

Virtual Operations Centres for Coalition Operations and Distributed Team Collaboration

Austin Tate & Jeff Hansberger
University of Edinburgh & US Army Research Lab

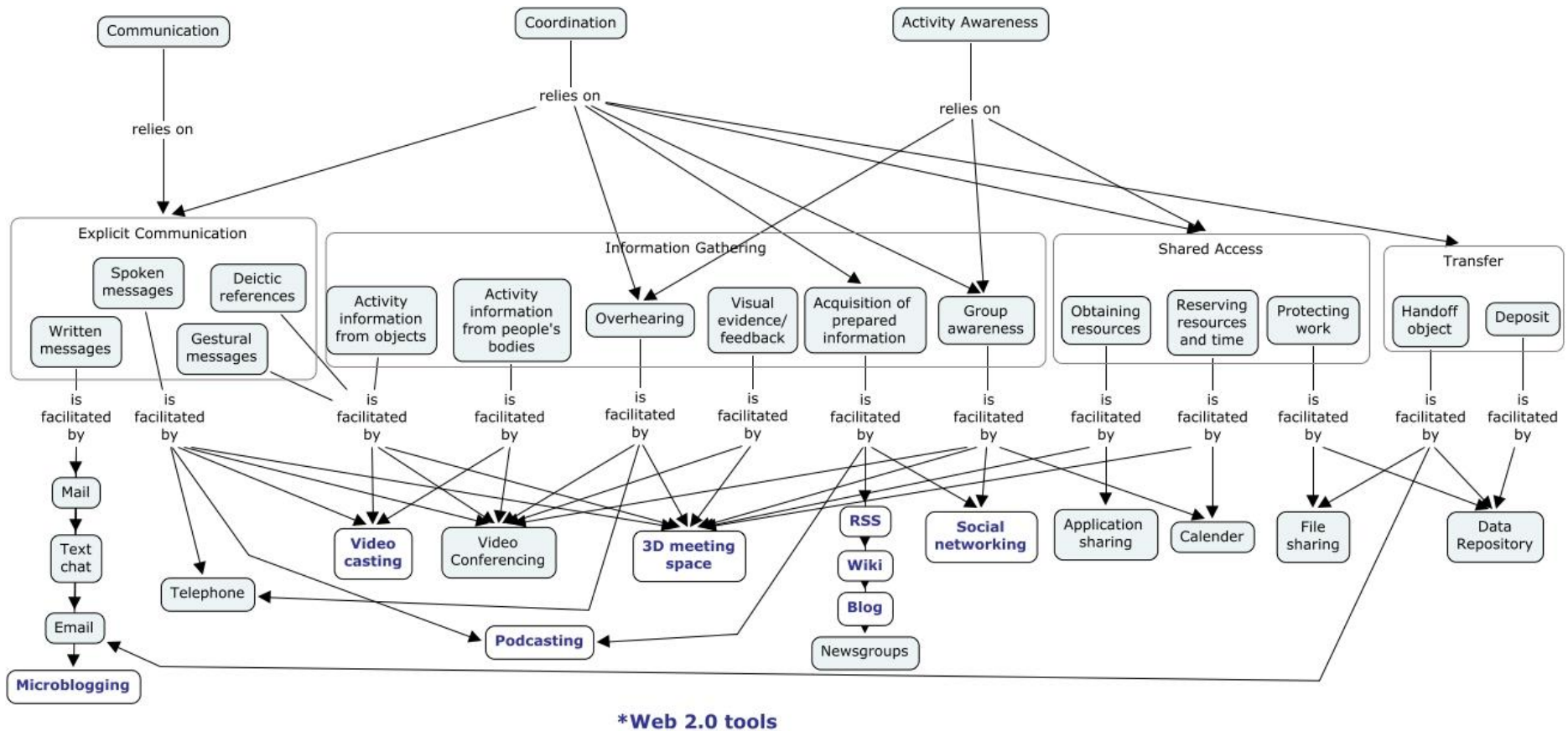


<http://openvce.net>

Project to provide a Virtual Collaboration Environment for the WoSCR Community

- Support for Whole of Society Crisis Response Community
- Cognitive Work Analysis of Requirements and Technologies
- Experiments with Virtual Collaboration Environment (VCE):
 - Web-based portal
 - Virtual interaction space
 - Community tools
 - Collaboration protocol
- USJFCOM, US ARL HRED, CMU, U.Virginia, U.Edinburgh, Perigean Technologies

