Fair Participation: Special Case of Fair Division, or Something Else?

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Speroni di Fenizio, Velikanov: COMSOC Budapest, 3 May 2011

New ideas

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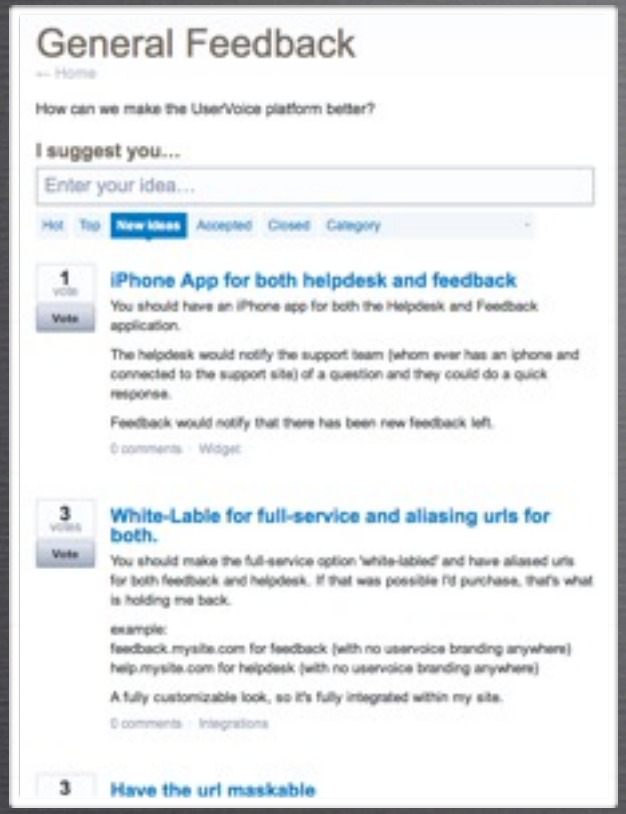
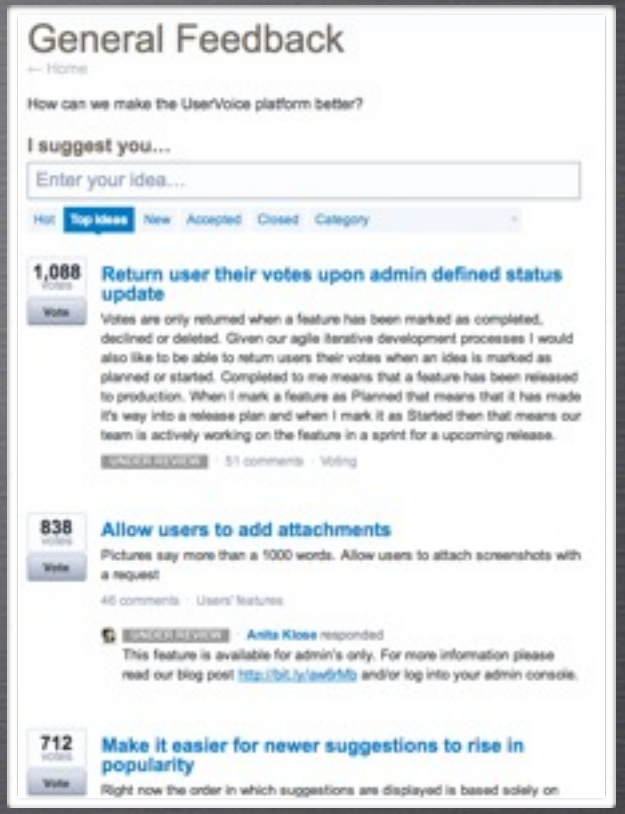
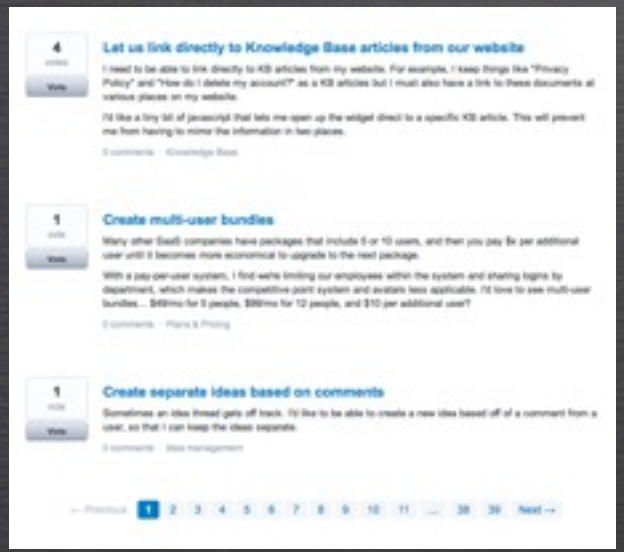
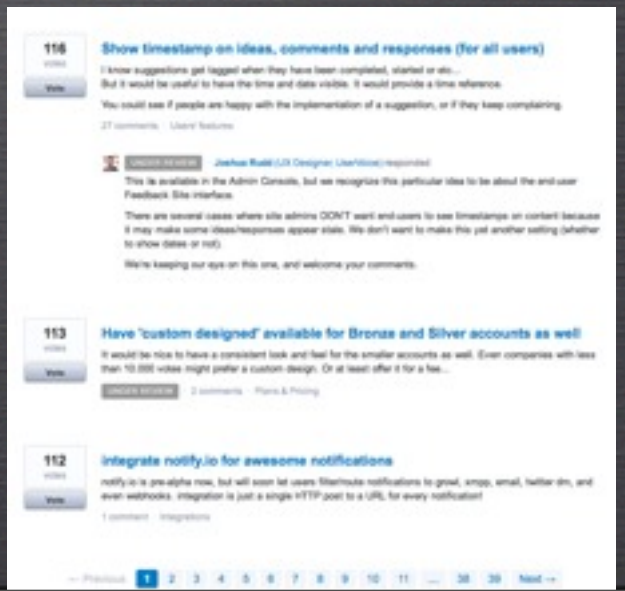
Top ideas









