IVOA Exec Meeting: TM125

24 February 2025, 19:00 UTC

Virtual Meeting

Notes: MH

Original: 24 February 2025—Initial Draft
Updated:

Distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present (14)

Initials	Name	Institution	Email Address
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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
JW	Joachim Wambganss	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@inasan.ru
PF	Giuseppina Fabbiano	USVAO/SAO	gfabbiano@cfa.harvard.edu
RN	Robert Nikutta	USVOA/OIR	robert.nikutta@noirlab.edu
SO	Simon O'Toole	ASVO, Exec Chair	simon.otoole@mq.edu.au
TD	Tom Donaldson	TCG Vice Chair	tdonaldson@stsci.edu

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/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaSciencePriorities
CVO	Canadian Virtual Observatory	https://www.cadc-ccda.hia-iha.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/
ESA	European Space Agency	https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/esdc
Euro-VO	European Virtual Observatory	http://www.euro-vo.org

Acronym	Institution Name	Institution Website
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	https://asov.obspm.fr/
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/twiki/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
2. Review and approval of TM124 Minutes
3. Review of Exec Actions for TM125
4. Report on the IAU General Assembly
5. Project Reports [significant events only]
6. Overall TCG Status [standing Item]
7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [standing item]
8. CSP Status [standing item]
9. IVOA Website [standing item]
    o Updating Member Organizations page
    o Draft new website: https://webtest.ivoa.info/
    o GitHub Repository: https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web
    o To report bugs and request changes: https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web/issues
10. Future Interop meetings
    o Northern Spring 2025 – Maryland, USA
    o Northern Fall 2025 – Görlitz (ADASS dates: 9-13 November 2025, Interop held after ADASS)
11. Date of next Exec meeting
12. AOB
13. Review of new action items

Next Exec Meeting:

Discussion

1. Roll Call and Agenda

- The names of the attendees are recorded.

- Regrets: Chenzhou Cui (China-VO), Encarni Romero Colmenero (SA[3]), Francesca Civano (CSP Chair), JJ Kavelaars (CVO, Exec Vice Chair)

2. Review and Approval of TM124 Minutes

- The minutes are approved.

3. Review of Exec Actions for TM125

- **TM122.1:** MA will contact people from I-HOW Initiative in person at the IAU General Assembly. **DONE**
    - o BB said the VO working group needs to put this on the docket and follow up. It's probably best to circle back to this action when things start to move toward the next IAU General Assembly.

- **TM124.1:** JE to draft HEIG charter and distribute to Exec email list. **DONE**

- **TM124.2:** MH to create a Doodle poll for the next Exec meeting with dates between February 18-28, 2025 **DONE**

- **TM124.3:** MM to ask GWS Chair and VC to update the charter to reflect the name change and statement of purpose (as needed). **IN PROGRESS**
    - o **Update:** MM said the charter update is waiting on a decision to make all WG charters more formalized. MM doesn't want to stress out the groups. SO said it would be good to have the charters look more consistent and standardized, but this isn't a time sensitive task.

4. Report on the IAU General Assembly/Working Group

- Change this standing item to refer to IAU Working Group.

- BB has written the annual report for the VO Working Group and submitted it to Ana Castro. She asked that BB not distribute it until she's reviewed it; he will distribute it once it's approved. It describes IVOA participation in the General Assembly.

- BB's paper on benefits of the VO to underserved communities has been approved and will be on Astro-ph and the IVOA Wiki.

- IAU President Debbie Elmergreen asked for IAU representation in the CODATA Cross-Domain Interoperability Framework project, which is a VO working group because it's involved in FAIR implementation across discovery lines.
    - o BB attended a kick-off meeting and he's getting up-to-speed on the materials and learning the acronyms.

- o He doesn't know how this may benefit IVOA in the long-term; at the moment he's performing due diligence because if we want standing in the IAU and the President asks us to do something, we should be responsive.
- o MM: With regards to the DDI CDI (Cross-Domain Interoperability Framework), there will be a meeting in Brisbane in October 2025 according to the Italian Open Science WG as part of International Data Week scheduled Oct. 13-16.
- o SO: There are a whole lot of meetings, not quite IAU GA level, that focus on data science and discuss FAIR and interoperability, which intersects with IVOA interests. https://idw2025.org/registration/
- o BB: it'd be good to have IVOA representation there. He's not sure if he can attend. Is there a virtual component?
  - ▪ SO said it's unclear but there may be based on past planning discussions of virtual vs. in-person attendance.
- o **ACTION: BB, MA, SO:** BB will look into how we can best attend/represent IVOA at this meeting and MA will talk to Françoise about her past and current involvement with Data Week. SO will reach out to some members on the Data Week LOC.

- BB also asking for a plenary session on IAU engagement at the next Interop because it would be good to tell everyone what is going on with the IAU.
  - o It would be good to do some brainstorming in what our future direction with IAU should be. We're currently reacting to what IAU wants vs. how IVOA can leverage its participation with IAU.
  - o BB chatted with Priya Hassan and she concurs this should be addressed by the IAU working group.

5. Project Reports [Significant Events Only]
- **ASVO:** Australia is currently going through its Decadal Plan (2036-2035) process (similar to the US Decadal Review) and the ASVO has received renewed prominence in the exposure draft. The Decadal Plan is used to guide infrastructure spending in Australia in particular, so this is excellent news for the VO in Australia.
- **Euro-VO:** The Astro-CC Pilot project started on 1 February 2025 (delayed from initial announcement). The project is planning to run events as a pilot of an Astronomy Open Science Centre in the context of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). Astro-CC Pilot is one of the funded projects of the EC Horizon Europe OSCARS initiative (https://oscars-project.eu) which covers all areas of science. Astro-CC Pilot will be presented at the OSCARS Annual General meeting in Rome, 3-4 March 2025 (https://indico.in2p3.fr/event/34984/overview).
  - o European astronomy communities have been contacted so that they can provide input into the planning of the events: Technology forums, Data Provider forums, and Scientific Training events (VO schools).
- **OV-France:** We are organizing an annual meeting around the VO, accompanied by a technical exchange on the implementation of standards and the new technologies used for data management and service development. The meeting will be held in Paris, 24-26 March, and there are 46 people registered. We're currently putting together the program.