Cognitive Work Analysis – Task Independent



Work Organizational Analysis – Task & Agent Centric

Work Task Docket; Distributed Collaboration							
Domain Functions	Work Situations		Intra-agency	National	Inter-agency	Multi-national	Inter-agency & Multi-national
	Work Tasks						
Forming	Meet others				●		●
	Identify the challenge/s	●					●
	Agree on goals				●		●
Storming	Define problems to solve	●					●
	Define how to solve the problems				●		●
	Define how to function together				●		●
Norming	Develop work habits with group				●		●
	Agree on rules, values, methods, etc...				●		●
Performing	Assess outcomes	●					●
	Adapt to change	●					●

Requirements for Effective Distributed Task-centric Collaboration

- Mix of physical operations centres and remote access
- Bring in experts for improved analysis and option generation
- Mix of synchronous and asynchronous activity
- Share community knowledge and experience
- Share Standard Operating Procedures and Lessons Learned

Communication, Collaboration and Task/Process Centric Activities

Open Virtual Collaboration Environment

- Web-based Collaboration Portal
 - Drupal CMS
 - Also explored Facebook, Google Groups, Yahoo Groups, Ning Groups, Grou.ps, Joomla, Linkups to external web services and widgets
- Virtual World 3D Space
 - Second Life™ and Second Life Enterprise
 - OpenSim (allows for secure use, potentially behind a firewall, e.g. US government)
- Virtual Collaboration Protocol
 - Standard Operating Procedures
 - FAQ and Tips
 - Collaboration Protocol (with Rob Cross, University of Virginia)
- Community Tools
 - AIAI I-Room – a Virtual Space for Intelligent Interaction
 - CMU Catalyst Community Knowledge Base
 - IHMC/Perigean Technologies Concept Maps
 - Experimental 3D Model Visualizations

OpenVCE Web Portal – Roles of Elements

Collaboration Tools – Roles of Elements

Web Pages – definitive edited content and index pages (editorial control)

News and Calendar – Activity Awareness

Discussion Forums – threaded discussions within community

Wiki – community knowledge creation and refinement

Blogs – individual web logs

Status – current activity

Comments – can be added to most elements

Austin Tate

- Home
- Messages
- ▷ Blogs
- Forums
- Wiki
- ▷ Events
- ▷ Files
- Images
- Videos
- ▷ More content
- ▷ Create content
- FAQ
- Links
- My profile
- Log out

3D space

teleport now

Access: Chat, Wave, HW, QT
[Setup/Help, Register avatar]
[Terminals, Presenter, Blogger]

Event calendar

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Welcome to the OpenVCE community portal. All content is community-created, so become a registered user and start contributing!

Forthcoming events

Federal Consortium for Virtual Worlds Conference 2010	2 weeks 5 days from now	contact: Austin Tate
WoSCR Community - Possible Virtual Iterative Workshop Series - VIWS-4	5 weeks 2 days from now	contact: Austin Tate

Current discussions



OpenVCE envisioned site structure started by Jeff Hansberger, last reply by Austin Tate 28 weeks ago



The weakest link started by ac, last reply by erapisardi 4 weeks ago



Expt Case 0 H1N1 Forum started by Austin Tate, last reply by Jeff Hansberger 18 weeks ago

[more](#)

What are you doing?

Austin Tate Meeting Ken Anderson of Project EPIC - see <http://sn.im/tweakt> max 140 characters



Austin Tate Meeting Ken Anderson of Project EPIC - see <http://sn.im/tweakt> 1 day ago [Edit](#) [Delete](#)



Austin Tate Writing paper on OpenVCE support to WoSCR for KSCO-2010 <http://ksco.info/ksco-2010.html> 2 days ago [Edit](#) [Delete](#)



Ifuentes Preparing a presentation to the Virginia Local Government IT Executives (VALGITE) for Apr 26 on VOICCE 3 days ago

Search this site:

Search the Wiki:

I-Room
Concept Maps Second Life
QOC Shared Media I-
Zone QOCTale Lounge

Who's online

There are currently 1 user and 6 guests online.



Austin Tate

Latest wiki updates

PMESII-Tools 3 weeks 6 days ago

PMESII-Tools 3 weeks 6 days ago

PMESII-Tools 4 weeks 1 day ago

VOICCE 6 weeks 2 days ago

Main Page 6 weeks 3 days ago

[more](#)

What's happening



Ifuentes has updated group VOICCE Group 14 hours ago



Ifuentes has updated VOICCE Resources and VOICCE 14 hours ago



Austin Tate has updated I-Zone and I-Room - A Virtual Space for





Sandbox

Venue
Amphitheatre

Expo Pavilion

I-Zone B

Project
and
Team
Suites

Orientation Area

Central Plaza

Project
Space

Hill Top
Meeting Spaces

I-Zone A

OpenVCE

... open virtual collaboration environment

A virtual stage area featuring a large central screen and two side screens. A small human-like figure stands on the stage. The background shows a virtual cityscape with yellow buildings and a blue sky.

