

DDI Alliance Annual Meeting of the Scientific Community
June 15, 2021, 13:00-15:00 [UTC](#)

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Collaborative Notes:

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Agenda - Scientific Board Meeting			
Time	Subject	Detail	Lead
13:00-13:05	Welcome		Ingo Barkow, <i>Scientific Board Chair</i>
13:05-13:30	Activities of the Scientific Board [slides + slides]	-Report on 2020-2021 activities -Proposed work plan for 2021-2022	Ingo Barkow Achim Wackerow, <i>Scientific Board Chair 2020</i> <i>Hilde Orten, facilitator</i>
13:30-13:45	Working Groups update [slides]	-Report on formalizing existing working groups -Details on adding working groups -Report of 2020 group work	Hilde Orten, <i>Scientific Board Vice Chair</i> <i>Ingo Barkow, facilitator</i>
13:45-14:00	Technical Committee [slides]	-TC Report for 2020-2021	Wendy Thomas, <i>Technical Committee Chair</i> <i>Ingo Barkow, facilitator</i>
14:00-15:00	Scientific Plan (2021-2022) [slides]	-What are the goals? -What is the work plan? -Discussion	Ingo Barkow <i>Hilde Orten, facilitator</i>

DDI Alliance Annual Meeting of the Scientific Community June 15, 2021

Joachim Wackerow – Scientific Board Chair (until Dec 2020)

Activities July 2020 – December 2020

- Temporary working group on new Scientific Board
- DDI-CDI ongoing public review
 - Improvement work based on raised issues (working group MRT/CDI)
 - Meetings with other experts regarding possible use of DDI-CDI
 - Release planned for August 2021
- CODATA and DDI Alliance Collaboration



CODATA and DDI Alliance Collaboration

- Letter of collaboration between the [DDI Alliance](#) and [CODATA](#) and mutual membership in Dec 2020
- [CODATA](#) is the Committee on Data of the [International Science Council](#), “... mission is to connect data and people to advance science and improve our world.”
- CODATA Decadal Programme: [Making data work for cross-domain grand challenges](#)
- Jointly organized two week-long “cross-domain” workshops on metadata standards, hosted at Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz Center for Informatics ([2018](#), [2019](#)).
 - Two workshops planned for September 2021: CDI and “cross-domain” III
- CODATA has supported the DDI-CDI public review, [helping to promote and conduct a series of webinars since May 2020](#) with an attendance of over 400 people across a wide range of domains.
- CODATA’s EOSC co-creation project „[The Role of DDI-CDI in EOSC](#)“
 - Including links to the report, and slides and recording of the launch meeting

Scientific Board Restructuring Results from the Temporary Working Group

Prof. Dr. Ingo Barkow, Chair of the DDI Alliance Scientific Board

Annual meeting of the Scientific Community 2021-06-15

Recommendations for change of Scientific Board structure

- Motivation: experience shows that the previous set up - a Scientific Board of approx. 40 member representatives has limited impact regarding the role of the Scientific Board in the bylaws
- After the Scientific Board Meeting in 2019 a temporary working group was setup for this purpose
- Goal: Proposal of a new Scientific Board structure
- Result: After vote of the membership the DDI Alliance bylaws were changed resulting in a new SB structure

Members of the temporary working group

- Ingo Barkow (Chair)
- Jane Fry
- Dan Gillman
- Jon Johnson
- Jared Lyle
- Steve McEachern
- Ron Nakao
- Hilde Orten
- Nicolas Sauger
- Wendy Thomas
- Joachim Wackerow

End of the temporary working group

- The temporary working group was dissolved in summer 2020 after finishing the draft for the bylaw changes
- As the changes were passed as is the result can be considered to be successful
- **Thanks to all members of the temporary working group for investing their time and insights**

Structure of the «new» Scientific Board

- The «new» Scientific Board
 - Comprised of 7 scientific experts
 - Elected by the Designated Member Representatives of the Alliance
 - The Director and Chair of the Technical Committee serve on the Scientific Board as ex officio members
 - External experts may be appointed by the Scientific Board for limited terms (none at the moment)
 - Members will be elected following an Annual Meeting and serve for a term of four years except for the initial election where three will be elected for two-year terms and four for four-year terms.
 - The Chair and Vice Chair of the Scientific Board were elected by the Scientific Board soon after the regular biennial member elections for a term of two years.

