VCoI Call Notes

*12 July 2021*

# Attendees

* Mike Bennett
* Rob Nehmer
* Claude Baudoin

# Agenda

From 28 June notes:

Let's look at:

* What is the group of 'contexts' that we want to represent this quarter?
* Then articulate the CO for those.
* Then when moving onto the Domain COs, where we may want to add other things, provide a framework.

**Challenge:** We need start extracting stuff in these notes in a more persistent store of information (the wiki).

**Also:** Take the slide deck we did for the Q2 meeting with the sections, including Process and Structure.

 - Take that deck as the starting point for a persistent structure on the wiki.

# Meeting Notes

## Updates: Other Groups

AI PTF earlier: mentioned the VCoI option to them.

There are multiple such efforts going on so it's good to let them know.

The IIC Vocabulary group – next meeting they have requested a short presentation from Claude on SKOS.

Good example of migration path: Vocabulary needs to evolve from a PDF to something with a version in some formal language. This got strong agreement on that group.

**Comment:** this comes back to 'How to use' the established standards like SKOS.

e.g. use of SKOS in metadata wishlist, versus using it to create a whole Vocabulary file.

Open question (for TFs themselves?) is whether to deliver some out from the underlying stuff, in the form of a SKOS Vocabulary, a MVF Vocabulary and so on.

## Socializing the Ideas

Will also expect to use some of this thinking at banks etc. (more validation)

#### OMG:

We did not yet socialize this with the OMG at the June QM (open action to talk to Jason)

OMG: Monday mornings 8:30 – 10am sessions for TFs to bring up ideas they are using, to other TF chairs, for things that may have an impact on them.

May also help chairs identify meetings they would want to attend. Also gives them a previous of what important things they may want to attend during the week.

Action: Get on the agenda for Sept 27 am for a VCoI 10 min overview.

2 things on this:

* What they can use generally
* When we are presenting it so they can attend that session

**Action:** Add VCoI to at least one session (FDTF – yes we will do this)

OCS DSIG brought this up, given their need to understand material across domains (Open Civics Standards – Heather Crondahl) and the need for other domain TFs to be aware of this work e.g. Finance, Government.

Had suggested making OCS a Wednesday lunch time session. Having the Monday morning introduction would make people aware of the Wednesday lunch time session.

**Recommendation:** Email Jason, mention Claude has explained about the Monday morning session and ask for a 10 – 15 min slot in that session for VCoI.

**Action:** Now

Suggested: 10 – 15 min + time for OMG to discuss if they need to. Main bulk of the stuff would be at our actual session. Ends at 10am Pacific.

## VCoI Wiki

### Wiki Structure

#### Added to wiki

Should we number it?

Looks too bland. Can we center some of the headings or have some other kind of styling that makes the levels more apparent?

 - look into this

Also we could probably have fewer levels on that front page.

**Action:** Bring it up a level or two.

Also add numbers (we need those!) – by hand. Including levels of numbering e.g. 2.3.4 at L3.

Can always have a lowest level without numbers to break it up a bit (visual structure cues).

Benefit: When you have a discussion people can refer to section by number in comments.

Once we do that: we have a formal document!

= Specification for the VCoI material

#### Structure (2)

Also in terms of being too bland:

It is still not clear where to put some of the things.

**Example:** Context treatment.

Some things touch on several points e.g. the Context Ontology

(in our notes we have Ontology (1) and Ontology (2)

* Notes: were the tasks we have to do
* Wiki / documentation: what someone else needs to understand

#### How to proceed:

Finalize a version e.g. 1.1

Then current tasks are not the same as the stuctur of the VCoI Specification.

Up to now wee have still been trying to figure out the structure.

Wiki: appropriate for the Wiki to follow the Tasks for now.

Later refactor into more of a consumable structure once we figure those things out. Organically.

**Example:**

We have 'Context Ontology' in the tasks breakdown as one of the 2 Ontology (1) and (2) thing. (no task for us for Ontology (2) but there is that for the TFs).

 - and we will in fact be working closely with initial pilot groups to help the create Ontology (2) so it belongs in the overall Specification structure.

Meanwhile Ontology (1) will get created in Q3 per our plans, and therefore has a place on the wiki permanent structure.

Then the task of 'Context Ontology' has an outcome that is the ontological description of 'Context' so everything about 'Context' goes in this Context section.

We also have as a by-product of that task, the Foundational concepts that can also be used in Ontology (2) by TFs.

So then Ontology (1) has 3 outcomes:

* The concepts used in the definition of Context for Terms, for Abbreviations
* The concepts in play when framing References (conferences, papers, websites)
* Foundational concepts for SGs to extend if they want to

### Outcomes

Meanwhile:

* Structure the wiki around the tasks
* Tweak as we go:

Create an 'ontology' top level heading with (1) and (2) under it

(we expect to at least come up with guidelines for Ontology (2) plus as above foundation stuff

Then it can evolve.

The stuff in our current ask list, as it gets finalized, moves higher to have its own higher level headings in a kind of standardization layer for what's been determined so far. Versus remaining / current tasks.

Then as tasks become finalized they float up.

**Consensus:** Let's do that right away.

## Today's (Q3) Task

Structure this for the remaining Q3 calls.

### Ontology (1)

2 kinds of TLO approaches:

* The Ws
* More refined FO

More refined:

* Business process – individual points in the process workflow
	+ See also Shed New Year 2 years ago (IR Swap)
		- Who (actor)
		- When (the activity)
* Use Case (application context)
* Parties in roles

### Other Contexts

#### In accounting:

* Where you are in the business structure

(a different 'Relative thing' than party)

Important in:

* Controls
* Governance
* Risk
	+ Business process dimension: flow of material and information
	+ Human dimension: flow of control and accountability
		- Org structure chart

These would use the Relative Thing TLO concept but as a very different relativity from contractual parties. Relative to Function versus relative to Contract or Transaction.

This also defines the Use Case.

**Similar:** Service Areas (e.g. as defined for banks in BIAN)

 - may also have different treatments in tech v business e.g. software 'service'.

Also up and down the org structure.

BMM, Goals and strategy etc. etc. may be suitable departure points from which we arrive at narrower contexts. May end up in the same places from some of these. Or find different ways these are talked about depending on how a given business discipline evolved.

**This:** Dig into this on the next call.

## AoB?

All good.

## Next Meeting

Agenda (as above): Dig into the Context Ontology from the PoV of organizational structures, responsibilities, lines of business etc.

And then explore how this relates to other representations of Context via e.g. application use case, business process etc. (whether they are different ways of arriving at the same thing or not).