

# Semantics in EarthCube

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# Transition

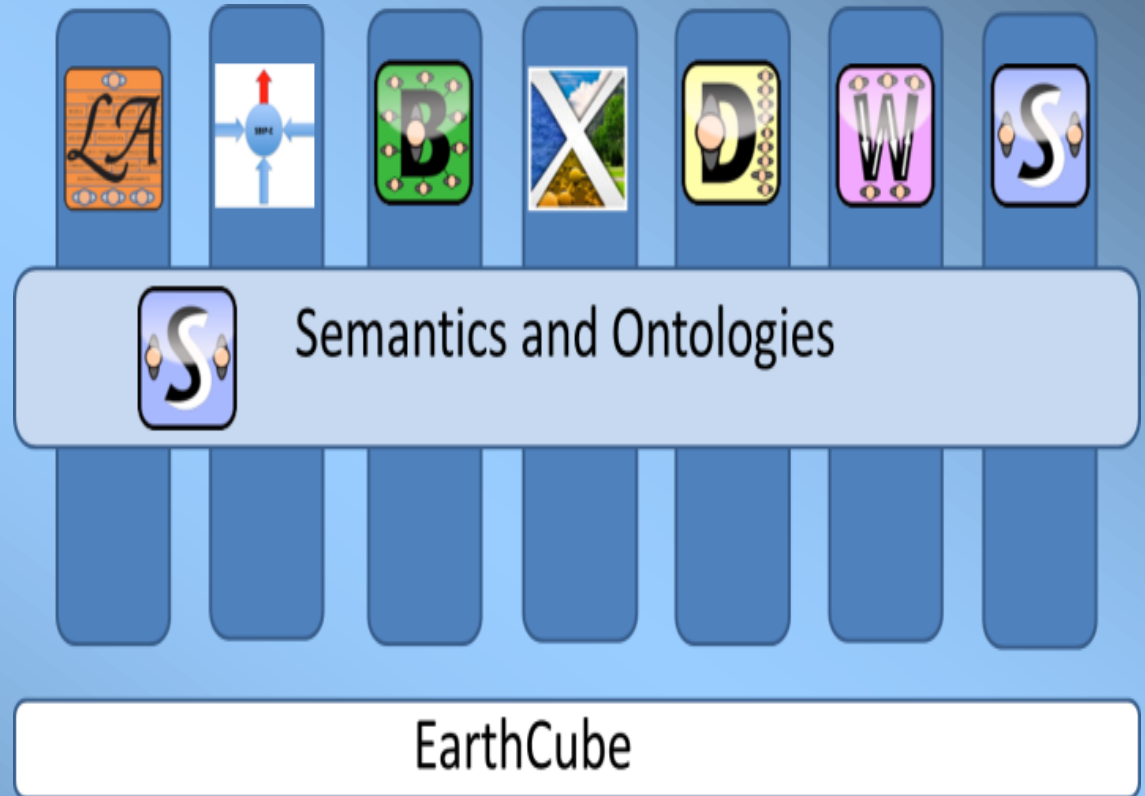
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- These slides transition between:
- Krishna Sinha's Building Blocks talk and
- Leo Obrst's Ontology tutorial, and
- Dave Kolas's tutorial on GeoSPARQL



# EarthCube Communities

Left to right:  
*Layered Architecture*  
*Web Services Concept*  
*Brokering*  
*Interoperability*  
*Data mining*  
*Workflow*  
*Semantics*





