OBO Operations Meeting PUBLIC Rolling Agenda (2026-)

(**Zoom**: see calendar invite)

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Important Documents

- Instructions for Meeting Chairs Please read before chairing a call
- OBO Operations Standard Operating Procedures
    - Onboarding new OBO Operations Committee members
- OBO Operations Members and Duty Rotation

Older meeting notes:

ARCHIVE: 2023-2024 OO Operations agenda/minutes (PUBLICLY READABLE)

ARCHIVE: 2024-2026 OBO Operations agenda/minutes (PUBLICLY READABLE)

Chairs for Upcoming Calls

2026

- Jan 06: Paul
- Jan 20: Sebastian
- Feb 03: Jie
- Feb 17: Nomi
- Mar 3: Hande
- Mar 17: Bill H
- Mar 31: Hande
- April 14: Allen B
- April 28: Alex
- May 12: Jie
- May 26: Damion
- June 9: Deepak
- June 23: Nomi
- July 7: Jim
- July 21: Alex
- August 4: Allen
- August 18: Sebastian
- September 1: Sebastian
- September 15: Paul
- September 29: Alex
- October 13: Jim

- October 27: Bjoern
- November 10: Deepak
- ~~November 24: CANCELLED (Thanksgiving week)~~
- December 8: Sebastian
- ~~December 22: CANCELLED~~

2027

- January 5: Allen
- January 19: Bjoern
- February 2: Alex D
- February 16:
- March 2:
- March 16:
- March 30:
- April 13:
- April 27:

Chairs may wish to quickly review our Standard Operating Procedures before the call, including SOPs for Chairing the Operations Call.

Note: To kick out the fireflies.ai agent from the Zoom, type this in the Zoom chat: '/ff leave' - Remove Fireflies.Ai

2026-11-10

Chair: Deepak
Attending: James O., Darren, Sebastian, Alex, Jim, James S.,Anita, Jie
Apologies: Bill H., Allen

Agenda:

- Review new ontology requests
  - IDPO
    - Alex has reviewed the most recent update and recommends acceptance to the OBO Foundry.
  - PROMOT - review in progress (Bill H.)
    - Note from Allen: Lynn said she's also willing to review this ontology & confirmed that she still expects to review ontologies whenever her turn comes around
  - HMDM
    - Passes NOR dashboard
    - Lexical matching complete
    - Should we request the domain be revised? currently = "information technology"; would microbiology or health be better?

                - Microbiology seems the closest choice but so is health;
                    - Deepak AI: Ask the authors on what they would prefer. And IT is not an appropriate choice
    - POLON/EUPH
        - Failing NOR dashboard
            - Initial dashboard run passed but did not test classes due to non-OBO URIs
            - Authors need to revise URIs/IDs from EUPH to POLON and use OBO Foundry URI (currently classes use `https://w3id.org/euph/`)
                - Should this happen before a reviewer is assigned?
            - Last dashboard run accounting for non-OBO URIs failed
        - Lexical matching complete
        - Reviewer assignment: Pending passing of the NOR dashboard
    - FLUXO
        - Passes NOR dashboard
        - Lexical matching complete
    - NOR questions from Allen:
        - Do authors need address lexical matching issues before a reviewer is assigned?
            - No. The only requirement is that the ontology passes NOR Dashboard.
        - oboInOwl:id annotations are not required, right?
            - POLON/EUPH authors have added them to everything (including imports, e.g. EUPH:#### for BFO classes). I was going to tell them they are not necessary (because they seem confused about them), but wanted to confirm that was okay before stating it (I did suggest they remove those that are obviously wrong)
                - If they did have oboInOwl:id then it should match the imported terms; And these are things assigned from old software; not needed in practice
                    - OBO to OWL conversion
                        - OBO ID becomes an IRI and the ID itself is preserved in oboInOwl:id
                        - oboInOwl:id seems more historical
        - Are there any guidelines/standards relevant to choosing a domain?
            - We do not have any guidelines yet; it would be tough to write something that would be useful for all. In some cases, it would be obvious. Unless we see a scenario such as HMDM (‘microbiology’ vs ‘health’)
                - Do we need one? Normally this is not an issue. But it could be something we could add to the reviewer SOP. EWG can handle this if need be
- Report from Editorial working group
    - DONE. https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2962
    - DONE. https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2965
    - Review needed: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2968/changes

- Report from Technical working group
    - Notes from Allen:
        - Lexical matching supporting NOR was broken, fixed 11/8 (https://github.com/biopragmatics/pyobo/issues/550)
        - Nico said OBO NOR manager should declare base_ns for all NOR ontologies (has not previously been added for NOR dashboard)
            - may only be needed for ontologies submitted with non-OBO Foundry PURLs (e.g. POLON/EUPH)
            - may need to revise NOR issue template – Allen will investigate further and make a recommendation
    - Fix bug: OBOFoundry.github.io pages have better titles – https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2964
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”

2026-10-27

Chair: Bjoern
Attending: Allen, Alex, Sebastian, Bill H, Darren
Apologies: James O., Damion, Jie, Deepak

Agenda:

- Chairs for 2027 [done]
- Clean up this file: Move out content from 2025 and before. [AI: Sebastian]
    - **DONE:** see ARCHIVE: 2024-2026 OBO Operations agenda/minutes (PUBLICLY R… , also linked at top of doc
- NOR manager checkin
    - Allen got the permissions as of 10/26
    - Still walking through process
- Reviewing OFOC members
    - primarily review rotation
    - question who may not be active
        - Send email to OFOC members to verify status for reviews and overall activity
        - Check against the obo operation mailing list, google group
        - **AI Bjoern**

- COB progress - Sebastian is drafting version 1.0
- Review new ontology requests
    - HMDM
        - NOR manager - lexical match, dashboard
    - FLUXO
        - NOR manager - lexical match, dashboard
    - PROMOT
        - Bill H volunteered for review
    - CMEO

        - DN recommends approval; very responsive to suggestions.
        - Consensus on the call was for approval. Darren will communicate and follow SOP for next steps
    - IDPO
        - Re-review posted - made one significant suggestion
- Report from Editorial working group
    - No meeting last week - nothing to report
- Report from Technical working group
    - Nothing to report

2026-10-13

Chair: Jim
Attending: Allen, Darren, Bjoern, Alex, Sebastian, Jie, James O, Bill H, Anita
Apologies: James SPROMOT, Damion

- Chairs for upcoming calls
    - Decided to cancel December 22
- Newsletter - update on volunteer?
    - No progress; Bjoern thinks that it might not be possible to fill this position. We should offer this role to new enthusiastic volunteers who enjoy doing this.
- NOR Manager - Allen Baron volunteers
    - needs appropriate permissions in repos - will check with Nomi first
- Review new ontology requests
    - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
        - Reviewer response needed
        - Alex ready to add his next review
    - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2952 (HMDM)
        - Waiting for reviewer assignment
    - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2949 (FLUXO)
        - Waiting for reviewer assignment
    - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2943 (PROMOT)
        - Waiting for reviewer assignment
    - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
        - submitter working on review response
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Final(?) touches on ‘term migration’ guideline: see https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/edit/nataled-patch-11/docs/DevelopmentGuidelines.md
        - During group discussion, general consensus that we should strongly prefer deprecation/re-creation going forward
        - James: One more technical wrinkle with adoption: Adopted terms need to be handled specially when generating base files. The default approach for

generating a base file using ODK or ROBOT only looks at the namespace of the term.

- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - Nothing to report
    - Anita will double-check status of PRO in dashboard runs
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - none currently

2026-09-30

Chair: Alex
Attending: Darren, Deepak, Sebastian, Jie, James
Apologies: James S, Damion

- Chairs for upcoming calls
- Newsletter - update on volunteer?
    - No progress reported
- Review new ontology requests
    - Reviewer response required:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
            - New release on 2026-09-23 (1 week ago); Alex is reviewing this version.
    - Submitter action needed:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
            - No updates from submitters.
    - Reviewer needs to be assigned
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2943 (PROMOT)
            - Ontology passes the dashboard (2 weeks ago), need to assign a reviewer
    - New Ontology Submission [FLUXO, Metabolic Flux Analysis Ontology], submitted 2 weeks ago
        - Checklist is fully checked by submitters; needs to be confirmed
        - OBO new ontology dashboard needed
        - Lexical Matching needed.
        - Reviewer to be assigned
    - New Ontology Submission [HMDM, Human Microbiome Drug Metabolism], submitted 4 days ago
        - Checklist is fully checked by submitters; needs to be confirmed
        - Did own custom OBO Dashboard review: https://raphenya.github.io/obo-dashboard/dashboard/index.html
        - Lexical Matching needed.
        - Reviewer to be assigned
- Volunteer for NOR management
    - Paul has stepped away from being review director
    - Should we make a call for volunteers on Slack? (Alex will do)
    - Documentation/SOP for NOR Manager
        - https://obofoundry.org/roles/nor-manager

        - This documentation lacks information about running the lexical match. Paul has indicated he would up the SOP for running the lexical matching process in his September 8 Slack entry announcing his departure from the NOR-manager role.
        - In general, needs more step-by-step details
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Incremental progress on a number of items
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - A few points of cleanup/fixes from Charlie Hoyt (both points merged and completed)
        - Enable custom URI prefixes in build files for ontologies using nonstandard PURLs https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2951
        - Remove unused build/config files https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2950
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”

2026-09-15

Chair: Paul
Attending: James Overton, Darren, Jim, Allen
Apologies: Deepak, Sebastian, Alex, James Stevenson

- Chairs for upcoming calls—October 13?
- Newsletter - update on volunteer?
- Review new ontology requests
    - Reviewer response required:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
            - New release, Alex will look into it
            - Darren points out some issues related to lexical matching process
    - Submitter action needed:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
            - Updated review from Darren.
    - Other
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2943 (PROMOT)
            - Ontology passes the dashboard, need to assign a reviewer
- Questions about the lexical matching tool
    - Create an issue about this (Paul)
- Volunteer for NOR management
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - No meeting last week
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - Nothing to report
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - NONE

2026-09-01

Chair: Sebastian
Attending: Sebastian D, Paul F, James O, Darren N, Bjoern P, James S, Bill H, Hande M, Jie Z
Apologies: Damion

- Chairs for upcoming calls—October 13?
- Newsletter - still need a new volunteer for this
- Review new ontology requests
    - Reviewer response required:
        - (1) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
            - Alex assigned
            - Needs re-review
            - This one has been waiting on a re-review since May
        - (2) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
            - Darren assigned
            - Q: Axiom injection vs term duplication: sometimes a term is a lexical duplication of another term, and might also be a semantic duplication, but has a different hierarchy. What's the move for this?
            - Q: Some terms are duplications of terms in another ontology, but the term is out of scope for both ontologies. What's the best interim way forward (replace or keep) before submitting to a more appropriate ontology.
    - Submitter action needed:
        - (3) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2920 (Compound Toxicity Ontology)
            - No response after a month—we can close this on Sept 6
        - (4) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2943 (PROMOT)
            - Doesn't yet pass the Dashboard
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Added notes indicating that the prepended strings 'obsolete ' and 'OBSOLETE. ' are controlled vocabularies.
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - FYI: A handful of modest technical infrastructure improvements from Charlie Hoyt
        - Fix small bugs in utils/ scripts https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2942
        - Lint/Reformat python code https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2941
        - Still in review: modernizing GitHub actions code https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2940
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled "attn: OFOC call"
    - NONE
- Sebastian presents COB manuscript work
    - Repo: https://github.com/sebastianduesing/cob_manuscript
    - Slides: COB Manuscript Preliminary Results
    - Questionnaire Data: Classifying Biological Terms for COB (Responses)

    - To be actionable, we need to be producing reports for individual ontologies, like the dashboard. Sebastian will work on this.

2026-08-18

Chair: Sebastian
Attending: Bjoern, Darren, Bill H, Jim, Alex, Allen, Jie, Damion
Apologies: Deepak

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings – September 1, 29
- Review new ontology requests
    - Reviewer response required:
        - (1) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
            - Alex assigned
            - Needs re-review
        - (2) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
            - Darren assigned
            - New update (July 21)
            - Was updated in dashboard, ready for re-review
            - Requested re-run of lexical matching
            - Lost all checkmarks!!!
    - Submitter action needed:
        - (3) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2920 (Compound Toxicity Ontology)
            - Submitter contacted for update, 2 wks left for response from submitter before close
    - Accepted previously but not fully incorporated into OBO Foundry
        - (4) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2907 (The Pain Ontology)
            - Accepted on 7/7
            - Submitter action needed on next steps—can Damion confirm the status of this? Damion confirms they've made the PRs as directed
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Discussed "obsolete" as a controlled vocabulary word w/r/t usage in other-language labels
        - Brought up because of slack message from Damien Goutte-Gattat https://obo-communitygroup.slack.com/archives/C01BTR3E8CU/p1783280113967309 **Damien Goutte-Gattat**: I note that if OBO Principle 12 is amended to allow multiple labels with different language tags, then the implementation guidelines for Principle 19 will need to be amended as well: the instruction to "prepend the string `obsolete` to the label" must only apply to a label without any language tag and/or to a label with an English language tag. Likewise for prepending `OBSOLETE.` to the term definition, if we similarly allow several definitions in different languages. Whether the guidelines should recommend prepending a language-appropriate equivalent of "obsolete" (e.g. "déprécié" or "obsolète" for a French label), I am not sure. One problem is that in some languages, the correct place for such an adjective may *not* be at the beginning of the label.

        - Decision: ‘Obsolete’ is to be considered a controlled vocabulary and will apply to any and all languages.
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - Nothing to report 👍
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - NONE
- Newsletter - still need a new volunteer for this
- Sebastian presents COB manuscript work
    - Repo: https://github.com/sebastianduesing/cob_manuscript
    - Slides: COB Manuscript Preliminary Results
    - Questionnaire Data: Classifying Biological Terms for COB (Responses)
    - We made it through the first half of the presentation. Sebastian will chair next call to continue with the alignment work
    - For questionnaire: Would be useful to allow--for cases where the answer was ‘I don’t know’--the ability to indicate WHY that was selected. That is, ‘I don’t know because I’m unsure about the ancestor’ vs ‘I don’t know because I’m unsure of the child’

2026-08-04

Chair: Allen
Attending: Jim, Deepak, Damion, James O., Darren
Apologies: Jie, Alex, Sebastian, Paul

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings – September 1, 29
- Review new ontology requests
    - Reviewer response required:
        - (1) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
            - Alex assigned
            - Needs re-review
        - (2) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
            - Darren assigned
            - New update (July 21)
            - Needs to be updated in Dashboard & re-review to check changes
    - Submitter action needed:
        - (3) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2920 (Compound Toxicity Ontology)
            - Nothing to do
            - 1 mo left for response from submitter before close
            - Submitter contacted for update
    - Accepted previously but not fully incorporated into OBO Foundry
        - (4) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2907 (The Pain Ontology)
            - Accepted on 7/7

            - Submitter action needed on next steps
            - Damion will send email to OBO-discuss
    - Incorporated into OBO Foundry
        - (5) https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2893 (Emotion Response Ontology)
            - Page active: https://obofoundry.org/ontology/emro.html
            - Issue already closed
            - Can be removed from OBO NOR Dashboard
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Improving initial ontology review process
        - Updated https://obofoundry.org/docs/SOP.html#ROOM
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - NONE
- Newsletter - still need a new volunteer for this
    - Damion will send paragraph to OBO-discuss to request volunteer

