

IVOA Exec Telecon Meeting: TM43

07 February 2012: 17:00-18:30 CET

Notes: MA

Original: 12 February 2012

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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/TCG
Alex Carciofi	<carciofi@usp.br>	AC	BRAVO
Chenzhou Cui	<ccz@bao.ac.cn>	CC	China-VO
Giuseppina Fabbiano	<pepi@cfa.harvard.edu>	GF	VAO
Severin Gaudet	<Severin.Gaudet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca>	SG	TCG
Francoise Genova	<genova@cluster.u-strasbg.fr>	FG	F-VO/Euro-VO
Robert Hanisch	<hanisch@stsci.edu>	BH	VAO
Ajit Kembhavi	<akk@iucaa.ernet.in>	AK	VO-India
Andy Lawrence	<al@roe.ac.uk>	AL	AstroGrid
Joseph Lazio	<Joseph.Lazio@jpl.nasa.gov>	JL	VAO
Oleg Malkov	<malkov@inasan.ru>	OM	RVO
Masatoshi Ohishi	<masatoshi.ohishi@nao.ac.jp>	MO	JVO
Fabio Pasian	<pasian@oats.inaf.it>	FP	VObs.it
David Schade	<david.schade@nrc.ca>	DS	CVO
Enrique Solano Marquez	<esm@cab.inta-csic.es>	ES	SVO
Patricia Tissera	<tissera.patriciab@gmail.com>	PT	NOVA
Irina Vavilova	<irivav@MAO.Kiev.UA>	IV	UKR-VO
Joachim Wambsganss	<jkw@ari.uni-heidelberg.de>	JW	GAVO

Apologies:

Andreas Wicenec	<andreas.wicenec@uwa.edu.au>	AW	AusVO
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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>
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.cab.inta-csic.es>
UKR-VO - Ukraine Virtual Observatory <http://www.ukr-vo.org/>
IVOA - International Virtual Observatory Alliance <http://www.ivoa.net>

Agenda:

1. Roll Call and Agenda (MA)
2. Minutes of FM42 and FM42S
3. Review of Actions (MA)
4. Project Reports - Significant Events Only
5. Report of the TCG status (CA)
6. Approval of new IVOA Recommendations [Standing Item]
7. WG Chairs and Vice-Chairs with expiring terms
8. May 2012 Interop
9. Future Interops (All)
10. CSP status (MA)
11. Date of next meeting
12. AOB
13. Summary of Actions (MA)

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

<http://www.ivoa.net/cgi-bin/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingTM43>

NEXT MEETING: Sunday May 20, Urbana Champaign, USA 17:00

1. Roll call and Agenda

The participants names were recorded. Items were added to the AOB: Discussion of Data Centre Lists as collected in action FM42S-3 (MA); Discussion of IVOA and World Data System (FG).

2. Minutes of FM42 and FM42S

The minutes of FM42 and FM42S were approved.

3. Review of Actions

ACTION FM42S-3 All IVOA members to collate lists of data centres that have or will publish to the VO

ONGOING - A number of responses were obtained, ongoing to get responses from all IVOA members. Brief discussion to be held in AOB at this telecon.

ACTION FM42S-4 CA to consult TCG on format changes to the interop meetings

ONGOING - There has not been a TCG meeting since the last exec meeting so this has not been discussed in the TCG.

ACTION FM42-2 SG to send AC a list of things to consider when organizing an interop meeting.

DONE - SG has generated a wiki page with general instructions for organizing Interoperability meetings - <http://www.ivoa.net/cgi-bin/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaInteropPOC>

ACTION FM40S-4 AL to compile a summary and to-do list for the update for the update of the IVOA web pages.

DONE - AL reported that he would meet with Sarah Emery Bunn (IVOA Doc coordinator) this week to work on the web pages. Input for the Educational/Outreach section was recently received from VObs.it. Some sections will require more material, in particular the developers/deployers sections. AL immediately circulated the links for the current draft and comments pages. (email Feb 07 2012).

AK - asked when the new pages would be ready

AL - indicated this was up to the exec

CA - noted that the pages were discussed in the TCG meeting in Pune, and that management of the content needs to be considered.

AL - wiki pages can manage most things, with some better looking web pages for more static information

4. Project Reports

Reports for AstroGrid, Australia-VO, BRAVO, China-VO, CVO, GAVO, Japan-VO, VAO, SVO, Vobs.it and VO-India appear on the telecon meeting page.

VAO: BH reported that VAO will submit a revised program plan to NSF and NASA following a difficult time of budget cuts. VAO has a new way forward with more focus on

standards and infrastructure. VAO has had a successful period of outreach including VO days and a special session at the AAS meeting, and future events also planned.

CVO: DS reported on the success of their VOSpace system for data sharing and cloud processing.

SVO: A detailed report of SVO activities is on the telecon web page. ES emphasized the release of the GTC archive. SVO was commended on its activities.

FP - indicated that as a liaison activity he will attend the upcoming OGF meeting in Oxford.

Euro-VO: FG reported the extension of the EuroVO-ICE project to end of August 2012. The results of another proposal for continued European collaboration should be known before the next interop meeting.

5. TCG Status (CA)

CA reported that the IVOA Technical Assessment for 2011 and Roadmap for 2012 document has been finalized, endorsed by Exec, published and distributed to the IVOA at large.

StandardRegExt 1.0 TCG review is almost completed and should therefore come soon to Exec for approval.

SimDM 1.0 TCG review is going on, with some comments. TCG chair has suggested a way forward, including some editorial updates, so it can proceed its REC process.