Current Members of Scientific Board

- **Chair (2021-2022)**

- Ingo Barkow, University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons, 2021-2025

- **Vice Chair (2021-2022)**

- Hilde Orten, Norwegian Centre for Research Data, 2021-2025

- **Members**

- Darren Bell, UK Data Service, 2021-2023
- Simon Hodson, CODATA, 2021-2025
- Flavio Rizzolo, Statistics Canada, 2021-2025
- Carsten Thiel, CESSDA, 2021-2023
- Joachim Wackerow, GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, 2021-2023
- Jared Lyle, ICPSR, DDI Alliance Executive Director, ex officio, 2021-present
- Wendy Thomas, Minnesota Population Center, Technical Committee Chair, ex officio, 2021-present

The role of the Scientific Committee

- The SC consist of all scientic representatives (it replaces the «old» Scientific Board).
- The SB reports to the SC during the annual meeting about proceedings of the past year and presents the Scientific Plan for the next years for feedback.
- The SB will invite SC to virtual meetings during the year to seek more input and engagement.
- The Scientific Plan of each term defines the boundaries in which the SB can act on its own
- **The SC does not vote on the Scientific Plan. This can only be done by the member representative.**
- **The member representative can shift the voting right for the Scientific Plan to the scientific representative.**

And finally.....

Thanks to the previous Scientific Board Chair

Achim Wackerow

For running the «old» SB for a lot of years

(this is not a final goodbye – he still serves in the «new» SB)

Reports from the work of the DDI Alliance Working Groups

Hilde Orten, Vice-Chair of the DDI Alliance Scientific Board

Annual Meeting of the Scientific Community 2021-06-15

Working Groups under the Scientific Bord

- The Technical Committee (a standing committee of the SB)
- Training WG
- Controlled Vocabularies WG
- SDTL

Officially approved WGs, spring 2021

- CDI WG (formerly MRT)
- Paradata
- XKOS

Training Working Group

Chairs: Jane Fry and Anja Perry

4 (2) sub groups

- [Slide Deck Review Group](#)
- [Training Opportunities Group](#)
- (Website group)
- (Gap analyses group)

Training: Activity highlights

- DDI outreach from different individuals has resulted in presentations for new groups, including CODATA, FAIRsFAIR and the Dublin Core Metadata Group.
- We are pleased that we have formed a working relationship with CODATA and they are helping us with our webinars by marketing them for us (allowing us to reach greater potential participants), and allowing us to use their webinar software. This latter item is of great help to us as they are also the hosts (and deal with all technical issues) and there is no cost to us, resulting in a savings in our budget.
- We have set up two Zenodo Communities:
 - [DDI Training Material](#) (formerly the DDI Training Library) and the
 - [DDI Training Group](#) (to share slides used in workshops and training events).

The latter Community has six presentations as of the end of May 2021. The first set of slides of Training Material is currently under review by the Scientific Board and will be published soon.

CDI Working Group

Chair: Arofan Gregory

- Develops the DDI-Cross Domain Integration ([DDI-CDI](#)) metadata standard.
- Has been approved as an official working group of the DDI Alliance spring 2021.
- Has changed name from [MRT](#) (Modeling, Representation and Testing WG) to CDI (Cross-Domain Integration)

CDI: Activity highlights

- We have released a draft specification for public review
- Extensive feedback/discussion
 - Webinars to reach out to different communities of users
 - Hundreds of attendees/commenters
 - Engaged with FAIR groups, external standards (notably through the Int'l FAIR Convergence Symposium)
 - Includes some major comments/features needed from other domains (new types of data)
- We are now working actively to implement changes
- Release to TC for next stage in publication in summer 2021

CDI: Activity highlights ctd.

Ongoing tasks through the release/publication:

- No major enlargement of scope
- Address Jira bugs and modelling consistency issues
- Examples will be enhanced
 - Implementation examples
 - Include/improve alignment with other DDI specs, SDMX, DCAT
- Documentation will be enhanced
 - High-level and field-level
- Revise package structure to better support modularity in future

SDTL Working Group

Chair: George Alter

- The SDTL Working Group is charged with maintaining Structured Data Transformation Language.
 - An independent intermediate language for representing data transformation commands from statistical analysis packages (e.g., SPSS, Stata, SAS, and R).
- Added to the DDI Alliance suite of standards in December 2020.
- Designed to be integrated into DDI metadata files to provide machine actionable descriptions of the provenance of variables and data files.
- SDTL is compatible with all versions of DDI, and it has applications in the DDI-Cross Domain Integration standard.
- SDTL was created by the Continuous Capture of Metadata (C2 Metadata) Project

SDTL: Activity highlights

- Open comment period for SDTL was held in July and August 2020.
- The DDI Alliance membership voted to adopt SDTL in November.
- [SDTL product page](#) was launched in December.
- Full range of documentation for SDTL was developed and provided through the COGS system.
- An SDTL User Guide was added.
- Small amendments made since the release of version 1.0.

