Minutes of the COIN-OR Foundation, Inc.
Strategic Leadership Board Conference Call
2006 April 20

1 Scheduled Agenda

The call was scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM Eastern Time.

1. Approve minutes from meetings on 2005 Dec 06 and 2006 Mar 14

2. Vote on proposal to form strategic partnership with the INFORMS Computing Society

3. COI policy revisions to incorporate background and conflict of interest reporting forms.

4. Repository Management Policy revisions to differentiate documentation licenses (required for Documentation Project proposal)

2 Minutes of the Meeting

Present: Bob Fourer, Lou Hafer, Brady Hunsaker, Randy Kiefer, Bjarni Kristjannson, Robin Lougee-Heimer, Ted Ralphs, Matt Saltzman. A quorum was present.

The President was present and presiding. Meeting called to order at 10:14 AM.

2.1 Approve minutes from meetings on 2005 Dec 06 and 2006 Mar 14

Ted Ralphs moved to accept the minutes. The motion was adopted.

2.2 Vote on proposal to form strategic partnership with the INFORMS Computing Society

[See proposal in the appendix.]

Discussed the proposal. Consensus that forming a strategic partnership with ICS makes sense.

Some concerns about policy/bylaw issues. Should the idea of strategic partners be put in a bylaw or policy?

Action item: The Secretary and the Corporate Relations Committee will work to create a category of Strategic Partnership in our bylaws/policies.

Matt Saltzman moved that the proposal be amended by striking the middle paragraph entitled "Formalizing the Relationship". The motion was adopted.

The document as amended was adopted.

2.3 COI policy revisions to incorporate background and conflict of interest reporting forms

[See proposal in the appendix.]

Some discussion of example interests and where/whether they would go on the form.

In particular, a question about whether conference presentations count as "public statements" about COIN-OR.

The motion was adopted. Robin Lougee-Heimer abstained from the vote.

2.4 Repository Management Policy revisions to differentiate documentation licenses (required for Documentation Project proposal)

[See proposal in the appendix.]

Question about how/whether this affects data projects such as Real Problem Exchange. One interpretation that the language is broad enough to include all non-source code.

The motion was adopted.

Discussion of when meetings will be scheduled.
Action item: Secretary will coordinate discussion of meeting times.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 AM.

3 Summary of Action Items

- The Secretary and the Corporate Relations Committee will work to create a category of Strategic Partnership in our bylaws/policies.

- The Secretary will coordinate discussion of meeting times.

This appendix contains relevant material that was distributed to board members prior to the meeting.

A   Resolution to form a strategic partnership with the INFORMS Computing Society (as amended)

Forming a Strategic Partnership between the INFORMS Computing Society (ICS) and the Computational Infrastructure for Operations Research (COIN-OR)

John W. Chinneck and Robin X. Lougee-Heimer

March 28, 2006

Preamble

The COIN-OR Foundation is an educational non-profit foundation that promotes open source, open standards, and open data for the operations research community. The ICS is comprised of people working in computational operations research. The two groups have a large number of mutual interests. The commonality of interest between the groups is evidenced by the number of ICS members on the COIN-OR board and leadership council, and the number of COIN-OR leaders serving on the ICS board and as its officers. To further common goals, it makes sense to establish a "strategic partnership" between the two organizations.

A strategic partnership will benefit both groups: ICS will be involved in a project of direct relevance to its membership, thereby helping it to attract and retain members. COIN-OR will be associated with an organization that is seen to be knowledgeable in the field and neutral. Moreover, COIN-OR will have more direct access to the ICS membership, who are among the mostly likely potential users and contributors.

Joint Activities

The joint activities undertaken jointly by ICS and COIN-OR will include:

- ICS Business Meeting Agenda slot for an update on COIN-OR activities.

- Space for COIN-OR news in the ICS newsletters.

- Exchanging of links

    - COIN-OR has a link to INFORMS on http://www.coin-or.org/resources.html, but not to ICS.
    - The ICS webpage is undergoing renovations, but the revamped site will include a link to the COIN-OR site.

