

## COST C21 WG3 Notes of meeting on 6 December 2006

*Politecnico di Milano*

Present:

Chantal Berdier (FR)	Giuseppe Las Casas (IT)
Gilles Falquet (CH)	John Lee (UK)
Jaques Guyot (CH)	Giovanni Rabino (IT)
Maria Ioanilli (IT)	Francesco Rotundo (IT)
Kostas Karatzas (GR)	Jacques Teller (BE)
Guri Kringsvoll (NO)	Chris Tweed (Chair) (UK)
Jarmo Laitinen (FI)	

Apologies:

Beniamino Murgante (IT)

### Organisation of the conference in Turin, 2007

The main purpose of this meeting was to organise the forthcoming workshop in Turin for 2007. Giovanni Rabino introduced the venue for the conference, Castello del Valentino, and described its facilities. He explained that it was capable of offering catering facilities for coffee breaks, but that larger meals would have to be served in local restaurants. The meeting decided that the organisers should pre-arrange these venues to ensure that attendees could socialise together during the breaks. The meeting approved the appointment of two further members to the organising committee, as suggested by Giovanni. They are: Prof. Agata Spaziante (Politechnic of Turin), and Ing. Giuliana Bonello (CSI-Piemonte, Turin)

There was a brief discussion about the budget. There is some uncertainty about the exact amount available to support the workshop and whether there is an additional fund to support publication of pre-proceedings. This needs to be clarified. **Action: Giovanni to confirm funding available for workshop.**

The dates for the workshop were agreed as 17-18 October 2007, with a Management Committee on 19 October. These dates would also allow interested participants to contribute to a programme of tutorials either before or after the workshop.

There was a long discussion about the dissemination of papers after the workshop. Jacques Teller reported that he had received an invitation from Robert Laurini to publish 5-6 selected papers in a special edition of the journal *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems (CEUS)*. Papers are to be selected via normal peer review procedures. Some members of the WG voiced concerns about this proposal and suggested that it would be preferable to publish all papers in a book and possibly on the Web. The final decision was to publish all papers in a pre-proceedings available in hardcopy at the workshop, and also in a book (if CEUS copyright conditions allow this), as well as selected and revised papers published in the special edition of CEUS. **Action: Jacques Teller to discuss CEUS copyright conditions with Robert Laurini. Giovanni to identify a possible publisher for a post-conference book.**

Using the Call for Papers for the workshop in Geneva as a starting point, the meeting discussed the text to be issued for this workshop. A draft version of the call is enclosed. The main point to note are that the call will request an abstract of up to 500 words. These will be reviewed after which selected authors will be invited to submit full papers which will be subject to a further review process before final acceptance.

The final version is to be ready for distribution by 31 December 2006. The organising committee will circulate the call to mailing lists and networks suggested by members of the Action. Action members will circulate the call to personal contacts. **Action: Chris to produce first draft of Call for Papers and circulate for comment. Organising Committee to approve final version.**

The meeting discussed possible keynote speakers:

Casati — author of a book on ontology  
Ferraris — research on the ontology of mobile phones  
Phil Carlisle — author and developer of the English Heritage Thesauri of Monuments  
A speaker from URBAMET.

Ferraris and Carlisle were approved as definite choices, to be approached by Giovanni and Chris respectively. Jacques Teller will try to identify someone from URBAMET.

The meeting decided to follow the programme used in Geneva with one difference: each session will have a rapporteur who will summarise the presentations in a final session that will also include the keynote speakers.

### **Task 3.2—case studies**

The meeting briefly discussed planned activities in this area. The list of possible studies identified at the meeting in Geneva was confirmed as:

- Scottish building regulations (JL)
- urban planning agency (JT)
- life cycle costing as a process (GK)
- urban renewal project in Bari (FR)
- organisation of information in architectural practices (CT)

Chris emphasised that the notes on developing 'use studies' he had circulated after the Geneva meeting were intended to form the basis of a deliverable from this Working Group and he invited contributions from other members of WG3. This document should grow to become a useful guide to carrying out field studies that could later inform the development of ontologies.

It was noted that in view of the work being undertaken by this Working Group there could be eight abstracts submitted to the Call for Papers.

Chris Tweed, 21 December 2006



**\*\*\* CALL FOR PAPERS \*\*\***

## **WORKSHOP**

# ***Ontologies for urban development: conceptual models for practitioners***

**Castello del Valentino, Turin**

**17 & 18 October 2007**

## **Workshop description**

The main aim of this Workshop is to increase knowledge and understanding about, as well as promote, the use of ontologies in the domain of Urban Development projects to aid communications between information systems, stakeholders and Urban Development specialists at a European level. The Workshop is organized by the members of the COST Action C21: *Towntology – Urban Ontologies for an Improved Communication in Urban Civil Engineering Projects*.