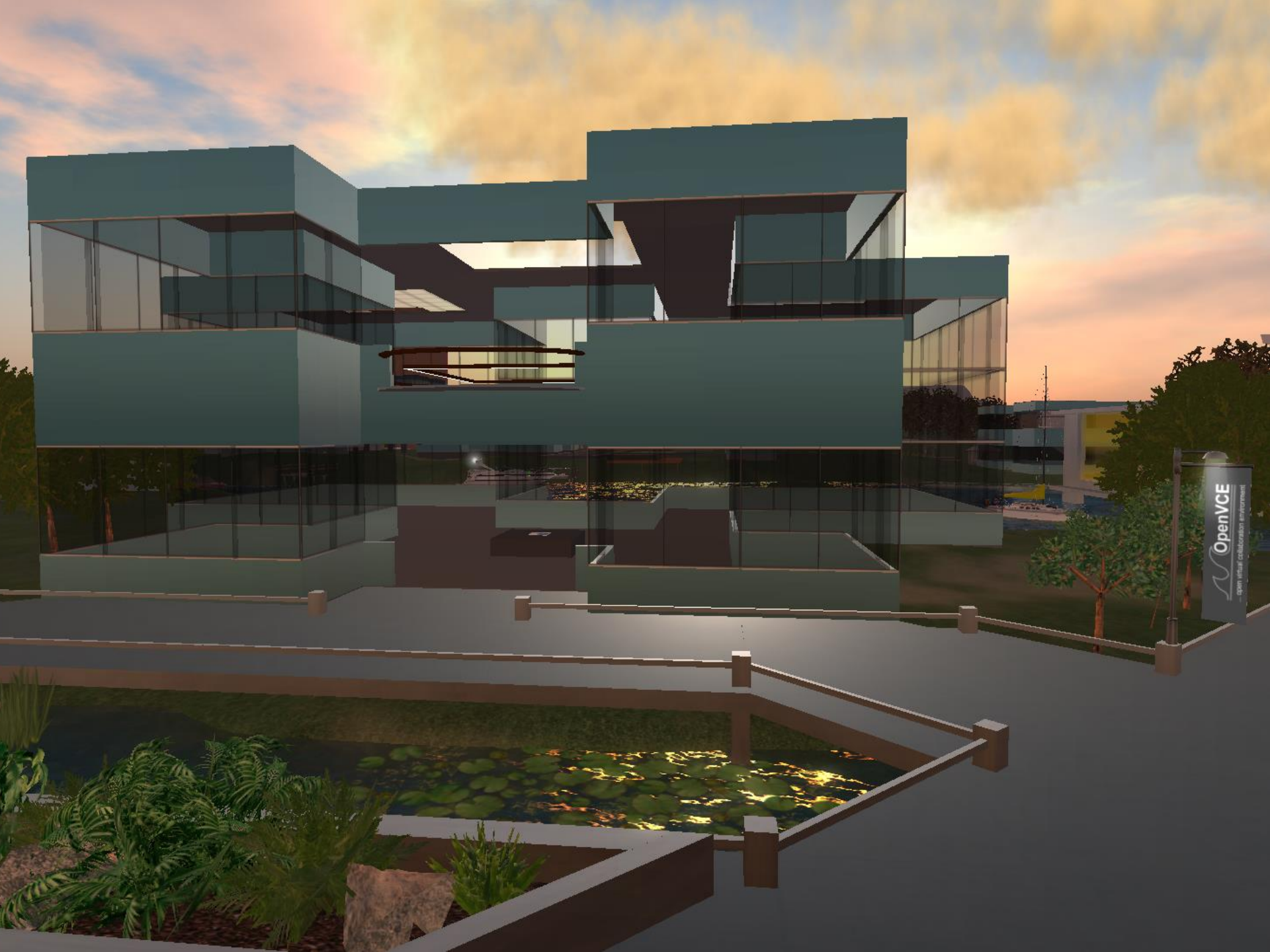
- Left screen: Microsoft logo, "My experience with...", "My experience with...", "My experience with..."
- Center screen: "Whole of Society" Crisis Response Community of Interest
- Right screen: "UNION" logo, "THE UNITED ASSURANCE"



Small black sign with white text, likely providing information about the event or location.