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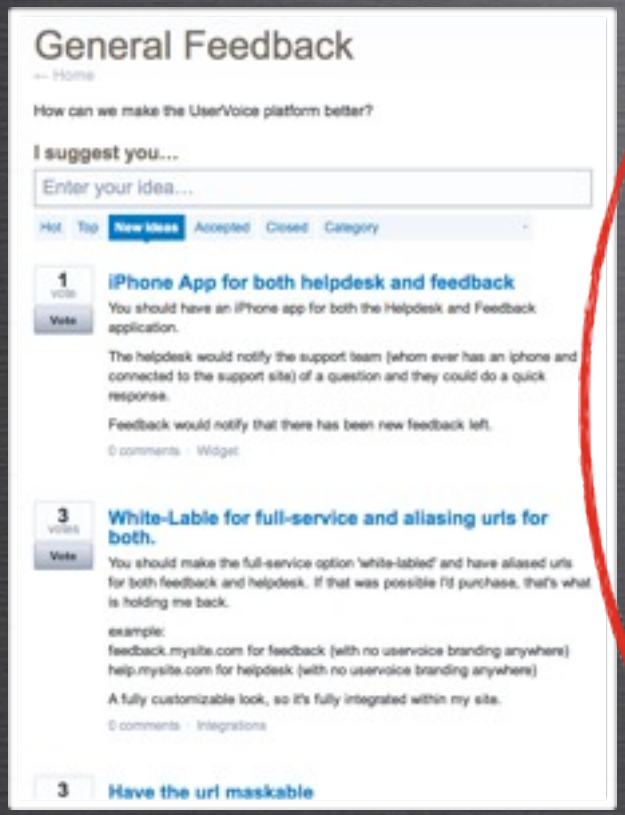
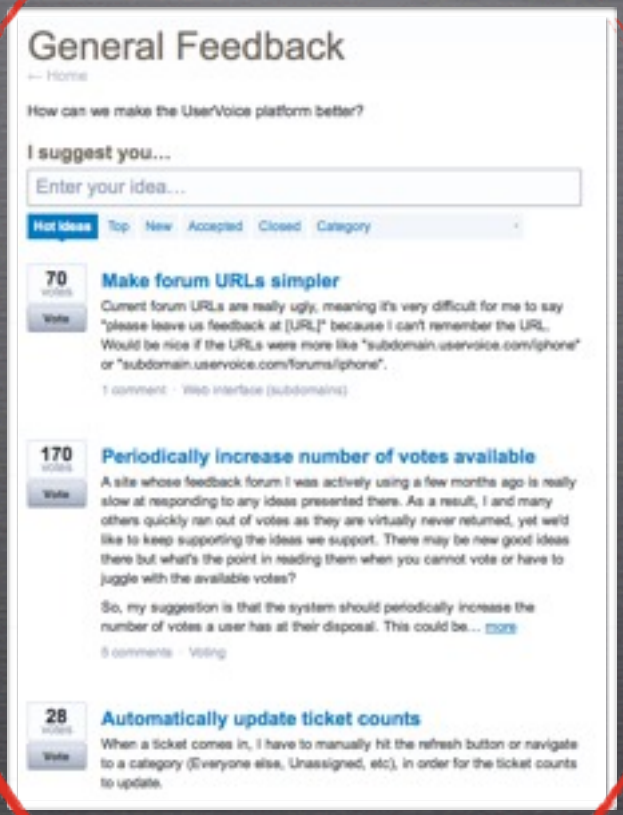
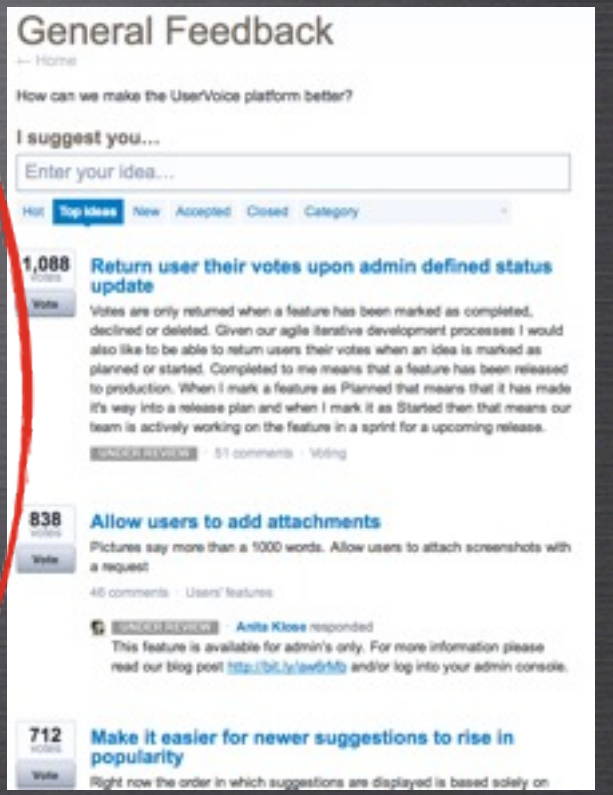


