

IVOA Exec Meeting: TM61

Monday, Dec 21, 2015 @16:00 UTC

Notes: JE

Original: 28Dec15 – Initial Draft

Updated: 04Feb16 – FP, SG

Distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present:

Mark Allen	mark.allen@astro.unistra.fr	MA	CSP, Euro_VO
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Bruce Berriman	gbb@ipac.caltech.edu	BB	NAVO
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Janet Evans	janet@cfa.harvard.edu	JE	Secretary
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Joachim Wambsganss	jkw@ari.uni-heidelberg.de	JWM	GAVO
Patricia Whitelock	paw@sao.ac.za	PW	SA ³

Regrets:

Glossary:

NOVA – Argentina Virtual Observatory <http://nova.conicet.gov.ar>
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>

ChiVO – Chile Virtual Observatory	http://www.chivo.cl
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
GAVO - German Astrophysical Virtual Observatory	http://www.g-vo.org
HVO - Hungarian Virtual Observatory	http://hvo.elte.hu
JVO - Japanese Virtual Observatory	http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html
OV-France - VO-France	http://www.france-vo.org
RVO - Russian Virtual Observatory	http://www.inasan.ru/eng/rvo/
SA ³ – South Africa Astroinformatics Alliance	http://www.sa3.ac.za
SVO - Spanish Virtual Observatory	http://svo.cab.inta-csic.es
UKR-VO - Ukraine Virtual Observatory	http://www.ukr-vo.org/
USVOA – US Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://usvoa.cfa.harvard.edu
VO-India - Indian Virtual Observatory	http://vo.iucaa.ernet.in/~voi/
VObs.it - The Italian Virtual Observatory	http://vobs.astro.it/
IVOA - International Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://www.ivoa.net

Agenda:

1. Roll Call and Agenda (JE)
2. Minutes of FM60
3. Review of Actions
4. Project Reports [Significant Events Only]
5. TCG Status
6. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]
7. Process for the renewing of the Executive Committee Chair and Vice Chair
8. Committee on Science Priorities Terms of Reference
9. Committee on Standard and Processes
10. New distribution channels (via social media?) for the IVOA Newsletter and IVOA activities in general to reach a wider community
11. Review terms up for WG / IG Expiration (See list below)
12. Future Interops
 - Northern Spring 2016 - S Africa (May 8-13)
 - Planning update
 - Plenary talks and focus sessions planning discussion
 - Northern Fall 2016 - Trieste, Italy (Oct 21-23; after ADASS)
13. Date of Next Exec Meeting
14. AOB
15. Review of Action Items

List of term expirations:

The following positions are due at the end of 2015

- KDD Interest Group
- Education Interest Group Chair/Vice Chair (Extendable)

The following positions will be coming due at the Northern Spring 2016 meeting:

- Theory Interest Group Chair (No extension)
- Time Domain Chair/Vice Chair (Extendable)
- Executive Committee Chair and Vice Chair

- A. Appendices - reports from VO projects see the wiki at:
<http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingTM61>

NEXT EXEC TELECON: Wed, 24Feb16 @16:00 UTC

1. Roll Call and Agenda

The participants' names were recorded.

2. Minutes of TM60

The FM60 minutes were accepted.

3. Review of Actions

ACTION F60-1: Exec – Comment on CSP terms of reference by End of November
CLOSED–MA updated TofR with comments from PF; MA looking for approval from the Exec; CA suggested approval with no objections from the committee; MA will send a copy of the final document to the Exec and JE will attach to these minutes (*see Appendix A below*).

***ACTION F61-1:** MA – MA will send a copy of the final CSP document to the Exec

ACTION F60-2: Exec – Review proposed candidates against full list of CSP members; provide feedback on 2 proposed members.

CLOSED– David Ciardi (LSST) and Bruno Merin (ESA) approved by the Exec as new CSP members.

ACTION F60-3: CA – Send IVOA call out for 2017 Interop meetings location
CLOSED – 2017 Northern Spring – China; 2017 Northern Fall – Chile (with ADASS)
CA also noted that M Solar confirmed he could host the IVOA meeting in Chile; currently open whether the meeting will be before or after ADASS. The Exec endorsed the 2017 meeting plan.

ACTION T57-1: FG, CA, SG, BB – Review list of IVOA notes to date. 1) Data mine Notes that should go to ADS. 2) Understand topology of other Notes to help Exec data mine which type should go or not go to ADS.

CLOSED – Review of notes completed and agreed by Exec. Giulia is working with ADS to have the list published.

ACTION F55-7: CC/MM – Discuss Document backup and report back to Exec.