- **USVOA:** There is some uncertainty regarding federal funding in light of the current political climate in the US, which will affect NASA and, indirectly, universities and other research institutions.
- **VObs.it**
  - A workshop on data management and systems within INAF will be held 26-28 February
    - with a pre-meeting on the 25th of VObs.it people to have some discussion time
    - and a dedicated morning (two 90' sessions) to report on VO activities in INAF and give room for free discussion and to gather requirements.
    - both radio and high energy astrophysics will be of the lot.
  - The week after (4-5 March), MM will attend an ASI workshop and report status and works of the IVOA (will focus also on P3T and standards refurbishment activities).

6. Overall TCG Status (MM)
   - TCG met on Wednesday February 5 ([full notes here](#)).
   - Next vconf is planned for Tuesday, March 11.
   - besides the TCG vconf running meetings on ObsCore extension at HEIG and DM WG has happened (will report next time, wasn't able to attend them) and work is continuously progressing.
   - There are also three documents on RFC. At least VOResource-1.2 should close soon its path.
     - REC-VOTable-1.5 and EN-UDCList-1.6 are stable on the doc repository.
     - Some DM discussion (at TCG level) had to be skipped due to missing roles in attendance, will recover next time.
     - Mostly related to models granularity, modularity and level/scope but also about REC/Endorsement of models.
   - Ops/DAL/Apps will plan a discussion on agent/client statistics for TAP and protocols, to see if it helps improving the VO ecosystem.
   - Major version transitioning in Registry: Markus Demleitner will think on how to start a discussion (potential task force ahead).
   - GWS->DSP name change still to be finalized (TCG chair to blame).
   - Static web pages need a decision; there are a few blocks: mobile responsiveness and newsletter.
   - Looking forward for a "save the date" for the next Interop.
   - TCG roles up for June:
     - Apps (C, VC) - no extension
     - Registry (C, VC) - extension possible
     - DCP (C, VC) - extension possible
     - Solar System (C) - no extension
   - Still missing TD chair Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]

- **Action:** SO to reach out to the Chairs of groups where an extension is possible, such as Registry and DCP. SO will reach out to Judy Racusin about Chair role on Time Domain IG.

7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]

- None

8. CSP Status

- Funding was secured for Interop, so the meeting venue was booked.

- Looking for sponsors to pay for refreshments as the current sponsor for the venue cannot sponsor refreshments.

9. IVOA Website

- Updating [Member Organizations page](#)
   - SO said this came up at last Interop. The IVOA web page directly links to the Member Organization page. In some cases this is okay, but in others the page is very, very outdated or down due to various issues.
      - Example: UK Astrogrid page is there but quite inactive, even though there are plenty of people representing the UK.
      - SO suggests the IVOA page just have a brief summary of the history and the organization/member org with a bit of information. Only a paragraph would be needed so not a lot of extra work. This could be a relatively easy thing to set up.
      - AN asked who do we contact to make those changes? MM said ivoadoc@ivoa.net.
      - MM said the member orgs are listed on the website and the Twiki and information is mismatched. Maybe there should be a decision on where this information should reside as the primary source.
      - SO suggests having content on the IVOA page and then a link to member information in the wiki.
      - Also, provide some history. For example, Hungary was removed from the list because they're inactive. It would be good to have a historical mention that Hungary was part of the VO until recent years.
         - Perhaps list current members on the website and past members on the wiki?
         - If we're waiting on newsletter, then switch over and then list on the new website**.**

10. Future Interop meetings

- Northern Spring 2025 – Maryland, USA
   - TD asked what is the confidence level for the funding given the current changes regarding federal budgets? The meeting space reservation is locked down, but

some attendees may be affected from either funding cuts or a government shutdown and therefore unable to attend, or even access work email, etc.

- o SO suggests a virtual meeting as a fallback.
- o **Action: SO to send out save-the-dates (June 2-6) and follow up with FC. Also, get details about the funding and what is covered.**

- Northern Fall 2025 – Görlitz, Germany (ADASS dates: 9-13 November 2025, Interop held after ADASS)

  - o SO received an email from Kathleen Labrie about ADASS and it mentions that IVOA interop didn't confirm the location. The dates are Nov 14 & 15, which is after ADASS. The venue will either be in Görlitz or Dresden.
  - o JW is not involved in the planning, but he can talk to a colleague in the planning group and will report back.

11. Date of next Exec meeting

- **Action:** MH to create a Doodle poll for week after Easter, with the alternating time of 13:00 UTC.

12. AOB

- None

13. Review of New Action Items

- **TM125.1:** BB will look into how we can best attend/represent IVOA at this meeting and MA will talk to Françoise about her past and current involvement with Data Week. SO will reach out to some members on the data week LOC.
- **TM125.2:** SO to reach out to the Chairs of groups where an extension of Chair and Vice Chair terms are possible, such as Registry and DCP. SO will reach out to Judy Racusin about Chair role on Time Domain IG.
- **TM125.3:** SO to send out save-the-dates (June 2-6) for Northern Spring 2025 (Maryland, USA) and follow up with FC re: funding, etc. (once confirmed w/ FC).
- **TM125.4:** MH to create a Doodle poll for week after Easter, with the alternating time of 13:00 UTC.