2026-07-21

Chair: Alex
Attending: Allen, Darren, Sebastian, Jim, James O, Jie, Anita, Bjoern
Apologies: James S, Deepak, Damion, Paul

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings - September 1, September 29, and beyond.
- Review new ontology requests
    - Reviewer response required:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
            - Alex intends to review for next meeting.
    - Submitter action needed:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2920 (Compound Toxicity Ontology)
            - Currently unassigned; issues noted by Paul, still no response from submitter
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
            - Last update on June 19
    - Accepted previously but not fully incorporated into OBO Foundry
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2907 (The Pain Ontology)
            - Accepted on 7/7/26, but no followup from submitter on next steps
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2893 (Emotion Response Ontology)
            - Accepted on 6/23/26
            - PR for addition to OBO Foundry is blocked from merging
            - James reran Github checks, all passed
                - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2918

- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Nothing to report (no meeting last week)
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - Nothing to report
- Review additional open issues that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - None right now
- Pull requests
    - No open PRs right now
- Survey on classification of biological terms for COB manuscript (item from Sebastian)
    - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd3zfNmJOgbTcpi7210Y5KMxloQrR3rXnuslTCH2WVqGa9EPQ/viewform?usp=dialog
    - Survey is still open until tomorrow (54 responses so far)
    - Data needed for COB paper
- ICBO/ISMB/BOKR recap (Jim, Nomi, others?)
    - Presentation from BOSC/BOKR: The OBO Foundry in 2026 - BOSC
    - Jim: Talk well received. Joint BOSC/BOKR session.
    - ICBO felt small.
    - Merging ICBO and BOKR discussed.
- ICBO 2027
    - Any updates as to location or dates or plan?
- Newsletter - Leila has stepped down as newsletter editor; we need a new volunteer for this
    - We should announce this to the OBO discuss mailing list to look for a volunteer - Damion volunteered to do this, has it been done?
- Jie: Can we develop an agentic workflow for ontology review assistance?
    - Darren: the self-assessment doesn’t work well as submitters just blindly check stuff. SOP for doing reviews does not include that we check if the self-assessment has been done correctly.
    - Perhaps AI could be used to check the self-assessments.
    - James O: Provide standard responses for when submitters provide false or incomplete self-assessment information.
        - This is the issue template: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/blob/master/.github/ISSUE_TEMPLATE/new-ontology.yml
        - The instructions for the self-assessment already link to two additional documents:
            - http://obofoundry.org/docs/Policy_for_OBO_namespace_and_associated_PURL_requests.html
            - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/blob/master/docs/RegistrationChecklist.md
        - When a reviewer finds a problem, that's a good opportunity to update these docs – it just requires a PR.
    - Darren will update the SOP for reviewers about the self-assessment. In SOP for the reviewer. Encourage people to reach out.
    - Bjoern: Allow people two or three attempts to satisfy the self-assessment.

2026-07-07

Chair: Jim
Attending: Paul, Sebastian, Alex, James, Jie, Bjoern, Bill H., Nomi, Damion
Apologies: Darren

Agenda:

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings - July 21, September 1
- OBO presentation at BOSC next week (July 14) by Jim - working on slides this week - 20 minute slot
    - starting with some from Nicole ICBO OBO Tutorial 2024
- Newsletter - Leila is stepping down as newsletter editor; we need a new volunteer for this
    - We should announce this to the OBO discuss mailing list to look for a volunteer - Damion will do this
    - Damion's note: I sent an email out to Leila to comment on the message below that I would send out to the obo discuss list; your feedback is also welcome:

      "*The OBO Operations Committee would like to acknowledge the wonderful work that Leila Kiani has been assiduously doing to publish the past 10 editions of the OBO Foundry Newsletter, starting from its inaugural edition on Jun 16, 2023 up to the 10th edition on April 13, 2026. Leila has now stepped down from her volunteer editorial work, and so we want to get the word out that the newsletter needs a new champion and organizer. The work involves some liaison with the Operations Committee and other contributors, and is a great way to be exposed to the Foundry's core activity to ontologize natural and life sciences and beyond. This project for our digital age is the equivalent of the dictionary curation that went into publishing the Oxford English Dictionary over a century ago. The newsletter is a key piece in promoting the OBO Foundry's volunteers and progress!*"

- Review new ontology requests
    - Reviewer response required:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2907 (Pain Ontology)
            - Damion recommends acceptance
            - Approved for acceptance.
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2770 (IDPO)
            - Alex intends to review for next meeting.
    - Submitter action needed:
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2920 (Compound Toxicity ontology)
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2893 (Emotion Response) (accepted at last meeting)
        - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2822 (CMEO)
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Bill H.)

    - Working on guidance on term adoption presently
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - No news
- Review additional open issues that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - None right now
- Pull requests
    - No open PRs right now
- Survey on classification of biological terms for COB manuscript (item from Sebastian)
    - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd3zfNmJOgbTcpi7210Y5KMxloQrR3rXnuslTCH2WVqGa9EPQ/viewform?usp=dialog
- ICBO 2027 [Alex]
    - need to find a location for 2027 (need a host). Preferably outside the US.

2026-06-23

Chair: Nomi
Attending: Alex, Allen, Bill D, Bill H, Darren, Jie, Jim, Sebastian, Deepak, Damion, James O
Apologies: Bjoern, Nico, Ray, Bill D, Jie, Paul, James S

Agenda:

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings - July 21, September 1
- Review new ontology requests
    - Request for new ontology [Cohort Ontology] **reviewer required** new ontology - submitter action needed
        - Lexical review done. Submitter need to reach an agreement within their group wrt to the last comment. This ontology is not yet ready to be reviewed.
    - Request for new ontology The Pain Ontology **reviewer response required (Damion)**
        - Damion is reviewing; looks good so far
    - Request for new ontology [Emotion Response Ontology] (EMRO)
        - New version has just been released (06/22)
        - Jie reviewed, she thinks it looks good and should be accepted. A few other people felt it overlapped with other ontologies (particularly the Emotion Ontology). Does anyone object to accepting it?
        - Allen wondered what our policy is regarding overlap with other ontologies
            - Alex (who worked on this ontology with Bill): the Emotion Ontology hasn’t been worked on for years. It represents a different theory of emotion. We had to develop our ERO to satisfy our psychology domain expert. Needed to have a way to represent our terms for dental pain that captured the theoretical perspective that we’re working from. This is part of a larger modular system, with links between different ontologies.
            - Darren: We used to have a distinction between “OBO Library" and “OBO Foundry” ontologies. The idea was that we would have a set of high-quality ontologies that didn’t overlap, and this was the Foundry ontologies, but we also allowed a wider set of ontologies in the Library

that didn't need to be non-overlapping. A few years ago we got rid of that distinction.
- Alex: We might not be able to argue that our emotion ontology is "better" than the other one, but it represents a different view of the domain. (See, for example, Mondo and the Disease Ontology, which coexist in the OBO Foundry.)
- Jie: Many ontologies have some overlap. Main concern would be how users decide which one to use. Examples of usage would be helpful.
- Allen: it may be too limiting to allow only one ontology per domain. Bill D tried to reach out to Janna to resolve some issues of overlap, but maybe didn't hear back? Do we need a policy about that?
    - Darren: We used to have a policy that if you were in the Foundry and didn't respond to requests, you got 'demoted' to Library. Nowadays the procedure is to mark 'inactive'.
- Allen: if there are terms that are almost the same, it may be worth the social investment to resolve those. Maybe in this case, there's not that much overlap.
- Bill H: We should accept this ontology, and continue the larger discussion separately
- "The decision [to accept] is made on the call." No waiting period, no quorum required.
- Bill D: The ontology is already hosted on Bioportal using bioportal IRIs. I will now be using OBO IRIs. Do I need to remove it, so that it there isn't a conflict?
    - Alex: Since Bioportal picks up OBO Foundry ontologies, I think you can remove from BIoportal and it will return, but you should probably ask Bioportal people for clarification

- Request for new ontology [MICRONT] new ontology - submitter action needed
    - Issue closed: no answer from submitter > 2 months
- Request for new ontology [CMEO] new ontology - submitter action needed
    - Submitter working on update following reviewer comments.
- Request for new ontology - Intrinsically Disordered Proteins Ontology (IDPO) **reviewer response required (Alex)**

- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Worked on term adoption guidelines
    - Question: What happens (or what *should* happen) if the source ontology and adopting ontology have different licenses?
        - EWG proposes that we include the following (pending wordsmithing): "Note: Regardless of the license used by the originating ontology, adopted terms will be subject to the stipulations of the license used by the adopting ontology."
        - Jim: Is this really a problem in practice? We only have 2 licenses (one of which is really just "public domain") and the difference between them is small.
        - James: licenses are currently at the ontology level, NOT at the term level, so this proposal is really the only one that makes sense.
        - Bill H: It is also a big heads up to the ontology ceding the term: when you give up this term, the adopting ontology license now applies.