Controlled Vocabularies Working Group

Chair: Sanda Ionescu

Controlled Vocabularies: Activities highlights

New versions of DDI CVs have been published

- ModeOfCollection 4.0
- AnalysisUnit 2.1
- ModeOfCollection 4.0
- TypeOfAddress 1.1

Controlled Vocabularies: Activities highlights (ctd.)

- CV Usage section in the [CESSDA Controlled Vocabularies Service Tool](#) updated with DDI Lifecycle 3.3 info for all published vocabularies.
- Review of new CodeValueTypes in DDI 3.3 to identify potential candidates for creating new CVs.
- Type of Translation Method selected as our first choice. Currently in working draft stage.
- Needs TC to help with transferring the content from the CESSDA tool to the DDI Alliance page, which is now out-of-date.

XKOS Working Group

Chair: Franck Cotton

XKOS is a SKOS extension for representing statistical classifications.

Officially approved DDI Alliance Working Group spring 2021.

Paradata Working Group

Officially approved DDI Alliance Working Group spring 2021.

Thank you from the Scientific Board!

Many thanks to all for all of your great work!

Your contribution does it!

Not active: Join a DDI WG 😊

Please contact us:

Ingo Barkow: Ingo.Barkow@fhgr.ch

Hilde Orten: hilde.orten@nsd.no

Technical Committee

Report to Scientific Community Meeting

June 2021

Role of Technical Committee

- Publication of DDI products
- Ensuring long-term maintenance of DDI products
- Provide support materials for DDI Product
- Coordinate with other working groups to support on-going development of individual products, provide technical content for publication and training purposes
- Provide information on the coverage and content of the DDI Product Suite
- Continue to work towards a more modular structure of DDI Products to support ease of use and interoperability within the suite and with other standards

Highlights of 2020/21

- Publication of the new DDI product SDTL on 2020-12-01
 - Provision of a web presentation to voting membership improved voter response and clarified the role of SDTL in the DDI Product Suite
- Solicited participation of over 20 members interested in addressing issues for Codebook and improving its interaction with DataVerse and the CESSDA network
 - 27 of 40 issues have been resolved
- DDI Alliance web pages
 - Initial revision of all pages under Products; update of the Metadata Examples; review of Tools, Profiles, and Relationship to other standards
 - Preliminary work on high level coverage model of DDI
- Review of COGS system for development work
 - Validating input and output and identifying required changes

Product review and publication

- CDI
 - Final review and publication process
- Codebook
 - Review and publication of Codebook 2.6
 - Long term – review of design rules and simplification of Codebook structure
- XKOS and SDTL – support maintenance work as required
- DDI Product Suite
 - Differentiation of products in terms of application/use, relationships
 - Definition of the overall coverage of DDI and how each product relates to content coverage
 - Interaction between products including translation of content between products

Technical Work

- Production process - continued development
 - Continue work to automate production of Lifecycle and Codebook (COGS)
 - Addition of multiple bindings to product production
 - Work with product groups to exchange production techniques
- Resolution of RDF product content such as CVs and XKOS
 - Addition of content negotiation for these products
- HTTP agency resolution service that allows users to create HTTP service definitions using the registry web application for agencies and sub agencies

DDI Alliance Scientific Plan 2021 / 2022

Prof. Dr. Ingo Barkow, Chair of the DDI Alliance Scientific Board

Annual meeting of the Scientific Community 2021-06-15

Scientific Plan prerequisites

- Two years plan covering the period from beginning of 2021 to end of 2022
- Based on working plans for the different working groups
- Based on a draft of the DDI Alliance Strategic Plan
- Extended by feedback from different working groups
- Extended by feedback and discussion within the Scientific Board
- Proposal for membership to be voted on after annual meeting

Structure of the Scientific Plan

- I. Proceedings and Workflow of the new Scientific Board internally and externally
- II. Reachable Short-Term Goals for 2021 and 2022
- III. Preparations of issues to be covered within the next Scientific Plan for 2023
- IV. Long Term Vision for DDI products and processes

The Scientific Committee meeting in 2022 will only contain results from chapters II. and III.