# EarthCube Semantics and Ontology Community Group

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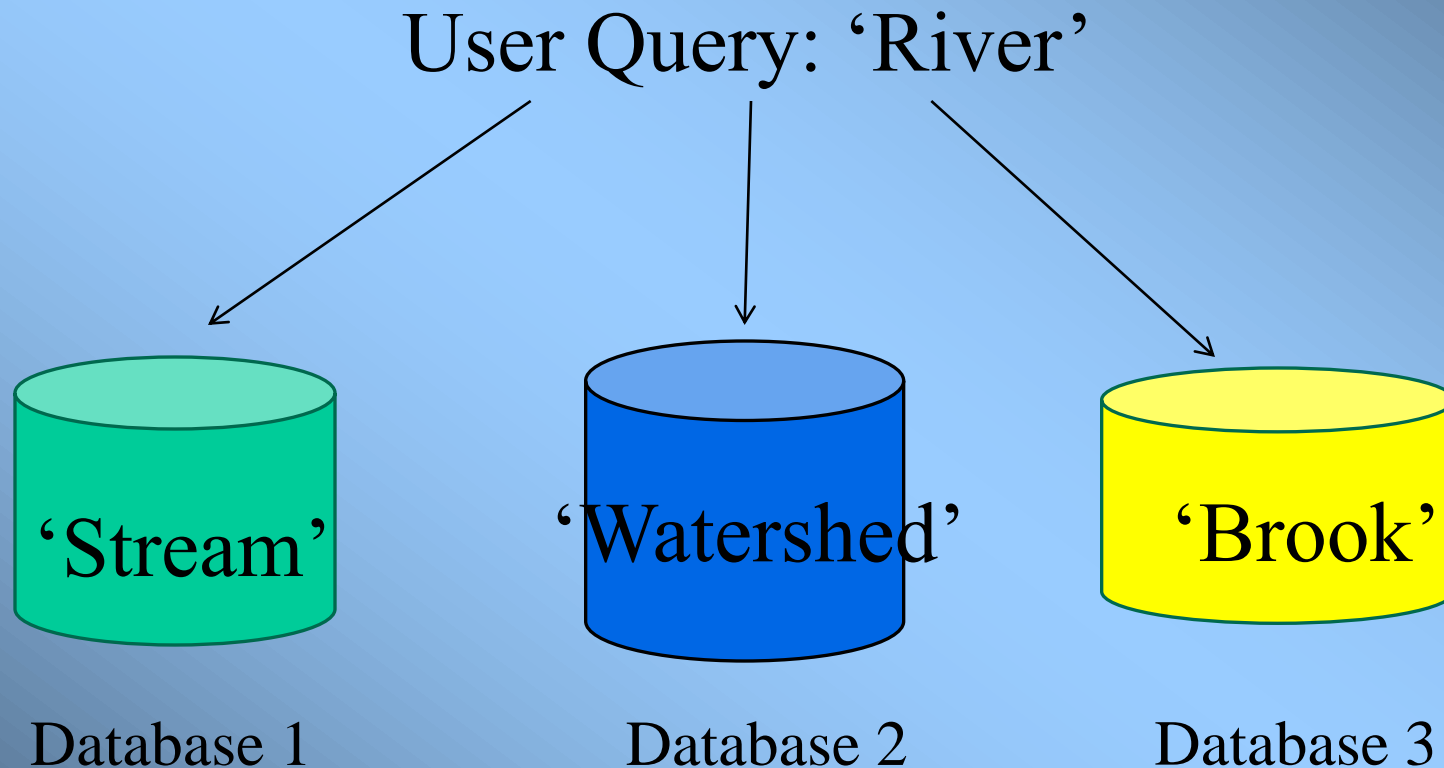
**Group Description:** Semantics and ontologies cover a number of research areas:

- development and use of ontologies to standardize the meaning of terms,
- support the use of standards,
- resolve heterogeneous terms as well as resolve terms across subdomains (bridging),
- understanding metadata,
- provenance-aware services.

