

IVOA Exec Full Meeting: FM36

16 May 2010: 16:00-19:00 Victoria, Canada

Notes: MA

Original: 18 May 2010

Modified: 21 May 2010

Modified: 26 May 2010

distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present:

Mark Allen	<mark.allen@astro.unistra.fr>	MA	Secretary
Christophe Arviset	<Christophe.Arviset@esa.int>	CA	ESA-VO/TCG
Chenzhou Cui	<ccz@bao.ac.cn>	CC	China-VO
Hugo Vicente Capelato	<hcapelato@gmail.com>	HVC	BRAVO
Dave De Young	<deyoung@noao.edu>	DDY	NVO
Giuseppina Fabbiano	<pepi@cfa.harvard.edu>	GF	NVO
Francoise Genova	<genova@cluster.u-strasbg.fr>	FG	F-VO
Robert Hanisch	<hanisch@stsci.edu>	BH	NVO
Ajit Kembhavi	<akk@iucaa.ernet.in>	AK	VO-India
Masatoshi Ohishi	<masatoshi.ohishi@nao.ac.jp>	MO	JVO
Paolo Padovani	<paolo.padovani@eso.org>	PP	Euro-VO/ESO
Fabio Pasian	<pasian@oats.inaf.it>	PF	VObs.it
David Schade	<david.schade@nrc.ca>	DS	CVO
Andy Lawrence	<al@roe.ac.uk>	AL	AstroGrid
Nicholas Walton	<naw@ast.cam.ac.uk>	NW	
Gerard Lemson	<gerard.lemson@mpe.mpg.de>	GL	GAVO
François Ochsenbein	<francois@vizier.u-strasbg.fr>	FO	VOtable
Keith Noddle	<ktn@star.le.ac.uk>	KN	DAL
Tom McGlynn	<thomas.a.mcglynn@nasa.gov>	TMcG	Apps
Jesus Salgado	<Jesus.Salgado@sciops.esa.int>	JS	DAL
Severin Gaudet	<Severin.Gaudet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca>	SG	TCG
Sebastien Derriere	<sebastien.derriere@astro.unistra.fr>	SD	Semantics
Mireille Louys	<mireille.louys@unistra.fr>	ML	DM
Ray Plante	<rplante@poplar.ncsa.uiuc.edu>	RP	Registry
Herve Wozniak	<herve.wozniak@astro.unistra.fr>	HW	theory
Gretchen Greene	<greeneg@stsci.edu>	GG	Registry
Rob Seaman	<seaman@noao.edu>	RS	VOEvent
Matthew Graham	<mjg@cacr.caltech.edu>	MG	GWS

Apologies

Enrique Solano Marquez	<esm@cab.inta-csic.es>	ES	SVO
Fernando Comeron	<fcomeron@eso.org>	FC	Euro-VO/ESO

Reinaldo de Carvalho	<rrdecarvalho2008@gmail.com>	RDC	BRAVO
Joachim Wambsganss	<jkw@ari.uni-heidelberg.de>	JW	GAVO
Oleg Malkov	<malkov@inasan.ru>	OM	RVO
Areg Mickaelian	<aregmick@aras.am>	AM	ArVO

Glossary:

ArVO - Armenian VO	http://www.aras.am/Arvo/arvo.htm
AstroGrid - UK VO initiative	http://www.astrogrid.org
Aus-VO - Australian Virtual Observatory	http://aus-vo.org.au/
BRAVO - Brazil Virtual Observatory	http://www.lna.br/bravo/
China-VO - Chinese Virtual Observatory	http://www.china-vo.org
CVO - Canadian Virtual Observatory	http://www1.cadc-ccda.hia-ihp.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/
Euro-VO European Virtual Observatory	http://www.euro-vo.org
F-VO - VO-France	http://www.france-vo.org
GAVO - German Virtual Observatory	http://www.g-vo.org
HVO - Hungarian Virtual Observatory	http://hvo.elte.hu
VO-India - Indian Virtual Observatory	http://vo.iucaa.ernet.in/~voi/
VObs.it - The Italian Virtual Observatory	http://vobs.astro.it/
JVO - Japanese Virtual Observatory	http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html
KVO - Korean Virtual Observatory	
NVO - National Virtual Observatory (USA)	http://www.us-vo.org
RVO - Russian Virtual Observatory	http://www.inasan.rssi.ru/eng/rvo/
SVO - Spanish Virtual Observatory	http://svo.laeff.inta.es
IVOA - International Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://www.ivoa.net

Agenda:

