

The **I**nternational **A**ssociation for **O**ntology and its **A**pplications

IAOA and Education

Antony Galton - SECaM - Univ. of Exeter

Laure Vieu - IRIT-CNRS & LOA-ISTC-CNR - Toulouse & Trento

Situation and proposal

- “The Association will achieve its purpose by engaging in different kinds of activities, including:
 - Educating interested stakeholders on what ontologies are and how they can be effectively utilized.”
- Ontology is a relatively new field and as a result is not yet well established in higher education. There are few curricula dedicated to it, and no comprehensive textbook available.
- To overcome this, IAOA will set up a group to guide and coordinate all IAOA educational activities

Suggested Activities of the Education Group

1. maintain a **database of existing courses** that contain ontological content
2. put together recommendations for a set of **"standard" curricula** covering all aspects of ontology which course developers can use as a guideline
3. create a **library of resources** for use by teachers
4. maintain a **set of links** to existing on-line resources as well as a **bibliography** of relevant printed material
5. maintain a **forum / FAQ** to discuss relevant issues
 - e.g., how to implement the required level of interdisciplinarity

Suggested Activities cont'd

6. budget permitting, provide **financial support to PhD students** (from developing countries(?)) attending events endorsed by IAOA
 - summer schools, conferences with paper presented...
7. organize **summer schools**, independently or in association with other initiatives
 - need to add to existing ones? (ESSLI, SSSW, Reasoning Web ...)
8. ?? eventually support an initiative to put together a **textbook** endorsed by IAOA
 - Suggested format:
 - wiki for the knowledge repository (1, 4, 5)
 - pages edited by the group for authored material (2, 3)