Library and Information Science OA
a review of the last six years in
an international multilingual environment

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What is E-LIS?

• An international Open Archive for Library and Information Science
• With more than 9,000 full text documents
• and 6,051 users

http://eprints.rclis.org/
An Open Archive for Librarians managed by Librarians

• To promote OA
  – If librarians do not apply OA, how are they going to be able to convince their users about OA?

• To offer a platform for testing

• To capacity librarians
  – one of the main goals of E-LIS staff has been to informed and instruct over the world about OA benefits and its correct practice
The Plan

• Open Archive aligned with the *Open Access* movement; sharing its philosophy, policies and tools.
• Voluntary work of individuals from a wide range of backgrounds and different countries, without commercial purposes.
  – One or more than one editor for each country
• Agreements with institutions as CILEA (Italy) and UPV (Spain)
• The Software
Policies

• The criteria for acceptance are:
  – the documents have to be relevant to research in LIS fields
  – they have the form of a finished document that is ready to be entered into a process of communication.

• Copyright metadata policies
  – All works deposited in the E-LIS server remain the property of the author
  – Authors who submit work are responsible for the documents they archive
The technical side

- We start using Eprints 2.3
- Many updates for 2.3
- Migration to 3.1.2
- Update to 3.1.3 very soon
Multilinguality

• Multilingual
  – E-LIS contents papers in 37 languages
  – Authors from 90 countries have deposited papers
  – But the interface is only in one language (English)
  – Editorial staff helps on this...
    • contact with authors is more effective in their native language(s)

• The technical solution for multilingual interface is quite good in version 2.3
• Better in version 3.x
• But we want to deeply work on interface and fix the translation every time
The software in a shared server

- Not a good decision in the long run
- E-LIS is very used...
- Eprints 2.3 heavy
- Eprints 3 still more heavy
- To migrate we need to limit ourselves to only 1 GB of Ram
  - We have problems on expose stats
  - We need to exclude Google robots
    - If you exclude Google robots, your traffic goes down
The software in a shared server

The down of traffic

[Bar chart showing usage summary for eprints.rclis.org]
Development of extra features (1)

- Hack on long files names (for name not in Latin alphabet)
- Show of all metadata (without login)
- Add language in submission buffer
- A Bcc to the editor when a paper is rejected
- List the last 8 papers in the home page
- Develop a statistic package starting from Tasmania code
Development of extra features (2)

• A form as link to editor name to avoid spam
• An alert to the author when the paper is online
• Parsing the references and use URLs as much as possible
• Adding abstract field in alerts
• Count the papers
• SQL scripts to check metadata and users’s data
Development of extra features (3)

- Others features asked by editor/user were done with specific configurations
- We have written a specific presentation in Open Repository 2007
- [http://eprints.rclis.org/9163/](http://eprints.rclis.org/9163/)
Migration to ver 3 (1)

• In the migration to ver 3 we work on metadata level and on configuration level
• About porting of configuration we use Eprints system by default
• The quality of the script is good
• The configuration migrate in a correct way
Managing multilingual abstracts

• All non-English document must have English Title and Abstract + in its own language Title and Abstract
  – By default in Eprints 3, all the abstracts are in one mandatory field not repeatable
  – What E-LIS needed...
    • English abstract in a specific field mandatory, not repeatable
    • Others abstracts in an other field, not mandatory, repeatable and with language qualification
Migration to ver 3 (2)

• The main problem are the phrases
• You need to port the phrases by hand
• In fact we redone the interface personalization, we think is the better path
• You have to redone the citation setup but it is not a huge work
Migration to ver 3 (3)

- We write code for those features:
  - Stats package with robots filter
  - An alert to the author when the paper is online
  - Parsing the references and use URLs as much as possible
  - Adding abstract field in alerts
  - Count the papers
  - Show of all metadata (without login)
  - A Bcc to the editor when a paper is rejected
  - List the last 8 papers in the home page
Migration to ver 3 (4)

• Generally speaking we work on plugins
• We also prefer to rewrite home page every 10 minutes with cron
  – If you insert the counter and the list of last 8 papers, your home page became dynamic
  – And dynamic home page is too huge for the system
Migration to ver 3 (5)

- As new function we insert an authority check on names using Ajax
- We ca not port the hack for long file name
- In particular for views this is a very big problem for us.
- Also others users write about it in eprints-tech
Our requests on Eprints 3 two years ago

1. *To use AJAX to control metadata during submission*
2. *More flexible indexing*
3. *More documentation on API.*
4. *Support for Creative Commons licenses*
5. *More support for multi script pages*
Requests...

- Point 1 and 2 are done and are OK
- Point 3 is OK, but documentation is never enough and the API is more complex now
- CC license are present but with a low level of interaction. There is only a list of CC values. We prefer a system with more help for user about license selection
Requests...

- Point 5 is not done
- We think that a better UTF-8 support is a must for Eprints
- In interface but also in the indexing
- Many threads on the topic in eprint-tech
Thanks for the Attention!

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