Plans for the Communiqué

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February 20, 2013

- Its purpose is to advance the state of the art of applied ontology by facilitating a consensus on an open question and identifying future challenges for the community.
- It is **not** a summary of all that happened during the OS.
- It is **not** a research paper.

The process

- Many forms of participation (panel discussions, surveys, emails, editing of wiki pages)
- Track champions maintain summary wiki pages.
- Editors + track champions create several drafts of the communiqué
- Participants review and make change suggestions
- NEW: Final draft before Symposium in Gaithersburg
- Endorsement by participants and the ontology community

- April 11th: 1st draft
- April 25th: 2nd draft
- May 1st: final draft
- May 2nd: Official presentation at symposium in Gaithersburg
- June 3rd: Last opportunity for endorsement
- July 1st: submission for publication ("Applied Ontology")

We have a scoping problem ...

- Result so far: whether an ontology is useful for somebody might depend on a huge number of factors (e.g., intellectual property rights, size of the user-base, regulatory conformance)[1]
- Any effort to provide an exhaustive overview will fail.
- **For the purpose of the communiqué** we need to limit scope of evaluations we consider.

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[1]E.g., In "ONTOMETRIC: A Method to Choose the Appropriate Ontology" Lozano-Tello and Gómez-Pérez list 160 characteristics that can be evaluated.

- ontology: a machine-interpretable and human-intelligible representation of a domain, typically used as part of some larger IT system.
- Suggestion: we focus in the communique on the evaluation under the the following aspects:
  - Is the domain represented appropriately (given the requirements of the IT system)?
  - Is the ontology human-intelligible?
  - Is the ontology maintainable?
  - Does the query/reasoning capability and performance meet the requirements of the IT system?

The proposed structure

1 **Executive Summary**

2 **Introduction**

    1 Why is ontology evaluation important?

    2 What is the scope of this document?

3 **The State of the Art of Ontology Evaluation**

    1 What are the desirable characteristics of ontologies and how are they measured?

    2 What best practices should one adopt to ensure that ontologies have the desirable characteristics in (a)?

    3 What tool-support is currently available to support the evaluation of the characteristics and the best practices identified in (a) and (b)?

4 **Future Steps** What issues need to be addressed to improve ontology evaluation and its adoption by ontology developers?