Hot Ideas



Top Ideas



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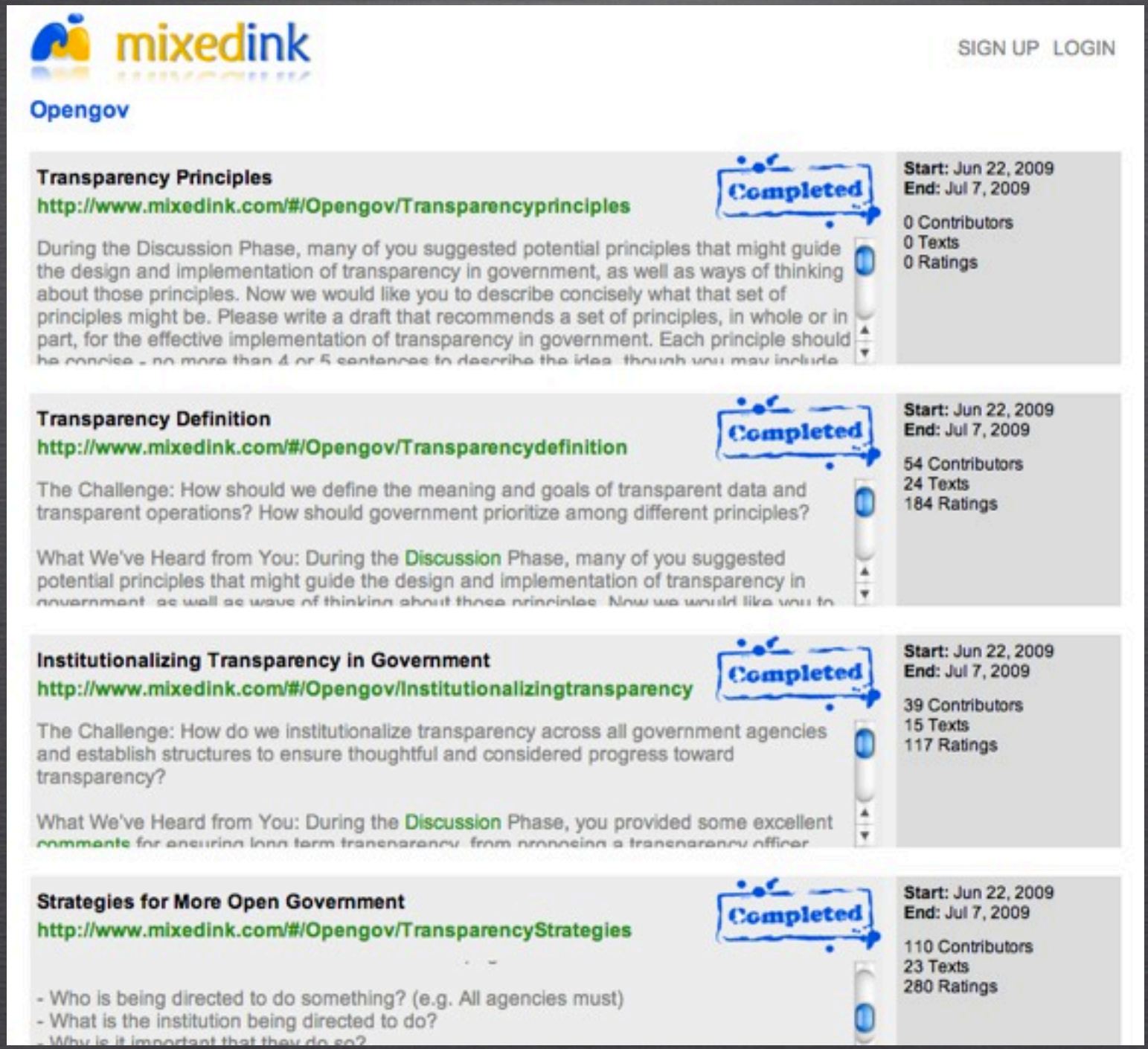
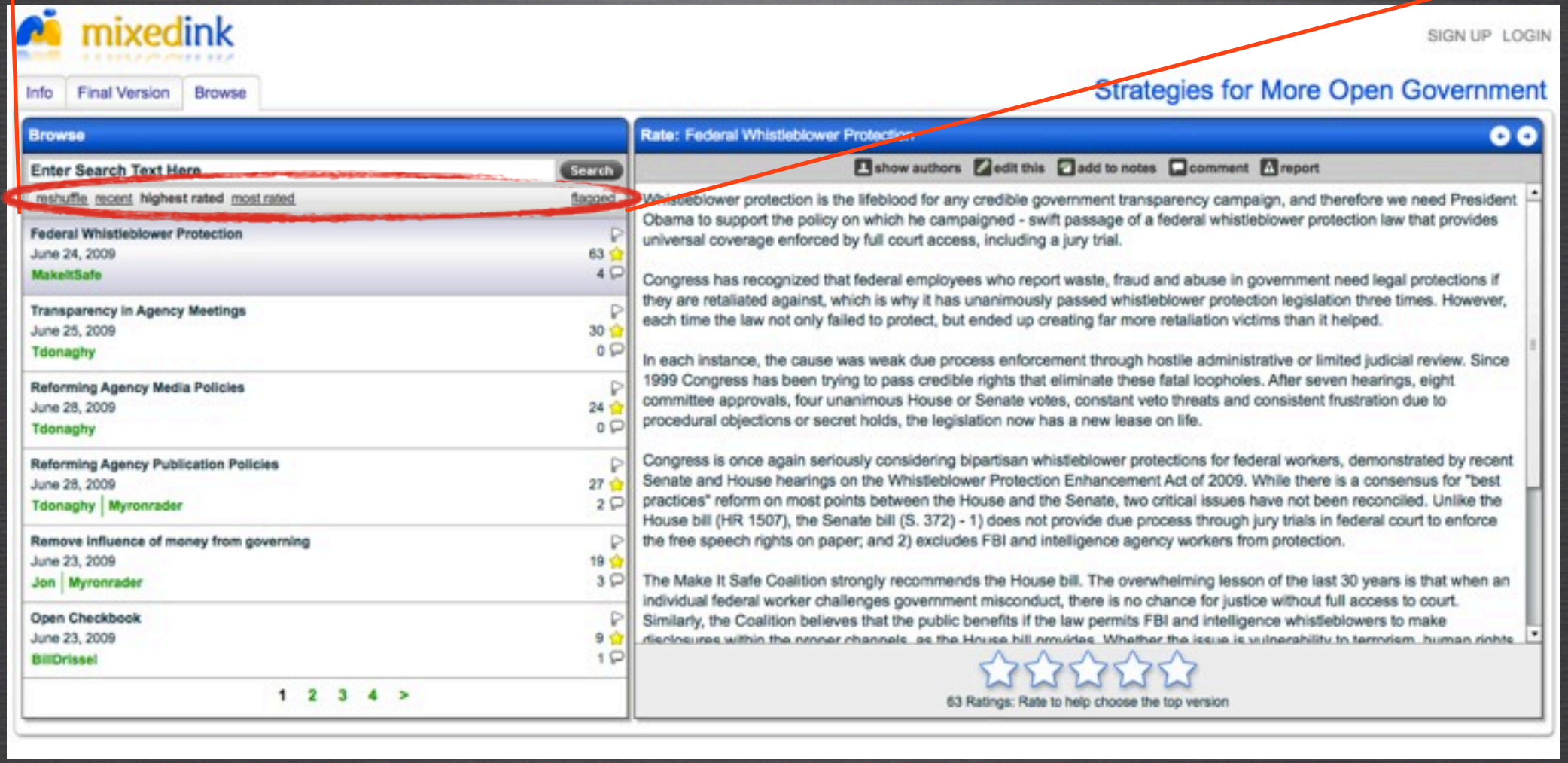

