

IVOA Exec Meeting: TM122

02 July 2024, 13:00 UTC



Virtual Meeting

Notes: MH

Original: 02 July 2024—Initial Draft

Updated:

Distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present (14)

Initials	Name	Institution	Email Address
BB	Bruce Berriman	USVOA/NAVO	gbb@ipac.caltech.edu
CA	Christophe Arviset	ESA	christophe.arviset@esa.int
CO	Chingis Omarov	KazVO	chingis.omarov@gmail.com
FC	Francesca Civano	CSP Chair	fcivano@cfa.harvard.edu
JJ	JJ Kavelaars	CVO, Exec Vice-Chair	jj.kavelaars@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
JW	Joachim Wambsganss	GAVO	jkw@ari.uni-heidelberg.de
MA	Mark Allen	Euro_VO	mark.allen@astro.unistra.fr
MH	Marcy Harbut	USVOA/NAVO, Exec Secretary	mharbut@ipac.caltech.edu
MM	Marco Molinaro	VObs.it & TCG Chair	marco.molinaro@inaf.it
OM	Oleg Malkov	RVO	malkov@unasan.ru
PF	Giuseppina Fabbiano	USVAO/SAO	gfabbianocfa@harvard.edu
PW	Patricia Whitelock	SA ³	paw@sao.ac.za
SO	Simon O'Toole	ASVO, Exec Chair	simon.otoole@mq.edu.au
YS	Yuji Shirasaki	JVO	yuji.shirasaki@nao.ac.jp

Glossary

Acronym	Institution Name	Institution Website
ArVO	Armenian Virtual Observatory	https://www.aras.am/Arvo/arvo.htm
AstroGrid	UK VO initiative	http://www.astrogrid.org
ASVO	Australian Virtual Observatory	https://asvo.org.au/
BRAVO	Brazil Virtual Observatory	http://bravo.iag.usp.br/
China-VO	Chinese Virtual Observatory	http://www.china-vo.org
ChiVO	Chile Virtual Observatory	https://chivo.cl/
CSP	Standing Committee of Science Priorities	https://wiki.ivoa.net/wiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaSciencePriorities
CVO	Canadian Virtual Observatory	https://www.cadc-ccda.hia-ih.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/

Acronym	Institution Name	Institution Website
ESA	European Space Agency	https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/esdc
Euro-VO	European Virtual Observatory	http://www.euro-vo.org
GAVO	German Astrophysical Virtual Observatory	https://www.g-vo.org/
IVOA	International Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://www.ivoa.net
JVO	Japanese Virtual Observatory	http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html
KazVO	Kazakhstan Virtual Observatory	https://fai.kz/
NLVO	Netherlands Virtual Observatory	https://www.virtualobservatory.nl/
NOVA	Argentina Virtual Observatory	https://nova.conicet.gov.ar
OV-France	VO-France	http://www.france-vo.org
RVO	Russian Virtual Observatory	http://www.inasan.ru/organizational-activity/rvo/rvo/
SA3 (or SA ³)	South Africa Astroinformatics Alliance	https://sa3.ac.za/
SKAO	Square Kilometre Array Observatory	https://www.skao.int/
SVO	Spanish Virtual Observatory	https://svo.cab.inta-csic.es/main/index.php
TCG	Technical Coordination Group	https://wiki.ivoa.net/wiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaTCG
UkrVO	Ukraine Virtual Observatory	http://www.ukr-vo.org/
USVOA/NAVO	US Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://usvoa.cfa.harvard.edu
VO-India	Indian Virtual Observatory	http://voi.iucaa.in/voi/
VObs.it	The Italian Virtual Observatory	https://vobs.it

Agenda

1. Roll call and agenda
 - Regrets: Antonio Chrysostomou (SKAO), Tom Donaldson (TCG VC), Robert Nikutta (USVOA/OIR), Chenzhou Cui (China-VO), Enrique Solano Marquez (SVO), Sebastian Gurovich (NOVA), Mauricio Solar (ChiVO), Vandana Desai (CSP VC)
2. Review and approval of TM120 & TM121 Minutes
3. Review of Exec Actions for TM122
4. VO session at IAU General Assembly
5. What to do about I-HOW?
6. Should BB continue as IAU VO Functional Group Chair?
7. Project Reports [significant events only]
8. Overall TCG Status [standing Item]
9. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [standing item]
10. CSP Status [standing item]
11. IVOA Website [standing item]
 - Draft new website: <https://webtest.ivoa.info/>
 - GitHub Repository: <https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web>
 - To report bugs and request changes: <https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web/issues>
12. Future Interop meetings
 - Northern Fall 2024: Malta - Week of November 10 (ADASS Nov. 10-14)
 - Summary of costs and contributions from partner organizations

