Mechanisms for adding functions to GELLO language

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- **Description**

GELLO is intended to be an extensible language, yet the addition of functions to it arbitrarily will limit its compatibility. We believe that the best way to foster the adoption of a single compatible language is to control the addition of functions to a GELLO public library by an oversight committee.

This document thus delineates a proposed mechanism for adding functions to the GELLO language as part of a library of extensible functions. Other functions for limited use can, of course, be added by developers without this mechanism.

To carry this out, a committee needs to be constituted which has oversight responsibility over the public GELLO library. Its role would be to review requests, determine their merit, and incorporate those that are considered to be meritorious. Merit would be based on criteria determined by the committee, but should include need/use for the proposed function, lack of convenient alternative means for accomplishing it, and compatibility with GELLO requirements such as being vendor-neutral and side-effect-free.

The composition of the committee and its reporting structure within HL7 has not yet been determined, but will be presented to the CDS TC for discussion, and forwarding to other HL7 committees for review and recommendation about the best way to establish it.

Use Case ID:	Case 1		
Use Case Name:	Adding functions to GELLO		
Description:	Requests for adding functions to GELLO language specification Prevent duplicates		
Created By:	M Sordo / DSG	Last Updated By:	
Date Created:	2/8/2005	Date Last Updated:	

Actors:	GELLO user Reviewing committee GELLO Administrator	
Description:	User requests for adding functions to the GELLO language are evaluated by a committee. Requests must conform to a format that describes the required functionality, the parameters (data elements needed for successful execution of the function) and their types, desired output value and format. Expected outcome: If request is approved by committee, function is added to GELLO by the person(s) in charge, and requester is notified of schedule for addition; else, requester is informed of reasons for not processing the request When function is added to GELLO, the user community is notified.	
Preconditions:	Request for addition is made in the appropriate format	
Postconditions:	After addition of function to GELLO specification, the community is notified	
Normal Flow:	User contacts committee and submits request to the committee responsible for reviewing it via email. • Email must be addressed to committee; the request form must be attached to	

	email.
	Committee reviews requests, evaluates usability, checks for duplicates, decides whether addition request is appropriate.
	
	If further clarification and/or information is needed, the committee contacts the requester via email asking for further information. If request form is properly filled out, this step won't be necessary
	    If request is approved, request is forwarded to person(s) responsible for adding function to library, requester is notified of schedule for addition via email
	    Once added, the community is informed of latest addition by posting addition to a 'notice board' in the HL7 site or any other communication space.
	
	If request is rejected, the requester is informed by committee of their decision via email. Such notification will include reasons for rejection. I
	• If reason is duplicate function, the requester will be informed of the existing function equivalent to their request.

Exceptions	
Special Requirements:	Request form is available to users. Notice board e-space available and open to access by users.
Notes and Issues:	