mixedink
SIGN UP LOGIN
Opengov
Transparency Principles
http://www.mixedink.com/#/Opengov/Transparencyprinciples
Completed
During the Discussion Phase, many of you suggested potential principles that might guide the design and implementation of transparency in government, as well as ways of thinking about those principles. Now we would like you to describe concisely what that set of principles might be. Please write a draft that recommends a set of principles, in whole or in part, for the effective implementation of transparency in government. Each principle should
Start: Jun 22, 2009
End: Jul 7, 2009
0 Contributors
0 Texts
0 Ratings
Transparency Definition
http://www.mixedink.com/#/Opengov/Transparencydefinition
Completed
The Challenge: How should we define the meaning and goals of transparent data and transparent operations? How should government prioritize among different principles?
What We've Heard from You: During the Discussion Phase, many of you suggested potential principles that might guide the design and implementation of transparency in
Start: Jun 22, 2009
End: Jul 7, 2009
54 Contributors
24 Texts
184 Ratings
Institutionalizing Transparency in Government
http://www.mixedink.com/#/Opengov/Institutionalizingtransparency
Completed
The Challenge: How do we institutionalize transparency across all government agencies and establish structures to ensure thoughtful and considered progress toward transparency?
What We've Heard from You: During the Discussion Phase, you provided some excellent
Start: Jun 22, 2009
End: Jul 7, 2009
39 Contributors
15 Texts
117 Ratings
Strategies for More Open Government
http://www.mixedink.com/#/Opengov/TransparencyStrategies
Completed
- Who is being directed to do something? (e.g. All agencies must)
- What is the institution being directed to do?
Start: Jun 22, 2009
End: Jul 7, 2009
110 Contributors
23 Texts
280 Ratings

reshuffle recent highest rated **most rated** flagged



mixedink

Usual Bias

- Authors with more time.
- Authors with a wider social network.
- Authors who write their proposal before.

Designing a Fair system

What does fair mean?

- A proposals should only be evaluated by its content
- A proposal should NOT be evaluated by:
  - The size of the social network of the author
  - The amount of free time of the author
  - The wealth of the author (or of the supporters)
  - When was the proposal presented
- Positive feedback mechanism should not be employed
- The result should not be random

Designing a Fair system

Why are systems unfair?

- Positive feedback look good
  (makes a website look popular)
- It is better to have a good-enough very-popular proposal than pick the best proposal, but with only less votes
- It's hard work to make a fair system
- Permitting people to use their social network works as a form of advertisement

Designing a Fair system

Making the author social network irrelevant

Designing a Fair system

Could the social Network be good?

- People with a social network have it for a reason
- The social network only works partially when you advertise on something that is not your field

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Tim O'Reilly Twitter Followers: 1'459'780

Pietro Speroni twitter Followers 480

Tim has 3041.2 times more influence than Pietro

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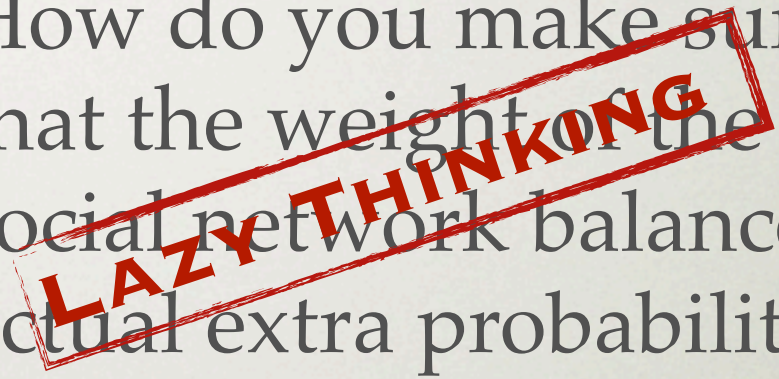