I. Workflow of the new Scientific Board

- Internal proceedings and operational guidelines, e.g.
 - Number and timeline of physical and virtual meetings of the Scientific Board
 - Engagement of the Scientific Community
 - Voting procedure for Chair and Vice-Chair
 - Voting procedures on decisions (e.g. possibility of remote votes between meetings)
- Collaboration of Scientific Board members between the meetings
- Working relationships between and among the Scientific Board, Technical Committee and all Working Groups
- Working relationship with the Executive Board
- The establishment and promotion of new working groups (short and long-term groups) to accomplish the work of the Scientific Plan

II. Reachable Short-Term Goals

- Define a first draft of a roadmap for portability between versions. This action item has to be further developed as a medium- and long-term goal.
- Promote more collaboration between the Working Groups, e.g. to achieve better documentation. This action item has to be further developed as a medium- and long-term goal.
- Plan a new laboratory environment to explore new features and technical platforms.
- Plan the creation of a new software development group similar to the DDI Developers group in the past to promote DDI Tool development.
- Provide guidance for the community on which DDI specification and which parts of DDI are the preferred solution for specific use cases.

II. Reachable Short-Term Goals (cont.)

- Promote the development of technical DDI services, especially resolution of DDI URNs to the physical location of DDI resources (identified by URLs).
- Promote the role of DDI in external projects like e.g. European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) and FAIR.
- Explore a base architecture for existing and growing DDI metadata repositories.
- To initiate establishing of organization-level relationships with external standards bodies where needed/appropriate. This action item has to be further developed as a medium- and long-term goal.
- Review DDI Alliance communication on e.g. web pages on current products, the learn pages and development products.
- Support and facilitate the following action items provided by the different working groups (see next slides for details).

II 11 a. CDI

- Finalize the first production version of the Cross Domain Integration specification.
- Collaborate on activities to implement and get feedback on the specification, in particular with data providers, RIs, EOOSC and cross-domain case studies.
- Provide more complete mappings to other DDI specifications (Codebook and Lifecycle), and some mappings to external standards which were not included in the review package, notably to SDMX and DCAT.
- Create a modular architecture for the specification.

II 11 b TC

- Review, vote for publication, and publication of approved specifications (CDI 1.0, Codebook 2.6) and add support for new products (XKOS, SDTL).
- Create content model for overall DDI coverage, product coverage, and mapping, and define roles of individual products.
- XKOS support – work with group managing XKOS maintenance and development and ensure clear expression of the role of XKOS in DDI Suite.
- Setting up the publication process for CVs.
- DDI resolution support (e.g. CV, XKOS).
- Setting up an automated production system.

II 11 c Training

- Continue the development of online training resources.
- Conduct training outreach activities as regular webinars, facilitate training on request, organize training sessions at workshop and conferences, and explore alternative outreach possibilities.
- Increase/continue collaboration with CODATA to reach out to new communities of users.
- Establish training collaborations with FAIR related organizations (FAIRsFAIR, GO FAIR, RDA, EOSC etc.).
- Coordinate all of these activities with the Marketing Group.

II 11 d Controlled Vocabularies

- Identify DDI elements that are good candidates for creating CVs.
- Create, and publish new Controlled Vocabularies for DDI elements, with a focus on DDI Lifecycle CodeValueType elements.
- Review and revise existing Controlled Vocabularies and publish new versions as appropriate.
- Work with Technical Committee and ICPSR to set up the process for publishing CVs on the DDI Alliance site, including resolution support.
- Coordinate the publication of CVs in SKOS with TC and CESSDA.

II 11 e SDTL

- Perform minor adjustments
- Initiate project to work to cover statistical analyses in SDTL, if accepted.

II 11 f Paradata

- Form group and discuss work plans with the Scientific Board.

II 11 g XKOS

- Form group and discuss work plans with the Scientific Board.

III. Preparations of issues to be covered by next SP

- Discuss and advise processes for product lifecycle management in collaboration with the Technical Committee and other Working Groups.
- Support the further development of implementation guides to help software architects and developers i.e. recommending the appropriate subset of a specification. Ideally, implementation guidelines should include code snippets or examples and have a consistent presentation across the product line
- Discuss and define a policy for testing of specifications and instances.
- Promote standardized query and exchange protocols which enable building repositories and reuse of DDI metadata in the web.
- Identify and plan building blocks for establishing portals for supporting existing and growing DDI metadata repositories.