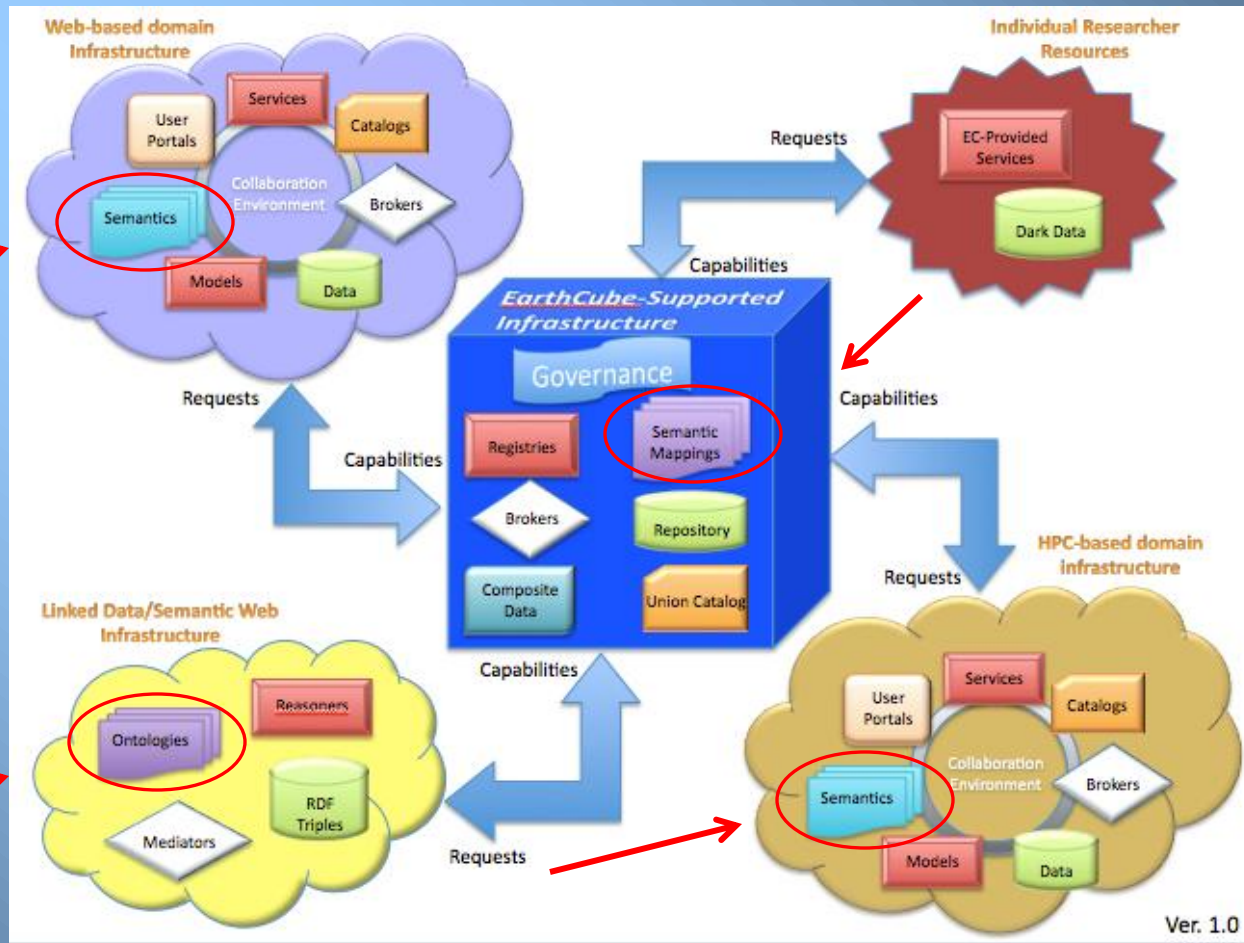
From <http://earthcube.ning.com/page/community-groups>

# Need for Semantic Interoperability

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# Semantic Aspects in EarthCube