        - The EWG will work on wording about this
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - Anita wrote out an explanation of ontology IRI validation, for which there were some questions: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBO-Dashboard/issues/161#issuecomment-4712216360 However, this does not address some of the other questions about possible false-positives. I'm still trying to find time to reproduce the other questions (eg https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBO-Dashboard/issues/168)
- Policy re adding ORCIDs without explicit consent? https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2909
    - Darren: A few years ago (2022), the Ops committee decided we want to include ORCIDs as part of contact info. We sent an email to all contacts saying "We're going to add ORCIDs to contact info; if you don't want that, let us know you want to opt out." Charlie H is trying to fill in missing info. He found some ORCIDs that were missing. He wanted to just go ahead and add them. People whose ORCIDs we're proposing to add are being contacted (Darren saw the email).
        - Nico no longer supports opt-out for ORCIDs; he wants to make it mandatory.
        - Our current submission policy requires ORCIDs: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/new?assignees=&labels=new+ontology&projects=&template=new-ontology.yml&title=Request+for+new+ontology+%5BNAME%5D
        - Alex: ORCIDs are already public info. We should do our best to ensure that any ORCID we add is correct--that would be the main reason to reach out to the person, to confirm that it's the right ORCID.
    - Darren: we established a policy in the past that we had to reach out to people to let them opt out of including their ORCID. If we want to change that, we should make that explicit, before deciding to automatically add ORCIDs without asking.
    - Darren: journals, NIH, etc. now require ORCIDs.
    - Vote: should we allow ORCIDs to be added to existing ontologies w/o owner consent?
        - No one objected
- Issue raised from RO meeting: Should we add relation review as an explicit part of the new ontology review process? For example, if the relation is determined to be general enough, push the developer to add relation to RO.
    - Bill H: I would object to all relations in RO. It's too hard to import subsets of it, and the full thing is a reasoning nightmare.
    - Jim: COB shouldn't depend on RO, RO should depend on COB, so RO should cede some relations to COB (only a side comment)
    - Bill H: But if a NOR includes a high level relation that has no super relation in RO, we can request that they submit it to RO. RO then needs to be reasonably responsive.
    - Damion: agree. Any new proposed relations should be compared with RO.
    - Allen: I think there should definitely be some review of properties. Is lexical matching restricted to classes only?
    - Bill H: I think properties that have a RO super-property should not be subject to an absolute requirement
    - It would be good for more people to attend the RO meeting to address the specifics of this issue. RO agenda: https://docs.google.com/document/d/19dhzj5QoliQZQgDJRczI878rLtexzMDo1g0K9_LRUWk/edit?usp=drive_link

- Review additional open issues that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
- Pull requests
    - Can any of these be addressed - merged / closed as done / closed as won’t do / followup needed?
- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings - July 21, September 1
- Discuss next time: Newsletter - Leila is stepping down as newsletter editor; we need a new volunteer for this
    - Nomi: do we have metrics re the impact of the newsletter?

2026-06-09

Chair: Deepak
Attending: Darren, Sebastian, James S, Jim B, Paul, James O, Jie, Allen
Apologies: Alex

Agenda:

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings
- Review new ontology requests
    - Cohort Ontology - #2914
        - Added to the dashboard, some conceptual issues need to be resolved before going further. (classes instead of instances, “temporally unclassified” class)
    - Pain Ontology - #2907
        - In review: ontology reviewed by Damian
    - Emotion Response Ontology - #2893
        - In review: Ontology reviewed by Jie, suggest to accept
            - Latest version in review by Jie; looks good
            - Jie proposes to accept the ontology
                - No objections from the OFOC
                - One thing to note: While it overlaps with Emotion Ontology in scope, it does not go against acceptance of the ontology
                    - Jie raised this with the ontology submitter; Awaiting response
    - MICRONT - #2835
        - No answer from the submitter since April 16. Would advise to close the issue.
            - According to SOP, close only after Jun 16
    - CMEO - #2822
        - In review: submitter response required by July 7.
    - IDPO - #2770
        - In review: new version provided by submitter on May 14.
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - No meeting last week

    - Revised SOP to change TWG chair from 'Ray' to 'James S' (https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2915)
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - Dashboard IRI check false positives (eg here, here)
        - I (James S) spent ~a little time looking into this
        - No answers yet
        - Likely due to GitHub rate limiting API requests
- Presentation on OBOFoundry at ISMB/BOSC 2026
    - Will be given by Jim
    - Submitted abstract: ISMB 2026 Abstract Draft
    - Add topics/points to include to doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UBJBYcTeqyYHT4Ywek8IlaGX5vq8lZNFHiHWsyY7ACM/edit?tab=t.0 (request access)
        - Those interested in contributing should request access to the above document
- Additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled "attn: OFOC call"

2026-05-26

Chair: Damion
Attending: Darren, Jie, Nomi, Alex, Jim, Bill H, James O
Apologies: Allen, Sebastian, James S, Paul, Deepak

Agenda:

- Volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings
- Review new ontology requests
    - Emotion Response Ontology - #2893
        - Assigned Jie to review, needs more time, will report on the next meeting.
    - MICRONT - #2835
        - Submitter replied to Paul and Allen, seems they need more time to update their ontology - No update since April 16
    - CMEO - #2822
        - Waiting for submitter to address Darren comments
    - IDPO - #2720
        - New version released by submitter 2 weeks ago. Alex has not reviewed yet.Coming soon!
    - The Pain Ontology - #2907
        - Ontology available on the dashboard. Some minor corrections (license) and need to assign a reviewer. Damion volunteers to review when it is ready to review.
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Nothing to report (no meeting last week)
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)

    - Unexpected “Version IRI fails to resolve” errors on dashboard runs: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBO-Dashboard/issues/168 (ontology version IRI failed)A
    - https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBO-Dashboard/issues/161 (ontology IRI failed)
        - I (James S) plan to look into it this week
        - Jie & Darren report Version IRI actually available online in spot cases.
        - Is this possibly a github or network issue? Safeguarding that case?
- Apollo_SV having terms to be adopted to IAO, and whether IAO takes on these terms without modifying identifier code.
    - Bill: discussion regarding keeping original ID of Apollo_SV when appearing in IAO.
        - Annotation and guidance about a given term being imported
    - Jie: COB does have policy to take 3rd party IDS as import terms.
        - Some exceptions for BFO/RO taking on & resolving URIs

- Issue of what situation “Term adoption” pertains to, arising from https://github.com/OGMS/ogms/pull/200 . See https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/blob/master/principles/fp-008-documented.md?plain=1#L24

    “If a term that was previously defined in an identifier space belonging to ontology A (e.g. http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/A_123) is adopted by ontology B (with a different identifier scheme, e.g. http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/B_123) the following annotation assertion MUST be added to that term:
    OWL format (Turtle serialisation):
    `<http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/A_123> rdfs:isDefinedBy <http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/b.owl>`
    - Bill’s Apollo_SV gave up terms with the intention that existing Apollo IRIs are preserved. http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/A_123 expectation is that this resolves.
    - James notes that term http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/A_123 is supposed to resolve in new host B’s term space resolution. E.g. *http://purl.obolibrary.org needs to know extra step/info:* This requires tools knowing redirect with help of tag below; however most 3rd party tools don’t have the smarts.

