IVOA Exec Full Meeting: FM46

21 October 2012: 16:00-18:00 São Paulo

Notes: MA
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distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present:

Mark Allen	<mark.allen@astro.unistra.fr>	MA	*Secretary*/F-VO
Christophe Arviset	<Christophe.Arviset@esa.int>	CA	ESA-VO
Alex Carciofi	<carciofi@usp.br>	AC	BRAVO
Markus Demleitner	<msdemlei@ari.uni-heidelberg.de>	MD	GAVO
Pat Dowler	<patrick.dowler@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca>	PD	CVO/DAL
Mike Fitzpatrick	<fitz@noao.edu>	MF	DAL
Severin Gaudet	<Severin.Gaudet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca>	SG	TCG
Matthew Graham	<mjg@cacr.caltech.edu>	MG	TCG/VOEvent
Gretchen Greene	<greene@stsci.edu>	GG	Registry
Robert Hanisch	<hanisch@stsci.edu>	BH	VAO
Ajit Kembhavi	<akk@iucaa.ernet.in>	AK	VO-India
Omar Laurino	<olaurino@head.cfa.harvard.edu>	OL	DM
Franck Le Petit	<Franck.LePetit@obspm.fr>	FLP	Theory
Pierre Le Sidaner	<pierre.lesidaner@obspm.fr>	PLS	Registry
Joseph Lazio	<Joseph.Lazio@jpl.nasa.gov>	JL	VAO
Mireille Louys	<mireille.louys@unistra.fr>	ML	Semantics
Jesus Salgado	<Jesus.Salgado@sciops.esa.int>	JS	DM
Mark Taylor	<m.b.taylor@bristol.ac.uk>	MT	Apps

Apologies

Chenzhou Cui	<ccz@bao.ac.cn>	CC	China-VO
Francoise Genova	<genova@cluster.u-strasbg.fr>	FG	F-VO
Masatoshi Ohishi	<masatoshi.ohishi@nao.ac.jp>	MO	JVO
Fabio Pasian	<pasian@oats.inaf.it>	FP	VObs.it
Riccardo Smareglia	<smaregli@oats.inaf.it>	RS	VObs.it
Patricia Tissera	<tissera.patriciab@gmail.com>	PT	NOVA
Joachim Wambsganss	<jkw@ari.uni-heidelberg.de>	JW	GAVO

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-iha.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
VAO - Virtual Astronomical 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 TM45 (MA)
3. Review of Actions (MA)
4. Project Reports [Significant Events Only]
5. Report of the TCG meeting and TCG status (SG)
6. WG Reports
7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]
8. Proposal for IVOA Interest Group on education and Outreach
9. Future of IVOA
10. Summary of Actions (MA)

A. Appendices - reports from VO projects, WGs and IGs, see the wiki at:

http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM46

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 24 October 2012, 12:30-14.00

1. Roll Call and Agenda
The participants' names were recorded. MD is standing in for Joachim Wambsganss (GAVO), MA standing in for Françoise Genova (VOFrance), Pat Dowler standing in for David Schade (CVO), Riccardo Smareglia standing in for Fabio Pasian (Vobs.IT).

It was decided that the TCG members would be welcome to remain for the entire exec meeting.

2. Previous Minutes

The TM45 minutes were **APPROVED.**

3. Status of Actions
The actions were read and a number of the items were discussed.

ACTION TM45-1 SG to address the issue of access to the RFC pages on the wiki
CLOSED - as per email from SG (5 Sept 2012)

MG, SG with help from Sarah Emery Bunn have reviewed and updated the document page (http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/) to allow easy access to the RFC pages. For each standard in the review process, in the "In progress" column, you will find an "[RFC]" link pointing to the RFC page.
Additionally, on the TCG page (http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaTCG, there is a section "On-going Recommendations" which also has links to the current RFC pages.

ACTION TM45-2 All to forward items to BH for the VOWG agenda at the IAU
CLOSED - IAU held Aug 2012.

ACTION TM45-3 AC to post information on the Sao Paulo interop meeting
CLOSED - Information posted

ACTION TM45-4 SG to organize a TCG telecon prior to the Sao Paulo interop meeting
CLOSED - Telecon held 6 September 2012

ACTION TM45-5 MA to contact the POC to organise a CSP session for the Sao Paulo interop
CLOSED - Session requested

ACTION TM45-6 FP to send the draft Terms of Reference document for the Astro Working Group of OGF to the IVOA exec.
CLOSED - done (see email from FP 17 July 2012)

ACTION FM42S-1 MA to put the list into a form appropriate for the web pages
ONGOING : List forwarded to document coordinator, and discussion ongoing on how to incorporate it into the new web pages

ACTION FM44-3 Registry WG to summarize validation processes and the current levels of compliance
ONGOING

4. Project Reports

A number of project reports are available on the meeting web page.

BH reported on the Data intensive Astronomy sessions at the Beijing IAU meeting in August. MO was on the organizing committee, and the sessions that ran over 4 days were well attended with about 100 people present.

The business meetings held at the IAU were not successful because they were organized to be in parallel with science sessions and were thus poorly attended (3-6 people).

