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■ **FEZ goes to Spain**

The University of Queensland has recently welcomed the first public installation of their Fez software at the National Distance Education University of Spain (UNED) where a repository has been set up under the name “e-Spacio”. While UQ is using the software to drive its own eSpace repository, it is pleasing to see the software implemented elsewhere. Installations help test and improve the software, expand its user base and further develop the expertise to run it successfully.

e-Spacio is a service offered by UNED for the management and dissemination of digital collections generated by their research, teaching and cultural activities. In this way they hope to enhance the visibility and impact of UNED publications while guaranteeing the preservation of the University’s intellectual output. Those of you who read Spanish can read more about it at <http://62.204.194.47/fez/>.

Christiaan Kortekaas is the programmer behind Fez and has recently visited the United States of America to attend the Fedora Users Conference at the University of Virginia Library in Charlottesville. Christiaan presented a talk entitled *Don't Keep It under Your Hat* which describes the use of Fez for the UQ Research Assessment Exercise and for other forms of digital repositories.

Usage of Fez worldwide is increasing and the software has now been downloaded 542 times. The recent release of version 1.2 resulted in many downloads to take advantage of bug fixes.



*Establishing a Digital Repository Service Workshop, Hobart, May 4, 2006.
See story page 3.*

■ APSR sends Submissions

APSR emphasised the importance of the preservation and sharing of research data, the deposition of research article preprints in institutional repositories and the publication of research articles in open access journals in two submissions made recently. APSR made a submission to the NHMRC in response to the second consultation draft of the Australian code for the responsible conduct of research, on May 5, 2006 and to the Australian Research Council Consultation regarding the Funding Rules Revision, on May 30, 2006. Both of these are available on the APSR website at <http://www.apsr.edu.au/publications/aboutpubs.htm>.

■ Goodbye to Kevin Bradley



Our congratulations go to Kevin Bradley on his recent promotion to head up Oral History and Sound Preservation at the National Library of Australia. Kevin has contributed very substantially to APSR over the past two and a half years and his cheerful approach to serious issues will be much missed.

Kevin will be familiar to those who attended APSR events where he spoke of the need for sound preservation principles to underpin repository management. His interest in preservation metadata will stand him in good stead in his new position, as will his interests in folk music and sound recording.

Kevin was responsible for two major publications which continue to influence APSR directions. These were the the *APSR Sustainability Issues Discussion Paper* and the *Survey of Data Collections*, both of which can be found on the APSR website.

An afternoon tea was held to mark his departure on May 24th at APSR HQ at the Australian National University.

■ And (almost) Goodbye to Ian Barnes



Word processing documents create particular problems for longer term access. Dr Ian Barnes was seconded to work on this issue from his position in the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the Australian National University in July, 2005. This has involved looking at appropriate formats for the long-term storage of word processed documents and the means of conversion involved.

His project has resulted in two reports, *Preservation of Word Processing Documents* and *Preservation of LaTeX*. Both reports will be published on the APSR website.

Ian's major work, however, during this time has been in developing the Digital Scholar's Workbench designed to make it easier for scholars to manipulate their work into different formats and to deposit to a digital repository. Ian leaves APSR at the end of June to return to academic life, but will continue with the Scholars Workbench one day a week. Ian was farewelled formally on June 26th.

■ Long-term Repositories: Taking the Shock Out of the Future

Registrations are now being accepted for Long-term Repositories.

APSR and the National Library of Australia will present a two-day forum on PREMIS Preservation Metadata and Trusted Digital Repositories Methodology, August 31 and September 1, 2006. It will be held at the National Library of Australia in Canberra.

International speakers will include Robin Dale, Taskforce Co-Chair and Project Officer for the Digital Repository Certification Project, RLG-NARA, Ron Jantz, Fedora Preservation Working Group, and Rebecca Guenther, Senior Networking and Standards Specialist at the Library of Congress Network Development and MARC Standards Office.