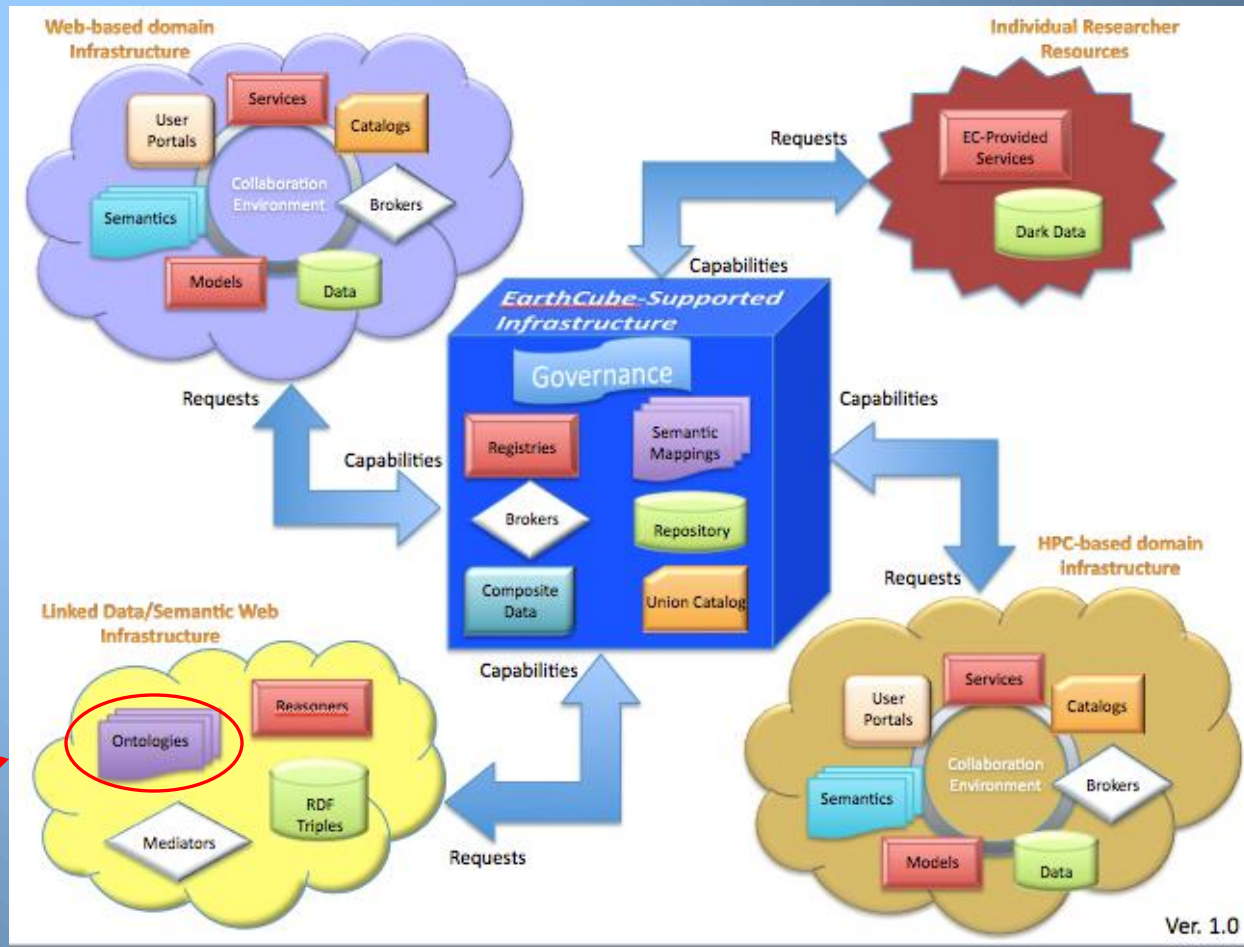
## An Architecture Framework

From 00 Oct.4 and 5 Proceedings.final.docx

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B6ovZrDPKFGuRS16Znp1ZWx1WW8/edit>

