

# Creating the Ontology Summit Communique

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# Overview

- Framework Document Development
- Communique Writing
- Lessons Learned

# Framework Document Development

- Development of the framework involved:
  - Use of email
  - Use of a wiki
  - Use of teleconferences

# Communique Writing

- Based on Framework Documents
- Framework was available on Wiki
- Presentations and discussion of Framework at the Ontology Summit

# Communique Built on Framework Document!

- It would not have been possible to produce the communique during the meeting without the debates and writing of the Framework document prior to the meeting.

# Communique Writing (cont.)

- Face-to-face meeting between Olken and Bodenreider
  - Partitioned writing by topic
- Email exchanges of text fragments
  - and comments / revisions
- Integration of text fragments and posting to wiki
- Presentation to the ontology summit
- Discussion
- Post-summit email discussions

# Lessons Learned: Text and Email

- Text is essential
  - This is the problem with teleconferences ....
  - Teleconference agendas, and minutes help
- Email is a useful medium for text exchanges, arguments
  - Threaded / indexed / searchable email archives are very helpful for coping with heavy email traffic.
- Email often does not converge.

# Lessons Learned: Wikis

- Wikis are good for:
  - Posting large documents
  - Posting links to supplementary documents
  - Posting agendas
  - Posting minutes of teleconferences
  - Posting summaries of teleconferences, email debates
- Well organized wikis are easy search.



# Debate and Convergence

- Teleconferences and face-to-face meetings are good for:
  - Debates
  - Reaching consensus
    - Face-to-face meetings are better for consensus building than teleconferences or email
- Teleconferences (especially) require strong chairs, disciplined participants
  - Otherwise chaos ensues
- Take minutes !!

# Size Matters!

- It helps to keep the writing committee small.

# Additional Information

- Ontology Summit
  - <http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?OntologySummit2007>
- Ontology Summit Communique
  - [http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?OntologySummit2007\\_Communique](http://ontolog.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?OntologySummit2007_Communique)
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