

SW Arch Meeting Minutes – August 16, 2012

Agenda

- Announcements and Updates
- Progress on Non-release projects
- Testing and Release of R6.2
- Production release for the Analytic software
- Object definitions - discussion

Announcements and Updates

Ron noted that Fedora 3.6 is now available. Although there is a more capable REST api and more support for authentication, we agreed that we should move to the more tested version 3.5. We will go back and check to see if there are any major bug fixes in 3.6 that might change our approach.

We briefly discussed the very large scans of transcripts for the Jazz Oral histories (76 GB of tiff files in one case). Isaiah is exploring the possibility of compressing these files, suggesting that maybe we can get down to 20 GB. We'll also explore different approaches for scanning (e.g. maybe these transcripts don't need to be scanned in color).

Rhonda has suggested that we begin the discussion of failover solutions for RUcore. This topic has been discussed intermittently over the past several years, however there has never been enough energy or time allocated to this topic to develop any coherent approach. Ron and Rhonda will discuss offline how we might approach this issue.

Status of Non-release Projects

Dave has made progress ingesting the JPE videos. Some repair work has to be done for one of the handles and a duplicate object. We'll continue to use mss3 links for the JPE webpage. He should finish up work on this project in the next few days. The jpeg thumbnail project is still pending.

Testing and release of R6.2

The work on R6.2 was interrupted to deal with the network outage last week. Dave will proceed with installing R6.2 next week as the highest priority (i.e. before addressing the jpeg thumbnail project). Kalaivani should be able to do testing late next week and Rhonda will test when she gets back from vacation starting August 28.

Production Release for the Analytic

Chad reviewed the status of the Analytic capability, indicating that version 1.1 (currently on the development server and working with R6.1.2) has been tested and has been ready for production since June. The Analytic software is largely independent of other RUcore software so installation and testing on staging should be straightforward. We agreed to identify the Analytic software as RUcore release R6.3. With this release, other video projects will be able to use the Analytic. Dave will work with Chad to install the Analytic software after the R6.2 has been released. We will only move to Fedora 3.5 on staging after the release of R6.3.

Object Types Discussion

In our informal discussions, we continue to use adjectives for object types such as compound and complex. More precise definitions will help us in determining what types of objects should be created for digital projects. Ron presented draft charts which outline a possible vocabulary for different object types in RUCore. These charts triggered a quite animated discussion which we were not able to complete. However, I think we arrived at some basic agreement on three types of objects – simple, linked, and context. For context objects, it was noted that a collection object could be re-purposed as a context object as we have done for datasets. In other cases, context objects are created uniquely (e.g. we concluded that an analytic object is a context object). Similarly, digital exhibits will have a context object that relates all of the images in the exhibit. It was noted that relationships and the associated descriptive event will be created automatically in many cases. We will have to discuss the vocabulary in more detail, e.g. should simple be contrasted to complex? Independent and dependent were also suggested as alternatives to simple and linked. We will continue this discussion in the next meeting, focusing on how we want to label objects that have file hierarchy structural maps and how we should designate a network of objects.

Other Items

Rhonda reported on RUCore statistics, noting that for the first time there were no dissertations in the top five downloaded objects. The top five were all from the Railroad exhibit. This result is partly due to the fact that a view in the exhibit also triggers a download of the jpeg. Rhonda also noted some of the top downloads from other portals such as NJDH and NJEDL, pointing out that there is much diversity in the NJDH usage. Dave will point all of our servers (development, staging, production) to the pdf server in IIS.

Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

- Status of Non-release projects
- Status of R6.2
- Object definitions – continued discussion
- Decommissioning lefty64
- Pending agenda items
 - RUetd – WMS update
 - Enhanced UI for the landing page (a possible framework) – Chad and Jeffery
 - WMS – creation of relationships (rels-ext) for data projects