



Concept Web Alliance

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Newsletter CWA May 2010

This first CWA newsletter gives an overview of the most relevant progress made by CWA partners over the last half year.

Mark your calendars for:

The first CWA conference/launch at the Life Sciences Momentum meeting in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, November 2010 (venue and program details will follow once available)

The first CWA annual conference will be held on the **22nd and 23rd of November 2010**, with the theme: Interoperability of Life Sciences Information: Connecting Biobanks (working title).

Preliminary program:

- Nov 21st: Night before the meeting: informal get together with all participants (Boat ride through Amsterdam Channels?)
- Nov 22nd: morning: presentations and demonstrations focused on 'interoperability of Biobanks'. Key notes by Dr. David Cox, Pfizer; Dr. Gert Jan van Ommen, LUMC and BBMRI-NL (other speakers to be confirmed).
- Lunch meeting: poster presentations, prototype and application demos by CWA partners
- Afternoon day one: Parallel workshops and interest sessions. (Parallel track for technical people of CWA to work on practical issues, next steps developments).
- Day 2: The formal Life Sciences Momentum in the Netherlands: this year's theme: internationalization of Research, where we will organize one of the 'parallel tracks' around



CWA and we will have one slot for a Keynote Speaker in the plenary about 'CWA'

Sponsoring opportunities available: please contact [Albert Mons](#).

Projects and 'landing' of the CWA in wider networks

One of the goals formulated for CWA was for partners to collaboratively apply for grants. Several initiatives have led to submission of proposals in the realm of data interoperability and we participate with several CWA partners in a consortium named: Open Pharmacological Concept Triple Store (OPEN-PHACTS), which is a merger of the original 'CWA' consortium and an independently developed consortium lead by the University of Vienna.

Several Magnet Group Members, Carole Goble, Frank van Harmelen, Jan Velterop, Mark Musen and Barend Mons have been actively involved in the preparation and the merger of the two consortia, with a major role also for Antony Williams (RSC Chemspider).

In addition, discussions led by Katy Borner, Carole Goble, Scott Marshall, Eric Prud'hommeaux and others are rapidly moving in a direction that will secure intimate involvement of CWA partners (including also Abel Packer and John Wilbanks in boards and committees of projects such as Sage Bionetworks, VIVOweb, ORCID and most importantly the W3C).

Update and output of the CWA working groups established in 2009 following the inaugural meeting in May 2009 (in particular the Concept Wiki, The Unified Persistent ID, and the Triple Format groups (Triples now called Nano-Publications)).

The following **technical working groups** have initially been activated (*numbering refers to CWA working group sections in [MyExperiment](#) which you can sign up for to follow progress*):

2.4: [Unified persistent ID](#), (chaired by Geoffrey Bilder and Jan Velterop)

3.4: [Conceptwiki](#), (chaired by Christine Chichester and Jan Velterop)

The results of these two groups (that worked very closely together) can be found at:

- a) <http://www.myexperiment.org/files/304> and
- b) <http://www.conceptwiki.org> (the Conceptwiki)
- c) a first prototype using the conceptwiki to 'tag concepts' automatically:
<http://enhancer.nanopublication.org/linker/>

2.6: [the triple format/nano-publication group](#) (chaired by Andrew Gibson, Nigam Shah and more recently co-chaired by Paul Groth from Franks' group):

The preliminary output is attached; the paper will be further developed and soon submitted for publication in an open access journal.



The following groups becoming active now are:

2.1 [Content capture](#) (Chair confirmed: Marco Roos)

2.2 [Tool development](#) (Chair confirmed: Erik van Mulligen)

First CWA event: [The Hackathon \(26-27 March\)](#), with participation from different CWA partners (see participant list). This Hackathon is organized by Christine Chichester and the NBIC BioAssist team with also Erik van Mulligen, Nigam Shah, Andrew Gibson, Matthias Samwald, Paul Groth and several other chairs in the loop. The results of the Hackathon (see below for projects) have been presented at the NBIC annual conference meeting in The Netherlands on March 29 and 30, 2010, where Mark Musen was one of the Key Note speakers.

Results:

1. Expose ConceptWiki to semantic web and show interconnection with other sources
2. In-text concept recognition with linking to ConceptWiki and triple stores
3. Enriching PDFs with the ConceptWiki

Short presentations of the results were made during the annual NBIC conference on March 29 and 30, 2010. Links to the prototypes will be made available on the CWA website soon.

2.8 [Content acquisition](#) (Chair confirmed: Christine Chichester)

2.9 [Triple Browser/reasoning](#) (Chair confirmed: Erik Schultes)

Public Private Partnership interest: (early stage)

Several institutions and companies have shown interest in developing specific client applications based upon the generic CWA modules.