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| **Change Proposal:** Conceptual Representation of Organizations, Communities and Groups |
| **Point of Contact:** Patrick West <westp@rpi.edu> |
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| **Proposal**  *Change the way we use organizations, research communities and portal groups to be conceptually consistent* |
| **Background**  ***Organization****: foaf definition: The* [*Organization*](http://xmlns.com/foaf/spec/#term_Organization) *class represents a kind of* [*Agent*](http://xmlns.com/foaf/spec/#term_Agent) *corresponding to social institutions such as companies, societies etc. (http://xmlns.com/foaf/spec/#term\_Organization)*  ***Research Community****: A Research Community is a group of people who are working on a particular scientific research area within DCO. They don’t necessarily work together, there is no structure to the community (though there are Engagement Liaisons, Data Science Liaisons, Scientific Steering Committee).*  ***Team****: A group of people working on a particular goal. For example, the Secretariat, Executive Committee, Engagement and Data Science are all teams.*  *All three of these have people that have or are currently members. There is a start date and possibly an end date. And they may have roles. People are added to and never deleted, they are simply given an end date once they leave. Current members are determined by the start and end date relative to the current date.*  *Right now there are five engagement entities. Two are organizations, one is a research community, one is a portal group and one is a skos:concept. This creates confusion in many ways, such as what to select as an organization. We had to work around this by excluding research communities and portal groups from the list of organizations that people can chose from during registration. But in VIVO we can’t add such limitations. Someone could click + next to organization and can select secretariat or deep life. But we don’t want them to be able to do that. To fix this we’d have to add a custom form.*  *There are 4 research communities: Deep Life, Deep Energy, Reservoirs and Fluxes and Extreme Physics and Chemistry. And these are dco:ResearchCommunity..*  *There are at least 4 vivo:Team. They are Engagement, Secretariat, Executive Committee and Data Science.*  *What is currently dco:PortalGroup, which corresponds to Drupal Groups, goes away. If there is a future use case for syncing Drupal Groups with dco:PortalGroup then we can re-introduce it.* |
| **Does this change affect the semantics of the ontology?**  *Yes: Right now research communities and portal groups are all organizations. This change will fix problems related with being able to select research communities and portal groups as organizations. There will still be start and end dates and role a person plays in the organizations, communities and teams.* |
| **Describe in detail the change being requested**   1. *dco:ResearchCommunity becomes a subclassOf foaf:Group* 2. *dco:Team is a subclassOf vivo:Team, which is already a subclass of foaf:Group* 3. *Remove dco:PortalGroup concept* 4. *Remove all but one of the Engagement individuals and make it a dco:Team* 5. *Remove all but one of the Secretariat individuals and make it a dco:Team* 6. *Remove all but one of the Data Science individuals and make it a dco:Team* |
| **Describe the reason for the change**  *There are multiple instances of the same thing (Engagement as an organization, Engagement as a Research Community and Engagement as a Portal Group). And Research Community and Portal Group are all organizations. So when selecting an organization users are able to select a research community and a portal group, even though what we really want to do is allow them to only select an organization, the organization they work for.*  *Conceptually the way we’re using these classes is incorrect and needs to be fixed.* |
| **What are the anticipated impacts**  *Pros*   1. *Repairs the conceptual model for these concepts* 2. *Makes more sense in terms of knowledge representation* 3. *Fixes the fact that people can add themselves to the Secretariat* 4. *We’ve had to put “duct tape” in a lot of places. If we properly classify these then we don’t have to fix the application or queries. If we model this correctly then we shouldn’t have to make code or query changes, it takes care of itself.*   *Cons*   1. *Apparently there is a lot of expected behavior that relies on the current conceptual model, such as SPARQL query, Drupal page population, xsl translations. We would need to make sure that these are corrected as needed. This is kept to a minimum by testing it pretty heavily.* 2. *People have become used to this modeling of these concepts. It would require informing them of the change and why we’re making the change.* |
| **What are the risks of not performing the change?**   * *Improper representation of concepts and properties* * *Duplication of information with different meaning* * *Misrepresentation of the entities and the people who are members of them* * *Must constantly track membership within these entities and fix them* * *As the application changes, is upgraded, new components added then we have to make special fixes to the components for this current representation* |
| **What is the expected technical effort to support the change?**  *Expected effort to make the change, update documentation regarding the change, communicate the change to users, and update systems that use the ontology to support the change.*   1. *change parent class of dco:ResearchCommunity to foaf:Grooup* 2. *Remove Engagement, Secretariat, Data Science as dco:ResearchCommunity* 3. *Remove use of dco:PortalGroup* 4. *Create teams Engagement, Secretariat, Data Science as dco:Team* 5. *Remove Engagement, Data Science, Secretariat and Executive Committee as organizations* 6. *Populate the teams with the correct membership, roles and start and end dates* 7. *Populate all of the communities with the correct membership (migrate from the associatedDCOCommunity property)* 8. *Add “DCO Research Community” to the dropdown list when adding to “member of” property (code change)* 9. *Add “DCO Team” to the dropdown list when adding to “member of” property (code change)* 10. *Remove the associated group and associated community property from person’s profile* 11. *Update the elasticsearch ingest scripts* 12. *Update the facets in facetview2* 13. *Update the registration accept code in DCONewUser.java (dco-usermanagement repository) to create the correct RDF for these changes* |
| **Describe alternatives considered**  *The goal is to represent concepts and relationships correctly in the conceptual model. What is an organization, what is a research community and what is a portal group. These were never defined.*  *No none alternatives* |
| **Related change proposals**  *None* |
| **Notes**  *Might be as easy as changing parent class of community to foaf:Group, removing dco:PortalGroup, and creating dco:Team.*   * *Need to change elasticsearch ingest scripts* * *Need to change facetview2 facets* * *Need to update any sparql queries in Drupal pages to use the correct class* * *Need to update an xslt in Drupal pages to use the correct class*   *Discovered that can always add people as members of a team. So hopefully be able to do this for community.*   * *Go to* [*Patrick West*](https://info.deepcarbon.net/vivo/display/da5b50ce3-2877-4e9f-9ba4-f645d811bf43) *profile, click on member tab, click plus next to “member of”, select “Team” in the drop down for the type, select Data Science Team.* * *See if we can add Research Community to this dropdown for the 4 dco communities (Yes we can, and dco:Team)* |