Brief Bio and (PR)^2: Problems & Pitches – Rants & Raves by Vijay K. Bulusu

About me

Vijay Bulusu is Director of Informatics & Innovation for the Pharmaceutical Sciences (PharmSci) group at Pfizer. In his current role, he is responsible for defining an information management and sharing strategy and leading a culture of innovation for this global group. He leads a worldwide program known as the Intelligent Data Framework. This program has three core goals: Data Capture (Capturing key scientific data into electronic systems), Data Quality (Ensuring the appropriate metadata and format for key scientific data) and Data Access (Providing an easy, intuitive way to access key scientific data from multiple sources). The program uses innovative approaches including the use of linked data and semantic technologies to solve business problems.

Prior to joining Pfizer, he has held senior level positions with several global software services companies where he was involved in structuring global application outsourcing contracts and managing large scale global implementations and rollouts. He is a member of the Allotrope Consortium, a pharmaceutical industry group that is focused on the development of open standards for laboratory scientific data. In the past, he has served as a Co-Chair of the Healthcare and Life Sciences Interest group (HCLSIG) under the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) focused on the application of semantic technologies to problems in the healthcare and life sciences domain.

Questions

1. What are your main interests in attending the workshop?
   - Learning about the emerging opportunities with public data sets in healthcare and life sciences
   - Opportunities to collaborate with academia and government

2. What ideas, methods and tools would you like to share at the workshop?
   - Case Study: How to build a linked enterprise data architecture in a cost constrained environment?

3. What do you think are the biggest opportunities or unmet needs in any of: translational medicine, drug discovery, semantic technologies, data visualization, or healthcare information? (feel free to pick those with which you have the most interest/experience)
   - Drug Discovery: Drug repositioning, molecular property interactions
   - Drug Development: Pre-clinical and commercial manufacturing datasets

4. What are the biggest road blocks to realizing these opportunities?
   - Quality of the available public data

5. In which of the main areas of emphasis of the workshop (semantics, translational medicine, drug discovery, big data, semantic technologies, visualization and networks) do you work?
   - Semantic Technologies

6. What are the biggest challenges in your work currently?
   - Lack of appropriate tools to convert data in relational databases into RDF
   - Easy-to-use ontology editors
   - Lack of quality in public data sets
7. What are the main sources of funding for your work? How difficult do you consider it to get funding in your area, and why?
   - Organizational budgets

8. What would you like to learn and achieve at the workshop?