IN PROGRESS – Experienced time limitation; no change in status

4. Project Reports [Significant Events]

Project reports from Euro_VO, France VO, and USVOA appear on the meeting wiki page. See: <http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingTM61>.

BB noted for NAVO that new VO services were recently made available and they are experiencing good usage statistics.

PF noted that the USVOA was having a splinter meeting at the AAS – All IVOA members welcomed. Wed., Jan. 6, 2016 - 10:00 to 11:30 am - St. George room #114

FG noted that Euro_VO as part of the ASTERICS project was discussing VO standards with large European projects. Two successful events were recently held: a meeting with the projects involved in ASTERICS to discuss their use cases, and a VO school. In preparing for the VO school the scientific tutorials on the Euro_VO web page was reviewed and updated. (<http://www.euro-vo.org/?q=science/scientific-tutorials>) AL asked if Euclid, had launch date of 2020, was planning for VO interfaces to data. FP said that there were plans for the mission data to be available through VO interfaces.

5. TCG Status

MG noted that a TCG telecon is planned for January 2016. He also circulated SIA 2.0 to CA on Dec18 for Exec final recommendation following its second TCG review. CA passed it on to the Exec and quite a few positive responses had been received at the time of the Exec telecon. Exec members continued to respond positively over the next few days and on Dec 24, CA notified the group that SIA 2.0 was approved by Exec.

MG also highlighted that recent WG email discussions included:

- STC2.0 that seems to be falling to one person. PD/MG checking on the current status.
- VODML discussions that also need some follow up

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

SIA 2.0 endorsed by the Exec as an IVOA Recommendation on Dec24

7. Process for the renewing of the Executive Committee Chair and Vice Chair

There was a discussion on a proposal on how to proceed with Exec Chair/Vice Chair renewal given E Solano's decision to step down as IVOA Vice Chair (in email on 02Nov15). CA left the meeting while a discussion, led by FP, was held.

FP explained that there is generally an informal search among former Exec chairs to find a successor for Exec chair. Usually the Vice Chair is recommended and elected chair. Given the circumstances, both Chair & Vice Chair need to be appointed this year. The idea FP proposed was to extend CA's current term as Chair by six months. He also suggested a new Vice Chair be nominated/elected in S Africa and then that person would have until Fall 2016 to become familiar with the position. FP asked if the extension of Chair by six months was agreeable with the Exec. After short discussion, FP asked the Exec if everyone was comfortable with the plan and they agreed by unanimous approval. CA was called and

invited to re-join the telecon. A six month extension was offered to CA who stated he was happy to serve an extra six months.

8. *Committee on Science Priorities Terms of Reference*

David Ciardi (IPAC/Caltech/LSST) and Bruno Merin (ESA/VO) were approved by the Exec as new CSP members.

BG asked if there were any radio astronomers on the CSP and if there was a limit on the number serving the CSP. PF mentioned that J Lazio was a radio astronomer and on the CSP. MA said there was no written limit on the number of members but that the idea was for it to be rather small and focused. BB noted that he talked to J Lazio after the Sydney meeting. Joe said he was still interested but that it was hard to attend the meetings with his current travel budget. BG noted it would be good to have a radio astronomer associated with one of the current large radio projects and said he would look for a radio candidate from SKA or Alma. MA noted it was a natural time to regroup and that the length of CSP terms was ~3 years. BB took an action to talk to Joe about his status going forward. MA took an action to review the CSP list and send it around to the Exec along with a length of service. CA suggested the Exec revisit the composition of the CSP at the next meeting.

***ACTION F61-2:** BB – Talk to J Lazio about his CSP status going forward

***ACTION F61-3:** MA – Review the CSP list and send it around to the Exec along with a length of service

9. *Committee on Standard and Processes*

BG offered to participate in the committee on Standard and Process.

10. *New distribution channels (via social media?) for the IVOA Newsletter and IVOA activities in general to reach a wider community*

Gus Muench suggested in an email to CA that the IVOA consider being more active on social media. CA brought the topic to the IVOA Exec for discussion.

BG noted that the two most active outlets for astronomers in his experience is the Astronomers twitter and Facebook pages. PF suggested that Gus and Giulia review social media options and make a recommendation to the Exec. AL highlighted that you can look feeble without regular presence. He noted that GAVO has a nice presence with a post (expect it's scripted) when new registry entries are added. FP added that Giulia is pretty active in social media.

***ACTION F61-4:** CA: Ask Gus/Giulia to make a proposal on usage of social media for IVOA. The Exec is encouraged to email input to Gus & Giulia.

