WSWG: Personnel Database

XML technology overview and status
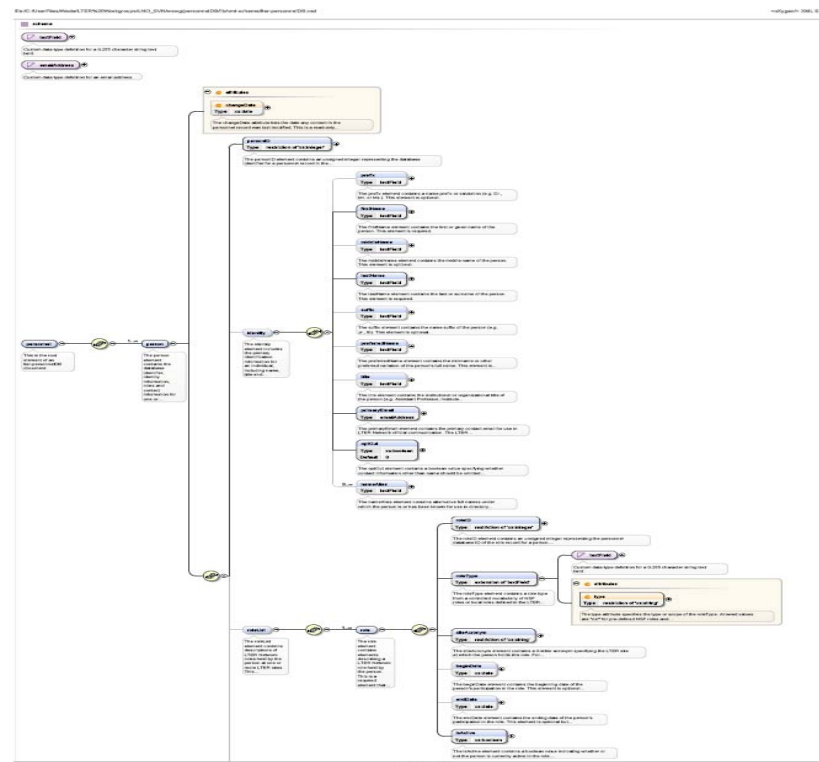
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XML Strategy

- The revised LTER personnel database uses REST web services to interact with MySQL backend DB

- XML is used for information exchange over WS
  - Adding/updating personnel records
  - Searching/retrieving personnel records

- XML schema was designed in Feb 2011 workshop to support full DB model (lter-personnelDB.xsd)
  - stable id
  - identity info
  - LTER (NSF) roles and multiple sets of local (site) roles
  - multiple sets of contact info

XML Schema

- Fully annotated schema in WSWG SVN repository
- Links to XSD, diagram, docs on IMC website:
  - http://im.lternet.edu/news/committees/working_groups/webservices/personnelDB

Supporting Technology

- XSLT stylesheets being developed to address use cases
- Personnel lists "skinned" for use on site webpages
  - Live example from GCE (note: uses GCE WS):
    - XML: http://gce-lter.marsci.uga.edu/gce_metabase/xml/lterPersonnel.xml
    - Skin 1: http://gce-lter.marsci.uga.edu/...?xsl=xsl/personnel_list_table.xsl
    - Skin 2: http://gce-lter.marsci.uga.edu/...?xsl=xsl/personnel_list_table2.xsl
- EML party elements from database
  - personnel2eml_creator.xsl → generates EML creator elements
  - personnel2eml_associated.xsl → generates EML associated party element (XSL parameter used to assign required "role" element)
  - personnel2emlparty.xsl → generates general EML party elements
  - all XSLT "flatten" schema and use primary contact info only
- Links to XSLT in WSWG SVN on IMC site

Next Steps

- User guide (in development)
- Javascript "plugin" or example code sites can use to add personnel lists, bio pages to their web pages
- More discussion, uses cases from IMC to guide roll-out