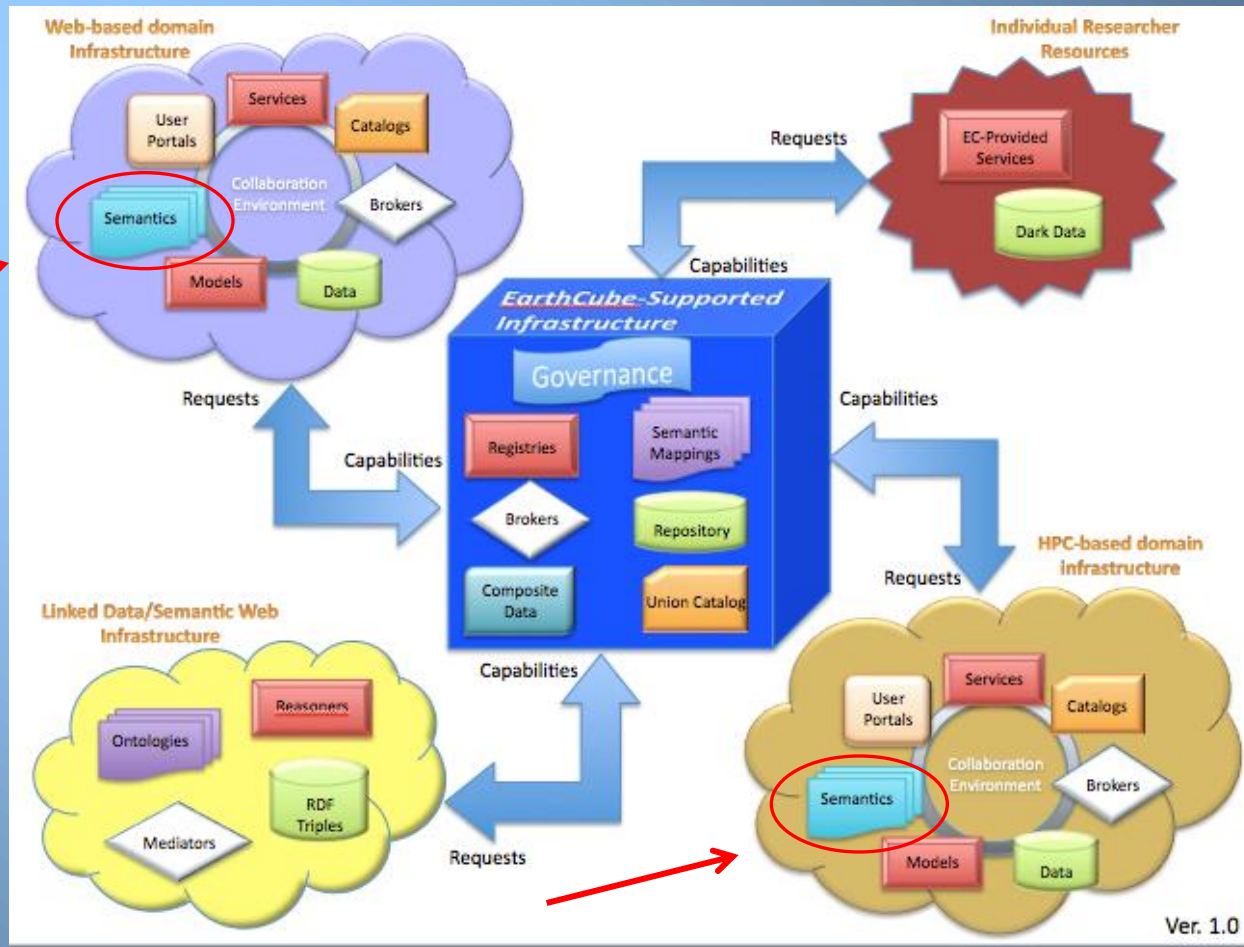
Slide 6

# Ontologies



Ontologies would be created for each domain in EarthCube (e.g., sub-domains of hydrosphere, geosphere, biosphere, atmosphere). Ontologies are descriptions of terms, concepts, and relationships in a domain. Ontologies can be used for organization and also used to supply terms for newly generated data and to resolve legacy terms. Leo Obrst will discuss ontologies.