1. Roll Call and Agenda (MA)
2. [Minutes of TM35](#) (FP)
3. [Review of Actions](#) (MA)
4. Project Reports - Significant Events Only
5. Report of the TCG and TCG status (CA)
6. Reports by the WGs (WG Chairs)
7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]
8. Standing Committee on Science Priorities (FP)
9. Discussion on IVOA and Exec (What is IVOA? What is Exec?) (all)
10. Discussion on the IVOA structure (Exec, committees, WGs/IGs/LGs,...) (all)
11. IVOA Web pages (AL)
12. Interop Program Organising Committee (SG)
13. Expiring Chairs and document Coordinator (FP)
14. Next Interops and Workshops
15. Date of next meeting
16. AOB
17. Discussion on Action Items
18. Summary of Actions

A. Appendices - reports from VO projects, WGs and IGs, see the wiki at:
<http://www.ivoa.net/cgi-bin/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM36>

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 19 May 2010 at 1230. Victoria, Canada

1. Roll Call and Agenda

The participants' names were recorded and the meeting agenda was **AGREED**.

2. Previous Minutes

Notes from the previous two meetings TM35 are available at <http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaRepMin/ivoa-tm35-20100302>

These minutes were **APPROVED**.

3. Status of Actions

The actions ([Review of Actions](#)) were read and agenda items for discussion of various items were identified.

The Long-term ACTION FM34-3 about Liaison activities was CLOSED as this is now part of the Liaison committee normal work.

4. Project Reports

Reports for ArVO, AstroGrid, CVO, China-VO, Euro-VO, GAVO, NVO, VObs.it appear on the meeting wiki page.

BH summarized the NVO/USVAO report including the recent award of the USVAO funding. Making a project plan and identifying deliverables will be among the first activities. BH indicated that near term science take-up is seen as important by the funding bodies.

FG summarized the Euro-VO report including negotiation of the VOICE project. Science community and public outreach activities of Euro-VO will be reported in the Front-row session. GF indicated that it would be good to discuss similar outreach efforts in the US.

BH briefly described the accepted proposal for an IAU Symposium "New Horizons in Time Domain Astronomy", with BH and Elizabeth Griffin (DAO) as co-PIs, and MO and RS members of the SOC (as described in more detail in email to exec on May 14 2010).

There was some discussion on VOEvent surplanted Astronomical Telegrams. BH indicated that a letter will be sent to IAU commissions 5 and 6 asking them to discuss ways in which the VO community could support this. FG is currently the president of IAU Division XII, and requests to get copies of relevant communication. The positive aspects of coordination/interaction with IAU were noted.

5. Report of the TGC Meeting and TCG Status

CA presented a report on the TCG Face-to-Face meeting (TCG F2F Mtg #1) held on May 14-15. The presentation is available here: [PDF](#) . This presentation led to significant discussion during and after the presentation.

A major result of the meeting was the development of the IVOA architecture. This consists of 2 'views' of this architecture. One view for public consumption, and another more detailed and technical view to serve IVOA and VO needs. CA emphasized that this

development is best described as an evolution rather than a revolution, and that the underlying 3 layer architecture was arrived at independently by two groups within the meeting providing confidence in the result.

BH praised the work of the TCG at the F2F meeting.

CA emphasized that all standards currently being worked on 'found a home' within the Level 2 diagram.

There was some discussion on detailed aspects of the architecture diagrams. The use of this architecture for identifying missing elements (and redundancies) was discussed, as was the completeness of the architecture. The inclusion of computational resources in the 'resource layer' in the architecture was raised, as was the inclusion of 'telescopes/people/...' in the resource layer.

CA indicated that the architecture will be described in detail in IVOA notes, but it was not decided yet how many documents this should be.

CA suggested that any new standards docs should include the architecture diagram and indicate where that standard fits in. To include the architecture diagram in current standards documents may require a fast track process for making editorial changes to IVOA standards.

GF suggested that proposals for new IVOA standards could include relevant science use cases.

The second day of the TCG F2F meeting investigated the requirements on the VO derived from science cases. The 3 cases involved : SED building; search by list and search on object class; VO 'portal'. This involved brainstorming to compare the requirements to the architecture, identifying used standards and those needing additional work.

Some points from CA's presentation were discussed. For the SED building science case AL suggested the need for 'units' in the architecture. BH mentioned that catalogues are also needed. GF mentioned the need for instrument characteristics and it was questioned where cross-matching fits in? FG indicated that some things are assumed to happen outside the VO layers. KN indicated that long discussion of similar issues was held within the TCG F2F meeting and that there are many details that could be considered, and this approach highlights the utility of the new architecture diagram. Some aspects of VO Portals were discussed including the need for a guide to applications for astronomers.

