

Minutes of the DIG-UM Overview Board meeting

11 December 2023 / 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm (Zoom)

Participants

Anton Andronic, Simon Bohleber (BMBF), Günther Dollinger (until 4:45 pm), Günther Duceck, Martin Erdmann (DIG-UM Spokesperson), Lutz Feld, Uli Katz (Chair), Bridget Murphy, Judith Reindl (Scientific Secretary), Markus Schumacher, Salome Shokri-Kuehni (DESY-PT), Kathrin Valerius

1) Welcome & minutes of previous meetings

Uli Katz welcomes the attendees. As there were elections in some of the committees in the past weeks some invitations were sent to the wrong people. The mailing list will be updated asap. The draft agenda of the meeting (also available on <https://indico.desy.de/event/42845/>) was accepted by the members of the OB. Furthermore, the minutes of the previous meeting (9 May 2023) were discussed and will be endorsed, if no comments are made by 18 December 2023.

Note added in proof: Since no comments have been received, the minutes of 9 May 2023 are endorsed (cf. email of 11 Dec 2023).

2) Strategy meeting

Uli Katz asks Martin Erdmann to guide the discussion about the preparation of the strategy meeting. Martin Erdmann starts with asking for feedback from Simon Bohleber and Salome Shokri-Kuehni about the talks presented in the DIG-UM community meeting (11 December 2023/ 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm) and acknowledges the hard work done by the topic group leaders.

Simon Bohleber emphasizes that there should be a clear differentiation between proposals for ErUM-Pro and ErUM-Data. ErUM-Pro is a funding scheme for research proposals including developments (soft- and hardware) specific for a certain research field or experiment, whereas ErUM-Data is open for projects which are not only for a single field within ErUM but for cross-field digital solutions, which offer the possibility for further generalization. To assess whether the preparation works well there was too little time to reflect the talks given in the meeting, which was directly before the OB meeting. He points out that the invited members of DIG-UM are considered to be the experts in the different research fields and that we need to show what we and the communities need. Overall he states confidence that we are on a good way.

Salome Shokri-Kuehne supports this and adds that in the talks given at the DIG-UM community meeting there are details and use cases missing, which give a better understanding of the community needs to the Projektträger and the BMBF. In the talks at the strategy meeting, which are much longer than the talks given at the community meeting, this should be included.

Also addressed is the challenge that the different communities have a very different level of digital transformation and therefore different levels of digital developments are necessary, some of which might look very trivial to experts in the field of digitalization. How can we make sure to address appropriately the different state of the communities in the call and the

evaluation of the proposals? Simon Bohleber explains that the reviewers will be carefully selected for each project to account for the variety in topics and different levels of digitalization in the field. The reviewers will be tailored for each proposal and will come from inside and outside the research of ErUM.

Finally, the relation to and the inclusion of international communities in the ErUM-Data proposal is discussed. Specifically, the question is raised if, when a project is embedded in an international cooperation it should be mandatory to include international cooperation and the digital solutions coming from international partners in the project proposals. Simon Bohleber emphasizes that if the international cooperation is made mandatory there is a huge imbalance between the communities as the communities have very different level of international cooperation. Bridget Murphy states that in the last call specifically national solutions were required and asks whether international cooperation will be a disadvantage in the upcoming call. Simon Bohleber states that international cooperation will not be a disadvantage if international context is available. He postpones the detailed discussion to the strategy meeting.

Simon Bohleber emphasizes that a discussion is very welcome at the strategy meeting and that the personal opinion of each invited individual is of importance.

The next steps of the preparation of the strategy meeting are discussed. It is agreed that there are more details and use cases needed in the presentations, as suggested by Salome Shokri-Kuehni. Therefore, the communities are asked to provide feedback to the slides presented at the community meeting and give input for specific research questions. A rehearsal meeting one week before the strategy meeting is proposed and accepted by the OB. Martin Erdmann and Uli Katz will organize this.

The OB members agree that the rehearsal sessions will be split into two half days and the date should be fixed before X-mas. For defining the date, the speakers of the strategy meeting and the OB will be asked. As tentative dates the week before the strategy meeting is suggested. After finding proper dates and time the invitation will be sent to the Overview Board, the Digitization Board, the Resource Provider Board and the Topic Groups.

Note added in proof: The rehearsals will be on 15 Jan 2024 (15:00-18:00 CET) and on 16 Jan 2024 (16:00-19:00 CET).

3) BMBF Prisma process on sustainability

In the WG3 Community Martin Erdmann and several people of the OB are included.

4) Publications within ErUM-Data/DIG-UM context

Federated Infrastructure opinion:

Will be published on the DIG-UM website, which requires green light by the OB. The final draft will be sent to the OB members and will be endorsed by the OB beginning of January 2024. When commenting the draft, the OB members should have in mind that the manuscript reflects the opinion of the authors. Therefore, comments related to the content should only be given if factual errors are found.

5) Elections in 2024

Martin Erdmann will no longer be available as spokesperson in the next election period. Therefore, a new candidate needs to be found. Furthermore, Uli Katz will retire and therefore he will not be available as OB chair. Martin Erdmann and Uli Katz prepare suggestions, which will be discussed in the next meeting.

The chair and deputy of the Research Data Management Topic Group have asked to be replaced in March 2024. The Digitization Board prepares suggestions, which will be endorsed by the OB. Generally, in the nomination process it is important to pay attention that all communities are represented. As there are regular elections of the Topic Group heads and deputies end of 2024, the OB agrees that a slight imbalance between March and end of 2024 would be acceptable. Everybody is welcome to nominate possible candidates for the spokesperson, OB chair and topic group heads and deputies.

6) Any other business

ErUM Transfer

Simon Bohleber introduces the ErUM-Transfer funding scheme, which is a good opportunity for fostering transfer activities in certain projects, and to support the use of scientific data in society. It could be of special interest for projects funded in the last ErUM-Data call. Among the five already funded and three new ErUM-Transfer projects only one project is related to digitalization. These projects don't have much financial funding but the importance within the BMBF is high. The BMBF pays great attention to the transferability of research-related developments.

30.12.2023, Judith Reindl & Uli Katz