

BioPortal to OntoPortal to OntoPortal Alliance: Meeting Needs

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Abstract

Roughly 20 years ago, the National Center for Biomedical Ontologies funded a new repository called BioPortal, to collect and work with biomedical ontologies in one place. In the ensuing years, the BioPortal software has grown and evolved, all while being shared with the entire science community. Eventually the shared code became known as the OntoPortal Virtual Appliance, and it has been adopted and promoted by a community of public repository developers known as the OntoPortal Alliance. In this talk, John Graybeal—who was fully there for much of this evolution—will provide an overview of these technologies and the communities that have adopted them, and give clues about the future of both.

About the speakers

John Graybeal has been a staff member leading software and community development for research science for 40 years. The last 20 years focused on semantic and metadata concerns, the last 8 of those in the Stanford Center for Biomedical Informatics Research (BMIR), led by Dr. Mark Musen. In this time John had the pleasure of overseeing the implementation of a metadata product—CEDAR—that captured the long-sought possibility of a generic, data driven, semantics-rich metadata modeling and acquisition tool. And at no extra charge, he had the honor of coordinating local and extended teams in creating semantic repository solutions supporting research in biomedical and other domains. He also had the opportunity to lead the application of both projects to support the RADx Data Hub for NIAID in the National Institutes of Health.