On the Wednesday prior to Longer-term Repositories there will be a meeting of Australian Fedora developers. This meeting will provide an opportunity for Australian implementers of Fedora to meet and discuss issues of mutual

interest. The focus of the meeting will be technical issues, with reports of Australian and overseas developments. Ron Jantz, Chair of the Fedora Preservation Working Group, will attend the meeting.

For further details, and the registration form, see www.apsr.edu.au/longterm/

■ Establishing a Digital Repository Service Workshops

Over sixty people attended the last of the workshop series, *Establishing a Digital Repository Service*, held in Hobart on 4 May. An unusual feature of this workshop as a follow-up session in the afternoon with three additional speakers. Geoff Payne from LaTrobe University spoke about the achievements of the ARROW project. Professor Arthur Sale from the University of Tasmania spoke about the topic of open access, accession policies and the RQF and Margaret Henty from APSR addressed the issue of repository services for academics. All three sets of overheads are available from the APSR website at <http://www.apsr.edu.au/publications/presentations.html>. See photograph on page 1.

■ News from the partners

The Australian National University

Manakin and ContentDM Migration The ANU Library's ContentDM repository has been decommissioned and its three collections migrated into Demetrius, ANU's DSpace-based digital repository. Using the new Manakin user interface framework for DSpace, the ContentDM look-and-feel was able to be applied to the DSpace collections. This work and subsequent migration into production was significant for a number of reasons:

- It decommissions a legacy application, with removal all the associated costs of maintaining a separate repository,
- the three collections migrated are the first ANU Library collections submitted to Demetrius,
- it allowed ANU to test and develop using an early version of Manakin and provide feedback to the development team at Texas A&M University, thus helping to fulfill our role on the Manakin Working Group,
- it allowed ANU to gain experience with Manakin prior to production-level release. This is advantageous from a local repository management point of view but also potentially allows ANU to play a greater international support role by getting on board early in the Manakin release schedule.

Manakin was developed by Texas A&M University and further information about it can be found at <http://wiki.dspace.org/Manakin>. The three Manakin-based collections are linked to from the ANU Library's website at <http://anulib.anu.edu.au/subjects/ap/digilib/>. They are the Chinese Digital Archive 1966-1976 (<http://anulib.anu.edu.au/subjects/ap/digilib/chi/cr/china.html>), the Giles Pickford Family Album (<http://anulib.anu.edu.au/subjects/ap/digilib/chi/gp/giles.html>) and His Majesty's Shoot in Nepalese Terai, December 1911 (<http://anulib.anu.edu.au/subjects/ap/digilib/sasia/tig/tigers.html>). To view these optimally, we recommend a browser other than Internet Explorer; Firefox, Opera 8.5+, Konqueror and Amaya will display the collections correctly.

OJS, DSpace and Manakin ANU staff have developed a prototype to evaluate and demonstrate how PKP's Open Journal System (OJS) and DSpace may be integrated has been developed. OJS provides a polished workflow environment for managing journal publications but it is a monolithic application in that it also handles production, publication and content management for journals and does not support functions for long-term archiving. The prototype demonstrated that, using plugin points provided by OJS, content could be exported to DSpace and then published direct from DSpace, using Manakin to customise the look-and-feel of the journal. Once the journal articles are in DSpace, they then can benefit from digital curation services provided by the repository. By separating responsibilities between different applications, there is opportunity for leveraging off specialist software packages and in the future swapping particular software facets when some aspect of the overall system becomes unsupported, obsolete or surpassed by another product. In the prototype example, OJS is utilised for its workflow and journal creation functions, DSpace for archiving and Manakin for on-line presentation/publishing.

A secondary purpose of this project was to gain an understanding of the DSpace 1.4 Packager plug-in developed by MIT which provides a means of ingesting/disseminating content packages without the need to customise the core DSpace code.

