



**July 3, 2009**

**ONTOLOG (a.k.a. Ontolog Forum)**

<http://ontolog.cim3.net/wiki>

**Dr. Sylvia Spengler and other Program Officers**  
**The National Science Foundation**  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22230, USA.

Dear Dr. Spengler and All,

**Re: Letter of Collaboration regarding the SOCoP INTEROP (NSF 07-565) Proposal**

I am writing to express that Ontolog welcomes the collaboration and contribution from the Spatial Ontology Community of Practice (SOCoP).

ONTOLOG (a.k.a. "Ontolog Forum") is an open, international, virtual community of practice devoted to advancing the field of ontology, ontological engineering and semantic technology, and advocating their adoption into mainstream applications and international standards. The community was established in 2002 and has a membership of over 600 individuals from more than 120 locations around the world. We have, over the years, engaged in many collaborative activities (with academia and research organizations, standards bodies, as well as peer communities), and have incubated various ontology-related projects and initiatives, including the Open Ontology Repository (OOR) initiative.

We understand that SOCoP is creating an interdisciplinary network to support geospatial data sharing, integration and interoperability. We support SOCoP's proposed work<sup>1</sup>, and its proposed collaborative and ontology-based approaches, as they are consistent with Ontolog's mission. We shall look forward to the sharing of knowledge and expertise among members of our respective communities, and to possible joint activities that our two communities may decide to work together on.

Sincerely yours,

**Peter Yim**

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c.c. Dr. Nancy Wiegand, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dr. Gary Berg-Cross, Knowledge Strategies

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<sup>1</sup> Ontolog advocates an open collaborative community process, and is therefore non-discriminatory in terms of the eligibility of persons and groups to contribute, as long as the collaboration is compliant with the Ontolog Charter, and the collaborator abides by our open IPR and other stated policies. As such, this letter does not constitute an endorsement or a certification on the quality of the collaborator's future work by the Ontolog community or the sender.