

# Technical Committee Report – 2015/2016

## Members:

Wendy Thomas (Chair), Joachim Wackerow (Vice-Chair), Arofan Gregory (Technical Consultant), Johan Fihn, Dan Gillman, Jay Greenfield, Larry Hoyle, Jeremy Iverson, Jon Johnson, Olof Olsson, Flavio Rizzolo, Dan Smith

## Purpose:

The purpose of the Technical Committee is to model, render, maintain, and update the DDI specifications to meet community needs and align with Alliance strategic goals. The TC receives input from substantive working groups of the Scientific Board, DDI users and developers, and other interested parties. This includes the development of conceptual models, implementation of models in various technical forms, monitoring the metadata landscape and related developments, and initiate and plan possible future directions for the standard.

## Primary accomplishments of 2015/16:

- Completed the review of open issues on DDI Lifecycle 3.1 and 3.2
- Provided the Executive Board with a [recommendation](#) on DDI License and Copyright following a complete review of options
- Completed the review of the first [DDI4 Development Review](#) package
  - 73 issues were reported and resolved either by direct implementation or filing a recommended action on the Modeling Team issue tracker
- Reviewed and disseminated document on approval of [DDI Agency ID Submissions](#)
  - Currently 75 registered Agency IDs
- Completed revision of the content of the DDI Lifecycle 3.2 high level documentation in preparation for publication
- Moved development repository for DDI Codebook and DDI Lifecycle to Bitbucket repository
- Working with Michael Iannaccone (ICPSR) resolved the problem of support for content negotiation on the DDI Alliance site opening up the ability to publish RDF vocabularies in a similar manner to XML schemas
- Clarified the roles of the TC Chair and Vice-Chair and ran elections for those positions
  - Elected: Wendy Thomas – Chair, Jon Johnson – Vice-Chair
  - Thanks to Joachim Wackerow for his many years of service as Vice-Chair
- Worked with Modeling Team to clarify expectations for the package of materials to be provided for future development reviews of DDI4 content
- Reviewed the [Design Principles](#) document drafted at the October 2015 Dagstuhl Sprint and began identifying possible metrics that would assist TC in evaluating packages of materials for DDI4 review

## Activities scheduled for 2016/2017:

- Review the Question types available in DDI Lifecycle 3.2 to determine how they are being used and develop a clear set of guidelines for what is supported in DDI; use to determine extent of 3.3 coverage
- Prepare revised DDI Lifecycle 3.2 high-level documentation for publication

- Public review of RDF Vocabularies XKOS and DISCO and resolution of submitted issues
  - Note that PHDD was reviewed in light of the W3C specifications (CSVW) and has been withdrawn from consideration for public review due to the high level of duplication
  - Anticipated date: late June 2016
- Development review of DDI4 (Q2 2016) including resolution of submitted issues
  - Anticipated date: July 2016
- Public review of DDI Lifecycle 3.3 including resolution of submitted issues
  - Anticipated date: late August 2016
- Revision of the technical structure for Controlled Vocabularies
  - Expand publication format options such as SKOS
  - Assist in meeting tools requirements for capturing content for publishing Controlled Vocabularies
  - Focus on developing a closer and clearer relationship between TC and the Controlled Vocabularies group for improved coordination between these two groups and better support for the work of the Controlled Vocabularies group.