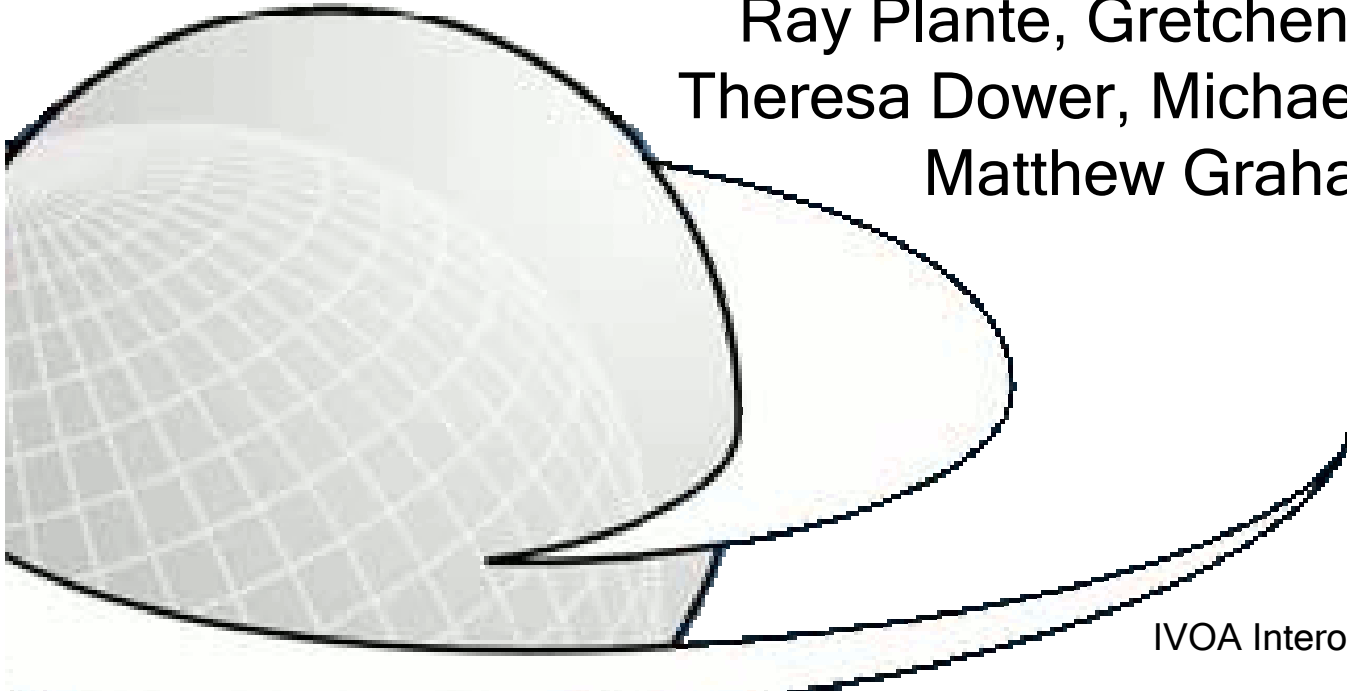# THE INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL OBSERVATORY ALLIANCE

NVO Registry Curation and Validation Tools

NVO Registry Team:

Ray Plante, Gretchen Greene, Theresa Dower, Michael Preciado, Matthew Graham

28 May 2009
IVOA Interoperability Meeting -- Strasbourg

NVO/VAO Registry Curation

Broad vision for registry curation:

- Improved publishing process
    - Wizard-like publishing interface to promote better publisher understanding, encourage better metadata *
        - Beta XForms-based interface being tested
        - Detect problems before publishing
    - Use VOSI to fetch info about standard services
        - Reduce amount that must be hand-entered
    - Record validation at publishing time
- Active rating of resources via **validationLevel**
    - Automated evaluation of registry records *
    - Automated compliance testing of underlying services *
    - On-going human-driven review of metadata content
    - Automated & human communication with publisher *
        - Recommendations for improvements
        - Pointers to tools and documentation that help publishers

    Quality metrics should set by project and published
- Use case testing of registry
    - Are reasonable user queries matching the appropriate resources?
    - Feedback into metrics, tips for good metadata

* Some progress made; development underway

validationLevel

- Feature of the registry record format (VOResource)
- Definition:

  A numeric grade describing the quality of the resource description, when applicable, to be used to indicate the confidence an end-user can put in the resource as part of a VO application or research study.

- Values:

  0 – non-compliant record

  1 – syntactically compliant record

  2 – functionally compliant resource (service is compliant)

  3 – has been inspected by a human & judged semantically compliant

  4 – resource description meets additional quality criteria set by human inspector

- Every registry can assign its own values according to local quality metrics
- Users can use the validationLevel as constraint on selecting services

Service Validaters

- **On-line Service Validaters**
  - SCS: http://nvo.ncsa.uiuc.edu/dalvalidate/csvalidate.html
  - SIA: http://nvo.ncsa.uiuc.edu/dalvalidate/siavalidate.html
  - Registry Harvesting Interface:
    http://rofr.ivoa.net/regvalidate/regvalidate.html

- **Services based on dalvalidate toolkit:**
  http://trac.us-vo.org/project/nvo/wiki/dalvalidate

- **Validaters planned:**
  - SSA
  - Registry Search Interface
    - Based on ivoaregistry library:
      http://trac.us-vo.org/project/nvo/wiki/IVOARegistry