

CYBER-INFRASTRUCTURE STEERING COMMITTEE (CISC)

Meeting Minutes – July 7, 2010

Present

Grace Agnew, Chair Ron Jantz
Kalaivani Ananthan Rhonda Marker
Isaiah Beard Chad Mills
John Brennan

Excused

Linda Langschied
Tibor Purger
Mary Beth Weber

Search Strategy

Marker and Ananthan reported on a discussion with Agnew about implementing a more user centric search structure for the RUcore interface. The rationale is that users know what they want, but not necessarily in which collection it can be found. Therefore, a new categorization strategy is needed. The following search categories were suggested:

- Scholarship (e.g. faculty articles)
- Research
- Cultural and Historical

These are broad portals and intended to be on the first search page. These categorizations will be more meaningful to faculty and thus make it easier for them to find the resources they want. Every object will be searchable within at least one of these categories. This strategy will also address the concern of multiple sub collections by making everything searchable at a much higher and logical level.

Mills suggested that we associate Portal IDs with resource IDs in a table(s). If it is discovered a resource should be assigned to a different or additional portal, that change can be made in the table.

Resource format (i.e. video, photograph, etc.) will also be a top level search filter. A search will return results showing the number of resources for each format. As an example a specific search may return the following:

5 videos
7 photographs
21 documents

This search enhancement is independent of whatever search engine is employed since the portal ID is independent of the search engine. Indeed, this enhancement should be implemented before we change search engines.

Agnew asked Marker and Ananthan to develop the specs for this new search capability by November.

2010-2011 Action Plan

Agnew asked everyone to begin compiling RUcore based items for the new action plan. She said goal setting will occur at the next meeting. Among the general areas to focus on:

- Increase user base and user comfort
- Develop portals
- Test and implement the new search engine
- Rework the search capability (see above)

CYBER-INFRASTRUCTURE STEERING COMMITTEE (CISC)

Meeting Minutes – July 7, 2010

- Identify faculty needs in conjunction with library liaisons
- Develop a project management strategy, including implementation of project management tool(s)
- Continue marketing of RUcore
- MPEG-4 migration
- Based upon task force recommendations, integrate with mobile devices

Jantz asked for clarification concerning permissions needed to begin new projects to add materials to RUcore. She said we offer three levels of service. Our highest priority is our own significant resources. For example, each year we will ask Special Collections and University Archives to tell us their highest priorities for inclusion in RUcore. The next level of priority is emerging areas that we want to support. This year those emerging areas are research data and the Video Mosaic Collaborative (utilizing the Annotation/Analytic tool). The last level of priority is other digital projects that are of enduring value (for example, beyond ten years) and available through open access. Those digital projects need to be evaluated for copyright issues, availability of staff and funding for the necessary processing such as digitization and metadata creation, and the appropriate infrastructure to properly archive and provide access to the resources. Not all good ideas can be carried out, especially given our reduced budget outlook.

MPEG-4 Conversion

Beard distributed his strategy for changing the file format for streaming video from Quicktime to MPEG-4. It detailed the rationale, benefits, implementation and impact. Agnew said the elimination of DeJaVu as a presentation format should also be included. The conversion is on the development schedule. Agnew thanked Beard for the thought and effort he put into the proposal.

Submitted by John Brennan

August 10, 2010