IV. Long Term Vision for DDI products & processes

- The Scientific Board will evaluate the development work undertaken in the past 7-10 years to both clearly document that work and determine what aspects should be incorporated into one or more products within the DDI Suite of Products
- The Scientific Board will establish guidelines and strategies to improve interoperability and modularity between the different versions
- The Scientific Board will monitor and provide support for the ongoing maintenance of the different products
- The Scientific Board will promote interoperability and collaboration with other metadata standards
- The Scientific Board will re-ignite the discussion of certifying DDI as an official ISO or similar standard
- The Scientific Board will establish organization-level relationships with external standards bodies where needed/appropriate

DDI Scientific Plan DRAFT (2021 – 2022)

Preface

The Scientific Board of the DDI Alliance was reorganized by a change in the Bylaws as approved by the membership in 2020. The reorganization was based on the proposal of a temporary working group to create a more proactive and larger entity with a clearer oversight and administrative role. The members of the new Scientific Board were elected in 2020 and serve 4-year terms (January 2021 – December 2024). Note that for the initial board half the members will serve 2-year terms so that in the future the terms of board members will be staggered with elections taking place every 2 years. The Scientific Board has elected a chair and vice-chair from within its membership and these positions will serve 2 year terms.

The first DDI Scientific Plan covers a 2-year period, January 2021 through December 2022. The initial 2-year plan reflects the fact that the Scientific Board only became fully operational in spring of 2021. The Scientific Plan for this initial planning period focuses on the need for the board to establish its internal process as well as provide oversight to the on-going scientific work of the DDI Alliance. This will include clarifying relationships with the Executive Board and its relationship to the Technical Committee and other Working Groups of the Scientific Board.

The Scientific Work Plan is therefore divided into four sections

- I. Proceedings and Workflow of the new Scientific Board internally and externally
- II. Reachable Short-Term Goals for 2021 and 2022
- III. Preparations of issues to be covered within the next Scientific Plan for 2023
- IV. Long Term Vision for DDI products and processes

Sections I and II are the actual work plan for 2021 and 2022 as they contain measurable goals which should be reachable within this timeframe. Section III contains goals we consider to be viable for the next Scientific Plan beginning in 2023. The intent of this section is to identify areas for preparation and planning for future work. Section IV contains long term visions for DDI products which can be reached in timeframes of three to five years. The current Scientific Board will not be able to initiate those processes in the near term, but provide this information to provide context for current activities and clarify longer term goals.

This iteration of the Scientific Work Plan incorporates large parts of the DDI Alliance Strategic Plan as it existed at the time this document was created. The Scientific Board accepted the Strategic Plan in its general outline. The internal planning discussions of the Scientific Board as well as the work plans submitted by the different Working Groups fit within the Strategic Plan. In the future, the scientific section of the Strategic Plan should arise out of the long-term goals of the Scientific Plan as reviewed by the Scientific Representatives and approved by the membership of the DDI Alliance.

I. Proceedings and Workflow of the new Scientific Board internally and externally

As stated, the Scientific Board is a new entity for which the new roles and responsibilities have to be clarified. The focus of this first year will be to clarify the internal roles, processes, and operating rules, as well as establishing relations with other existing groups. These will be specified in a procedures document which can be modified periodically to meet changes in the operating environment. This document will serve as a set of clear guidelines for the operations of the Scientific Board.

Therefore, the Scientific Board will have to clarify the following issues:

1. Internal proceedings and operational guidelines, e.g.
 - a. Number and timeline of physical and virtual meetings of the Scientific Board
 - b. Engagement of the Scientific Community
 - c. Voting procedure for Chair and Vice-Chair
 - d. Voting procedures on decisions (e.g. possibility of remote votes between meetings)
2. Collaboration of Scientific Board members between the meetings
3. Working relationships between and among the Scientific Board, Technical Committee and all Working Groups
4. Working relationship with the Executive Board
5. The establishment and promotion of new working groups (short and long-term groups) to accomplish the work of the Scientific Plan

II. Reachable Short-Term Goals for 2021 and 2022

These action items are issues we evaluated to be short term enough to be covered within the next 1.5 years.