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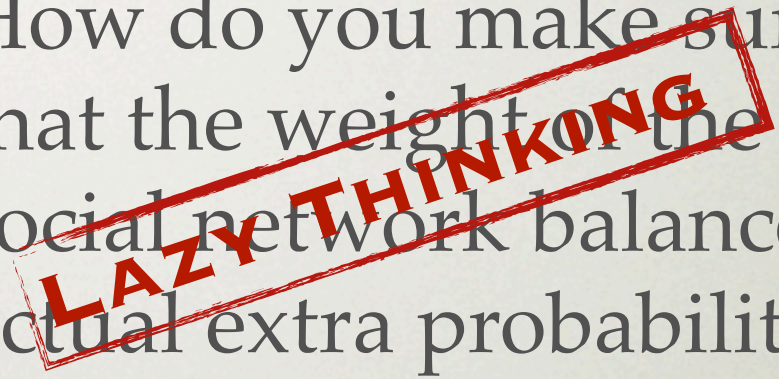

Designing a Fair system

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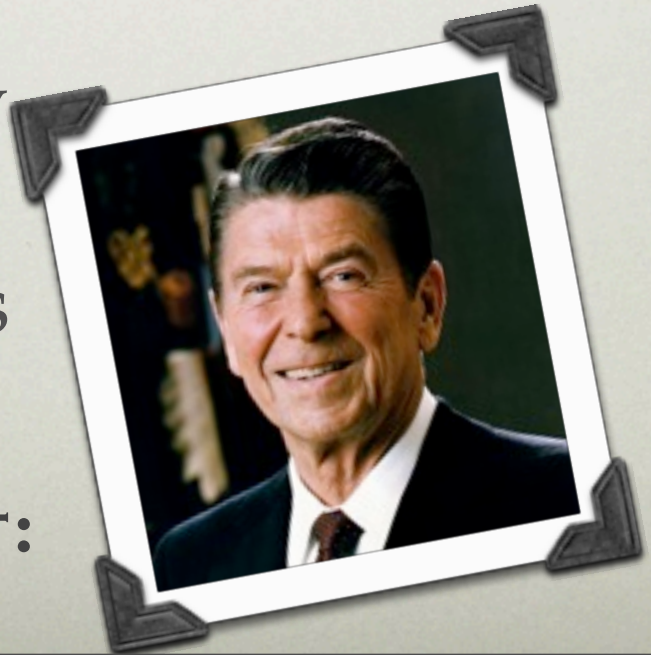
LAZY THINKING

Maybe... yet:



Designing a Fair system

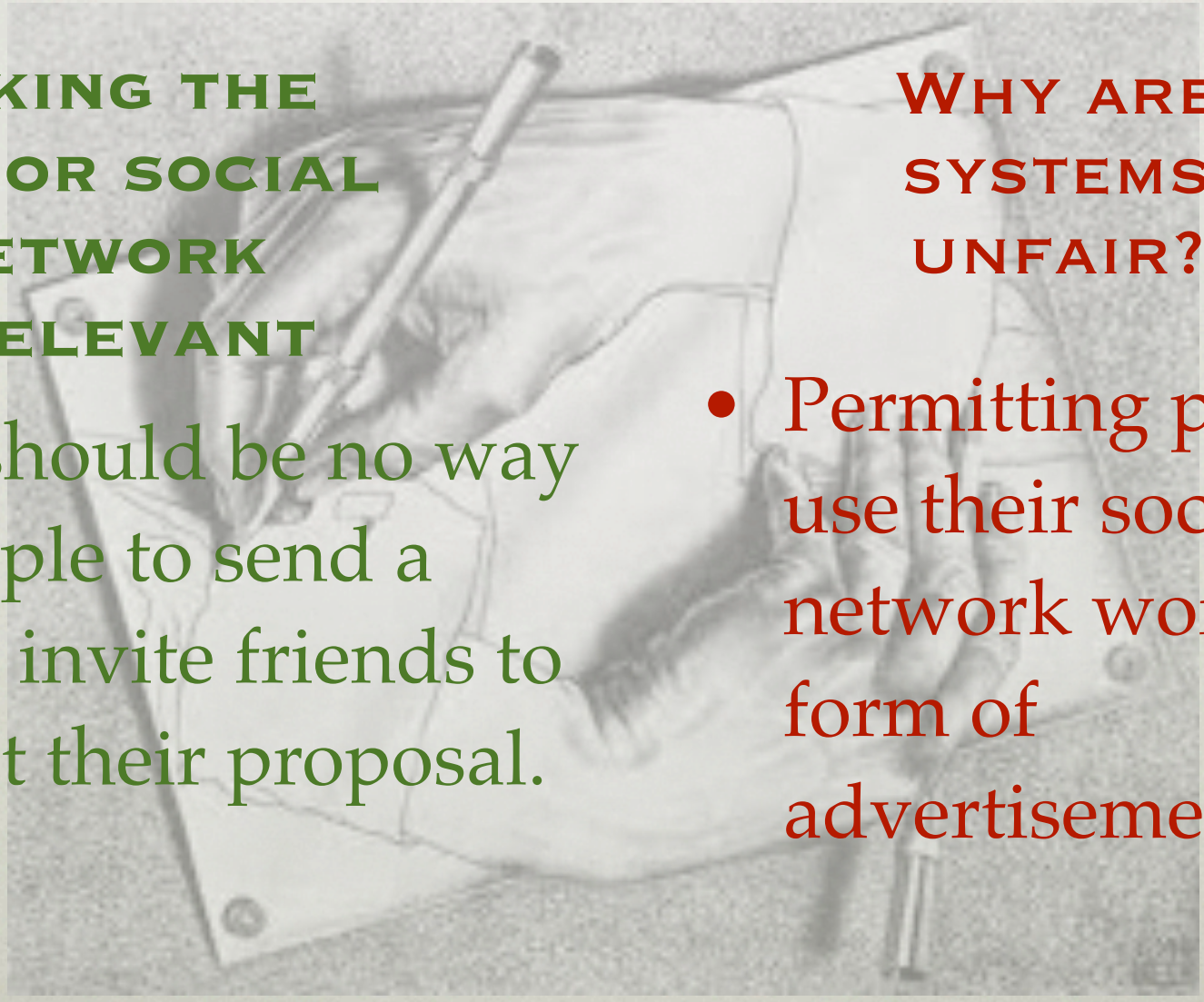
Making the author social network irrelevant