    - Alex: Understanding both perspectives, requiring a page on OBO Foundry for guidance.
    - Damion: reminded of perspective that deprecation and replacement is a key component/requirement of OBO functionality re. simplifying database content over time.
    - Like OBODashboard, a central resource for term replace as a query against the entire OBO Graph. Best place for this in search resolution service like OLS?
        - Jim: OAK possibly a good interface for looking up this mapping.
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”

2026-05-12

Chair: Jie

Attending: Darren, Bill Hogan, Paul, James O, Allen, Alex, Deepak, James S,
Apologies: Damion

Agenda:

- Volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings
- Review new ontology requests
    - Emotion Response Ontology - #2893
        - Assigned Jie to review, will send the review report by next meeting
    - MICRONT - #2835
        - Submitter replied to Paul and Allen, seems they need more time to update their ontology
    - CMEO - #2822
        - Darren posted a review report and requested the submitters to address the issues.
            - Some issue highlights:
                - Problems with imports - using third party ontologies
                - Self-referential definitions
                - Many term duplications
    - PREFER - #2821
        - New release of ontology was made on 2026-04-20, this should be looked at
        - Paul: The revised version incorporates all the feedback received. I recommend that this ontology be accepted into the OBO Foundry.
            - **Scope and domain**: PREFER targets precision fermentation, in the context of biomanufacturing, and introduces domain-specific classes that are not currently covered by existing OBO ontologies.
            - **Orthogonality and Integration:** The ontology follows OBO principles of reuse and interoperability. It imports and builds upon:
                - BFO and COB for foundational modeling
                - RO for standardized object properties
                - CHEBI for chemical entities
                - GO for biological processes
                - OBI for experimental processes
                - In addition, the ontology includes cross-references linking selected classes to related terms in external ontologies.
            - **Formal and Technical Evaluation:** The ontology follows OBO best practices regarding IRIs, namespaces, versioning, Aristotelian definitions, and licensing. The ontology is well axiomatized. It also defines domains, ranges, and inverse relations for newly created object properties.
            - **Usage**: The ontology was developed as an open standard designed to facilitate the integration of heterogeneous data sources in the context of the BRIGHT project. The submitters have been very reactive to comments.
    - IDPO - #2720
        - The submitters replied to Alex's comments and made a new release. It was assigned to the reviewer to review the updated ontology and the submitter’s reply

    - The Pain Ontology - #2907
        - Request submitted on May 11, 2026

  We may consider reviewing the ontology quickly by first checking whether the submitted ontology does meet the pre-registration checklist.
  Darren: review the ontology using Protege by displaying both ID and label so that it is easily to see the import terms and the terms might be added in other OBO library ontologies.
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Made some tweaks to P12 Naming Conventions (mostly under “Purpose”)
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG)
    - Some belated FYIs: a few contributions from Charlie Hoyt to streamline ontology metadata: [1], [2], [3]
    - Up for review: GitHub Action to automatically remind pull requests that modify ontology activity status about OBO SOP https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/pull/2876
    - Jie’s question: When will the OBO Dashboard be updated? The most recent report is dated 2026-03-18.
        - James S: I don’t know this – if concerned, maybe best to reach out to Anita
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - No open issue and pull request with label “attn: OFOC call”
- The OBO Foundry abstract submitted to ISMB 2026 (12–16 July) has been accepted for a long talk as part of the BOSC track.
    - Talk title: The OBO Foundry in 2026: Building Sustainable Ontology Infrastructure for Interoperable Life Science Data
    - Jim will present the work. (Note: The presenter needs to register to attend the conference no later than June 5, 2026.)
    - We need to prepare a 16-minute talk, with 4 minutes allocated for Q&A. Who will lead the slides preparation?
    - Some slides we may reuse:
        - https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1pZLAsd5tXiXLEISYXYwQ05DTLMGFWQnDUk7LS7NgXkE/edit?slide=id.p1#slide=id.p1
        - https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/17VRGBPloup9XhtujMYc47wqqdHxjJa5rV0EMtGK8vJo/edit?slide=id.g2be99ec11da_0_276#slide=id.g2be99ec11da_0_276

2026-04-28

Chair: Alex
Attending: Allen, James, Jie, Jim, Damion
Apologies: Nomi, Paul, Deepak, Sebastian, Darren, Anita

Agenda:

- Volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings
- Review new ontology requests
- Emotion Response Ontology - #2893

    - Bill Duncan made responses to Paul's comments, and posted a new version on 2026-04-15
    - Follow up needed and a reviewer should be assigned/
    - Paul: Pier Luigi Buttigieg has been assigned provisionally. I just realized he is now listed as an alumnus; are alumni generally exempt from reviewing tasks?
    - Yes, we should not include alumni as reviewers
    - Damion is provisionally volunteering, but would prefer that we follow the list order.
    - Paul should follow up.
    - We agreed that nonstandard IRIs are acceptable during the review process, but need to be updated upon acceptance. James O. posted a comment on the ticket.
- MICRONT - #2835
    - No response to Paul's Mar 11 - waiting 1 more month (two weeks left)
- CMEO - #2822
    - Darren - review progress? Nearly done; hope to finish by the end of week.
- PREFER - #2821
    - New release of ontology was made on 2026-04-20, this should be looked at
    - Paul: the revised version incorporates all the feedback received. I recommend that this ontology be accepted into the OBO Foundry. Unfortunately, I am unable to present it today; I will do so at the next meeting.
- IDPO - #2720
    - No update since editors statement they'd work on it on Mar 3 - waiting 1 more month following our reminder (two weeks left)
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Didn't meet due to conflicts; no report
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - 👍 nothing to report
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled "attn: OFOC call"
    - What's the status of MA and EMAPA? #2469
        - Per Allen's comment from last meeting, does Nomi know something?
        - Per Jim and the ticket Nico is working with the developers.
        - Decided to remove the "attn: OFOC call"
    - HPO License - #2864
        - Allen added an issue to the OBO dashboard repo #166, which Anita completed and closed (#167).
        - Should this issue be closed now?
        - Issue closed.
- Should OFOC routinely review additional tags? (per Allen)
    - Two specific issues that might be relevant to this meeting
        - From attn: Operations Committee
            - Principle 1 (fp-open) requests using rdfs:comment for rights statement #807
                - Last comment in 2022 (long discussion – comment for TLDR)
                - Whether to remove text about using rdfs:comment for license conditions (not license itself) from Open principle and recommend use of dcterms:rights instead

            - Decided to close for lack of further discussion for the past 4 years.
        - From governance
            - Define some key OBO Foundry concepts #1448
                - Last comment June 2025
                - Whether to add table with definitions to FAQ
                - Per operations committee discussion, we recommend closing this issue in one month unless some OBO Operation Committee member chooses to champion it in an active way.
- Reminder for people who care about RO to respond to Bill Duncan about reviving the OBO relations meeting.
    - Jim mentions Chris Mungall's idea about people owning branches of RO.
    - Allen has some interest in relations used by DO.
    - Damion: Should we hold a workshop at ICBO on an annual basis to work on RO? Or an ad hoc workshop (remote)?

