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- Don't propose a heavy organization
- Keep small number of ultimate editors
  - Views of individuals in community often divergent => need someone(s) who pull things together and come to *some* decision

# Proposed Procedure (2005)

- **General overview of how to proceed:**
  - **Presentation of restructuring proposal**
  - **Formal proposal written and sent to sbml-discuss**
    - **Discussions**
  - **Final electronic vote in November 2005**
  - **Installment in December 2005**

# Overview of New Proposal

- **3 stratifications:**
  - **SBML Forum**
  - **SBML Architectural Board**
  - **SBML Editors**
- **Revised roles for SBML Team**
- **New mailing list, new procedures**

# New mailing list: sbml-announce

- **Broadcast only**
- **Announcements of:**
  - Publications of errata
  - Notifications of upcoming votes
  - Notifications of voting results
  - Announcements of face-to-face meetings
- **Everyone would be strongly urged to subscribe to sbml-announce**
  - Some current members of sbml-discuss may opt to subscribe only to sbml-announce

# “SBML Forum”

- Membership terms?
- **Members *encouraged* to subscribe to sbml-discuss**
- **An organization or institution may have any number of members in the SBML Forum**
- **No time limits on membership**



# SBML Architectural Board

- Comprised of subset of members of SBML Forum
- Principal role: Create & evaluate *formal proposals for changes to the SBML language*
  - Take into consideration requests from the SBML Forum, as well as formulate their own proposals
- Proposals may be initiated by any member
- There will be a process for proposals:
  - Template for creating them (think IETF RFC's)
  - Voting procedure + timeline
- Votes will be electronic, archived & linked to errata and sections of the SBML specification

# More on the Architectural Board

- Any member of the SBML Forum can chose to be on the Architectural Board, but:
  - Members *must* be on sbml-discuss
  - Members *must* vote on regular basis
    - Implies willingness to expend time and intellectual energy evaluating proposals & issues
  - Members are expected to make a good-faith effort to attend face-to-face meetings
  - No more than N individuals from the same organization (N = 4? 3? 5?)

# “SBML Editors”

- Elected from members of the SBML A.B.
- Principal role: organize the development of, and write the final versions of, SBML specifications and errata
  - They would be the specification’s authors
- Take input from SBML Architectural Board
  - Can make their own proposals since they are members of the A.B. themselves
- Plan & schedule voting on each proposal
- Periodically reconcile differences and write new SBML specifications

# More on the SBML Editors

- Total number: 5
- Term limit: 3 years
- An SBML Editor can serve more than one term, but not *consecutive* terms
  - If can't serve full term, special election held
- “Good behavior” guidelines to prevent obstructionist behavior
- Call for vote issued & ends Oct. 15 midnight

# Role of the SBML Team

- Responsible for maintaining sbml.org, mailing lists, surveymonkey, and other resources
- Curates web pages for issue tracking, errata, proposals, voting records, other documents
- Organizes SBML Forums and Hackathons
- Seeks funding for resources and activities
- *May be involved in other activities, but these are not institutionalized. E.g. of current ones:*
  - libSBML
  - SBMLToolbox
  - MathSBML
  - SBML Test Suites
  - Translation software
  - Online facilities at sbml.org

# Handling Errata: SBML Issues

- Have a process for introducing errata
  - Formal proposal by SBML A.B.
  - Discussion on sbml-discuss
  - Voted on by SBML A.B.
  - Announced on sbml-announce
- Acceptance of an errata results in introduction of new **Revision** of a given SBML Level+Version
  - E.g., SBML Level 2 Version 2 Issue 3