Community Recommendations for Improving Sustainable Scientific Software Practices

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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

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