The SAMP1.3 RFC period has completed and is now proceeding smoothly to the TCG review up to the end of February.

The need for a TCG telecon meeting was discussed and agreed. CA will call for it in the coming weeks.

ACTION TM43-1 CA to organize a TCG telecon in March

6. Approval of new IVOA Recommendations [Standing Item]

No new recommendations to approve at this telecon.

7. Expiring WG Chairs and Vice-Chairs

Changes in Work and Interest Group leads that will need to be considered in May:

Semantics Working Group chair - Sebastien Derriere has served since 2008 and is currently on a 1 year extension to June 2012.

Semantics working Group vice chair - Norman Gray has served since 2008 and is currently on a 1 year extension to June 2012.

Theory Interest Group chair - Herve Wozniak has served since 2008 and is currently on a 1 year extension to May 2012.

The TCG chair and vice chair were extended by one year last May, so these positions will also need to be considered very soon.

8. May 2012 Interop Meeting

BH reported that planning is going well for the Urbana Interop meeting. The website is open and registration will be available soon.

The dates are May 21-25 (as on meeting web pages) with the exec and TCG meetings expected to be held on the Sunday May 20.

MA asked whether there were special sessions or “frontrow” sessions planned.

SG (member of the POC) indicated that the exec would be asked for input on the interop meeting sessions.

GF raised the idea of including an outreach mini workshop within the interop meeting. It could be aimed at a mixed audience of astronomers, developers, teachers/education community. This audience could make use of the expertise available at interop meetings.

Various aspects of this idea were discussed.

There was a preference to hold such an event in the middle, rather than beginning or end of the interop meeting.

AK suggested that a one day event would restrict it to mostly local audience. The idea of web casting of such an event to make it more accessible was supported.

BH indicated that VAO could take a leading role in the organization. Also that the Dark Energy Survey and the LSST archive are local to Urbana and that these projects may participate in some way in the meeting.

GF suggested that such an event may provide various bodies (e.g. NSF, Smithsonian) with powerful examples of interoperability. There is interest at various institutional and government levels in interoperability.

Some of the policy related issues of such an event were discussed. FG indicated that someone from the European side should attend. FP suggested he could contact the VObs.it group in charge of education.

AL suggested that it would be good to hear from the HDF group. BH agreed and suggested that Wolfram Research is also local to Urbana.

It was AGREED that VAO in coordination with the POC, the CSP and FG would make a proposal to the exec on including an outreach session in the May interop meeting.

ACTION TM43-5 - VAO to organize a telecon with POC, MA, FG

9. Future Interops

AC briefly summarized plans for the São Paulo interop meeting.

FG indicated that hotel costs need to be negotiated to make sure the meeting is affordable. AC plans to negotiate with hotels.

DS asked for clarification on the dates. AC indicated 8-12 October, and that the following week was also possible. PT made mention of other meetings around that time.

ACTION TM43-2 AC to inform exec about the best week for the interop meeting.

AC asked about the level of student participation in interop meetings. AK replied that it is fairly low. AK and FG noted that junior members of some of the VO projects may need some support to attend.

AC indicated that there may be some funding possibilities to support attendance at the meeting.

10. CSP status

MA reported that there have been recent changes in the composition of the CSP. ES joined last year, and most recently JL has joined the CSP.

The plenary presentation from the last interop describes the status of the CSP science priority cases. Some of these are moving into a monitoring phase, and new science priority areas are being considered. This includes improving the relevance of IVOA to radio astronomy, and the requirements of time series astronomy. The CSP hopes to bring proposals for new science priority areas to the exec in May.

The effort to forge closer links with VO project science bodies resulted in few responses.

11. Date of next meeting

Sunday May 20, 2012, Urbana Champaign, USA 17:00

12. AOB

- Lists of Data Centres

Following the action FM42S-3 "All IVOA members to collate lists of data centres that have or will publish to the VO" MA has collated lists provided by EuroVO (Data Centre Census), VAO, SVO, Ukraine-VO, VO-India, RVO, Australia-VO. Currently this totals 112 Data Centres.

The use of such lists was briefly discussed, in particular the analysis of how the data infrastructure of astronomy is organized. It was agreed that it is beneficial to do such an analysis globally.

ACTION TM43-3 MA to finalize collating lists, and present to the exec before the next exec meeting.

- World Data System

FG outlined next steps for IVOA to join WDS, and confirmed with AK that she should go ahead with this.

ACTION TM43-4 FG to go ahead submit a message of intent for IVOA to join WDS.

- Data Quality Standards

MO raised an additional item about data quality standards, referring to an email to exec (18 Jan 2012).

AL responded that while interesting, it depends a lot on the meaning of data quality.

Suggestions were made to foster discussion of this topic in the DAL, DM working groups, and that it could be discussed in the CSP.

MO suggested it be raised in a plenary session of an interop meeting. AL indicated that such a proposal could be made to the POC.

13. Summary of Actions (MA)

New Actions:

ACTION TM43-1 CA to organize a TCG telecon in March

ACTION TM43-2 AC to inform exec about the best week for the interop meeting.

ACTION TM43-3 MA to finalize collating lists, and present to the exec before the next exec meeting.

ACTION TM43-4 FG to go ahead submit a message of intent for IVOA to join WDS.

ACTION TM43-5 - VAO to organize a telecon with POC, MA, FG

Ongoing Actions:

ACTION FM42S-3 All IVOA members to collate lists of data centres that have or will publish to the VO

ONGOING - A number of responses were obtained, ongoing to get responses from all IVOA members.

ACTION FM42S-4 CA to consult TCG on format changes to the interop meetings
ONGOING