WSSSPE4 Summary

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Workshop on Sustainable Software for Science: Practice and Experiences (WSSSPE5.1) 6 September 2017, Manchester, UK
WSSSPE4 details

- 2 ½ days, 12-14 September 2016, Manchester UK
- Long report:
- Short(er) paper:
  - Under review in JORS, draft at https://github.com/WSSSPE/meetings/blob/master/WSSSPE4_report/WSSSPE4_paper.tex
WSSSPE Mission/Vision

• WSSSPE is an international community-driven organization that promotes sustainable research software by addressing challenges related to the full lifecycle of research software through shared learning and community action.

• **Vision.** We envision a world where research software is accessible, robust, sustained, and recognized as a scholarly research product critical to the advancement of knowledge, learning, and discovery.

• **Focus areas.** WSSSPE promotes sustainable research software by positively impacting:
  • **Principles and Best Practices.** Promoting best practices in sustainable software
  • **Careers.** Developing and supporting career paths in research software development and engineering
  • **Learning.** Engaging in activities to promote peer learning and interaction
  • **Credit.** Ensuring recognition of research software as an intellectual contribution equal to other research products
WSSSPE4 intent

• Developed vision/mission, and most work aimed at working groups
• Started with existing working groups
• Used submissions to present ideas to
  • Continue, change, add working groups
• In two tracks:
  • **Track 1 – Building a sustainable future for open-use research software**: defining a vision of the future of open-use research software, and in the workshop, initiating the activities that are needed to get there.
  • **Track 2 – Practices & experiences in sustainable scientific software**: improving the quality of today’s research software and the experiences of its developers by sharing best practices and experiences.
• At WSSSPE4
  • Working groups meet, define specific plans to make progress, get feedback from larger community, start work
• After WSSSPE4
  • Working groups continue to make progress
WSSSPE4 working groups

- Verifying best practices & metrics for sustainable research software
- Software Sustainability Alliance
- Scientific Software Prototyping Infrastructure (S2PI)
- Standard metadata for software (CodeMeta)
- White paper on developing sustainable software
- Social science for scientific software
- Software best practices for undergraduates
- Meaningful metrics for sustainable software
- Coordinating access to CI for research software
- Software engineering processes tailored for research software
- Open research index
- Letters of evaluation for computational scientists
WSSSPE4 status

• Working group progress
  • Coming up from Stephan Druskat & Working Group representatives

• Survey at end of WSSSPE4
  • 44 respondents (2/3 of total, almost all who were at end of WSSSPE4)
  • Highly satisfied with event; interested in continuing WSSSPE activities
  • Mix of topics and types of interactions (talks, groups) well balanced
  • Some desire for time for Q&A after talks and general discussions
  • Most will remain engaged in WSSSPE working group initiatives
  • Grateful for the opportunity to network & explore new collaborations