Focus Groups on Sustainable Scientific Software Perspectives

• Participants attended the 2014 Summer Federation of Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) Meeting
• 36 participants assigned to facilitate tables of 8 participants
• Asked to recommend near-term actions and activities for the ESIP community on sustainable scientific software
• 25 tables provided responses

Recommendations for the Earth science community

Improve Collaboration and Community Engagement
• Work with diverse communities that contribute to the sustainability of scientific software
• Encourage more scientists & other end users to attend ESIP meetings and share perspectives

Increase Awareness and Understanding of Scientific Software Sustainability
• Produce non-technical publications and presentations to inform the Earth science community
• Develop workshops and training modules (agile development and software carpentry)
• Document best practices and examples of software management plans, use cases, impact metrics, provenance, modularity, and version control, metadata standards, workflow profiles

Create Incentives and Motivation for Scientific Software Sustainability
• Recognize contributions through ‘best of…’ awards, consider virtual badges
• Provide attribution by encouraging software citation
• Develop guidance for citing software and templates for improving attribution
• Identify funding opportunities to improve software sustainability

Based on Downs, Lenhardt, Robinson, Davis, Weber. 2014. Community Recommendations for Sustainable Scientific Software. http://dx.doi.org/10.7269/P3VX0DFX
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