

2015-09-11 Steering Group Minutes

September 11, 2015, 1 PM EST

Attendees

Steering Group Members

[Paul Albert](#), [Jon Corson-Rikert](#) ★, [Kristi Holmes](#), [Dean B. Krafft](#), [Robert H. McDonald](#), [Andi Ogier](#), [Bart Ragon](#), [Julia Trimmer](#)

★ = note taker

Ex officio

[Jonathan Markow](#), [Mike Conlon](#), [debra hanken kurtz](#)

Regrets

[Melissa Haendel](#), [Eric Meeks](#), [Alex Viggio](#)

Dial-In Number:

NEW DIAL-IN: 641-715-3650 (was 209-647-1600), Participant code: 117433#

Agenda

	Item	Time	Facilitator	Notes
1	Updates	5 min	All	
2	Review agenda	2 min	All	Revise, reorder if needed
3	EuroCRIS event	10 min	Dean	Attend? Who?
4	Site Survey	15 min	Mike	See draft survey
5	Asset Inventory Recommendations	20 min	Mike, Jon, Paul, Alex	See final report
6	Future topics	5 min	All	Implementation documentation; attribution/contribution efforts; training program

Notes

Updates

Discussion of upcoming euroCRIS event

- Dean forwarded to the group an invitation from euroCRIS for their strategic partners meeting in November in Barcelona
 - Would be valuable to represent things in common in the same way;
 - e.g., VIVO has the concept of a grant and a project, but the project is optional because we aren't trying to track the work – the grant is an agreement, the project is the work
 - if there's a product of the work, like a paper or a dataset, sufficient for us to say the grant produced the paper
 - many grants have many projects and the grant is kind of a rollup entity – institutions are focused on money and need the project entity to manage hr appointments, etc.
 - Could also be examples going the other way in which VIVO has more domain depth than a typical CRIS system. The area of research resources is not one they typically track, for example.
 - The models overlap, and when they overlap there could be some reconciliation
 - Great that we're a strategic partner
 - Lots of activity in Europe and a lot of those people have CRIS systems
- Would anybody be in Barcelona?
 - Possibly to see if Converis would go, since they are a CRIS system and believe VIVO complements their functionality
 - And/or see if someone from the German VIVO community
 - Mentioned at the European BOF that a number of European CRIS adopters are looking for ways to do linked data using VIVO
 - Can ask if anyone is planning to attend
 - Perhaps we could help fund European travel
- Dean will reply to the invitation saying Mike will follow up and we're trying to find out who can attend

Site Survey

- Paul has been very involved in the previous survey leading up to the 2014 conference in Austin, with Jon, Alex, and Kristi
- This year's draft is quite a bit shorter, in large part hoping to get a larger number of responses – hopefully as many as 80 or 100 vs. 20 of the regulars
- Including sites that are not in production and just evaluating – what are their challenges

- Will go out through SurveyMonkey to people on our mailing lists
 - Will have skip logic in the survey to cut people out of sections that don't apply
 - And the sections are in the order of moving to a production VIVO – early questions apply to all sites
- Why not target people and do an interview with a representative sample – targeting the 100 listed as in progress
 - Resources and time, primarily
 - It's an extraordinarily amount of work to try and coordinate email lists, email messages, lists of sites, contact management systems; we haven't had that level of effort and we haven't asked people to give us any information when they download the code as part of being open and accessible
- Could structure with skip logic so front load with feel good but easy questions
 - We might want to reach out to hear ORCID's strategies and lessons learned from their recent survey.
 - We could engage diverse groups - our service providers, talk with related projects
- We could do half-hour interviews at the conference on challenges and opportunities with VIVO
 - We should be sitting down with people who are early in their VIVO experience, to help them as well as hear from them
- We can also think about how to get the survey out to people who aren't on our listservs – other venues
 - A more targeted approach is more a matter of manpower
 - More likely by the time of the conference next year or at intermediate conference venues. 6-12 sites to talk to – each steering person could take a couple for a structured interview
 - [Sites implementing VIVO](#) page on the wiki based on email to one of our lists – please add any more that you know of
- At other venues?
 - Library conferences, etc.
 - CNI? We've certainly presented there; Places where overlap with other DuraSpace projects – also Open Repositories
 - Ideas for ways to do forensics on who's adopting VIVO
 - Will be at both DLF and CNI
- Some sites might be worth talking to sooner rather than later

Asset Inventory Recommendations

- Jon, Paul, Alex, Jim Blake, and Laura from UPenn worked on a task force to go over the various 'things' VIVO had accumulated, roughly since 2009
 - Trying to understand what those things are – websites, email lists, communication channels, etc.
 - Trying to understand what to do with/for them
- The spreadsheet of assets was put out for comments several times through VIVO Updates
- Many newcomers to VIVO are overwhelmed, and sometimes we aren't consistent in how we use resources because we have so many different ones – we lose coherence as a result
- The recommendations are grouped
 - There are questions of whether things even should be done – which headings are worth pursuing
 - Then a question of priority
- Some are obvious and have already been discussed
 - E.g., completing the move from SourceForge to GitHub (cluster 4)
- Steering can also act to indicate which items in the report it endorses and/or has plans to move forward with
- Some things we are not ready to do very much about – such as item #10
 - We haven't kept vivo.vivoweb.org up, so it doesn't really serve the purpose of being a demonstration of the system
 - We can either shut it down or decide we need a demonstration that shows well
 - And there are potentially several kinds of demo systems – one with sample data, another to highlight software and related apps&tools
 - We should take down anything that looks bad and would not help the project
 - Similar to removing software from the release that is broken, to avoid giving a negative impressions
 - We could replace with a series of screencasts or screen images of places that have a VIVO, until we get a working demo system, that won't be tomorrow
 - Cleaning up edges of the project that don't show well
 - Some of the recommendations may not go clearly enough in that direction
 - Implementation of a demo system may involve
 - Would this be a chance to have a sprint?
 - A different kind of demo that is a demonstration of a scholarship site is not what we have now
- Several of these will require spinoff activity with concerted planning, and some dedicated effort
- Looking for guidance on whether Steering wants the report amended, or whether it will accept the report and consider prioritization and further recommendations
 - 3 or 4 of us could write up a response to the report suggesting action steps – what we will do
 - Thinking of a step where Steering accepts the report, states it expects to go in this direction, and will review the list of tasks to prioritize and refine and suggest actions (e.g., a task force, a single volunteer)
 - But if there are objections to elements of the report, we should hear them
 - Are we ready to do that today? This is a more complex report
 - The email recommendation, for example
 - Integrating with the CRM system at DuraSpace – we don't even know if its feasible
 - Also mentions a product called Discourse, but that would put us out of sync with the other DuraSpace projects that use Google Groups
 - These will require a more detailed response, and we are not likely to act on all of these
 - Any of these 10 items could have feasibility issues that affect priority and timeline
 - If we are doing a qualified acceptance, then a smaller group should go through to come up with action recommendations
 - May also involve the availability volunteer effort available for any task
- Accepted for further review to assess priority and possible implementation

Action Items

- [Dean B. Krafft](#) will follow up with EuroCris
- [Mike Conlon](#) will ask community about EuroCris and follow up based on feedback

