**Draft Charter**

The Vocabulary Service Interest Group (VSIG) seeks to develop community-based recommendations on approaches to publication of controlled vocabularies on the web. Community standard controlled vocabularies are used in metadata annotation and labelling data files to solve problems of ambiguity associated with data markup and also enabling records to be interpreted by computers. This opens up data sets to a whole world of possibilities for computer aided manipulation, distribution and long term reuse. The recommendations of the Vocabulary Service Interest Group will address the needs of research communities for using controlled vocabularies published on the web.  The Interest Group aims to represent all stakeholders involved in the controlled vocabulary lifecycle in research domains: content producers; maintainers; and consumers .  Discussions topics will include, but are not necessarily be limited to: vocabulary representation; reuse; curation; and interlinking or mapping. These discussions will allow the Interest Group to propose solutions allowing the cross-domain use of vocabularies, including mapping relationships between domains. This Interest Group will help to promote good practices by producers and consumers of controlled vocabularies.

**Objectives**

* VSIG will identify common terminology in the context of vocabulary publication
* VSIG will identify common functionality for vocabulary publication services
* VSIG will collect and report on use cases from the research community regarding using published vocabularies and vocabulary services
* VSIG will develop recommendations for vocabulary publication services

**Activities**

* bi-monthly telecons/webex to initiate the activities of the IG and develop a timeline and plan for producing deliverables defined in this charter’s objectives
* meeting notes and whitepapers to be publicly available via the RDA wiki

**Relationship to other RDA interest- and working-groups**

The VSIG will coordinate with RDA interest / groups that have common interests in vocabulary publication and usage.

* Data Foundations and Terminology IG
  + VSIG will work with the Data Foundations and Terminology IG to discuss how data objects defined using data models can be associated with terms from research controlled vocabularies.
* Metadata IG
  + VSIG will work with the Metadata IG to discuss common interest in how vocabulary terms me be utilized in research data metadata and in recommendations for metadata about controlled vocabularies.
* RDA/WDS Publishing Data IG
  + VSIG will work with the RDA/WDS Publishing Data IG to discuss common interest in utilizing controlled vocabularies in the publication of research data
* Domain Repositories IG
  + VSIG will work with the Domain Repositories IG to discuss common interest in controlled vocabulary terms utilization in domain repositories

**Participants**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Email** | **Organization** | **Title** | **Field** | **Role** |
| Stephan Zednik | zednis2@rpi.edu | RPI | Sr. Software Engineer | Semantic Web | co-chair |
| Simon Cox | simon.cox@csiro.au | CSIRO | Research Scientist | Earth and environmental sciences, semantic web | co-chair |
| Adam Shepherd | ashepherd@whoi.edu | WHOI |  |  | co-chair (?) |
| Adam Leadbetter | adam.leadbetter@marine.ie | Marine Institute, Galway |  |  | co-chair (?) |
| Patrick West | westp@rpi.edu | RPI | Principal Software Engineer | Semantic Web | participant |
| Marshall X Ma | max7@rpi.edu | RPI | Associate Research Scientist | Semantic Web, Data Science | participant |
| Cyndy Chandler | cchandler@whoi.edu | WHOI | Information Systems Specialist | Marine Chemistry & Geochemistry | participant |
| Fran Lightsom | flightsom@usgs.gov | USGS | USGS Ocean Data Ambassador | Ocean Data | participant |
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