- Northern Spring 2025
- 13. Date of next Exec meeting
- 14. AOB
- 15. Review of new action items

Next Exec Meeting: September 10, 2024 at 20:00 UTC

Discussion

1. Roll Call and Agenda
 - The names of the attendees are recorded.
2. Review and Approval of TM120 & TM121 Minutes
 - PF puts forward the motion to approve the minutes.
 - BB seconds the motion.
 - The minutes are approved.
3. Review of Exec Actions for TM122
 - **TM119.1:** MM will ask those who are already working on the website if they want to be in the Media Group. **DONE**
 - **TM119.2:** SO to send out another email before Interop inviting participants, with a more thorough description of the Media Group and its goals. **DONE**
 - At Interop, Exec resolved to have newsletter editors to do this work.
 - FC and two other people have volunteered to work on the newsletter. They will need to arrange the mailing list.
 - **TM119.7:** SO will send out a summary of costs and contributions for Malta Interop. **DONE—to be discussed later in this meeting.**
 - **TM120.1:** SO will request a deadline extension for the SPIE poster and manuscript; he'll also send out the abstract to Exec. **IN PROGRESS—extension granted; SO will send around a draft of the manuscript.**
 - **TM120.2:** CA to investigate if registry statistics per country could be reported for planning Spring 2025 Interop at UMD in College Park, Maryland (USA). **IN PROGRESS**
 - Discussed at registry sessions in Sydney. This information is not systematically collected. CA would like to leave this action open. Additional discussions will be required to see if this is possible.
 - **TM121.1:** SO to speak with Anne and FC about Northern Spring 2025 Interop. **DONE**
 - In principle, there is agreement the meeting can be hosted at College Park, Maryland, but it's subject to venue availability. FC will follow up with Anne and other contacts to kick off discussion.

4. VO session at IAU General Assembly

- BB: If you're attending the General Assembly, please attend our session on Aug. 12 at 12:30 p.m. MA is one of the speakers.
- Gabriele Giovannini was happy to see we got speakers who were not part of the VO, which is what they want.

5. What to do about I-HOW?

BB has invited people to the IAU session and pointed out the commonalities with data access, data discovery, etc. They didn't seem very interested in engaging with us. They have extended an invitation to submit a talk, but the workshops are extensive—lasting a couple of weeks—and there isn't enough time. They also require that all speakers are lined up.

- BB is not well acquainted with the I-HOW contacts. They are astronomers, but not people he knows. SO is acquainted with someone on the list; he could reach out to them.
 - PF suggests reaching out and getting to know them better.
 - PW voiced concern that some people have a very negative view of the IVOA. Maybe talking would help.
- BB has asked MA to take a lead in interacting with the organization. MA said he'll endeavor to intersect with them if possible. MA has reviewed the workshops, there are 5-7, and they dive deeply into very niche topics, like a specific instrument. IVOA doesn't really fit into the way they're organized. We could just submit a proposal with extra funding and at least eight people available, which is a lot.
 - BB said if we want to try to submit a proposal, we need about a year's lead time. This came about because Debra Ellmegreen asked Gabriele Giovannini to be in touch with us.
 - BB said a professional conference organizer is needed for something of this scale.
- PF asked who are these people?
 - BB their associations are major astronomy sessions like HEASARC, Groningen, etc., but their charter may be different from the IVOA. SO notes their selection process is long and rather odd. You can email any member of the committee to start the process; there is no central membership email.
 - PF: Their aim could be different than us.
 - SO: The flavor of the previous workshops has been high-level: high-res transmission spectroscopy, etc. There is a lot of criteria around the hosts. Love the idea of it but agree with MA that a lot of planning is required.
- BB said they give you €12000.
 - MA: Consider it costs around €30-40000 for a two-week event. There is an opportunity here, but it will require other resources. The travel cost of bringing the speakers to the location would be very high.
- Exec will hold off on deciding whether to submit a proposal until more info is gathered.

- **Action: MA will contact people from I-HOW Initiative in person at the IAU General Assembly.**

6. Should BB continue as IAU VO Functional Group Chair?

- BB said he will do this if we want him to. He received an email from the secretary noting that Chairs are limited to three years, but it's a functional WG so the term is actually six years.
- SO is fine with BB continuing. No objections from the rest of Exec. Other members of the WG are CC, SG, AM, and PW, though SG resigned from Exec so he will need to be replaced.
- **Action: BB will look for a replacement for SG for the IVOA-IAU WG**
- MM: Side note: There is a Twiki page listing the groups, etc. The Liaison group is missing from the list. BB had asked Giulia to add it; it may have gotten lost.
- **Action: BB to follow-up with Giulia and cc: MM about adding Liaison group to Twiki.**

7. Project Reports [Significant Events Only]

- **VObs.it (Italy):** Working on the server for the "new" website. There is underground work going to keep VObs.it up and stable.
- **USVOA:** BB said funding for the next fiscal for NAVO was approved.

