

NZ DSpace User Group Meeting

Sponsored by Ira - Institutional Repositories Aotearoa

Discussion Forums

Community Structures - An Open Forum on setting up your Collections/Communities

The group discussed:

- Existing implementations of DSpace
- What was achieved in practice
- Considerations in “hindsight” when dealing with “out of the box” DSpace.
- Navigation to repositories, how users get to the items

Structures in place:

- Use a structure that “works for you”
- Type was also a popular way of creating structure in communities and collections
- Most institutions tried to keep the structure as flat as possible but this was sometimes difficult to implement for other reasons/dependencies
- Ownership and branding of collections rather than communities
- All participants were wary of reflecting the structure of the institution because it was subject to change.
- If the collection or community was to be used for self-submission, this would determine the structure
- Auckland has used the mapping items feature to maintain a flat structure

Features that may assist to develop meaning in structures:

- How to preserve collection level information in a migration
- The benefit of mapping a structure from scratch, even if there were no items to populate it with, was seen as a way to ensure that parts of the hierarchy were not omitted and then difficult to add later, however... empty collections were seen as undesirable
- Being able to hide the collection from public view would be a nice cosmetic feature
- When an item has more than one file there was confusion on how it was being harvested by Google. The requirements by ADT to create a 2-part file were discussed.

Future Considerations

- Keeping options open so metadata and items can be migrated easily - Scott Yeadon at ANU has worked with the Rubric Project to export DSpace records to a Fedora Fez repository
- Moving away from showing the main home page view of DSpace repositories by using front ends like manakin or entry via harvesters, portals, search engines and aggregators would determine the development and/or customisation decisions

DSpace installations in NZ

Canterbury – IR at Canterbury used for research outputs. Ira Project partner - Home grown research database. Have taken an extract from the 2006 PBRF results and matched items that are copyright cleared. Data is added in the import process. Self-submission not in place at present.

<http://ir.canterbury.ac.nz>

Victoria University of Wellington – Research Archive used for a mixture of published papers, grey literature and theses. Ira Project Partner. Doing a lot of work on awareness in faculty.

<http://researcharchive.vuw.ac.nz/>

University of Auckland – [ResearchSpace@Auckland](#). Ira Project Partner. Have done sample collections of papers but concentrating on theses. Showcase collection PhD theses. Doing retrospective digitisation of theses.

<http://researchspace.auckland.ac.nz/>

Lincoln University – OARiNZ partner NZ's newest DSpace site. In pilot phase, will be used for a mixture of items.

<http://dspace.lincoln.ac.nz/dspace/>

Indica Buddhica – Richard Mahoney setup the repository to access materials for Indologists and Buddhologists, he is not affiliated to any Tertiary Institution for the project. Richard has setup and worked with DSpace as the lone NZ user and relied on the support from the DSpace development community. At present it contains about 25,000 bibliographic records.

<http://indica-et-buddhica.org/>

LCONZ – Library consortia group. 2 of the partners have been involved in other projects. Victoria in Ira, and Otago in OARiNZ. It is likely that AUT and Waikato use DSpace and this will be located at Waikato University.

<http://www.lconz.ac.nz/projects.htm>

- Most DSpace sites in NZ have very limited resources, being run by 1-2 people on a part-time basis
- Funding from TEC for the Ira project has been instrumental in getting projects started
- Assistance and support from Australian colleagues has been a key factor in uptake
- The PBRF process is a driver in Research based Tertiary Institutions