The next steps following from the results of the TCG F2F meeting were discussed including the need for more science cases and the role of the proposed standing committee on science priorities.

Some other issues were mentioned: The importance of 'all sky views' (FG). The importance of large scale performance and whether the IVOA standards are up to the significant levels of use (NW). Prototype tools that are built to develop or demonstrate a standard, in some cases evolve to production tools (CA).

BH reiterated praise for the TCG F2F meeting results as fabulous in terms of process and results. BH indicated that the relationships between items in the architecture are not clear.

AL mentioned the need for written description to be included alongside the diagrams. CA pointed out that additional views of the architecture are also possible.

NW questioned the differences in the architecture from the previous diagram. CA indicated that the basic ideas from initial architecture have remained the same.

CA identified sessions at this interop meeting for addressing interdependencies between WG efforts and called for stronger emphasis on implementations in WG sessions at interops. This is planned for Nara.

CA raised that each WG chair should take the responsibility to keep track of implementations of the standards from that WG. This is to check that the standards are written clearly enough and whether all their components are useful and used.

CA indicated that it would be useful to have contact names in the CSP for specific science cases that are driving/motivating/requirements of IVOA standards.

NW raised the issue of common toolkits to make implementations easier. RP indicated that this is planned for registry validations. FG described that 'toolkits' were not included on the architecture diagram because they are the responsibility of the projects not the IVOA.

AL described how missions, data providers etc. are major stakeholders, and pointed out that we are not doing the same thing (as done for sci cases) from the data providers point of view. Are we giving the data providers what they need? NW asked whether can we merge the scientific requirements approach with the data publisher requirements?

CA described how some WGs are to become more 'operations' focussed (e.g. Apps, VOEvent, Registry), and that it may be possible to merge VOQL WG with DAL WG. CA also raised the issue of whether a 'Core components' WG could be envisaged?

NW mentioned the need for maintenance of standards in particular to have for each standard, a current WG responsible for its maintenance. CA/FP indicated that these issues can be raised in agenda item 11.

CA summarized the TCG F2F meeting as a very useful and efficient exercise, and suggested that a 1 day F2F meeting could be held before each interop.

CA presented the state of TCG showing that there are currently 6 standards in the process.

FP commended the excellent work of the TCG in their meeting, with all of the goals being reached.

6. Reports by WGs

DAL, DM, GWS, Registry, Semantics, VOEvent, and IGs: Data curation and Preservation, Theory, provided reports on the meeting wiki page.

TMcG reported that Apps will have 2 'demo' sessions with presentations. Also another session about applications from outside astronomy in order to consider different approaches. The idea to look outside astronomy comes in part from VAO science council.

KN reported that TAP is now a recommendation and that some examples of TAP implementations will be shown in DAL sessions.

ML summarized the planned DM sessions as described in the report on the meeting wiki page.

MG summarized the GWS report on the wiki page, and described plans for the sessions including some planned discussion of the possibility of using SAMP for workflow control.

RP summarized Registry WG status as on meeting wiki page.

SD summarized the Semantics status and planned sessions.

RS reported on VOEvent. The new interaction with IAU on VOEvent and telegrams 'colours' all the discussions. (RS noted that the FITS standards is assumed in the architecture diagram.) There are some prototypes using simple time series. It was difficult to get a common vision of a time series but this effort is converging and a draft of the 2.0 standard is expected.

HW summarized the Theory IG report. At this meeting there will be 2 sessions + 1 joint with DM.

FG reported on SP as on the meeting wiki page, and indicated that the TCG F2F meeting also shows it is important SP stays alert.

7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendations

none

8. Standing Committee on Science Priorities

FP described the Terms of Reference of the proposed CSP. FP - seeks endorsement on membership. AK, MA, DDY, PP, DS, CA (TCG chair)

The following discussion covered the issues of possibly having a larger committee and whether the participation can be more open. The process followed in forming the CSP was discussed. The role, mode of operations and renewal of membership of the CSP were discussed.

The conclusion of the discussion was that DDY is given the **ACTION FM36-1** to convene the CSP in next few days, and have the first meeting as an open meeting.

At the conclusion of agenda item 8 it was decided to close the meeting and continue the remaining agenda items in the next meeting on Wednesday 19 May.

9. Summary of new action Items

ACTION FM36-1 DDY to convene the CSP in next few days, and have the first meeting as an open meeting.