The focus of the Workshop is on ontologies in practice and the impact they have on the organisations in which they are used. Possible outcomes for the Workshop include:

- broader knowledge of the structure and content of ontologies used in organisations engaged in activities related to urban development and knowledge;
- research methods and skills that can be used to reveal and document conceptual models in organisations;
- identification of issues from the use of implicit and overt ontologies embedded in social, cultural and technical systems in the field of urban development; and
- a better understanding of how ontologies emerge, and evolve or are abandoned as the needs of users and the domain change with time.

The emphasis is on developing a deeper understanding of how ontologies work in practice with a view to informing the development of future ontologies and conceptual tools that will make communication between different urban development disciplines easier.

The Workshop should be of interest to a wide range of researchers working in the domain of urban development, as well as those developing ontology-based systems for use in this broad domain. There is no registration fee for the workshop but the number of places will be limited.

## **Topics of interest**

Ontology for urban development workshop invites papers on topics including but not limited to those listed below:

1) Applications:

- GIS, CAD and ontologies
- analysis of experience in using ontologies in urban processes
- participation and conflict resolution in urban planning
- ontologies for urban environment systems and infrastructures

- impact of ontologies on organisations
- embedded ontologies in existing methods
- ontologies for risk management in the urban domain

## 2) Development:

- user needs and requirements for ontology specification.
- multilingual ontology development methods
- context representation in ontologies
- design methods for ontologies

## Important dates

Deadline for abstracts (max. 500 words): 23 March 2007

Invitation to submit full papers: 30 March 2007

Deadline for online paper submission: 4 May 2007

Notification of acceptance: 15 June 2007

Pre-registration for the workshop: 7 September 2007

Workshop: 17 & 18 October 2007

## Submission

We invite you to submit an abstract via the web form:

<http://webdbdev.ucs.ed.ac.uk/ddm/staff/jlee/tt-intention.cfm>

The abstract should contain the title of the contribution, the list of authors and an abstract of no more than 500 words. Abstracts will be reviewed and selected on the basis of their relevance to the workshop themes. Authors of approved abstracts will be invited to develop these as full papers, which will undergo a further review before final acceptance.

Accepted papers will be published as a pre-proceedings and selected papers will be considered for publication in a special issue of the journal *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*. Efforts are in hand to publish the final proceedings of the workshop as a book. Every paper will be reviewed by the scientific committee.

## Useful links

Workshop website: <http://www.netdiap.polimi.it/~grabino/TowntologyWorkshopTorino>

COST Action C21 website: <http://www.towntology.net/>

## Scientific committee

Chantal Berdier, INSA Lyon

Miguel Angel Bernabé, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid

Mariolina Besio, University of Genoa

Rolland Billen, Université de Liège

Sylvie Calabreto, INSA Lyon

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Bernard Cornelis, Université de Liège

Andranel Cotesco, Technical University of Civil Engineering

Anne-Françoise Cutting Decelle, Ecole Centrale de Paris

Gilles Falquet, Université de Genève

Xalo Fernandez Villarino, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid

Maria Ioannilli, University "Tor Vergata" Rome

Anssi Joustiniemi, Tampere University of Technology

Kostas Karatzas, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
Guri Krigsvoll, Norwegian Building Research Institute  
Jarmo Laitinen, Tampere University of Technology  
Giuseppe Las Casas, Università della Basilicata  
John Lee, University of Edinburgh  
Celson Lima, Centre Scientifique et technique du Bâtiment  
Asteris Masouras, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
Claudine Metral, Université de Genève  
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Pedro Muro, Universidad de Zaragoza  
Javier Noguerras, Universidad de Zaragoza  
Giovanni Rabino, Politecnico di Milano  
Francesco Rotondo, Politecnico di Bari  
Catherine Roussey, Université Lyon 1  
Jacques Teller, Université de Liège  
Stefan Trausan-Matu, Romanian Academy  
Chris Tweed, Queen's University Belfast

## **Organising committee**

Giuliana Bonello, CSI-Piemonte, Turin  
Guri Krigsvoll, Norwegian Building Research Institute  
Beniamino Murgante, Università degli Studi della Basilicata  
Agata Spaziante, Politecnico di Turin  
Giovanni Rabino, Politecnico di Milano  
Jacques Teller, Université de Liège  
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