

SCC Workshop Proposal

Version 2.0

by Bernard L Peuto

Goals and Schedule

One of the most important goal of such a workshop should be to put us on the map as one of the major place where software is collected and as a place with which others would want to collaborate in the collection of software.

Said in other terms we should show significant results and be a prime mover in an increased software collecting momentum.

With that in mind it would seem that a November 2004 workshop would fall quite short. I now believe that a major workshop in November 2005, 18 months from now would be ideal. There would be many steps leading to it as is described below.

In an earlier draft I had proposed a spring 2005 Workshop with a quick off in November in the form of "a call for paper" and "call for early collaborators & adopters" for the spring 2005 workshop. Your feedback has convinced me that this was too aggressive.

Deliverables

This 18 month schedule is split into two 9-month phases in the first one from now to February 2005 we would:

- Solved the mechanics of software collecting;
- Have the structure in place for software collecting;
- Tested enough software to provide feedback, and
- Written early drafts of instruction manuals and cookbooks.

This is essentially identical to Lee's suggestions:

- The Software archive ready for access and population.
- Defined Software Artifact Lifecycle
- Software Curation Committee and process in place

At the end of the first phase we would issue a more formal call for papers and call for early collaborators & adopters. This would publicize the workshop and allow us to refine the list of invitees. We would ask the future participants to prepare for it, and more importantly ask early adopters to work with us in integration so that the quantity of software accessible in November 2005 would be large.

During the second phase from February 2005 to November 2005 we would work with selected groups to tie their communities with us and test our governance and protocol ideas. At the end of that Phase the workshop would officially explain what we

have done, what worked and did not work, solicit feedback from a larger group and propose a community structure for the next few years.

The audiences for the workshop should be made of:

- SCC and its affiliates;
- Existing institutions;
- Existing communities, and
- Interested historians, IP experts and volunteers.

The goals of the workshop should be:

- Education on what we and others are doing;
- Feedback on:

- Software collection strategies;
- Institutions collection strategies;
- Individual collection strategies.

- Inventorying interested communities, and
- Defining and establishing relationships between communities.

Other Recommendations

In November using VCF, the IEEE history meeting and even a special invitational SCC meeting we could have a more informal discussion of the state of this effort. At that time it would be clear if the February goals are likely to be achieved. And depending on the situation we could start contacting our more likely second phase partners for the November 2005 workshop.

This is tall order but with the energy of our volunteers and the strong support of our staff we would pull to off. Any way the real decision deadline would be in November.

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