2026-04-14

Chair: Allen
Attending: Hande, Paul, Darren, Deepak, Alex D, Jie, James O, Anita, Damion
Apologies: Nomi, Sebastian, James S

Agenda:

- Volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings
- OBO Foundry abstract submitted to BOSC/BOKR; decisions will be sent May 5
- Review new ontology requests
    - Emotion Response Ontology - #2893
        - New last week (from Bill Duncan)
        - On NOR dashboard, only 1 issue - Paul will contact Bill
        - No lexical duplicates
    - MICRONT - #2835
        - No response to Paul's Mar 11 - waiting 1 more month, reminded submitter
    - CMEO - #2822
        - Darren - review progress?
            - Not much progress made in last two weeks
    - PREFER - #2821
        - Paul - review progress?
            - The submitter has addressed the review comments in a revised version of the ontology. However, some issues have emerged regarding the import of the OBI and COB ontologies. As a side note, the deprecation of OBI_0000011 (planned process) in favor of COB_0000082 (planned process) may have broader implications across multiple OBO ontologies.

            - James O.: OBI:0000011 was obsoleted in favour of COB:0000035 'completely executed planned process' (not COB:0000082). OBI made very loud announcements over many months about obsoleting this.
    - IDPO - #2720
        - No update since editors statement they'd work on it on Mar 3 - waiting 1 more month, reminded submitter
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Working on providing more complete guidance for P12 (Naming)
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - 👍 nothing to report
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - What's the status of MA and EMAPA? #2469
        - Only open “attn: OFOC call” issue/PR that isn't a new ontology request
        - Wait until next meeting - ask Nomi (Allen Baron)
    - HPO License - #2864
        - Close or add a new "attn:" label for update of the warning message?
        - Add issue to OBO dashboard repo - Allen
- Should OFOC routinely review additional tags?
    - attn: Operations Committee - not specifically for this call
    - requires-OFOC-vote - *currently no open issues*
    - vote
    - governance
    - Allen Baron will add to next agenda for potential review (low priority)
        - Principle 1 (fp-open) requests using rdfs:comment for rights statement #807
        - Define some key OBO Foundry concepts #1448

2026-03-31

Chair: Hande
Attending: Paul, Damion, Jie, Nomi, Jim, Darren, Alex D., James O.
Apologies: Bill H., James S, Sebastian

Agenda:

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings (if needed)
- Review new ontology requests
    - VVO - #2857
        - Paul communicated with the maintainers for the outstanding problems, we’ll wait for their follow up, let’s check in next time.
            - This also brings to our attention how we need to enforce some of the OBO Foundry principles consistently
    - MICRONT - #2835

        - We are awaiting response from the ontology owners, they have about a month to respond
        -
    - CMEO - #2822
        - Darren is continuing with his review of the ontology
    - PREFER - #2821
        - Paul is continuing with his review of the ontology
    - IDPO - #2720
        - They have about another month to respond, the ontology owners are working on updates.
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Finished changing 'OBO Library' mentions to 'OBO Foundry'
        - This is done for the pages we maintain, we didn't do this for the individual ontologies, but if you are reading this feel free to update on your side too.
    - Revised principles summaries to use standard wording (must -> MUST, etc)
        - eg, P2 changed from "The ontology is made available in a common formal language in an accepted concrete syntax." to "The ontology MUST be made available in a common formal language in an accepted concrete syntax."
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - No news is good news
    - Question for TWG: FAQ page (https://obofoundry.org/faq/what-is-the-build-field.html) contains a pipeline description that is not currently active, how should we change this?
    - James O. thinks the doc needs to be revised or removed, and added a comment about this to a recent issue: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2881#issuecomment-4163891018
- Does someone want to lead the submission of an OBO Foundry abstract to ISMB (aimed at the BOSC/BOKR joint session)? (Hande, Alex, and Bjoern can't go to ISMB)
    - **JIM** has agreed to give the talk (if the submission is accepted), and **Hande** is going to lead the writing of the abstract. Thank you both!
    - Submission deadline for talk/poster abstracts: **April 9**
    - Talks must be presented in person in Washington DC (unless you have a medical / caregiver exemption)
    - BOSC and BOKR are both tracks ("COSIs") at ISMB. Washington D.C.
        - July 13-14: Bio-Ontologies and Knowledge Representation (BOKR)
        - July 14-15: Bioinformatics Open Source Conference (BOSC)
            - Will be joint with BOKR for half a day. Submit your abstract on open-source approaches to knowledge representation to either BOKR or BOSC to be considered for the joint session! Submission to both is via the ISMB EasyChair (see instructions here).
    - **Jim Balhoff** will present this at ISMB!
        - Hande will help write, this is OBO foundry update in general who else would like to help write this? – Hande and team will circulate one by Sunday – maybe based on the news letters and community development and emerging technologies and their effects on the community; here is the living document:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qK1vX9olLwL5W75WE9PO6JkelVXZOoxeoy64VrNsF08/edit?usp=sharing
        -
    - ICBO will also be in DC (overlapping with ISMB): July 15-17: ICBO
        - Submissions: https://icbo-conference.github.io/icbo2026/call-for-submissions/
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
- Additional discussion about OBO dashboard
    - Maybe for next time!

2026-03-17

Chair: Bill H
Attending: Nomi, Hande, Allen, Lynn, Darren, Sebastian, Alex, James O, Bjoern, Damion, Anita, James S
Apologies: Paul, Deepak, Jie

Agenda:

- Get volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings (if needed)
- Review new ontology requests
    - VVO - #2857
        - Ontology has been added to the dashboard. Will contact the submitter for a follow-up as there are some corrections to be made before review.
        - Damion’s note: this one needs sooo much work. It may have been auto generated. I’ve left a number of points at bottom of issue.
    - MICRONT - #2835
        - Submitter pinged last week, no answer as of today. Would wait till the next OFOC (31/03) before closing the issue.
    - CMEO - #2822
        - Darren has been assigned as the reviewer recently.
    - PREFER - #2821
        - Review in progress. I will get back to the submitter’s last comment.
    - IDPO - #2720
        - Waiting for the submitter to implement the change proposed by Alex.
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Changed mentions of “OBO Library” to “OBO Foundry” on:
        - Summary page
        - P3 ‘OBO Foundry Library’
        - P12
        - ID policy page
    - Did **not** change any mentions on individual ontology pages (e.g., NCIt “The NCIt OBO Edition aims to increase integration of the NCIt with OBO Library ontologies”)
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)

    - Comments requested re: handling brittle tests/false negatives on dashboard runs here: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBO-Dashboard/issues/165 (follow up from previous meeting)
    - Issue is that occasionally the process of running the Dashboard report on an ontology fails due to technical issues, not due to ontology content issues
    - In this case the ontology is "greyed out"
    - How to make it easier / less resource intensive to run? Other solutions?
    - Dashboard was created w/funding that has since expired.
    - Are there existing resources to update / harden the Dashboard?
    - Anita runs it locally on her machine (32GB RAM), and this is one contributor to failure on NCBI Taxonomy
    - Nico's recommendation is to run slim of NCBI Taxonomy, ChEBI is also an issue.
    - Nico's own machine has 96GB RAM so can do it locally so only he can run it successfully at the moment
    - Anita will work on converting Dashboard to run only on NCBI Taxonomy slim
- Does someone want to lead the submission of an OBO Foundry abstract to ISMB (aimed at the BOSC/BOKR joint session)? (Hande, Alex, and Bjoern can't go to ISMB)
    - Submission deadline for talk/poster abstracts: **April 9**
    - Talks must be presented in person in Washington DC (unless you have a medical / caregiver exemption)
    - BOSC and BOKR are both tracks ("COSIs") at ISMB. Washington D.C.
        - July 13-14: Bio-Ontologies and Knowledge Representation (BOKR)
        - July 14-15: Bioinformatics Open Source Conference (BOSC)
            - Will be joint with BOKR for half a day. Submit your abstract on open-source approaches to knowledge representation to either BOKR or BOSC to be considered for the joint session! Submission to both is via the ISMB EasyChair (see instructions here).
    - Jim Balhoff is a possibility - he's currently away and will report back
    - ICBO will also be in DC (overlapping with ISMB): July 15-17: ICBO
        - Submissions: https://icbo-conference.github.io/icbo2026/call-for-submissions/
- Review additional open issues and pull requests that are labeled "attn: OFOC call"
    - #2864 - HPO License
    - Steps forward
        - Consider changing the wording on the dashboard warning for license failure – rather than "not a valid license", say something like "not one of the approved licenses under principle 1, evaluate for your own use case" etc. Allen B raises concern that this might implicitly validate the "openness" of licenses that are not actually "open"
        - This is the relevant line of code in the Dashboard: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBO-Dashboard/blob/master/util/dashboard/fp_001.py#L351C57-L351C69
        - The group discussed and posted a message to the thread summarizing the group consensus
- Additional discussion about OBO dashboard??

