

KnowledgeWeb General Education Area Meeting

Crete,
June 2005

Agenda (Summary)

Today, First session:

- WP3.1 / general: EASE / EASWE statutes (D3.1.3) [55min]

Second session (+ more):

- WP3.1:
 - Requirements on the repository (D3.1.4) [30min]
 - More content / Quality guidelines (D3.1.5, M24) [30min]
 - New member: UPC (10 min)
- WP3.2: Summer school issues: Future plans (20 min)
- Open discussion: [30 min]
 - Relation to use cases:

Tomorrow:

- Session 1: WP3.3: Discussion / evaluation of ASPL / review of first prototype
- Session 2: WP3.2: Shared master discussions

WP3.1: The * Association

- First problem: New name necessary
 - Agreement: European Association for Semantic Web Education
 - Akronym: EASE vs. EASWE
 - EASE: European Association for Scientific Editors
 - EASWE: Unique according to google
 - Decision:
 - Will tell Stefano after we decided to change the name
 - To avoid confusion...

WP3.1: The statutes

- No feedback from legal department now, no translation (sorry)
- But better to discuss only the relevant parts here...
- From §1:
 - Seat in Hanover, non-profit
- From § 2:
 - Support for education, science and research in the area ‘Semantic Web’

Statutes: §2

- Principles (from Ariadne): The Association seeks to fulfil its purpose according to the following basic principles:
 - education is a fundamental social component
 - educational or training systems should not be reduced to commercial services and general knowledge should not be considered as a commercial commodity;
 - co-operation between educational bodies should pre-empt their competition.
- Further principles can be decided by the general meeting.

Statutes: §3

Activities:

- Manage the repository
- Support educational events
- Support semantic web studies

Statutes: §4 Membership

- Conditions: Experience in Semantic Web, two supporting members
- Join: Steering committee decides finally
- End: leave (4 weeks in advance before the end of the year), push-out (decided by SC), death, dissolution (of a company)

Statutes: §5 Rights and Duties

- Duty: Support the association
- Right: Participate in general assembly, raise issues, vote, participate in organs (SC,...)
- Right: Use materials from the portal, potentially receive a discount for educational events organized by the association [should we keep that in the statutes, more an incentive to join]

Statutes: §6 Finances

- Sources: Yearly fees, supporting money, join fees, allocations, left-overs from events, donations
 - Decided by the general assembly, as proposed by the SC
 - Written down in a separate document (kind of amendment to the statutes), but not needed to be kept as the association register

Statutes: §7 Organs

- General assembly
- Steering committee
- Scientific advisory board

Statutes: §8 General assembly

- Tasks: propose activities, discuss the report of the SC + protocol of last assembly, discuss requests / applications/...
- To be held once a year, SC invites 3 weeks in advance (also electronically)
- Requests: 2 weeks in advance, urgent requests possible (decided by the general assembly)
- Led by the president / a vice-president
- Protocol to be written + distributed afterwards
- Extraordinary general assembly: On request of 20% of the association's members
- Virtual assembly possible (videoconference)

Statutes: §9: Voting

- Each member one vote (for organizational members: determine in advance who is going to vote)
- ‘Proxy’ possible: May vote on behalf of others (but not for more than 3 persons)
- Quorum: five members present
- Simple majority
- Open voting
- Changing the statutes: $\frac{3}{4}$ majority

Statutes: §10 Steering Committee

- President, 2 vice-presidents, treasurer, secretary
 - Each one may represent the association alone
- Elected for 4 years (but ensure that not all are elected at the same assembly: shorter period initially for two of them)
- At least one meeting per year
 - Protocol to be written
- May transfer some tasks to other members; may set up a secretariat
- Task: leading the association, based on the statutes and the GA's decisions; represent the association to the outside; invite to general assembly

§10: Steering Committee (cont.)

- Simple majority decisions; quorum: 3 members
 - Parity of votes: president decides
- Step-down of members: SC can elect preliminary successor (to be confirmed by the next assembly)

§ 10: President

- Invite to assembly, lead the SC work, distribute work in SC, lead the assembly
- One of the vice-presidents can take over if necessary (proposed by the president or decided by the SC)

§10 Treasurer, Secretary

- The usual tasks:
 - The association's finances
 - Protocol of assembly and SC meetings
- If not available, other members of the SC can temporarily take over the tasks

§ 11: Auditors

- Elected by the assembly for two years, no direct re-election
- Tasks: the usual stuff (finances correct according to the statutes and the tax law) + inform the assembly about it.
- Not a member of SC, no employee of the association

§12: Advisory Board

- Ensure quality of material and their diversity / openness
- Help SC to make strategic decisions
- Election: same as for SC (4 years...)
- AB elects a speaker

§ 13/14: Liability / Copyright

- Limited to the legally provided minimum and to the association's assets
 - The association does not own the materials in the repository but is a broker only between the owner and interested users. The association is not responsible for the content of the material or any illegal actions of the authors / of the users.
- Probably not necessary in the statutes, only in the repository usage guidelines (where they are already)
- Waiting for feedback from the legal department...

§ 15: Dissolution of the association

- Extraordinary assembly only
- Assets transferred to another non-profit organization

§ 16: Language

- English for all documents
 - Except for the statutes, which have to be in German (but an ‘officially translated’ version will be available)

Founding members (> 7)

- Enrico Franconi
- Asuncion Gomez Perez
- Robert Meersman
- Enrico Motta
- Wolfgang Nejdil
- Rudi Studer
- Robert Tolksdorf
- Michael Wooldridge

D3.1.4 Requirements on the repository

- Coordination with O2I portal
 - Short fact sheets on the O2I portal
 - Longer tutorials etc. on our repository
- Coordination with REWERSE
 - Used as portal for all industrial content...
 - Common curriculum for the catalogue
- Accessibility report
- Pedagogical aspects

Main comments from the review

- Need more content for practitioners (still a problem...)
- Need quality guidelines 'KnowledgeWeb certificate' for the provided content
 - Regarding format (e.g. non-proprietary like html or pdf)
 - Working on automatic conversion
 - Regarding content

Quality Guidelines: Technical stuff

1. Non-proprietary format (PDF, HTML) → MUST
 - Working on (semi-)automatic conversion
2. Important metadata (curriculum, self-study) → ??
3. No Web links → MUST(?)
 - Link-only resources: Background link page
4. Provide editable source format → ??
 - Incentive for joining EAS(W)E
5. Maximum size of a unit (modularization) → ??

Quality guidelines: Content

- Review process as for conferences?
- Who is doing it? How? ??
- Goal: EAS(W)E certificate