8. Overall TCG Status

- TCG met on 26 June
 - Restarting after Sydney Interop, getting settled with changes
- RegTAP-1.2 & VOTable-1.5 in RFC review
- VOEvent-2.1 should come up soon for RFC (PR first)
- 2024A Roadmaps are being set up for the semester
- DM/DAL/Apps/... joint session follow up
 - FITS serialisation
 - CAOM integration
 - NASA multi-order spectra community standardization effort
- DCP non-VO standards listings
- astronnet.ru publishing registry issue: it has stopped responding since 2020 and no one in the contact list is responding. There is a proposal to temporarily remove the registry for now and see what happen. MM is asking Exec for a vote.
 - OM is familiar with astronnet and knows the PI. If we have specific questions about astronnet, he will contact the leaders. He's not in Moscow but he is in Russia.

- **Action: MM will forward email from the WG to OM regarding astronnet.ru publishing registry issue.**
 - P3T next meeting 15 July 2024 @ 20:00 UTC
 - Next TCG meeting 28 August 2024 @ 20:00 UTC (an informal on 31.07 @ 20)
9. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]
- None
10. CSP Status (report by FC)
- FC contacted Vandana Desai at IPAC; there is a meeting scheduled in two weeks to meet and call a CSP meeting.
 - IVOA plenary in Malta: Determining whether to have a high-energy WG meeting there or postpone until the spring.
11. IVOA Website [new standing item]
- MM: Some back-end work going on. There was an SSH bombing during the Sydney Interop. MM just reinstated SSH now and put security measures in place to avoid another bombing. By next Interop, we should have some content built.
12. Future Interop meetings
- Northern Fall 2024: Malta— Week of Nov. 10 (ADASS Nov. 10-14)
 - SO sent Exec a very simple budget on the costs received from Malta organizers. For 100 attendees, it's probably at the higher limit based on post-Covid meetings, but given that it's attached to ADASS, it's hard to estimate. Costs are around €10000. Do we want to have a registration fee to cover the costs? Potentially a combination of partner organizations could provide financial contributions, e.g., €1000E each, plus a small registration fee per attendee. Another option is to never have a registration fee or always charge a fee. What do people think? We are a bit short on funds (about €1200) to cover the meeting costs.
 - MA prefers to look at it on a case-by-case basis. €50 is reasonable.
 - JJ: €50 is not substantive compared to travel costs. What is the collection mechanism and what will that cost? Can we piggyback on the ADASS process?
 - CA said we could have two registrations: ADASS and IVOA. It's cleaner, especially where fees are concerned. In the future, it's a bit easier if the reg fee would cover all of the expenses. It's strange for an organization to sponsor and also pay for people to attend.
 - What happens with surplus funds if we receive financial contributions and also collect reg fees?
 - CA said it might be too late to request a reg fee. He could probably raise another €500 to cover the gap.
 - MM said OV-France may be able to contribute more as well, but this needs to be checked with Simon, Franck, and Ada.

- Exec will continue seeking additional contributions with the goal to not charge a registration fee.
 - SO: We wouldn't expect more than 100 people to attend Malta. For Sydney, there were 87 registered, but some people didn't come for various reasons.
 - **Action: SO to investigate meeting rooms at Malta.**
- Northern Spring 2025
 - Reg fee will not be needed because there will be local sources of funding.

13. Date of next Exec meeting

- **Action: MH will set up Doodle poll for weeks of Sept. 9 and Sept. 16 at 20:00 UTC**
- OM reports he and AM are attending a meeting in mid-September meeting.

14. AOB

- None

15. Review of New Action Items

- **TM122.1:** MA will contact people from I-HOW Initiative in person at the IAU General Assembly.
- **TM122.2:** BB will look for a replacement for SG the IVOA-IAU WG.
- **TM122.3:** MA will contact people from I-HOW in person at the IAU General Assembly.
- **TM122.4:** BB to follow-up with Giulia and cc: MM about adding Liaison WG back to IVOA Twiki.
- **TM122.5:** SO to investigate meeting rooms at Malta.
- **TM122.6:** MH will set up Doodle poll for weeks of Sept. 9 and Sept. 16 at 20:00 UTC.