

Meeting of the Executive Committee

Munich Airport Conference Centre
Friday 6th October 2006

NOTES

Participants: David Vernon, Jürgen Jost, Bill Sharpe, Markus Vincze, Matthias Scheutz, Peter Ford Dominey, Tom Ziemke, Fred Cummins.

Apologies: Erik Hollnagel, Christoph von der Malsburg, Guy Tiberghien, Andreas Engel, Hans-Georg Stork.

The following is a summary of the main issues discussed at the third meeting of the Executive Committee.

Second Six-Monthly Meeting

- It was decided to make Industry Outreach and the Research Roadmap the focus of the next six-monthly meeting on 11-12 January.
- In addition, there will also be a student competition, as announced at the previous meeting.

Network Action Proposal 113-1

- This proposal received three qualified votes in favour, one qualified vote against, and six unqualified votes against. There was one abstention. It was decided not to support the proposal.
- Members of the Executive Committee expressed concerns over the amount of the requested funding (€30,000) which is significantly in excess of the notional budget of €6,000 of a typical network action.
- They also felt that this type of activity is outside the expected scope of a network action, addressing principally the software engineering costs associated with developing a web-based query system rather than the creation of material on cognitive systems.
- Finally, they felt it would be better to consolidate effort on existing dissemination platforms such as the euCognition Wiki and website.

Industry Outreach

- It was decided to include this as a separate event at the next six-monthly meeting on 11-12 January, probably alongside the student competition.
- The format would be to allow invitees from industry to make short presentations (10-15 minutes) on important problems they face.

- We will seek the assistance of the Commission in identifying the invitees and sending the invitations.
- Ideally, the outcome of this exercise would be a white paper analyzing industrial needs which would provide important input for the euCognition roadmap.
- The talks will be organized in themes based on the profile of those that accept the invitation.

Research Roadmap

- It was decided to rename this activity simply the euCognition Roadmap to reflect its vision, stretching from industrial requirements through to advanced research themes.
- There was a general consensus that industrial outreach should be an integral part of the roadmap exercise and that the roadmap should be requirements-led and capability-driven.
- It was agreed to update the euCognition wiki to address the following three issues:
 1. Definition and scope of the euCognition roadmap;
 2. The process by which it will be created;
 3. The development of an initial skeleton roadmap.

Bill Sharpe will produce the first iteration of the above three issues, with the Executive Committee effecting a second iteration.

Change in People Responsible for Activities

For the next six months, the following people will take responsibility for the three euCognition activities:

- Education and Training: Matthias Scheutz
- Scientific Outlook (with particular emphasis on cognition briefings): Fred Cummins
- Outreach: Bill Sharpe

Tom Ziemke offered to take responsibility for the Scientific Outlook activity in the next period.

Proposal to Sponsor the EpiRob Conference

- Any decision on an initiative to sponsor the EpiRob (Epigenetic Robotics) Conference will be deferred until a formal proposal for a Network Action is received.
- It was agreed, however, that sponsorship is within the scope and remit of euCognition.

The euCognition Wiki and Cognition Briefings

- Fred Cummins will solicit input for the cognition briefings as part of his role in looking after the Scientific Outlook activities.
- Members of the Executive were urged to contribute a briefing on their topic of choice.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on the 30th March in the Munich Airport Conference Centre.

Any Other Business

With the end of the first year drawing near, several periodic reports have to be produced. These include:

- Periodic Activity Report;
- Periodic Management Report.

These include financial data and data on effort expended. David Vernon will circulate a template to all the Executive Committee setting out the information that is required by the end of the year.