- 1.) Define a first draft of a roadmap for portability between versions. This action item has to be further developed as a medium- and long-term goal.
- 2.) Promote more collaboration between the Working Groups, e.g. to achieve better documentation. This action item has to be further developed as a medium- and long-term goal.
- 3.) Plan a new laboratory environment to explore new features and technical platforms.
- 4.) Plan the creation of a new software development group similar to the DDI Developers group in the past to promote DDI Tool development.
- 5.) Provide guidance for the community on which DDI specification and which parts of DDI are the preferred solution for specific use cases.
- 6.) Promote the development of technical DDI services, especially resolution of DDI URNs to the physical location of DDI resources (identified by URLs).
- 7.) Promote the role of DDI in external projects like e.g. European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) and FAIR.
- 8.) Explore a base architecture for existing and growing DDI metadata repositories.
- 9.) Initiate the establishment of organization-level relationships with external standards bodies where needed/appropriate. This action item has to be further developed as a medium- and long-term goal.
- 10.) Review DDI Alliance communication on e.g. web pages on current products, the learn pages and development products.
- 11.) Support and facilitate the following action items provided by the different working groups:
 - a. CDI
 - Finalize the first production version of the Cross Domain Integration specification.
 - Collaborate on activities to implement and get feedback on the specification, in particular with data providers, RIs, EOSC and cross-domain case studies.
 - Provide more complete mappings to other DDI specifications (Codebook and Lifecycle), and some mappings to external standards which were not included in the review package, notably to SDMX and DCAT.
 - Create a modular architecture for the specification.

- b. TC
 - Review, vote for publication, and publication of approved specifications (CDI 1.0, Codebook 2.6) and add support for new products (XKOS, SDTL).
 - Create content model for overall DDI coverage, product coverage, and mapping, and define roles of individual products.
 - XKOS support – work with group managing XKOS maintenance and development and ensure clear expression of the role of XKOS in DDI Suite.
 - Setting up the publication process for CVs.
 - DDI resolution support (e.g. CV, XKOS).
 - Setting up an automated production system.

- c. Training
 - Continue the development of online training resources.
 - Conduct training outreach activities as regular webinars, facilitate training on request, organize training sessions at workshop and conferences, and explore alternative outreach possibilities.
 - Increase/continue collaboration with CODATA to reach out to new communities of users.
 - Establish training collaborations with FAIR related organizations (FAIRsFAIR, GO FAIR, RDA, EOSC etc.).
 - Coordinate all of these activities with the Marketing Group.

- d. Controlled Vocabularies
 - Identify DDI elements that are good candidates for creating CVs.
 - Create, and publish new Controlled Vocabularies for DDI elements, with a focus on DDI Lifecycle CodeValueType elements.
 - Review and revise existing Controlled Vocabularies and publish new versions as appropriate.
 - Work with Technical Committee and ICPSR to set up the process for publishing CVs on the DDI Alliance site, including resolution support.
 - Coordinate the publication of CVs in SKOS with TC and CESSDA.

- e. SDTL
 - Perform minor adjustments
 - Initiate project to work to cover statistical analyses in SDTL, if accepted.

- f. Paradata
 - Form group and discuss work plans with the Scientific Board.

- g. XKOS
 - Form group and discuss work plans with the Scientific Board.

III. Preparations of issues to be covered within the next Scientific Plan for 2023

The following action items are also out of scope for the upcoming work period. The Scientific Board will discuss and begin to frame these issues in preparation for the next Scientific Plan beginning in January 2023:

1. Discuss and advise processes for product lifecycle management in collaboration with the Technical Committee and other Working Groups.
2. Support the further development of implementation guides to help software architects and developers i.e. recommending the appropriate subset of a specification. Ideally, implementation guidelines should include code snippets or examples and have a consistent presentation across the product line
3. Discuss and define a policy for testing of specifications and instances.
4. Promote standardized query and exchange protocols which enable building repositories and reuse of DDI metadata in the web.
5. Identify and plan building blocks for establishing portals for supporting existing and growing DDI metadata repositories.

IV. Long Term Vision for DDI products and processes

The issues included in this paragraph reflect guidelines for addressing the development of long-term goals for the Scientific Board:

1. The Scientific Board will evaluate the development work undertaken in the past 7-10 years to both clearly document that work and determine what aspects should be incorporated into one or more products within the DDI Suite of Products
2. The Scientific Board will establish guidelines and strategies to improve interoperability and modularity between the different versions
3. The Scientific Board will monitor and provide support for the ongoing maintenance of the different products
4. The Scientific Board will promote interoperability and collaboration with other metadata standards
5. The Scientific Board will re-ignite the discussion of certifying DDI as an official ISO or similar standard
6. The Scientific Board will establish organization-level relationships with external standards bodies where needed/appropriate