

CYBER-INFRASTRUCTURE STEERING COMMITTEE (CISC)

Meeting Minutes – September 25, 2013

Present

Grace Agnew, Chair	Fengzhi Fan	Chad Mills
Kalaivani Ananthan	Ron Jantz	Aletia Morgan
Isaiah Beard	Peter Konin	Tibor Purger
John Brennan	Rhonda Marker	Mary Beth Weber
Joseph Deodato (guest)		

Excused

Linda Langschied
Yu-Hung Lin
Caryn Radick
Krista White

Webscale Evaluation Update

Agnew said the Webscale committee recommended Ebsco's EDS product. This was endorsed by Cabinet. She congratulated the committee on their hard work and diligence.

Rutgers Optimality Archive (ROA) Portal Development

Marker provided background information about the ROA project, along with development progress on the portal. This is a collaborative effort between the Libraries and Alan Prince, a Distinguished Professor of Linguistics in SAS, to store, preserve and make available the Rutgers Optimality Archive (which is currently being housed on a server in SAS) through RUcore.

Marker said objects are being moved from their current location into RUcore. Beard has been addressing file compatibility issues. Marker and Kevin Mulcahy met with Janice Pilch to discuss copyright concerns. Approximately 60% of the archive has been cleared for migration to RUcore.

Marker said the new ROA portal will mimic the functionality of the current portal with the goal of providing additional functionality as time goes on. She reviewed a handout which outlined the development steps to be taken to create the new ROA portal. Agnew reminded the group that any development work already approved can move forward.

A concern was raised about the mechanism which will allow future deposits into the archive. The current rights statement needs to be tightened up. Marker, Mills and Deodato will spec out the requirements for a new deposit form and create a spec document. They will review this with Software Architecture with the goal of bringing it to the November 6 CISC meeting for final review and approval.

Mills recommended creating a bib record for the objects which will not be migrated into RUcore. This ensures titles for every object will be searchable through RUcore. If an object returned on the search is not available in RUcore the user will be directed (via a link) to ROA's archived site. Marker was asked to develop a strategy for these bib records.

Ontology/Linked Data

Agnew spoke about the benefits of creating ontologies and linked data. They allow us to better manage vocabularies and make them discoverable, while also providing structure and organization as they expand. This allows data to be more readily linked through identifiers adding to its value and impact. She reviewed the levels of vocabulary building (controlled vocabulary, taxonomy, ontology) and current ontology standards.

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She said oral histories are a good place to begin this effort. The Rutgers History Department has extensive oral histories, some of which may be used for the University's 250th anniversary celebration in 2016.

Agnew reviewed what needs to be done by the Metadata Working Group (MDWG) and the technical development team moving forward. Among the first steps the MDWG must clean up the vocabularies already in the WMS and the technical development team needs to develop an identifier strategy for vocabularies. She said creating ontologies will not happen overnight and requires a lot of thought and effort, but the time has come to start working on them.

Digital File Handling/Processing Audit

Mills and Ananthan proposed doing an audit of our current digital file handling, processing methods, and file processing software used in RUcore and WMS. They hope to identify any deficiencies and/or limitations which may negatively impact the processing of digital files. They would also recommend associated software changes. The committee thought this was a terrific idea. Agnew asked them to ensure they include Beard and Konin in their investigation. They will provide an update at the November 20 meeting.

Acknowledgment

Morgan thanked Marker for her help in assisting some Health Sciences librarians with depositing online materials for NIH grants.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2013 at 10:00 in the Technical Services Building conference room.

Submitted by John Brennan
September 26, 2013