

The Semantic Web – New Ways to Integrate and Present Information

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Ontologies in biology have proven successful in order to facilitate information access. So far, however, the predominant view onto ontologies has been one where a centralized ontology describes the information structure via which contents like research articles or information about enzymes are made available. With Semantic Web standards like RDF and RDFS, the centralized view is beginning to be abandoned. Syndication of information content **and** information structure allows for new ways of exploiting decentralized information structuring efforts. Systems like SEAL (SEmantic portAL) and TAP (tab.stanford.edu) proceed into this direction.

Biographical notes:

PD Dr. Steffen Staab is a lecturer in applied computer science at the University of Karlsruhe. He has received his M.S.E. in Computer and Information Science from the University of Pennsylvania in 1994, his Ph.D. in Informatics from Freiburg University in 1998 and his habilitation (“Privatdozent” – PD) in Applied Informatics from the University of Karlsruhe in 2002. Steffens research interests lie in computational linguistics, knowledge discovery, knowledge management, the Semantic Web and — foremost — ontologies. Together with Rudi Studer he edits the *Handbook on Ontologies in Information Systems* in the Springer series “International Handbooks on Information Systems” (to appear end of 2003). In 1999 Steffen has co-founded Ontoprise GmbH, a company that develops ontology technologies like an ontology development environment and an ontology inference engine for commercial use.