2026-03-03

Chair: Hande
Attending: Darren, James S, Bjoern, Deepak, Jie, Jim, Allen, James O., Alex, Nomi, Anita, Damion, Sebastian (last half)
Apologies: Paul, Nicole

Agenda:

- Review new ontology requests
  - MICRONT - #2835
    - Awaiting submitter action
    - Submitter last responded 1 month ago. Will ping them next week.
  - CMEO - #2822
    - Ontology ready to be reviewed. Unless somebody volunteers during OFOC, will assign a reviewer next week. – nobody volunteered, action item for Paul: assign a reviewer
  - PREFER - #2821
    - Awaiting submitter action.
    - Submitter last responded 2 weeks ago; let's give them more time
  - IDPO - #2770
    - Alex completed a very thorough review last night! – thank you Alex
    - Alex modified one recommendation based on feedback from the group.

- Announcement (Damion): ONS now COB ready; and ONE merged into it, making ONE obsolete. Github issue.
  - James O. suggested a preferred workflow for deprecating and obsolete the ONE terms and marking it as obselete on the OBO Foundry, Damion will continue with this workflow
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
  - Fixed a discrepancy between the requirements as given on the summary page for P12 ("Primary labels should be unique among OBO Library ontologies") vs the P12 page itself ("labels should be unique within an ontology").
    - New summary text: "The names (primary labels) for elements (classes, properties, etc.) in an ontology must be intelligible to scientists and amenable to natural language processing. Each primary label SHOULD be unique among OBO Library ontologies, and MUST be unique within its own ontology."
      - Recommendation : Reasoning behind this principle can be better documented as part of this principle, maybe details of how the same labels are appearing on tools.
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S.)
  - A couple false negatives (?) in the latest OBO dashboard release relating to value resolution – they're being handled, but please continue to raise issues if you notice anything else that looks off (more discussion below?)

- Discussion: mentions of 'OBO Library' (Darren)

    - eg1, Principles 'summary page': "Each primary label SHOULD be unique among OBO Library ontologies…"
    - eg2, P3: "A unique namespace within the OBO Foundry Library…"
    - eg3, ID policy page: "IDSPACEs within the OBO library are unique…"
        - ***Decision:*** Revise the "OBO Library" mentions to replace with "OBO Foundry"
- (Allen) Discuss brittleness of OBO dashboard and resulting display on OBO Foundry page to prevent confusion about ontologies presented as having errors when none exist?
    - Example: "We have been facing the 'version IRI not resolving' issue for quite some time now. We already tried changing the method, but it still happens in some cases."
    - Is the "greyed-out" effect too aggressive? Require successive failures in case a single failure is a false positive?
        - (this wouldn't be infeasible to implement)
    - Is there a specific bug in version IRI resolution that needs to be addressed? Eg https://dashboard.obofoundry.org/dashboard/trans/dashboard.html
    - How do we represent and promote the ontologies that are currently maintained and well-developed while ensuring the efforts and frequently used ontologies are also promoted appropriately?
    - Update/rerun more frequently? This is time- and compute-expensive (very memory-intensive in particular due to ontology size), so it would involve some engineering. Or, in the long term, there could be an effort to acquire dedicated funding.
        - Allen: I think we've hit on 2 issues that we could choose to address: 1) the link between failing the dashboard and greying out ontologies and 2) the resource limitations for running the dashboard.
        - Question from Alex: Does a dashboard run always include all ontologies or only those that have changed?
            - always includes all ontologies
        - Suggestion from Bjoern: can we have a way to differentiate the different issues that make ontologies appear grey?
    - Maybe more ephemeral, less resource-intensive checks (like whether a URL resolves) could be engineered to be checked separately?

  @Allen Baron will open issue (OBOFoundry/OBO-Dashboard#165) and @James S. will follow up on this.

- AI as a helper? – maybe further discussion next time?

  @Bill Hogan can maybe mention this when he is calling for the next meeting. @Hande Will write an email responding to Chris for this mentioning Bill as well.

2026-02-17

Chair: Nomi
Attending: Paul, Darren, Hande, Jim, Bjoern, Bill H, James, Alex, Jie, Sebastian
Apologies: Jie, Bill D, James S, Sebastian, Deepak

Agenda:

- Need volunteers to sign up to lead upcoming meetings: Mar 17, Mar 31
- Review new ontology requests

    - Request for new ontology UberVariO #2847
        - **Needs reviewer** - the NOR Manager should assign one
        - Paul says he will do the technical review (dashboard) in the next few days
    - MICRONT - #2835
        - Awaiting submitter action
        - Submitter last responded 2 weeks ago; let's give them more time
    - CMEO - #2822
        - Awaiting submitter action
        - Submitter last responded on Jan 20. Should we ping them again? (Paul will do that.)
    - PREFER - #2821
        - Just reviewed by Paul - now awaiting submitter action
            - They (re)created some high-level terms that are already defined in other OBO ontologies and seem beyond the scope of this ontology
        - Also, Charlie Hoyt used PREFER as a test case for a new OBO lexical review tool: https://github.com/biopragmatics/pyobo/pull/477
            - Paul couldn't get this tool to work; once he does he will use it to evaluate new ontologies
    - EUPH - #2817
        - Awaiting submitter action - fails dashboard
        - Paul told the submitter that on Jan 5; there has been no response. Close issue?
            - Paul will close the issue with a note that it can be reopened when the submitter is ready to continue work on this ontology
    - IDPO - #2770
        - **Awaiting reply from Alex**, who is the reviewer, since November
            - Alex said he will definitely work on it this afternoon.
    - pbpko - #2563
        - Accepted
        - Submitter commented last week, "All above mentioned steps have been completed. Thanks for guiding through this process, looking forward for further instructions."
            - Paul will respond to this question and close the issue

- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Standardization document https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/blob/master/docs/StandardizationGuidelines.md…
        - Revised within-section order to reflect importance (eg, move NCIT to bottom of its section)
        - Hid 'social' section and entry in table of contents (because there is no content for that section yet)
    - Revised principles summary to add (to Principle #12) that term labels must be unique within its ontology.
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James)
    - No issues
- Review additional open issues that are labeled "attn: OFOC call"

    - The only issues with that label are requests for new ontologies
- Review pull requests that are labeled “attn: OFOC call”
    - None

Conferences
Three relevant meetings will be held (on overlapping dates) as part of ISMB 2026 in Washington, DC:

- July 13-14: Bio-Ontologies and Knowledge Representation (BOKR)
- July 14-15: Bioinformatics Open Source Conference (BOSC)
    - Will be joint with BOKR for half a day. Submit your abstract on open-source approaches to knowledge representation to either BOKR or BOSC to be considered for the joint session! Submission to both is via the ISMB EasyChair (see instructions here). Deadline for talk/poster abstracts: **April 9** (will not be extended). (There’s a later poster-only deadline in May.)
    - Talks must be presented in person (unless you have a medical / caregiver exemption)
    - Bjoern suggested that maybe **OBO Foundry should submit an abstract to BOSC/BOKR**. (Good idea!)
        - Hande said that if no one else wants to work on the abstract, she will (it meshes with the community paper she has been working on)
        - Unclear who will be able to go to ISMB in person to present (if it’s accepted). Maybe Hande, maybe Jim B, maybe (I think it was) Alex?
- July 13-18: ICBO
    - The first few days (I think July 13-15) will be workshops/tutorials
    - Not sure how they’re handling submissions - it doesn’t seem to be through ISMB

Workshops with deadlines coming up:

- ESWC May 10-14, Dubrovnik , Croatia: https://koncordantlab.github.io/LLM4KGOE-ESWC/ ;
    - https://2026.eswc-conferences.org/
    - LLMs and KGs
    - Looking for invited speakers! (Unfortunately not funded - you would have to pay for registration and travel.) Contact Hande if you’re interested
    - Deadline - Feb 24 (but may be extended)

- ICHI June 1-2; Minnesota, USA: Food and Health Knowledge Graphs Using Large Language Models (LLMs) ; https://zhang-informatics.github.io/ICHI2026/workshops.html
    - Let Hande know if you’d like to be an invited speaker (again, not funded)
    - Short or long papers get published in the proceedings
    - Deadline: March 15

2026-02-03

Chair: Jie
Attending: Paul, James, Darren, Alex, Allen, Bill H, Nomi, Anita, Damion
Apologies: Deepak, Sebastian (will join after first half hour), James Stevenson

Agenda:

- Volunteers to lead upcoming meetings in 2026
- Review new ontology requests
    - PBPKO (#2563)
        - Assigned to Alex; Ontology accepted. Submitter need to be notified to create the metadata file for their ontology. Notification instructions here. — Paul will send the notification text so we can close this issue.
        - Shall we close the issue?
    - PREFER (#2821)
        - Passed Dashboard checking. Paul will review the ontology.
    - DPO (#2770)
        - Assigned to Alex—not reviewed yet as of 2026-02-03 (sorry). Alex will review the ontology before next meeting.
    - MICRONT (#2835)
        - Some items in the pre-registration checklist have not yet been completed.
        - Submitter notified.
        - AI: Paul will work on this submission
    - EUPH (#2817)
        - Ontology fails to be loaded in the NOR dashboard.
        - Submitter notified.
        - Paul will contact the submitter
    - CMEO (#2822)
        - Invalid URIs and lack of definitions [but this doesn't seem to be mentioned in the issue]
        - Submitter notified of problems
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Continued work on ~~https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/edit/nataled-patch-11/docs/StandardizationGuidelines.md~~; https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/blob/master/docs/StandardizationGuidelines.md; have questions:
        - Sections: Technical Considerations, Content Considerations, Release Considerations, Social Considerations, Communication Considerations
        - Preferred order of sections? Alphabetical, by importance, by order of need/use?
            - So far, one vote in favor of importance
            - What would an 'importance order' mean?
              The current order is fine. (reflects order of work on ontology)
            - Move 'Use of NCIt terms' to the end of section 'Content Considerations'
        - Keep or delete 'Social' for now (has no information yet)
            - So far, one vote in favor of hiding
              Delete it (hiding)
        - UPDATE: this doc is now in master (though not linked from anywhere yet): https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/blob/master/docs/StandardizationGuidelines.md

- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - Nada
- Report of COB workshop, summary

2026-01-20

Chair: Sebastian
Attending: Darren, Allen, Bjoern, James O, Jie Zheng, Paul Fabry, Deepak, Damion
Apologies: Bill H., Nomi, Alex, Jim B

Agenda:

- Volunteers to lead upcoming meetings in 2026 (particularly Feb 3!)
- Review new ontology requests
    - IDPO (#2770)
        - Assigned to Alex—not reviewed yet as of 2026-01-16
    - PBPKO (#2563)
        - Assigned to Alex; Ontology accepted. Submitter need to be notified to create the metadata file for their ontology. Notification instructions here. — Paul will send the notification text so we can close this issue.
    - PREFER (#2821)
        - Assigned to Paul.
    - EUPH (#2817)
        - Ontology fails to be loaded in the NOR dashboard. Submitter notified.
    - CMEO (#2822)
        - Invalid URIs and lack of definitions [but this doesn't seem to be mentioned in the issue]
        - Submitter notified of problems
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG) (Darren)
    - Standardization Guidelines page is ready for review: https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/blob/nataled-patch-11/docs/StandardizationGuidelines.md
    - Contains only those recommendations that have been discussed and approved (in principle, if not in wording)
    - Immediate questions:
        - Preferred order of sections? Alphabetical, by importance, by order of need
            - Sebastian: by importance, to ensure that users see those
                - Need to decide which are more important
        - Keep or delete 'Social' for now (has no information yet)
            - Sebastian: suggest removing for now
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG) (James S)
    - GH actions failing unexpectedly - James S looking at it https://github.com/OBOFoundry/OBOFoundry.github.io/issues/2832
- Email thread "OBO Library and Cloudflare" (2025-12-14) - is any response or action needed?
    - Added by Nomi, did not discuss
    - Refers to an email from Seth Carbon sent to ops email, probably this issue https://github.com/OBOFoundry/purl.obolibrary.org/issues/1068
- Darren proposes discussion about preventing low-quality ontology submissions (e.g., people going down the checklist checking every box regardless of what they're actually doing in their ontology).

    - Possible solution (Paul): Perhaps the dashboard should fail if there are missing definitions
        - James: this isn't a principle, so the dashboard can't fail based on this
    - James: When a human reviewer immediately spots that the submitter checked the definitions box but didn't actually provide definitions, don't run the dashboard.
        - Skim the file beforehand
    - Possible solution (Paul): if this happens, we close the issue and ask that the submitter properly and accurately fill out the list.
    - TODO: Add a few manual checks prior to adding a new ontology to the dashboard—skim for definitions, possibly other items on the checklist

2026-01-06

Chair: Paul
Attending: Hande, Darren, Sebastian, Nicole, James O., Alexander, Deepak, Bill, Bjoern
Apologies: Allen, Jie, James S

Agenda:

- Review new ontology requests
    - IDPO (#2770)
        - Assigned to Alex, not reviewed yet;, Will be reviewed for nest meeting
    - PBPKO (#2563)
        - Assigned to Alex; Ontology accepted. Submitter need to be notified to create the metadata file for their ontology.
    - EMPTY (#2753)
        - Issue closed at the submitter request.
    - PREFER (#2821)
        - Ontology passes the NOR dashboard. Need to assign a reviewer.
    - EUPH (#2817)
        - Ontology fails to be loaded in the NOR dashboard. Submitter notified.
    - CMEO (#2822)
        - Invalid URIs and lack of definitions
- Report from Editorial Working Group (EWG)
    - Removed mention of 'imported from' from P1
    - Added information regarding resolvability of term IRIs to P3
        - "The official PURL for the ontology, after redirection, MUST resolve to the ontology OWL file (see Principle 2 for format requirements). **Furthermore, PURLs for individual terms, after redirection, MUST resolve to a dedicated *term-centric* destination page containing the appropriate content.**" (bold was added to principle)
- Report from Technical Working Group (TWG)
    - Notice from Chris Mungall: announcing official retirement of `funowl`, see migration guide for assistance with any necessary transitions https://github.com/Harold-Solbrig/funowl

- ATTN:OFOC Call issues
    - (#434) Practice for referring to taxa not in NCBI Taxon.
        - Need to remove the tag. Long standing issue.
- Last issues:
    - (#2794) Ontologies table not loading
        - Report from James: As far as I know, the underlying issue hasn't repeated itself, thankfully. I have a fix sitting in a WIP branch that I need to clean up and then I can put it up for review