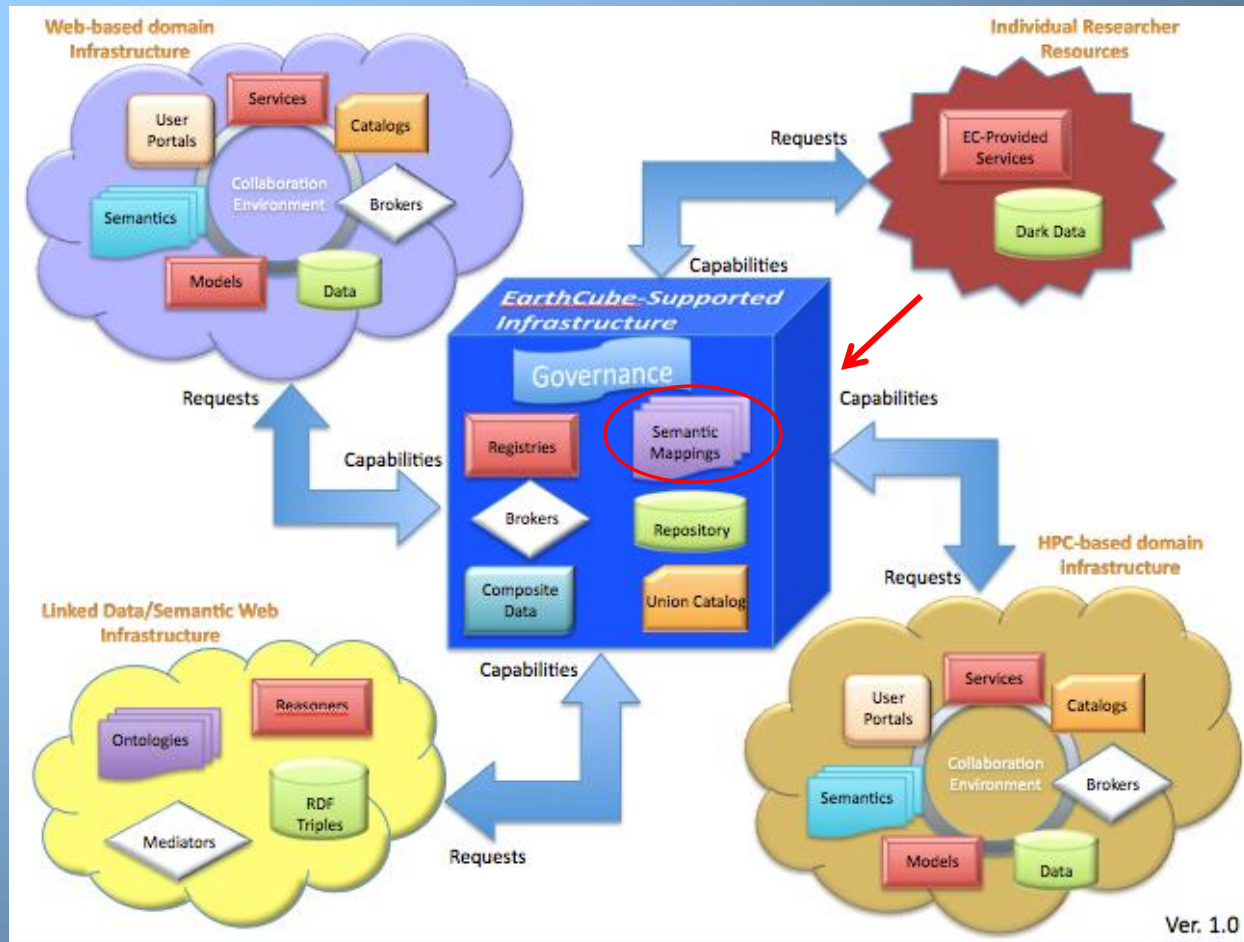
# Semantics



Each self-contained subsystem will need to handle semantics. I believe that the semantics boxes in this picture are place-holders for a full semantic system with ontologies, mappings, reasoners, and related software.