- There should be no way for people to send a URL to invite friends to support their proposal.
- During the voting stage:
  - The name of the author should not be seen.

- **NOTE**: the author can still be discovered... after.
- A URL can be added if it does not permit to vote.

Designing a Fair system

The Faustian Pact:



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Why are systems unfair?

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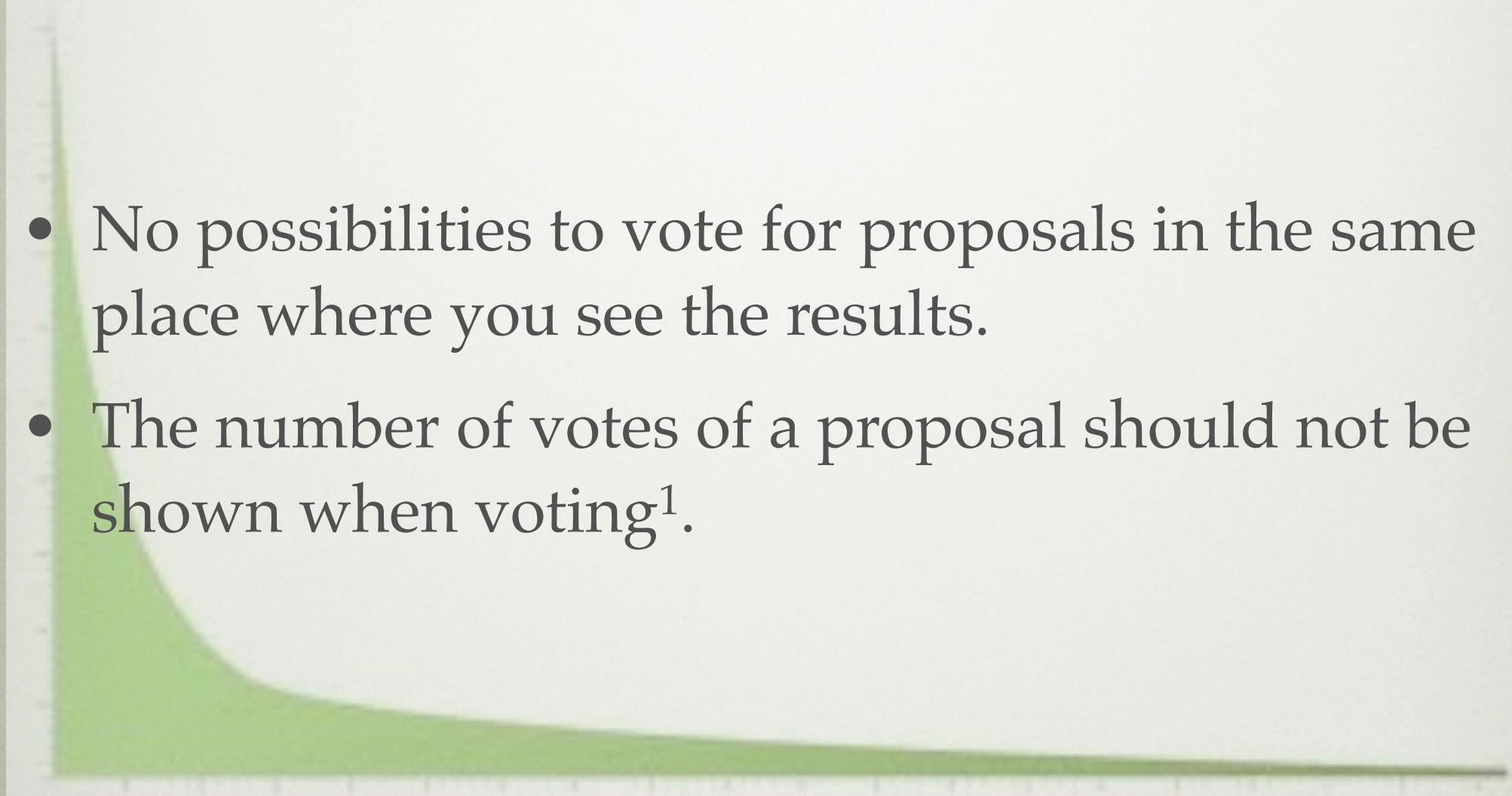
Designing a Fair system

