

C.C2.WG4 Outreach information Management Report

Report for the period August 2015 to October 2016

WG4 Public Outreach Information Management

Chair: Lars Lindberg Christensen

Created: 31 August 2012

Mission: To act as a facilitator enabling the small outreach information management community to gather around a common technical framework optimizing the synergy in the community

Deliverables:

- Describe one possible standard for EPO content management systems.
- Decide on standards for astronomy EPO products metadata.
- Write CAPj article.
- Bringing the major players in EPO information management together in an informal network.
- Arrange the first workshop for this network.

Members:

- Accomazzi, Alberto
- Christensen, Lars
- Gomez, Edward
- Govender, Kevindran
- Heydari-Malayeri, Mohammad
- Sandrelli, Stefano
- Stavinschi, Magda
- Working Group Associate
 - Arcand, Kimberly

Astronomy is a dynamic discipline, with new press releases, images, videos and data being published every day. Today however, this flow of exciting new content is typically not always easy to find and to combine in meaningful ways due to lack of standards.

A key outcome of the CAP 2003 Conference was the establishment of an online repository of astronomy-communication resources, which evolved into the Virtual Astronomy Multimedia Project, or [VAMP](http://www.communicatingastronomy.org/repository/index.htm) <http://www.communicatingastronomy.org/repository/index.htm>. Building on this experience, C55 in 2012 established a new WG to act as a facilitator, enabling the small outreach information management community to gather around a common technical framework. The WG issued a seminal reference report on metadata standards for astronomical images, which are now used by ESO, NASA, and others, and

organized an IAU/ESO/UNAWA/ESA Workshop on Public Outreach Information Management in Astronomy in March 2013.

In this term, Lars Lindberg Christensen took over as Chair from Pedro Russo (C.C.2. President). The work on Virtual Astronomy Multimedia Project and the Astronomy Visualization Metadata (AVM) standard continued well led by Robert Hurt (IPAC) for the [Astropix](#) project and by Lars Lindberg Christensen (ESO) for the ESO Supernova Planetarium & Visitor Centre in Garching, Germany. The AVM standard is slowly, but steadily, getting implemented in more and more astronomy visualization tools.

Astropix has recently received renewed funding for the work which should make further progress possible. The ESO Supernova, in partnership with the IPS Data & Visualization Task Force and Evans & Sutherland, is taking the lead in the Data2Dome project — a system describing standards (incl. AVM) whereby astronomy data from the big observatories can seamlessly be integrated with today's real-time full-dome planetarium systems. Content, and metadata describing this content, is fed via a reasonably fast Internet connection into the planetarium system in an automated way, giving planetarium presenters around the world access a menu to select interesting news and fresh datasets — news, sky event data, historical event data and more — and mark the full datasets and metadata up for download for possible inclusion in show segments during the day. The results of this work is planned for January 2017 in Evans & Sutherland's Digistar 6 programme, and has the potential to revolutionize the way planetariums deal with news and data.

Lars Lindberg Christensen

29 October 2016