Small black sign with white text, likely providing information about the event or location.





OpenVCE
- open virtual collaboration environment

I-Room: Mixed-initiative Collaboration

A Virtual Space for Intelligent Interaction

Truly distributed mixed initiative collaboration and task support is the focus of the I-Room, allowing for the following tasks:

- situation monitoring
- sense-making
- analysis and simulation
- planning
- option analysis
- briefing
- decision making
- responsive enactment

Planning, Evaluation
Option Argumentation

Briefing and
Decision Making

Central
Meeting
Area

Sensing and
Situation Analysis

Acting, Reacting
and Communication



I-Room Applications

- Virtual collaboration centre
- Business teleconferencing
- Team Meetings for project and product reviews
- Product Help Desks
- Design to Product – product lifecycle support
- Environment, building and plant monitoring
- Health and safety at work, disability awareness
- Intelligent tutors, guides and greeters
- Active demonstration pavilions

I-Room: a Virtual Space for Intelligent Interaction

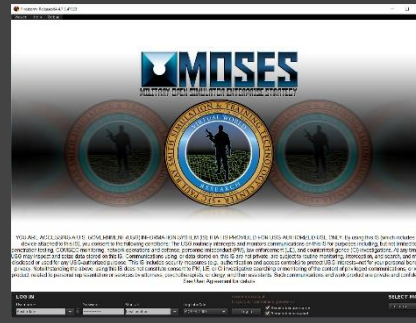
Operations Centres for Mixed Agency Operations



EADS/Airbus Innovation Works G7 Summit Exercise
<http://vue.ed.ac.uk/associates/eads/>

Virtual Worlds for Simulation & Training

- MOSES – Military Metaverse, US Army
other US government agencies
<http://www.militarymetaverse.org>
<http://blog.inf.ed.ac.uk/atate/moses>



- VOICCE – Virginia's Operational Integration
Cyberspace Center of Excellence
<http://openvce.net/voicce>



- International Virtual Emergency Exercises (IVEE) and
Multinational Planning Augmentation Team (MPAT)
<http://openvce.net/event-ivee1> <http://openvce.net/mpat>

- Simudyne SimuGrid in OpenSimulator







Douglas
Maxwell@http://cc.opensimulat
or.org:8002/

Ai
Austin@http://cc.opensimulator.
org:8002/

Fred Appleby
@hg.viewtwo.net@http://hg.vie
wtwo.net:8654/

Stephen.Xootfly
@vibe.bio-se.info@http://vibe.b
io-se.info:9000/

Nikolay
Suslov@http://cc.opensimulator
.org:8002/

Oronoque
and@http://
tor.org:

Lyr
Lobo@http://cc.opensimulator.o
rg:8002/

Dahlia Trimble
@hg.osgrid.org@http://hg.osgri
d.org:80/

Dan Lake
Cinder.Biscuits
@lfrid.com@http://lfrid.com:8
002/

Angel
GlobalCoach@http://hg.osgrid.o
rg:80/

Robert
Adams@http://hg.osgrid.org:80/

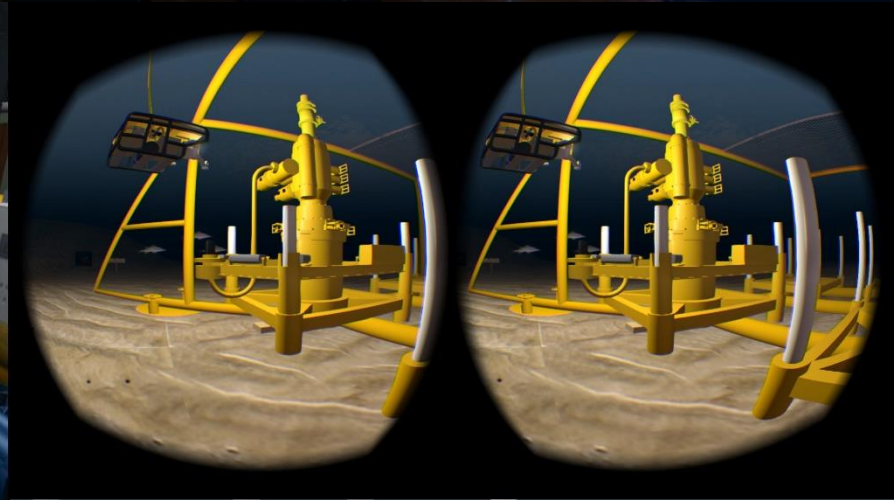
BlueWall.Slade
@gateway.bluewallvirtual.net@h
http://gateway.bluewallvirtual.net
8002/

Gwenette
Write: http://hg.osgrid.org:80/



BlueWall.Slade @gateway.bluewallvirtual.net:8002: Cinder - thanks for working with us to get parts in the viewer :)
BlueWall.Slade @gateway.bluewallvirtual.net:8002: .
Fred.Appleby @hg.viewtwo.net:8654: Good idea Robert
Cinder.Biscuits @lfrid.com:8002: of course, and i still have more to do.