independence from Author amount of free time

- There are only few actions that can be done. Then the person needs to move on
- Good examples:
  - Online Polls
  - slashdot
- It's OK if people use their free time to write better proposals

Designing a Fair system

Avoiding positive feedback mechanism

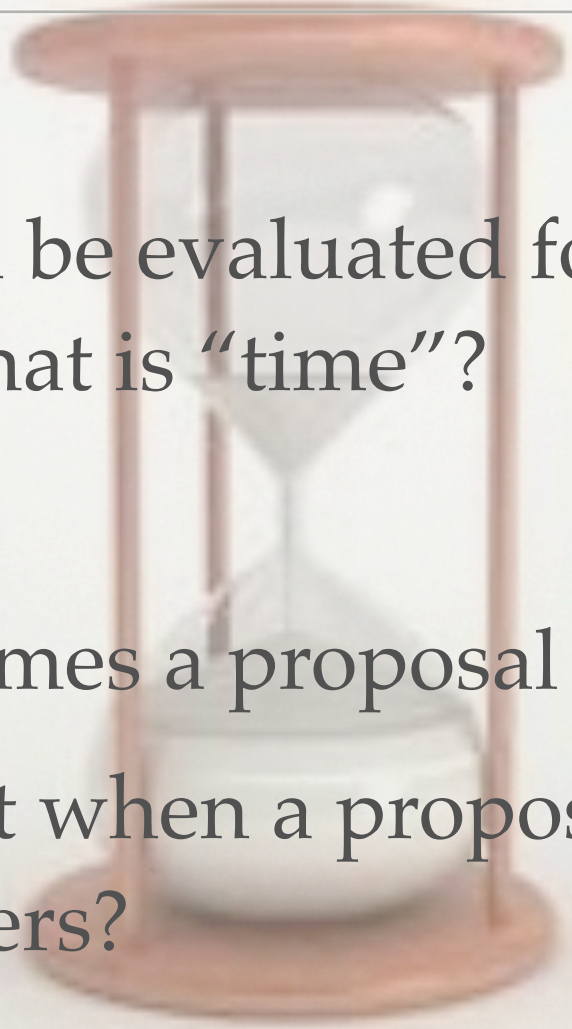


- No possibilities to vote for proposals in the same place where you see the results.
- The number of votes of a proposal should not be shown when voting[1].

[1]people tend to vote for a candidate if they think it will win

Designing a Fair system

Irrelevance of the Time of presentation of the proposal



- Proposals should be evaluated for the same amount of "time". But what is "time"?
  - Real Time?
  - Number of times a proposal is evaluated?
    - What about when a proposal is presented among others?
  - Number of site visits a proposal is evaluated for?

Designing a Fair system

The Result should not be random

Running the whole evaluation twice should bring similar results

- Evaluation changes because of:
  - The **order** on which proposals are presented.
  - The **position** in the page.
  - The **other proposals** present in the page.
  - The **number of times** a proposal is presented
- But we have the control of all this!

Designing a Fair system

And of course...

- It should be a "good" website:
  - It should be able to scale up
  - It should be user friendly
    - It should permit to people to build on past results (it is "collaborative").
  - All this while not sacrificing fairness

Designing a Fair system

Fair Collaboration vs Fair Division

- Is Fair Collaboration a special case of Fair Division?

  - Yes! We are effectively dividing the user attention span over the possible user creative ideas
  - Fair Division is full of creative ideas. Maybe we need that sort of creativity over here too.

Designing a Fair system

Conclusions

- Such website has not been done, yet.
- We believe it is possible to build such website.
- Suggestions are welcome :-)
  (specially creative suggestions)