

Minutes of the DIG-UM Overview Board meeting

09 May 2023 / 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm (Zoom)

Participants:

Simon Bohleber (BMBF), Kai-Thomas Brinkmann, Erik Bründermann, Günter Duceck, Günther Dollinger, Martin Erdmann (DIG-UM Spokesperson), Tetyana Galatyuk, Jan-Dierk Grunwaldt, Uli Katz (Chair), Dirk Lützenkirchen-Hecht (Sci. Secr.), Salome Shokri-Kühne (DESY-PT), Markus Schumacher, Kathrin Valerius.

1) Welcome & minutes of previous meetings

The chair of the Overview Board (Uli Katz) welcomed the attendees and presented the draft agenda of the meeting (also available on <https://indico.desy.de/event/39266/>), which was accepted by the members of the Overview Board (OB). The minutes of previous meetings (7 July 2022 and 12 Dec 2022) were discussed and accepted in the present form.

2) Nominations for and election of the deputy chair

Due to several reasons, Frank Schreiber (KFN) was unable to take over the OB deputy chair position as initially proposed, and Erik Bründermann (Komitee für Beschleunigerphysik, KFB) has instead been nominated for this open position. Erik briefly introduces himself, his scientific career and his motivation to serve as OB deputy chair. There were no additional candidates and no objections against Erik. A ballot was conducted via Zoom. 11 members of the board are eligible to vote, and 8 members voted for Erik, with 3 abstentions and no vote against him. Erik accepts the vote and the OB congratulates him for his election.

3) Publications in the ErUM-Data/DIG-UM context

A strategy for publications in the ErUM-Data/DIG-UM context was discussed, in particular the authorship question was addressed. The OB discusses the significance of publications that arise within the framework of DIG-UM in relation to the digital transformation. Such publications range from expressions of opinion by individual authors, to statements with substantial political significance. The OB concordantly decides to treat these publications in the form of a 3-class system of publications using the following procedures. In doing so, the Digitization Board assists by its assessment of which class a publication should be assigned to:

- 1) Draft publications with policy relevance to ErUM communities. These publications are submitted to the OB and thus to all eight ErUM committees. The deadline for comments is two weeks. Expert evaluation is requested (and explicitly not a grassroots process of all involved communities and their members). The committee chairs may delegate the commenting to individual experts or expert groups of the respective community. Already for the planning phase of such publications, it is recommended to involve experts from all communities in the development process at an early stage.
- 2) Publication drafts that may develop Class 1 characteristics are assessed through a written statement by the Digitization Board. The publication draft and said statement will be provided to the OB with a two-week deadline.
- 3) Publication drafts without obvious committee policy impact, such as a working paper or an expression of opinion by individual authors, will be evaluated and approved for publication by the Digitization Board.

The exact wording of authorship and the reference to the goals of the ErUM Committees will be agreed upon in each case (e.g., Class 1 publications as "On behalf of the ErUM Committees").

4) Communication with the DIG-UM science community

During the past month, it turned out to be difficult to reach all members of the scientific community by the DIG-UM boards. It was discussed whether or not it could be possible to make use of the e-mail distribution lists of the 8 ErUM communities. Such an approach could be advantageous, as indicated e.g. by M. Schumacher, to effectively reach a large number of scientists directly. The access to those lists has to be provided by the shareholders / account managers, or the managers would need to re-send messages to the scientists, which may be technically laborious. In addition, as mentioned by U. Katz, such lists, including in particular PhD students, do not exist in all of the communities. In KAT, e.g., only the group leaders are registered. Also, it may be useful to have some additional information on the registered users, such as e.g. their home affiliations, to provide regionally relevant information if needed. As recommended by several members of the OB, the principal availability and use of an e-mail distribution list is recommended. It was proposed to make use of the SNI-mailing list, where many of the ErUM community members are registered (at least KFN, KFS, KFSI, eventually yHEP). It was further proposed to send an e-mail newsletter once a year but not more frequently, so that the recipients are not flooded with information.

E-mails to the distribution list should inform about new funding calls, important conferences and workshops. The OB anticipates that in particular young scientists would make use of this offer, despite the fact that they often also use other social media. Still, the OB assumes that a standardized information distribution via e-mail is generally accepted. It was proposed to send or combine New Year's Greetings together with important information about upcoming conferences at the beginning of the year.