Stand



Social Networking

Collaborative Systems

Instant Messaging

Community Knowledge

Agent Presence

Semantic Web

Content Management

Teleconferencing

Intelligent Agents

Web Services

3D and Virtual Reality

VoIP

<http://openvce.net>

Further Slides for Details

- More information on Work Analysis Phases I and II
- OpenVCE Experimental Evaluation
- I-Room: More Sample Screens
- DICE Project: Simplified I-Room

Cognitive Work Analysis – Phase I

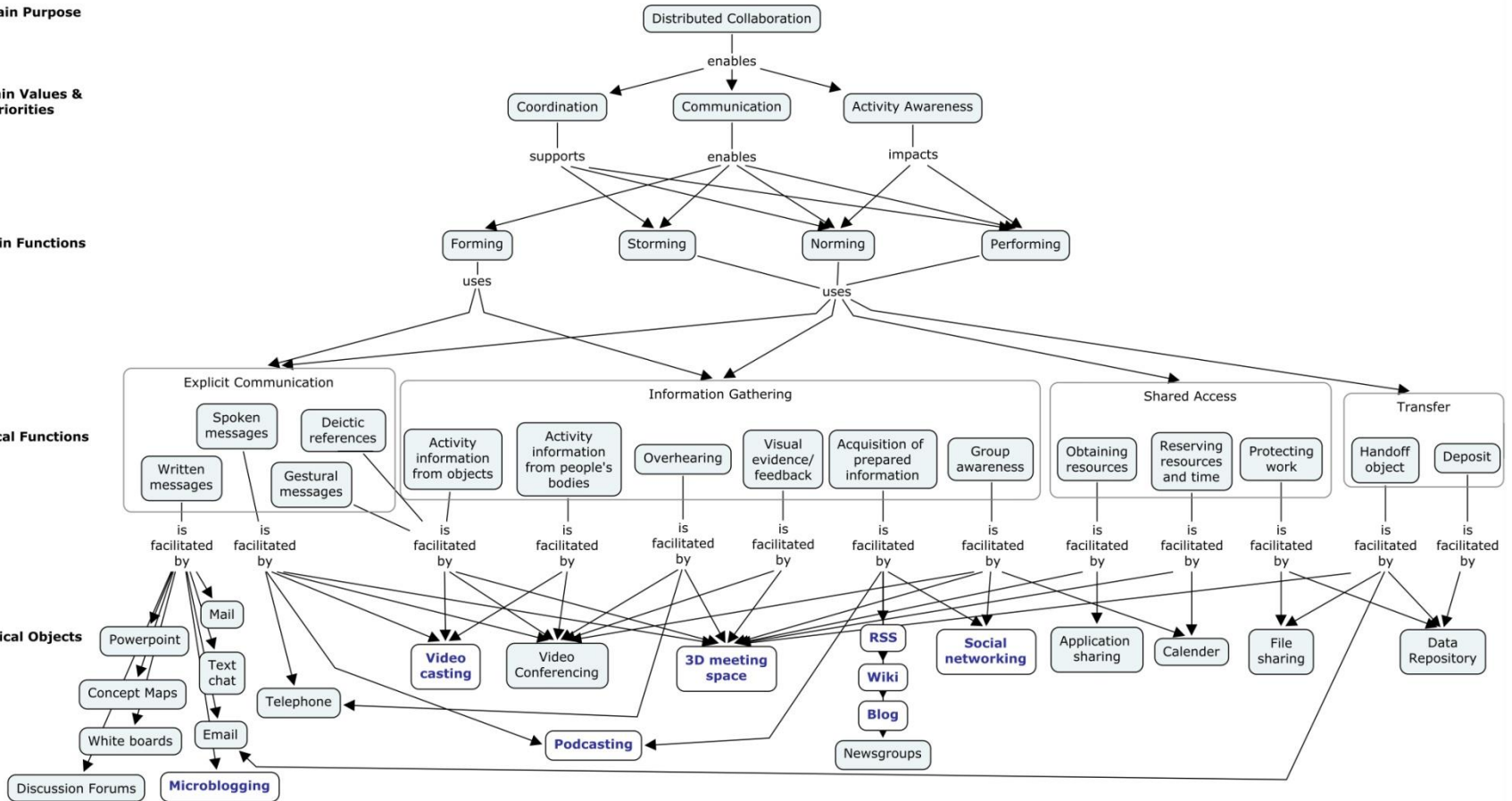
Domain Purpose

Domain Values & Priorities

Domain Functions

Physical Functions

Physical Objects



*Web 2.0 tools

Cognitive Work Analysis – Phase I

The first phase of the Cognitive Work Analysis involves identifying the activity-independent constraints of the work domain:

- Domain purpose: the overarching goal to be achieved – in this case, distributed collaboration.
- Domain values and priorities: principles or qualities on which work in the domain is founded – in this case, we can identify coordination, communication and activity awareness as essential components of distributed collaboration.
- Domain functions: the realization of the domain values and priorities (and fulfillment of the domain purpose) as abstract functions within the domain.
- Physical functions: the realization of the domain functions in terms of techniques.
- Physical objects: artifacts that provide some aspect of the identified physical functionality, with particular reference to novel “Web 2.0”-type technologies that may be exploited alongside common existing technologies.

By pinpointing specific tools and providing a clear functional rationale for their use, the resulting analysis provides a roadmap for the development of a VCE that meets the functional objectives of the domain.

Work Organizational Analysis – Phase II

The second phase of the Cognitive Work Analysis situates tasks at the appropriate organizational level according to the actors involved.

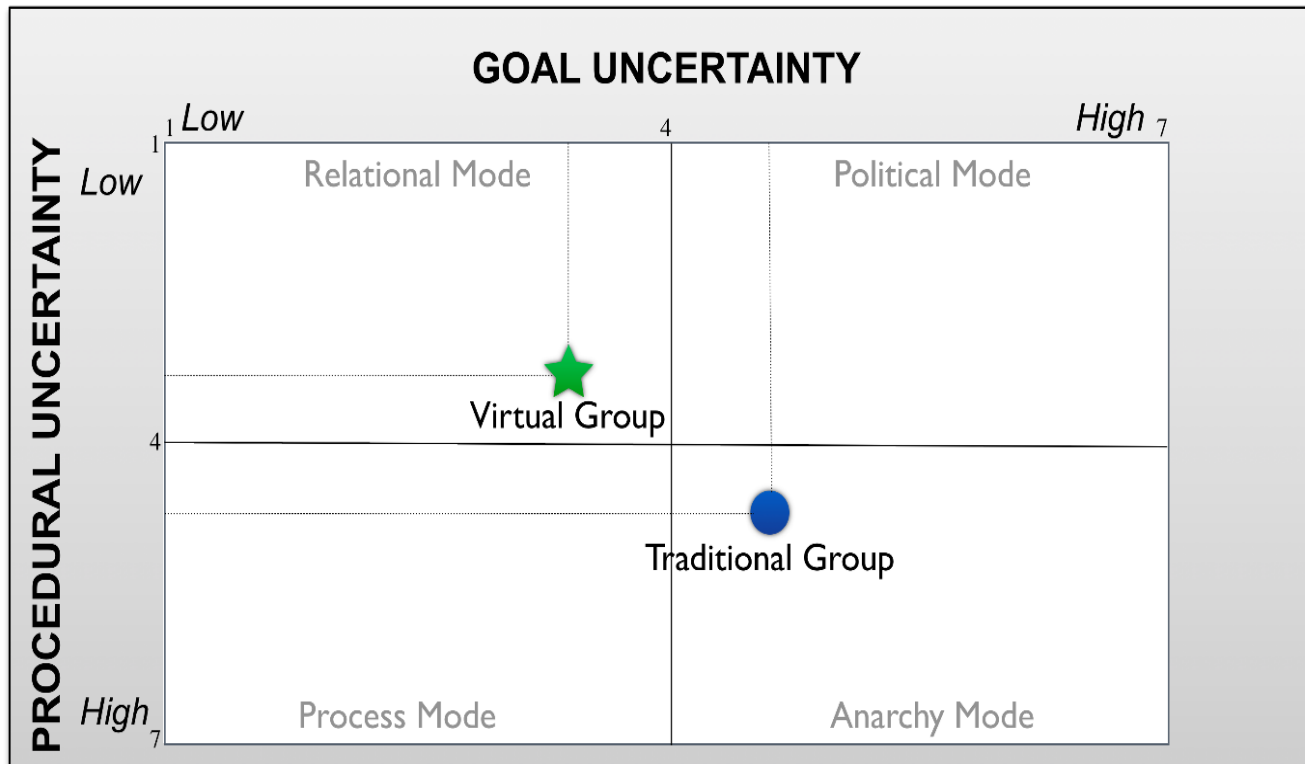
One dimension of this is based on the domain functions identified in the CWA, each now elaborated according to specific work tasks.

