional Literacy Subindex				Civic Education Subindex				Federalism Education Subindex							
4	Public Opinion Dashboard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust and Confidence Responsiveness and Effectiveness Power Civic Engagement Fiscal Federalism 	Trust and Confidence Subindex				Responsiveness and Effectiveness Subindex				Power Subindex				Civic Engagement Subindex				Fiscal Federalism Subindex			
5	Committees by State Dashboard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Design Publication 									Research				Design				Publication			

PROJECT / CONTRACT / END

Upcoming Projects

Federal and State Lands

The federal government owns more than 640 million acres of land; roughly 28% of the total land area in the United States. Measurement of regional distribution and changes over time will help users clarify and better understand various debates related to federal and state land management.

Centralization

Americans have debated centralization versus state autonomy since the founding era. Yet, there are relatively few empirical analyses of the extent, nature, duration, and magnitude of centralization over time. Measuring "power shifts" empirically is a first step in understanding how our current American federal system works and how power has shifted across policy dimensions from the founding to today.

*"The propriety of a law, in a constitutional light,
must always be determined by the nature of the
powers upon which it is founded."*

———— Alexander Hamilton ————

2020 Goals

01

Upgrade of Regulations
Dashboard

02

Publish Three
New Dashboards on Public
Opinion, Constitutional
Knowledge and Centralization

03

Expand Media Reach and
Utah Community
Outreach

04

Academic Fall
Conference on
Federalism, Covid-19,
and Emergency Powers

Five Core Areas of Development

01

Research

To sustain our growth and build out the Federalism Index, we will be relying heavily on a team of student researchers, and degree holding federalism research fellows to continue our momentum and to publish new dashboards on key indicators of the health of the federal system.

02

Scholarship

To bridge the academic world of Federalism Studies with a general audience, we will continue to solicit articles that are written by experts in the field, who can write in a way that encourages users to learn more; to use our database; and to share their work.

03

Website and Technology

The beta version of the Federalism Index shows what a small group of creative students and researchers can do with relatively little time and money. While we believe we have made a significant breakthrough in federalism studies, we feel that we must do more to “tell the story” of American federalism. In our next phase we aim to improve our data visualization software and to produce short explainer videos to enhance user experience and broaden our reach.

04

Project Supervision

We are seeking an expanded research team, input and collaboration with other professors on campus, and the hiring of one “Student Supervisor” who can help to maintain our website, and manage day to day aspects of the Federalism Index Project.

05

Public Opinion Polling and Survey Data

A vital – and genuinely exciting - part of our project, going forward, is the ability to track public perception of government at different levels over time. Beginning in 2020, we will be looking at cost-effective ways to capture repeatable survey data on what is referred to in the academic literature as “Federal Culture.”