

EUCogII Coordination Council

Kick-off meeting, 09.02.2009 (12:00-13:30, 14:30-17:30)

UKE Hamburg, Seminarraum, Institut für Neurophysiologie (N43), Geschwister-Scholl-Strasse

Present: Andringa, Chrisley, Engel, Gomila, Müller, Pfeifer, Schöner, Ziemke (Project Partners), Mastroddi (E. Commission) Gantinas, Hoffmann, Maye, Nitsos (Project Assistants) Micelli (for project partner Steels)

Minutes

1 WP7 (Management)

- All contracts and accession agreements have been signed and submitted.
- A consortium agreement will be proposed by Müller. No changes to structure in DoW.
- Handover euCognition: We offer all members of euCognition (I) to become members via an 'opt-in' procedure. (Together with this, we ask for information about their area of research.) We maintain continuity. (See below for IT matters.)
- Membership: Researchers in the area of the network, with relevance for artificial cognitive systems. PhD students can become 'student members', but may be entitled to fewer benefits. To be entitled to reimbursements members have to be of 'active' standing, i.e. participate in network activities. Details of this to be determined in accordance to budget and number of members.
- The main project employees at Anatolia College, Gantinas (administration) and Nitsos (IT) are presented.
- Reimbursement rules for members: the previously circulated draft was discussed and essentially agreed (reimbursement on the basis of travel + per diem + per noctem). A revised version will be submitted for e-mail vote.
- Each institution shall name one responsible administrative person. These administrators shall form an e-mail list and communicate directly.

2 WP 5 (Online resources)

- Website will be hosted at Anatolia
- A first online member questionnaire will be developed to gauge members' interests
- We hope to continue with the domain euCognition.org (but alternatives are secured: eucog.eu). The old site should be archived if this can be done while making confusion with the new site impossible.
- Member database will initially be transferred from euCognition.
- Mailing lists will be established: Coordination Council, Administrators, members (moderated), announcements (opt-out for members, available to non-members, moderated)

3 WP6 (Coordination)

- Members' meeting 2009
 - Time only for one full meeting late this year (probably five in all)
 - UKE Hamburg offers itself as venue, preliminary date Sept. 25/26 2009. Other venues will be investigated by coordinator.
 - Topic: Challenges of artificial cognitive systems (WP 2)

- Format: Encourage involvement. Keynote speakers offer short outline, one discussion group on each topic, reporting back to plenary session. Pairs of speakers?
 - Speakers from cancelled 6th euCognition meeting will be considered as options, with no obligation
 - Coordination Council meeting in early summer – to be specified.
 - Steels (Micelli) propose summer school, “Embodied Language Games and Construction Grammar”, ca. 100 participants, asking for ca. €35.000 support. <http://www.alear.eu/events/cortona2009/Home.html> - - after discussion whether this will be an action of the network itself or an ‘official event’, the organisers are asked to submit a proposal using the euCognition format. While the proposal is viewed favourably, decision on funding will be taken by partners online.
 - Decision template for action support to be developed.
 - CogSys 2010 will be in Zürich. EUCogII will consider holding its members’ meeting in parallel, also holding a workshop at the event itself.
 - [Publicity efforts & regional liaison persons: will be taken up by coordinator later.]
- 4 WP1 (State of the art) Report & plan: Chrisley (Ziemke, Müller)
- Will begin with wiki and questionnaire, move to graphical representation of both content and social network structure. Moderators are needed. Connection & cooperation with scholarpedia. Kick-off workshop in 2009. (Address issues of: What is the added value? Why should members participate?)
- 5 WP2 (Challenges) Report & plan: Gomila (Steels, Müller)
- Setup of basic challenges: cognitive architecture, grounding, compositionality, control structure, cognition & emotion, intersubjectivity, autonomy (ethics, motivation).
 - Work has begin in Steels’ group in Berlin and will continue at summer school (see above).
- 6 WP3 (Education) Report & plan: Pfeifer (Schöner, Engel)
- Emphasis on development of tutorials and robotics toolkit. Initial workshop is planned. Tutorials and material will be web-based.
- 7 WP4 (Outreach) Report & plan: Andringa – [postponed]

17:30 Meeting Adjourned

Note: Decisions reached by agreement just stated here. Voting only when specified (none in this meeting, voting on reimbursement rules and summer school support will take place online after the meeting).

Minutes kept by: Müller

Minutes approved: 19.02.2009