

Date: 15 Nov 2013 18:20

Topic: Meeting Results

EUCog & Robotics Unit Meeting

“Outreach, outcome and impact of research in cognitive systems and EUCog”

Luxembourg 15.11.2013

Unofficial Summary (V. C. Müller)

Participants

Andreas Engel

Gregor Schöner

Nathan Labhart

Ron Chrisley

Sebastian Grinschpun

Tjeerd Andringa

Tom Ziemke

Vincent C. Müller

Yulia Sandamirskaya

Olivier Da Costa, Project Officer in charge

Libor Král, HoU

Juha Heikkilä, Deputy HoU

Cécile Huet, Head of "Cognitive Systems" Sector

Michel Brochard, PO

Christoph Klein

NN, Financial Officer

Very general setup:

1) We must make a case that cognitive systems research funding was a success and should be continued

-> What can we do to support that case?

- generated products

- enabled research

- generated value for society

- has a long-term vision with value

2) The context: Presentation on Horizon 2020 (Cécile)

[see slides]

Pillars

1. Excellent Science Base

2. Industrial leadership

3. Societal challenges

in 2. PPP

in 3. Robotics cuts across

in 1. FETPROACT2

-> Make the case for funding 2016-17 in FET and elsewhere

3) The context:

a) Presentation on PR in EUCog (Sebastián)

[his slides]

#robotsandyou, website, classict PR (Observer, Heise, Robohub)

Closing the communication loop network-> public -> network

b) EUCog meetings 2014

- Bochum 19-20.3.14
- Genoa 17-18.10.14

Both should involve reports on projects or project families and show the added value of the network

4) Report on EUCog “3x3 success stories” questionnaire to date (Nathan)

Brainstorming on what kinds of stories are good. Results below under 6) Outcome

5) Action Plan

- Continue with 3x3 questionnaire
- Interview successful projects
 - Each PO names 3 most liked
 - > CC filters these
 - > Nathan interviews
- Portrait young people, show how their unique interdisciplinary training has shaped them successfully
 - Vincent asks ‘senior people’ from EUCog membership, supported by the POs and the CC
- Testimonials from industry (what cognitive systems research did for you)
 - get list of current coordinators from Olivier
 - ask coordinators and CC members to ask people, formulate a question
 - maintain list of contacts in GoogleDoc spreadsheet to avoid doubling up
- Meeting for formulation of specific text
 - perhaps March (at EUCog or ERF?)
- A meeting with ‘the prominent people’
 - what will future success of cognitive systems be? where should we go from here?
 - Munich Message Meeting II, MUC, ca. April 2014
 - Set a date ...

Olivier and Vincent are the contact points

6) Outcome

Whatever helps is good, but some constraints are:

- this is a marketing exercise
- simple message, understandable for non-experts
- positive emotion
- ‘success stories’
- preferably EU funded. Non-European if they show we were right. Could not be national funding
- Technological readiness level is important
- You have been funded, what did you contribute?
- Specific use in a product, even long-term
- Insight, shaping research, shaping cooperation, changing paradigms
- value for society

Some examples:

- autonomous vehicles
- helping autistic children
- grasping anything
- common sense in machines (robustness, autonomy, adaptivity, real-world)

Form

- 2-page document
- Longer PR article
- Images, video

7) EUCog after EUCogIII

What happens to the community after the CA project funding ends?

- Continuation desired and useful for community
 - The community is cross-disciplinary but its clout is larger if organised
 - Funding options exist (conference with fees, membership dues)
 - CogSys should be organised for 2014 and could provide a foundation for the network in the future
 - Further discussion and decisions needed
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