IAU approved a reorganization of its divisions. This means that Commission 5 is now a part of a new division called instrumentation and Facilities. This division is more relevant to VO that the previous division, so is probably beneficial for IVOA.
BH is now the president of commission 5, with Michael Wise the vice president.

IAU endorsement of IVOA recommendations was discussed and is thought to still be a good idea to ensure longevity of standards. No standards have yet been presented for endorsement and it was noted that IAU formal resolutions require significant lead time.

CA summarized ESA-VO activities including updates to the EuroVO registry including plans for TAP support. Two Greek software engineers are expected to contribute to the project in the coming months.

AC indicated that description of BRAVO activities will be presented in 'front-row' sessions of the meeting.

BH reported on VAO. VAO received news last week that NSF/NASA funding of VAO will be terminated in 2 years time, and that VAO should prepare a close-out plan. Subsequent activity is expected but it is not clear what that may be. US Astronomy funding in general is currently in very difficult times, with a number of telescope closures anticipated. There are ongoing efforts to find a way forward for VAO. BH noted that the planned VAO event at the upcoming AAS meeting would go ahead, and that it was important to show the community the VO capabilities that have been developed.

There was a short discussion on the future of IVOA without large VO projects (continued in agenda item 9).

5. Report of the TCG meeting and TCG status

SG reported that StandardsRegExt was approved as a recommendation in June. The standards in progress are VOSpace2.0, PhotDM 1.0, SimpleDALRegExt and VOUnits 1.0.

SG summarised the TCG meeting (http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpOct2012TCG) that was held just before the current Exec meeting.

Utypes and the efforts of the utypes 'tiger team' were discussed at the TCG meeting. There was consideration of the impact for users from the scientific point of view, and also the need to correct inconsistencies in the use of utypes.

The TCG meeting raised the possibility of transitioning the VOEvent WG into a Time Domain IG. This would facilitate engagement with the time domain community and provide a way to manage potential Time Domain standards that would require interaction across multiple IVOA WGs. MG noted that this would formalize what is already taking place.

The chairs of VOEvent and DM WGs were charged with assessing the SimpleTimeSeries proposed standard

SG indicated that standards required for Filter Profile Services were discussed, and that a standard services were preferred over a standard vocabulary for filters.

The Publishing Data in the VO web pages (http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/PublishingInTheVONew) were discussed at the TCG meeting. 'How to Register' needs to be added. These pages can be released when the new IVOA pages are ready.

The IVOA architecture was reviewed. VOPipe and SEAP were removed.

6. WG Reports

WG chairs reported on progress and plans for this meeting.

MT reported that Apps WG will discuss VOTable and SKOS concepts in VOTable.

PD indicated that DAL WG will discuss Data Link, Data Access and STC-S.

MG reported that the GWS session will discuss work flows, and security issues.

GG indicted that Registry WG will focus on SimpleDALExt, and that the hot topic would be on upgrading the registry interface standards. Reg WG would also re-visit the use documentation for publishing.

ML said that SKOS and VOUnit are the topics for Semantics WG.

MG reported that VOEvent WG will work on the draft of VOEvent registry extension, and the VOEvent transport protocol.

JS said DM WG will focus on utypes, PhotDM, spectral DM and Image DM.

MG indicated that the KDD session will be chaired by George Djorgovski. AK indicated that Peppe Longo had offered his resignation

AK to discuss KDD IG chair at Wednesday meeting.

FLP indicated that a report for Theory IG was on the meeting page, and although there was no Theory IG session at this meeting, there will be activity in other WG sessions.

BH reported that there would be a DCP session. There was some discussion on updating the astronomy thesaurus.

7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendations [standing item]

No recommendations to be considered at this meeting.

8. Proposal for IVOA Interest Group on Education and Outreach

It was AGREED to invite Massimo Ramella to the Wednesday exec meeting to present the proposal for this new IG.

ACTION FM46-1 MA to invite Massimo Ramella to Wednesday meeting

9. Future of IVOA

The future of the IVOA was discussed in the context of reduced participation of large projects such as VAO (and ESO and AstroGrid).

It was noted that the strength of IVOA is that it is a worldwide collaborative effort.

Some ideas for different styles of participation in IVOA were discussed, such as having data centres as partners in IVOA. Also, the possibility of organizing US VO efforts as an alliance rather that a project was raised.

The frequency and cost of IVOA meetings was discussed. The possibility of electronic meetings was raised, but the importance of face to face meetings was emphasized, as was the role of the meetings as deadlines. It was generally agreed that upcoming IVOA meeting locations needed to be economical.

The issue of who would actually do the work of maintaining the VO infrastructure was discussed. Many data centres will continue to do this because they see that it is in their interest to do so, but it was noted that the benefit of using VO was not apparent enough to some data centres.

CA noted that the shutdowns of VO projects were not because of lack of success.

The use of case studies for highlighting benefits of VO inside data centres was mentioned. MD suggested advertising VO efficiency of re-using and sharing software components.

Action FM46-2 AK and BH to coordinate how to present VAO news in state of IVOA talk at meeting opening.

10. AOB

None

11. Summary of Actions

ACTION FM46-1 MA to invite Massimo Ramella to Wednesday meeting

ACTION FM46-2 AK and BH to coordinate how to present VAO news in state of IVOA talk at the opening of the Interop meeting.