The second dimension reflects increasing geographical and organizational dispersal – from local and intra-agency through national inter-agency and on to multi-national and involving civil and military participants.

Work Organizational Analysis – Phase II

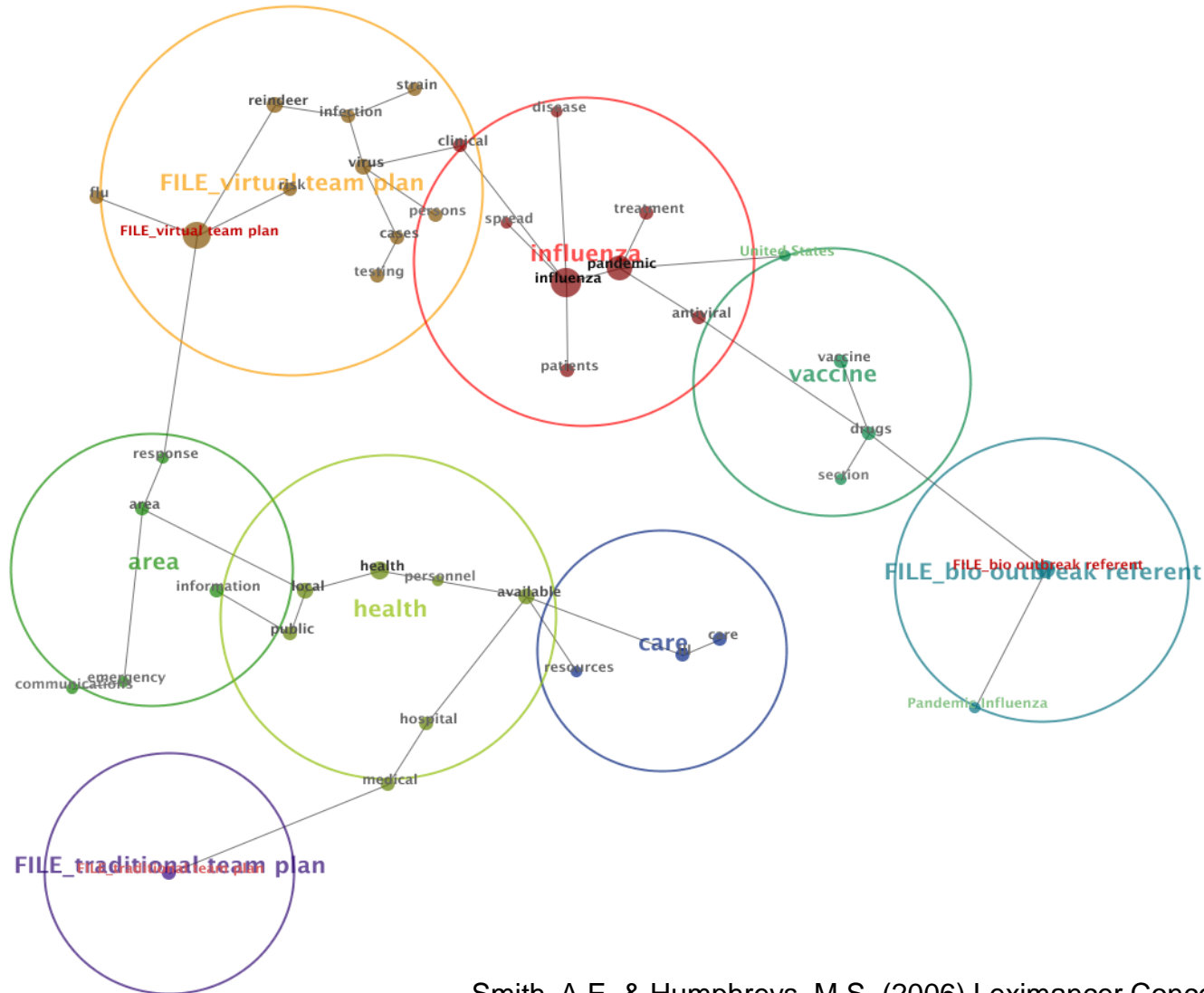
Work Task Docket; Distributed Collaboration							
Domain Functions	Work Situations		Intra-agency	National	Inter-agency	Multi-national	Inter-agency & Multi-national
	Work Tasks						
Forming	Meet others				●		●
	Identify the challenge/s	●					●
	Agree on goals				●		●
Storming	Define problems to solve	●					●
	Define how to solve the problems				●		●
	Define how to function together				●		●
Norming	Develop work habits with group				●		●
	Agree on rules, values, methods, etc...				●		●
Performing	Assess outcomes	●					●
	Adapt to change	●					●

