

Open Ontology Repository Strategy session:

“Revisiting the OOR Strategy & Tactics”

Introduction & Some Reflections after 5 Years

Co-chairs: Mike Dean & Peter Yim

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Remember when ...

- 2008_01_03 - Thursday: Open Ontology Repository initiative - Planning Meeting - Co-conveners: PeterYim, LeoObrst & MikeDean - ConferenceCall_2008_01_0
- **2008_01_23** - Wednesday: **OOR Initiative - Founding Members Conference Call** - OOR/ConferenceCall_2008_01_23
- 2008_02_28 - Thursday: Joint OOR-OntologySummit2008 Panel Discussion: "Ontology Registry and Repository Technology & Infrastructure Landscape" - Co-chairs: LeoObrst & FrankOlken; Panelists: BruceBargmeyer, MikeDean, MarkMusen, FarrukhNajmi & PeterYim – ConferenceCall_2008_02_28
- 2008_03_27 - Thursday: Joint OOR-OntologySummit2008 Panel Discussion: "An Open Ontology Repository: Rationale, Expectations & Requirements - Session-1" - Chair: LeoObrst & FabianNeuhaus; Panelists: WilliamBug, EvanWallace, JohnLMcCarthy, KenBaclawski, PeterBenson & RexBrooks – ConferenceCall_2008_03_27
- 2008_04_03 - Thursday: Joint OOR-OntologySummit2008 Panel Discussion: "An Open Ontology Repository: Rationale, Expectations & Requirements - Session-2" - Chair: LeoObrst & FabianNeuhaus; Panelists: DougLenat, DekeSmith, MarciaZeng, DeniseBedford, PatHayes, MalaMehrotra & RobRaskin – ConferenceCall_2008_04_03
- 2008_04_10 - Thursday: Joint OOR-OntologySummit2008 Panel Discussion: "Developing an Ontology of Ontologies for OOR" - Co-chairs: BarrySmith & MichaelGruninger; Panelists: MichaelGruninger, PeterHaase, NatashaNoy & ElisaKendall – ConferenceCall_2008_04_10
- 2008_04_29 - Our team made a presentation with our history, status, OOR rationale and requirements, and a proposed roadmap at the OntologySummit2008 - see: <http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?OntologySummit2008/FaceToFaceAgenda#nid1BLS>
- **2008_04_29 - OntologySummit2008 Communiqué: Towards an Open Ontology Repository published**

The OOR Mission

The charter of the Open Ontology Repository (OOR) Initiative is to the promote the global use and sharing of ontologies by:

- 1. establishing a hosted registry-repository;
- 2. enabling and facilitating open, federated, collaborative ontology repositories, and
- 3. establishing best practices for expressing interoperable ontology and taxonomy work in registry-repositories.

(ref. http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?ConferenceCall_2008_01_03#nid16PN)

... *where,*

"An ontology repository is a facility where ontologies and related information artifacts can be stored, retrieved and managed."

Accomplishments ...

- we're still here ... after more than 5 years!
- we do have a recognizable identity ... complete with logo, a nice domain name, website(s), repositories ...
- we have a very respectable network of open ontology repository nodes and collaborators – ref. <http://oor.net>
- we established a very well thought through IPR Policy
- We have some very talented and devoted core members, each spearheading some key aspects of the OOR development
- we meet regularly, hosted numerous events, by ourselves or with collaborators, that are, in of very high quality and which helps advance the state-of-the art

Exemplars of “similar” initiatives ...

- **Repositories:**
 - wikipedia
 - IMDB
 - slideshare
 - scribd ... etc.
- **Registries:**
 - Birth and Death Registry
 - Driver License and Auto Registration
 - Passports
 - ... even the registry for LOD Cloud
- **Schemas:**
 - Dublin Core
 - FOAF
 - EXIF
 - ID3
 - ... schema.org

Worries ...

- We are still not running a production OOR instance
- We are not gaining traction ... people just seem to be just as happy with or without an OOR

...

- ... *not clear if we are getting closer to achieving our mission*
- it's just been the same few of us for a long time now

Let's do some serious thinking today ...

- do a “SWOT” analysis
- discuss what needs to “Change”
- develop a renewed “Focus” for OOR

Let's get everyone's top "SWOT" insights for OOR ...

- **"Strength"**: one (or two) top "value" you are gaining that makes you think the time you put into OOR is worth it
- **"Weakness"**: if you had thought of quitting from OOR, what would have been the key reason(s)
- **"Opportunity"**: given what we have now, what is the one (or two) thing we can do that would allow OOR to make a huge (at least meaningful) impact
- **"Threat"**: if OOR would cease to be around in 1~5 years, what do you think would have been the most major cause?

Discussion – let's consider "changes" we should make ...

- what are the **"things we should not change"**
- changes to our **"approach"**
- changes to our **"organization"**
- changes to our **"process"**

Let's map out a renewed "Focus" for OOR ...

- a renewed consensus on the way we move forward ... i.e. renewing our approach
- action plans - short/medium term
- action plans - medium/long term
- review and update our OOR "Priorities & Most Critical Tasks At Hand" List - ref.

<http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?OpenOntologyRepository#nid17YH>