

Web Services Working Group, VTC Notes (March 18, 2010 - 1200 PDT)

Participants:

Mason Kortz (moderator)
Mark Servilla
M. Gastil-Buhl
John Porter
Wade Sheldon
Corinna Gries
Sven Bohm
James Conners
Suzanne Remillard

Meeting:

Introduction (Mason) Topics to be discussed: goals, direction, etc. Open to discussion: What do other people see the purpose of the working group?

Wade:

Identifying types of information we want to share on a SOA Then scope technical requirements and create outlines for creating this service-oriented architecture

Mason:

Advisory or production role of this working group?

Wade:

Discussion should begin by identifying needs first, and then see how the working group can fit in and in what role?

Mark:

Very important as a group to be involved with making standards for the development of these services.

Mason:

Defining standards is key. Also, another good role of the working group would be to provide the training and guidance for individual sites developing web services.

Wade:

Working groups have begun good work on standards, but it seems to have been difficult to carry through with that efficiency to the implementation stages of these projects. Development and implementation would be more

rewarding for sites.

Mason:

Can we make a list of web services we would like to scope for the Network (Unit, etc.) Catalog of web services sites are interested in.

Wade:

Staff hire available at the network for revising LTER network databases. This would be a good time for participation from the working group for guiding the redesign. The ability to interact with network databases (via web services) is something most sites have voiced a need for.

Mason:

What would the role be of the working group during these network database re-designs? programming protocols use cases etc. What is the most useful thing the working group could do for these projects?

Wade:

Starting point: Create a set of use cases for site utilization of the network databases Where does this feedback go? -> Being discussed in NISAC. Look to IMEXEC and NISAC for feedback and resources. Funding available for product-oriented working groups (requires proposal) The way this working group approaches this feedback and funding could set the standard for this process in general

Mason:

Review meeting up to this point for new attendees.

John Porter:

Network should be looking towards being both consumers and providers of services. Providing training for sites is a good idea. Recommend the development of example clients and services for the community to be able to review and reference.

Two most important:

- development use cases
- scoping training

Gastil:

Would like to learn how to consume and/or develop services for network and site use.

Suzanne:

Agree that the need for a SOA for the network services is great.

Mason (review):

Stated priorities by attendees:

- the need for webservice-enabling network databases
- creating standards
- support for training and developing examples
- polling for use cases for how people would interact with a network SOA

Wade:

GIS group has a lot of momentum with developing visualization applications using network site information. Web service-enabling network databases would immediately benefit this group's work

Mark:

Need a way to capture and organize these network use-cases.

John Porter:

The group could also provide guidance for a more longer-term vision of how a SOA could benefit the network, outside of short-term use-cases.

Mason:

Identify the difference between having a SOA and developing network web services as a general practices for application design.

John Porter:

An example of a good service would be an EML to KML converter.

Mason:

How to proceed with capturing use-case responses from the network community?

John Porter:

Google Docs, wiki

Corinna:

Email

Gastil:

Create a page on the Drupal site where discussion and documents could be maintained.

Wade:

Agree that the information could be organized on the drupal page as the collection grows, but should probably begin with general email surveys.

Mason:

Short-term goals (before IMC 2010)

- example client ?
- use cases ?

John Porter:

Yes, create deadline.

Corinna:

Develop both a new web service and client as example?

Mason:

Should probably just work on a client for an existing web service and it should serve solely as an example and a teaching tool.

Mark:

Important to get examples out there for the community to experience. Trivial examples might not provide the needed impression. The Data Discovery Service (PASTA) is an example of a public interface to the framework that would be a useful service to have a client work with.

John Porter:

Web service implementation of the network
Personnel database would be a good start.

Administrative review:

- Chair (Mason Kortz)
- IMEXEC contact (ok)
- Mailing list: ask James Brunt (LNO) to set one up