OpenVCE Evaluation: Goal & Procedural Uncertainty



		GOAL UNCERTAINTY	
		Low	High
PROCEDURAL UNCERTAINTY	Low	Relational mode •Goal directed •Guided by rules, routines, and performance programs	Political mode •Conflicting goals, interests •Certainty about preferred approach and outcomes
	High	Process mode •Goal directed •Multiple options and alternative solutions	Anarchy mode •Goals are ambiguous •Processes to reach goals are unclear

OpenVCE Evaluation: Concepts explored in Plan Document produced by each Group



Second Life File Edit Window Team A | OpenVCE

http://easdale.aii.ed.ac.uk/teamA

OpenVCE
open virtual collaboration environment

Home My Profile Content Wiki Log Out

About OpenVCE Privacy Policy Contact us

Team A

View Edit Revisions

No public posts in this group.

Collaboration Facilities

- Team E-mail: Send an e-mail to the team
- Current team member roles
- Team protocol: the Virtual Collaboration Protocol (VCP)
- Team protocol: video introduction (IM4V and WMV) - download [backup 1] [backup 2] [hampton.gov users local link]
- Team 3D Space: I-Zone located at: <http://slurl.com/secondlife/VCE/128/80/22> [Chat Applet]
- Doodle Polls [none]
- Post personal blog entry
- Team Wiki

Attachment Size

categorized dimensions.jpg 934.5 KB

VCP Progress: Overview

Case: Reindeer Flu

[Help: SOP]

VCP Task	Help	Completed
Before Meeting 1:		
Process coordinator: introduce yourself; communicate case to team; introduce individual problem map	SOP	✓ done
Team members: complete individual problem maps	SOP	✓ done
Process coordinator: organize team meeting; create draft integrated problem map	SOP	✓ done
Meeting 1:		
Process coordinator: welcome	SOP	✓ done
Team: introductions; discuss and agree integrated problem map	SOP	✓ done
Process coordinator: lay out timeline; reference process norms	SOP	✓ done
Team: agree project roles	SOP	✓ done
Before Meeting 2:		
Team members: complete individual experience matrix	SOP	✓ done
Process coordinator: organize team meeting; generate experience slides (from accountability matrix)	SOP	✓ done
Meeting 2:		
Process coordinator: reference discussion norms; introduce the problem dimension solution template	-	□ done
Team: discuss individual experiences (by dimension)	-	□ done
Team: discuss and agree subteams	SOP	□ done
Case planner: complete accountability matrix	SOP	□ done
Case planner: generate empty solution pages (from accountability matrix)	SOP	□ done
Before Meeting 3:		
Gatekeeper: monitor progress	-	□ done

3D space

Teleport now

Access: Chat, Wave, HW, QT [Setup/Help, Register avatar]

[Terminals, Presenter, Blogger]

Team A

- This is a closed group. The group administrators add/remove members as needed.

My groups

Not a member of any groups.

Who's online

There are currently 7 users and 1 guest online.

- admin
- gwickler
- ebohiman
- acussion
- jhansberger
- and 2 others

Second Life

VCE:131, 55, 22 (PG) - I-Zone

6.13

face & Phone

reach face-to-face or phone when it's related to experiment

face-to-face or Phone you contacted enough time estimate of existence of why communication

Problem Dimension #1

COMMUNICATIONS: Facets communication about the new ideas of the this... (text continues)

Knowledge/Skills

Eddie Lysette

OpenVCE Skye Gears

OpenVCE Jeff Reanimator

KarenM Elman

OpenVCE ac Eberhardt

DJ Ederflower

OpenVCE PeriganTechnologies Towheam

We Associate Frog Zanibar

I-Room Helper (off)

OpenVCE Presenter v2.1: Now showing http://easdale.aii.ed.ac.uk/tmp/ac_Eberhardt/VCP-Team-Experience/slide0.html

Local Chat

Stand Up

Communicate Fly Snapshot Search Build Map Mini-Map

Virtual Worlds Space Simplification Uncluttered I-Room in MOSES/OpenSim





... open virtual collaboration environment

<http://openvce.net>