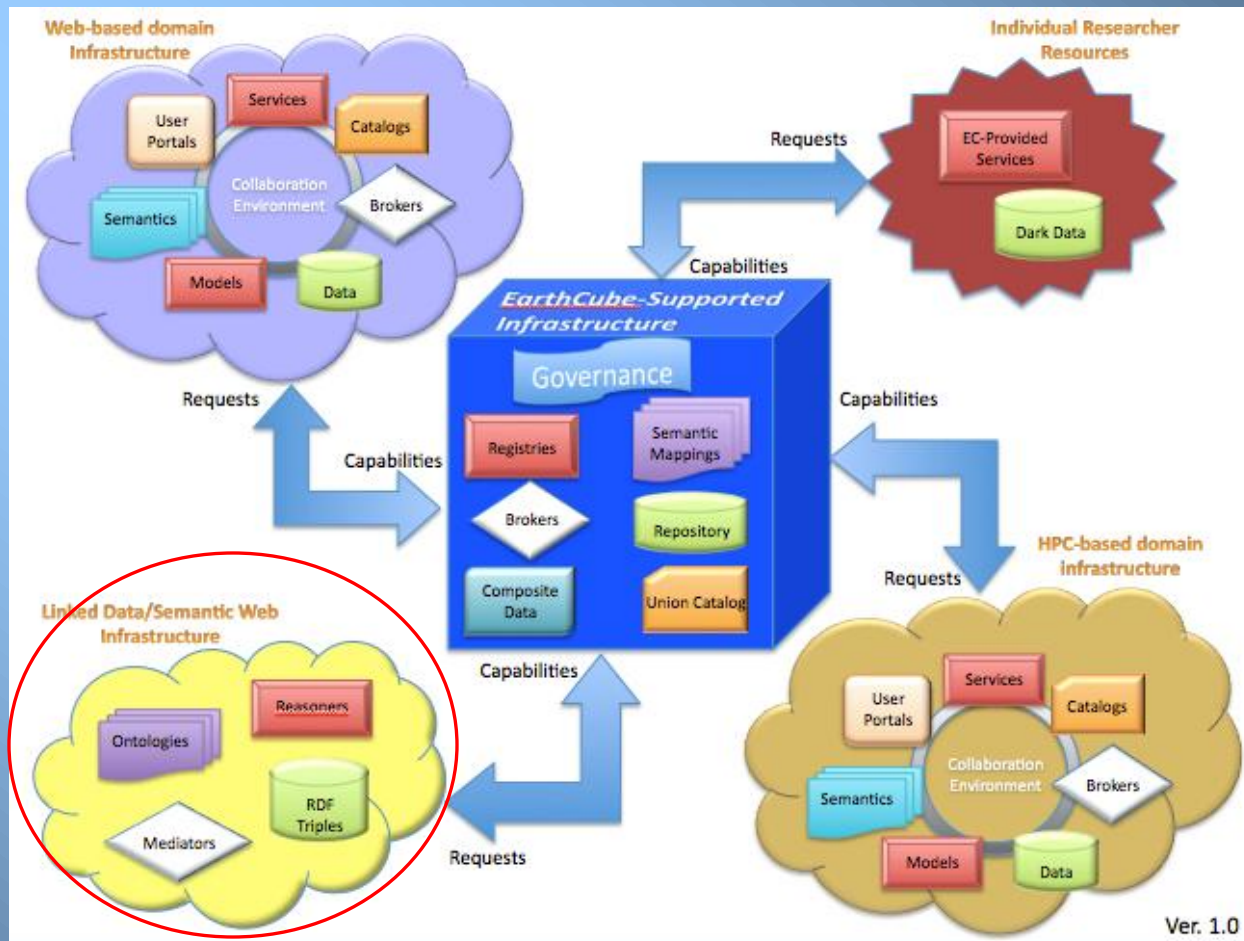


# Semantic Mappings



Semantic mappings are files containing mappings between terms used in local datasets and agreed-upon global terms to use in EarthCube.

# Linked (RDF) Data in EarthCube



This separate cloud indicates the explicit use of RDF triples. Legacy data may be converted to RDF from a database or spreadsheet format, and new data may be recorded in RDF. The data can then be queried over the Web directly using the SPARQL query language for RDF. Dave Kolas will present GeoSPARQL, which has spatial functions added to SPARQL.