- Co-sponsorship of tracks at the INFORMS and ICS conferences

    - ICS has sponsored many of the COIN-OR sessions at INFORMS in the past.
    - ICS will co-sponsor the COIN-OR track at the 2006 INFORMS Annual Meeting.

- Software tutorial slots for COIN-OR projects at the ICS conference

COIN-OR could become the host of open-source code & data related to publications in the INFORMS Journal on Computing. We propose investigating the possibility under a schedule mutually agreeable to ICS and COIN-OR.

Currently, there is an informal exchange of liaisons between the ICS Board and SLB (two SLB members serve on the ICS board, and one SLB member is an ICS officer). We propose that advice be sought and given as a natural consequence of the joint activities, and no more formality be imposed.

Proposal

The proposal to the SLB is that ICS and COIN-OR form a strategic partnership as described in this document. The partnership will become effective upon a passing vote of this proposal and remain in effect until nullified. The same proposal will be made to the ICS Board.

B   Proposal to revise the Conflict of Interest Policy

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Motion to revise the COIN-OR Conflict of Interest Policy to incorporate
COI reporting forms as appendices to the policy. The required changes are
as follows:

1) In Article III Section 1, Duty to Disclose, change the first paragraph
   from

   Upon election or appointment, any Interested Party must make a full,
   written disclosure of interests, relationships, and holdings that could
   potentially result in a conflict of interest. This written disclosure
   will be kept on file and will be updated annually.

    to

   Upon election or appointment, any Interested Party must make a full,
   written disclosure of interests, relationships, and holdings that could
   potentially result in a conflict of interest. This written disclosure
   shall be made using the Background Information and Confidential Conflict
   of Interest Disclosure Form contained in Appendix A of this Policy. The
   completed form will be kept on file and will be updated annually. Where
   there is no change in the reported information, the short form of
   Appendix B may be used.


 2) In Article VI, Annual Statements, add a sentence which says

   One of the reporting forms provided in Appendices A and B shall be used to
   satisfy this requirement.


 3) Add as Appendix A the full Background Information and Confidential
    Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form. Add as Appendix B a short annual
    update form, suitable for use when there is no change to the information
    already on file.
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C   Proposal to revise the Repository Management Policy

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Motion to revise the COIN-OR Repository Management Policy to distinguish
licenses for documentation. The required change is as follows:

In the Repository Management Policy, Section 4.1 Legal Requirements, change
point 1. from
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1. All contributions must be licensed under an open source license
    approved by the Open Source Initiative. If a contributor feels that no
    approved license is appropriate, alternatives will be considered on a
    case-by-case basis.

to

1. All contributions consisting of source code for software must be
    licensed for distribution under an open source license approved by the
    Open Source Initiative. If a contributor feels that no approved license
    is appropriate, alternatives will be considered on a case-by-case
    basis. Where possible, other types of contributions should be licensed
    under an existing open-source license. Where this is not appropriate,
    the \textit{minimum} standard for licensing is that the material should
    be freely redistributable with attribution.

Comments:

The SLB has discussed this issue before. Early versions of the Contribution
Policy included language similar to that suggested above. At the time the
Contribution Policy was approved, the SLB believed that all content would
fit under the licenses approved by the Open Source Initiative. Since then
we have come around to the opinion that approved open-source licenses for
source code are not appropriate for documentation, and may not be
appropriate for other material.

Two points about the language suggested above:
 * It recommends 'existing open-source licenses' to explicitly discourage
   license proliferation.
 * The minimum standard of 'freely redistributable with attribution' comes
   from SLB discussion of the document repository proposal. It was the
   consensus of the Board that this should be moved into an appropriate
   place in the Contribution Policy. This is one such place. An alternative
   is Section 1.1.

There is a matching change to the Repository Management Procedures document,
which must be approved by the TLC. As well, there is a proposal going
to the TLC to establish the Documentation Project.