Software Architecture Working Group Meeting Minutes
9/10/15

Present: Kalaivani Ananthan, Isaiah Beard, Jie Geng, Dave Hoover, Rhonda Marker, Chad Mills, Aletia Morgan, Jeffrey Triggs, Yang Yu

1) Announcements/Updates

   a. CISC has reviewed the Fedora upgrade/migration plan (9/9). The plan to upgrade Fedora from 3.6 to 3.8.1 has been approved. The upgrade is scheduled to happen after RUcore release 7.7 is in place. The plan to migrate Fedora from 3.x to 4.x is also approved, but the development work for the migration will not start until after RUcore release 7.8 (8.1) is complete (estimated to be in the summer of 2016). When migration starts, it is expected to consume 20% of developers’ time. In the meantime, we should continue our current effort of investigating and tracking Fedora community’s progress in Fedora 4.x development, deployment, and migration.

   b. Fedora’s DC regional meeting will be held in October. We’ll consult with Grace to see if it’s feasible to have a few people attending at least one section of the meeting, preferably the presentation session.

   c. We will change RUcore release number from 7.x to 8.x starting from Fedora 3.8.1 upgrade. Therefore Fedora 3.8.1 release becomes RUcore release 8.0, and originally designated release 7.8 will become RUcore release 8.1.

   d. This year’s State of the Libraries will be held on Nov 4. General feedback from new University Librarian is that our previous poster sessions were focused too much on the “internal view”. The idea is that the poster session should reflect more on how our work serves the general public. Rhonda reported that Grace would like to review and consolidate TAS poster presentations, and KA proposed that we should probably have a “meet IIS” poster to introduce IIS or TAS work to other departments of the libraries.

2) Jobs and Reports Update

   a. Source metadata in RUcore resources: Jeffery reported that he has downloaded about 25,000 records from RUcore and started investigating how many records in RUcore have source metadata. The work is on-going.

   b. Create missing reference datastreams in RUcore (add REF-1 to those resources that need it): Jeffery reported that this job has been finished on production except a handful of them (~25 or so that only had coversheets). Jeffery will update them manually by extracting PDFs from ARCH datastream and adding them as REF-1s.

   c. DOI update: Jeffery reported that he has tested the Tombstone collection and will need to work with Dave to run the script on production.
d. Move techMD to datastream in RUcore: Jeffery reported that this is still an on-going project. He needs to investigate using Jie’s new XACML class to update XACML policies to allow updating techMD datastreams.

e. New software release procedures: Chad reported that the developer working group will improve the software release procedure. The main change is that when packaging the software for installation, configuration files with target server configuration values will no longer be part of the package. The person who installs the software (e.g., Dave) will reuse the existing configuration files for the software. If there are changes to the configuration entries, the developer should indicate them in the README file of the package, and instruct the steps to be taken by the installer. The aim is to reduce the configuration issues/errors we have met in the previous software releases. Developers should construct and test the installation procedures when migrating code from rep-dev to rep-test, and write README files accordingly.

f. ABBYY progress: Yang reported that he worked with Nick to install ABBYY and to configure IIS and .Net on the phpdev windows server. Initial test shows that the ABBYY server is now working normally. But in order for ABBYY to work with other RUcore component, like WMS, we need our ABBYY license to allow Open API, so that the ABBYY web service can be used. Our license currently doesn’t include Open API, and Isaiah will contact KeyMark Inc to resolve the issue.

3) 7.6.1 Postmortem and current issues

a. RUcore users have reported that for some resources they could not see MODS metadata in the complete record view (now called staff view) page. This is caused by an incorrect size attribute value for certain resources. The fix is already developed in dev and test system, and Chad will coordinate with Dave to put the fix into production. This will be a code drop in replacement, and we will not create a dot release for it.

b. Kalaivani reported that on the My Account page, the My Collection link doesn’t work correctly for certain people. We will remove this link from the page for the current release while developers working to fix the issue in 7.7. In the meantime, we should put up a message saying this link is “coming soon” or “temporarily unavailable”. Removing the link is a configuration change in SSO and does not need code change.

c. Kalaivani reported that in WMS file upload, when uploading a pdf file from the server, the system does not give the user a file box to choose files. Yang will work with Kalaivani to address the issue.

d. Aletia reported that when working on datasets, uploading more than one top level directory for the same resource may cause unpredictable results. Yang indicated that the current WMS was designed to handle one root directory upload with one structure map. Uploading more than one top level directory will need further evaluation and code change.

e. Kalaivani raised the issue that every time we release the new version of RUcore software to the public, those who are responsible for putting up alert messages for RUcore downtime and uptime
should not wait for email messages reminding them to do so. Rhonda suggested that we should have a protocol for doing this, and Isaiah will be drafting a document for discussion next time.

4) Audio Support in Analytic Tool Specification

Chad presented a draft specification for adding audio support in the analytic tool. Additionally, an audio waveform visualization using BBC’s open source visual audiowaveform solution is proposed. The waveform will display live when a user is listening and analyzing audio in RUanalytic, potentially very helpful for people trying to edit the audio. The specification also indicated that this waveform visualization could be added to audio resources in RUcore through WMS. Some of the group members question the practical usefulness of the waveform display for general RUcore users. Chad indicated that this still needs discussion, and for 7.7, the analytic tool will just have the scrubber to show audio-play progress.

5) Tagging in Analytic Specification

Chad presented a draft specification for giving RUanalytic users the ability to tag portions of or entire events. This feature is a result of discussion with the Graduate School of Education as a future need. The tags should be exportable and importable into other programs like Excel, and be publishable. Should this be done in or exported to the RUcore repository? Questions were raised by group members about whether the need exists and whether the need justifies the necessary development resources. Need more feedback from CISC on this.

6) OOI Data Project Support

Chad will give an overview of the OOI data project in next meeting. He reported that the OOI project is in full sprint now, targeting October.

7) 7.7 Scheduling

The group decided that due to the amount of work that need to be done for release 7.7, as well as the scheduled time off for some people, the original tentative code freeze date of end of September is no longer realistic. The new development and release schedule for RUcore release 7.7 is:

Code freeze: 10/30/2015

Testing start on rep-test: 11/9/2015

Testing end on rep-test and final code packaging: 12/4/2015

Code to staging: between 12/7/2015 and 12/9/2015

Code to production: 12/14/2015

- Notes by Yang Yu and Jeffery Triggs, compiled by Yang Yu