5) Sustainability Workshop

This agenda item was opened by a short presentation by Simon Bohleber (BMBF), who reported on the "PRISMA Trialog" that will be held on May 24th. He indicated that this trialogue will be a good occasion to further stress the importance of sustainability in the ErUM community. This not only includes more sustainable research methods, but also the efficient and sustainable operation of research infrastructures, property management, as well as monitoring of important management ratios and other activities that have to be defined. Guidelines and specifications for the future have to be defined, and an analysis of needs has to be conducted. Where are we now? What are the needs and the demands? What are the concrete topics? One aim of the BMBF is to connect scientists and to continuously accompany and support this sustainability transformation. It is planned to have events approximately once a year.

Martin Erdmann reports on the planned ErUM-Data workshop *Sustainability in the Digital Transformation of Basic Research on Universe & Matter* (<https://indico.desy.de/event/37480/>)

Martin clarifies that this 4-day workshop will focus on working and discussions in small groups with the main idea to develop a strategy paper for obtaining and realizing sustainability in the digital transformation of basic research on Universe & matter, that should be published in the *Computing and Software for Big Science Journal* by Springer (CSBS, <https://www.springer.com/journal/41781>). The workshop will start with an introducing talk by Prof. Andrew Grimshaw (Concrete Path to Sustainable Computing), and the following sessions will comprise actual problems such as Hardware & Research Data, Algorithms and Mindset, and others. Research questions such as Footprint / Energy Supplies / Hardware Lifetime / Algorithms / Smart Data will be treated in working groups, initialized by Keynote speakers (R. Walkers, Ö. Özkan, J. Struckmeier, M. Düren, J. Reindl, L. Geiger). The editors

from CSBS have already been contacted and a publication of a strategy paper will be accordingly arranged.

As in other ErUM-Data workshops, KFS, KHuK and RDS appear under-represented in the sustainability workshop. Tetyana Galatyuk and Jan-Dierk Grunwaldt indicated that the workshops were promoted, but only few participants were motivated. M. Schumacher asked for the possibility of a shorter (1- or 2-day) participation, and Martin Erdmann positively responds. Martin also indicates that sustainability implies much more than just reusability, and indicates the guiding questions and working hypothesis of the workshop reflecting especially this.

Tetyana Galatyuk mentioned the HECAP initiative (<https://sustainable-hecap.github.io/>), and the aim not to provide too many documents. Jan-Dierk Grunwaldt mentioned a document on sustainability derived during the last SNI conference. Martin Erdmann responds that the article to be published in CSBS may be used as tool for applicants during the application procedures. Uli Katz also mentioned that the results of the workshop could also be helpful for the BMBF. Simon Bohleber confirms that sustainability is already anchored in the guidelines for proposals of the BMBF, and related sustainability aspects may already be used for the rating of proposals.

Finally, Martin Erdmann asked PT-DESY and the BMBF for participation in the workshop, and Simon Bohleber signalled consent.

6) Further business arising

Martin Erdmann briefly summarises the work and the evaluation of the ErUM-Data-Hub, for which a status report ("Zwischenbericht") has been submitted to PT-DESY for the time period from 1 Nov 2021 to 31 Dec 2022. The staffing of the ErUM-Data-Hub has continuously grown and at present, the team leader (Angela Warkentin), executive assistant (Peter Fackeldey), science communications (Judith Steinfeld) and technical support (Benjamin Fischer) have been successfully appointed. In the reporting period, 10 schools, train-the-trainer- and expert workshops have been organized and executed with more than 300 participants from the ErUM communities. The feedback from the attendees was exceedingly positive, everyone strongly recommended participation for future events.

Martin also reported on the participation of the ErUM-Data-Hub to the Hannover Trade Fair in April 2023, which was a great success with many fruitful discussions and considered as a very positive outreach activity for the ErUM-community in general (see <https://erumdatahub.de/blog/2023/03/14/hannover-messe/>).

Martin mentioned that BMBF funding for successful ErUM-Data projects has started in 2023, with a total of 17.5 M€ for 10 funded consortia. A first workshop has been organized in Hamburg, where all successful applicants as well as rejected projects present their ideas and opinions (see <https://indico.desy.de/event/36573/>, where also summary of the projects can be found).

Lastly a new call for projects from the BMBF with potential interest for the ErUM-Data community has been published, see <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shreddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2023/05/2023-05-08-Bekanntmachung-OER.html>. This call is related to Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practices, OEP, and could be interesting in relation to teaching and outreach activities within DIG-UM and/or ErUM-Data.