Theses Alive!
- an ETD management system for the UK

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Theses Alive!
University of Edinburgh
Theses Alive!

- lead site Edinburgh
- pilot partners
  - Cambridge, Cranfield, Leeds, Manchester Metropolitan
- funding: JISC (FAIR programme) and UoE
- duration: 2 years, November 2002 – October 2004
project aims 1

• to develop an OAI-compliant thesis archive and submission system for use in all participating universities
• to develop an infrastructure which enables e-theses to be published on the web to the extent that a minimum of 500 e-theses exist within the UK segment of the NDLTD after 2 years
project aims 2

• to develop and implement a metadata export system (crosswalk) capable of delivering our metadata to relevant metadata repositories for UK thesis information (BL, Index to Theses)

• To produce a ‘checklist approach’ for universities to use as they develop e-theses capability
background

- traditional thesis access
  - special collections reading room
  - Inter Library Loan request
- current online access
  - individual web pages
  - departmental web pages
reading room statistics
ILL requests

• 2002- 155 estimates, 58 copies sent
• 2003 (to date) - 110 estimates, 47 copies sent
• High cost
  - 300 pages £60 +VAT/P&P
  - 300-600 pages £100 +VAT/P&P
current online access

• 100+ PhD and MSc theses
Available Software

- DSpace – HP and MIT
- ETD-db – Virginia Tech
- EPrints – University of Southampton

Comparative Evaluation:
http://www.thesesalive.ac.uk/archive/ComparativeEvaluation.pdf
Why DSpace?

- More powerful and more functionality
- Better supported
- Continued development
- Digital preservation
- Open Archives Initiative – Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) v2.0
Theses Alive! timeline

• phase one (Deposit)
  - deposit of final version (post-viva)
  - December 2003

• phase two (Submission)
  - submission for examination (pre-viva)
  - Spring 2004
EUL-DSpace Add-On

- Workspace for thesis authoring and supervision
- Workflow features for thesis submission
- Required forms for submission (intention to submit)
- Metadata export/crosswalk facilities
- Withhold option at archive end
Work Done So Far

The Workspace

• Notes system for communication between student and supervisors
• Supervision system for addition of supervising academics to view and modify submissions
• Additional administrative tools
### My DSpace: DSpace Administrator

#### Tasks in the Pool

Below are tasks in the task pool that have been assigned to you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Submitted To</th>
<th>Submitted By</th>
<th>Take Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review Submission</td>
<td>df asfds My Test Collection</td>
<td>DSpace Administrator</td>
<td>DSpace Administrator</td>
<td>Remove</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Start a New Submission

View Accepted Submissions

### WorkSpace

This section is for use in the continued authoring of your document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submitted by</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Submitted to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes View Open</td>
<td>DSpace Administrator</td>
<td>Untitled Another Test Collection Remove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes View Open</td>
<td>DSpace Administrator</td>
<td>Test Submission Beta Electrical Engineering Remove</td>
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<td>Test Submission Gamma Informatics Remove</td>
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<td>DSpace Administrator</td>
<td>Test Submission Delta Forestry and Natural Resources Remove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notes View Open</td>
<td>DSpace Administrator</td>
<td>Untitled My Other Test Remove</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Submissions In Workflow Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>df asfds</td>
<td>My Test Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Policy Removal Test</td>
<td>Another Test Collection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
in conclusion….

• not only looking at the physical act of building and populating an E-Theses archive…
• but, addressing the requirements of university administrators, examiners, students and academics
• requires a new role for the Library/Information Services – not simply a replacement for traditional interlibrary loan
Thank You!

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