11. Review terms up for WG/IG Expiration (See list below)

The following positions will be coming due at the end of 2015:

- KDD Interest Group
- Education Interest Group Chair and Vice Chair

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For 2015 terms, the name most received by CA for nomination to the KDD interest group chair was Kai Polsterer. The Exec unanimously endorsed Kai Polsterer for KDD Interest Group chair. CA also noted that the first action for the KDD Chair is to renew the charter and name of the group. He encouraged a close tie to Astroinformatics. FP agreed and reminded the group that the work of IGs was to give input to the WGs.

For Education, CA noted that Massimo Ramella (Chair) and Sudhashu Barway (Vice Chair) current positions may be extended. He asked the Exec for recommendations for Chair/Vice Chair recommendations.

***ACTION F61-5:** CA: Formally invite Kai Polsterer as KDD Interest Group Chair and ask the group to revisit the name and charter

***ACTION F61-6:** CA: Ask Exec for candidates for Education Chair/Vice Chair

12. Future Interops

- Northern Spring 2016 – Cape Town, South Africa (May08-13)
 - Planning update
 - Plenary talks and focus sessions planning discussion

PW noted that the IVOA Northern Spring Interop meeting page has been posted (<http://ivoa2016.sa3.ac.za>). She requested that the registration page be developed and made active soon. PW noted that attendees would have to pay for lunch in advance of the meeting. The IVOA meeting program web presence is important for meeting planning, financial support, and generating interest.

MA added that the CSP has proposed focus sessions for the Cape Town meeting. The aim is to push ahead on engagement of the project and use of the VO. The CSP and Exec are working together to organize the Focus Sessions. To hold this type of event we need to start early and have a web presence as well. PW suggested getting the program page up with the information. MA/PW/PD took an action to work together to get it done.

***ACTION F61-7:** MA: Send Cape Town Focus Session outline to Exec

***ACTION F61-8:** PD/MA/PW: Draft a Cape Town Interop Program page by Mid January

- Northern Fall 2016 – Trieste, Italy (Oct 21-23; after ADASS)

FP said that planning was on track and that he was currently working on additional funding.

13. *Date of next Exec Meeting*

Telecon – Wed, 24Feb16 @16:00 UTC

14. *AOB*

CA – Exec candidate for Education chair

15. *Review of Action Items*

New:

ACTION F61-1: MA – MA will send a copy of the final CSP document to the Exec

ACTION F61-2: BB – Talk to J Lazio about his CSP status going forward

ACTION F61-3: MA – Review the CSP list and send it around to the Exec along with a length of service

ACTION F61-4: CA: Ask Gus/Giulia to make a proposal on usage of social media for IVOA. The Exec is encouraged to email input to Gus & Giulia.

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Old:

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IN PROGRESS – Experienced time limitation; no change in status

APPENDIX A:

Standing Committee on Science Priorities (CSP) – Dec 2015

Proposed Terms of Reference:

Motivation and Objectives

The Virtual Observatory (VO) is designed to enable new scientific research via interoperability of astronomy resources (data and software) around the world. Scientific prioritization of IVOA activities is essential to ensure that the development and operations of the Virtual Observatory (VO) are relevant to the research needs of the astronomy community. The primary objective of this Committee is to identify the high level scientific requirements for the VO of major astronomy projects and of the wider astronomy community as input to the setting of priorities for IVOA. The Committee's activities around the collection of requirements are intended to provide a high level entry point for major astronomy projects to interact with IVOA, and are also intended to foster the concept of major astronomy projects being "participants in", rather than "customers of" the IVOA.

Tasks

The Committee will take action within the context of the IVOA to enable the use of the VO by the research community. The Committee will consult as widely as needed, in particular to gather use cases and requirements from major astronomy projects. The Committee is expected to develop plans to vigorously encourage the creation and implementation of infrastructure, services and tools, and other activities. Such plans are expected to include the definition of 'minimal requirements', and the identification of CSP member(s) who will 'champion' priority topics. These plans, after endorsement by the Executive, will be carried out in close collaboration with the TCG. It is likely that such activities will often draw upon the expertise of several Working Groups or Interest Groups. Monitoring of the progress of tasks and related Working Group tasks will be done in liaison with the TCG with regular reporting to the Executive. Any resources required for Committee activities will be negotiated among the relevant parties on a case by case basis.

Composition

The membership and internal governance of this Committee will be determined by the Chair of the IVOA Exec in consultation with the Chairs of the IVOA TCG, the IVOA Exec Vice-Chair, and others as needed. The Chair of the IVOA TCG shall be a member ex-officio of this Committee. The nominal term for members of the CSP is expected to be 3 years. It is expected that the CSP will include scientists associated with IVOA member projects, and (at least two) scientists associated with major astronomy projects. The Chair of the ^{Committee} has the responsibility to coordinate the activities and to report to the Executive.