**Minutes from Wednesday’s SOCoP Meeting July 18, 2012 from 11:00 - 12:00 EDT**

**Attendees-Participants**: Gary Berg-Cross (SOCoP/Knowledge Strategies), Mike Dean (Raytheon/BBN), James Wilson (JMU)

Among the topics discussed:

1. **Follow up from the EarthCube Meeting**

There has been some follow up and discussion following the June(12-14) EarthCube Charrette among the [S&O group](http://earthcube.ning.com/group/semantics-and-ontologies)..

There is some work on ([draft timelines which are online](http://earthcube.ning.com/page/draft-roadmap)). The road maps are now being updated and clarified based on input received at the Charrette.  Gary Berg-Cross and Krishna had some follow on discussion with Amit Sheth about the solicitation regarding [data infrastructure building block (DIBB) work](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504776&org=OCI&sel_org=OCI&from=fund).

There was no update on Eager proposals that will be evaluated by August and depending on the NSF budget some EC solicitation might come out in Sept for 2013 starts.

EarthCube-Ontolog Mini-series

On June 19th I wrote to Peter about one ideas I had from the EarthCube workshop. It was to “develop a series of talks on some of the ontology-related topics that came up at the Charrette.”

I proposed that  “Between Pascal Hitzler, Krzysztof Janowicz and myself we might be able to come up with a series of talks that would be of interest to the Ontolg community and advance the ball for EarthCube.”

One specific example that could be in that series or could be done earlier is the work of Naicong Li at Redland University in CA. who presented at EarthCube on a a semantic-enabled and ontology-driven Web portal called the SDS Knowledge Portal.  
The link: <http://www.spatial.redlands.edu/sds/>

Peter like the idea and expanded it into an Ontolog mini-series inviting several people (e.g. Krishna Sinha, Mark Schildhauer, Dalia Varanka, Nancy & Naicong) in to help discuss and organize the effort. A portion of his response is below

Since Ontolog is somehow represented at EarthCube with LeoObrst's  
>> involvement, let me pull Leo into this conversation (since his name  
>> came to mind, being part of the Ontolog leadership.)  
>>  
….>> I definite want to make sure Ontolog will be seen as being a help to that, and I shall rely >>on Leo (who straddles both communities) to point us in the right direction. I  
>> am also copying NancyWiegand and MikeDean too, to sought their opinion  
>> as well (since they are involved in EarthCube too, and they co-lead,  
>> respectively, the SOCoP-INTEROP and the OOR initiatives, that are in  
>> the picture as well.)

June-21 there was a telecom meeting with 11 of us, identified as the initial organizing committee members. Peter compiled some of the input during the Jun-21 planning session under: <http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?EarthScienceOntolog/GettingOrganized#nid3CXI>

Some of the orgnizers are suggesting topics and adding descriptions to proposed sessions.

Peter also referred to the mini series using the term "[EarthScienceOntolog](http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?EarthScienceOntolog)" (rather than the specific "EarthCube") in there, so we could add other co-organizers.

1. **Update on Ongoing Tool and Demo work**

There was an update on the GUI tool that James and Dave are collaborating on. James is working with the sponsored program office at JMU to formaly request a budget change to hire a computer science faculty member to work on the tool.

Mike sent out information from Giovanni Tummarello <[giovanni.tummarello@deri.org](mailto:giovanni.tummarello@deri.org)> on the first release of SparQLed: Data assisted SPARQL editor available OpenSource

There is a short blog post and link to a homepage and other material at:  
 <http://www.sindicetech.com/blog/?p=14&preview=true>.

There was an update on RefWorks database work being done by James’s group at JMU. James is working with JMU librarians on copyright issues such as posting and reposting powerpoints. Clearly inks can be placed in the RefWorks tool.

Students have done their best to identify the most authoritive sources for various topics. SOCoP members can review these and make recommendations on them. When this is done James can post the tutorial topics for others to use. Mike suggested that we might use this to run a tutorial at one of the national conference.

Nancy had asked about a login issue. The library staff at JMU have determinded that we can not share the login for this, but we will be able to export material (perhaps to EndNote, XML, or some other format) and thus share a DB bibliography of the sources that Naijun can massage and use in the BoK work. Naijun’s tool may help visualize the citations in there.

James noted that the USGS has posted their Topographic Feature Vocabulary ontology at: <http://cegis.usgs.gov/ontology.html>.  At JMU we are experimenting with the ontology service capabilities of the opensource GeoPortal software (see <http://sourceforge.net/apps/mediawiki/geoportal/index.php?title=How_to_Search_with_an_Ontology_Service>, and <http://sourceforge.net/apps/mediawiki/geoportal/index.php?title=Enable_Search_Using_an_Ontology_Service>).  The software ships with the GEneral Multilingual Environmental Thesaurus ontology (GEMET, see <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/gemet/about>), and we are attempting to use the USGS topographic feature vocabulary as a substitute or in addition to GEMET.

ESRI has a special session on their Portal next week. James will re-forward the contact info for that session.

1. **Fall Workshops ISWC (e.g. Terra Cognita) & GiScience**

Dave said that there was little new on the full day workshop. The CFP Is out.

The GIScience conference is set for Sept in Columbus, Ohio

Before the GIScience conference [Krzysztof Janowicz (UCSB)](http://geog.ucsb.edu/%7Ejano/) is organizing a GeoVoCampDayton2012 Geospatial data workshop. 15-17th September 2012. at Wright State University. Gary is co-organizer. See

<http://vocamp.org/wiki/GeoVoCampDayton2012> for information on it.

1. **Update on the OOR and Candidate Ontologies for Populating it.**

Mike is still working on a Java API to access other repositories. This is getting to be a hot topic.

James student went through BioPortal exercise on our OOR.

There was some progress on the idea of building modules for something like SWEET using a view approach.

There was no new work on expanding multiple, simple ontologies such as Geonames, but the group agreed that this would be a valuable exercise for the repositories use as part of EarthCube.

Gary reported coming across an article discussing improved semantics for the Linked Open Data Cloud to further a Semantic Web vision.  
  
<http://knoesis.wright.edu/library/publications/linkedai2010_submission_13.pdf>  
  
They report using examples of Geonames, as many do, and Gary thought it might spark some ideas for the enhancements to our stored ontologies.

1. **Strategy for the NSF Annual Report**

The report will cover Sept. 2011 to August 2012. Nancy has almost all the inputs, but people have not been adding material into Fastlane.

The next SOCoP meeting is targeted for Aug 15 or 22nd, 2012, but this may change depending on people’s vacation schedule