Bidwern METS The DSpace 1.4 Packager plug-in was again used to trial the ingest of METS packages in an early prototype for submitting content generated by field researchers. As part of the Bidwern project, some trials

using XSLT and Java scripts to package up FileMaker Pro content into METS conforming with the DSpace METS profile were successfully undertaken and will be developed further over the coming months.

AONS Joseph Curtis spent some time at the University of Queensland getting started on the Automated Obsolescence Notification System (AONS) project. This project will deliver a working prototype of a service notifying repository managers of format specification changes based on information held in global format registries.

Update on DSpace 1.4 Release Due to some sourceforge issues, DSpace 1.4 has been delayed. A beta release is now available with a production release probably available late June/early July depending on testing feedback.

The University of Queensland

Fez proved to be a robust tool for running the recent UQ Research Assessment Exercise. Thirteen schools and one centre participated in this. Scores of details of staff from those areas had to be loaded on to the system, and look-up tables provided for entry and authentication of author names and research groups. Look-up tables were based on the Suggest feature that UQ staff developed as a special project for their APSR eScholarshipUQ test bed.

Authentication also had to be provided for external reviewers for the duration of the exercise. While this was done manually for the RAE, in future, authentication and authorisation for reviewers will be based on the international standard eduPerson attributes, implemented with Shibboleth technology which has now been incorporated into Fez. External reviewers will authenticate using their own institutions' central identify provider and Fez will grant access to them based on their individual eduPerson attributes.

Other databases are being added to UQ eSpace prior to its official launch at the end of June. Library working parties are beginning to use the software to store and share project documentation, both with each other and with external consultants. Further image collections are being added to UQ eSpace as well.

Belinda Weaver returned from long service leave in early June. Christiaan Kortekaas represented UQ and Fez at ETD 2006: The 9th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations, in Quebec, Canada, in June.

Planning is well underway for the Brisbane event *The Successful Repository* on June 29. [Contact B.Weaver@library.uq.edu.au](mailto:B.Weaver@library.uq.edu.au).

The University of Melbourne

The Melbourne team has been keeping busy with a variety of activities. Our project website went live last month and can be found at www.unimelb.edu.au/apsr. We interviewed our final research team in late May and have started developing our reporting processes. Part of this development has included close collaboration with the Canberra AERES team to build a classification framework for the data processes used by the research groups audited. This partnership, facilitated by the Access Grid and many hours of e-talking, thinking and drawing, culminated into an impressive framework which has now gone out to a number of stakeholders for comment. This classification framework will be used to analyse some of the data collected in our project. The current version of this framework can be viewed on our website at:

http://www.unimelb.edu.au/apsr/docs/AERES_Data%20Process%20Classifiers.pdf

In early May we held our Digital Asset Management (DAM) Focus Session. This session provided a terrific opportunity to bring together researchers, archivists, technology personnel and technology developers to discuss issues, problems and solutions associated with managing digital assets. Two Digital Asset Management systems were demonstrated: DigiTool (<http://www.exlibris.co.il/digitool.htm>), an ExLibris product soon to be piloted to showcase some of our digital collections, and Mediaflux (<http://www.arcitecta.com/mediaflux/technology.html>), an Arteca product that will be used to manage images in the Neuroscience MRI Computational Facility at the Howard Florey Institute, University of Melbourne.

In early June, Anna Shadbolt (AERES Melbourne project leader) and Dr Adrian Burton (APSR Project Leader) were invited to participate in the neuroscience NCRIS consultation for Capability 5.2, Integrated Biological Systems. This event was hosted by the Howard Florey Institute at the University of Melbourne. This meeting provided us with considerable insights into the specific needs of this highly specialised group of researchers from around Australia.

In late June our new Repository coordinator and APSR Project team member, Eve Young, will be attending the Successful Repository workshop in Brisbane. [Contact Anna Shadbolt, annams@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:annams@unimelb.edu.au)

■ Current APSR Projects

The PREMIS Requirements Statement (PRESTA) Project The analysis work has now been completed and the products are being drawn together in a report which will be delivered to the APSR Steering Committee in July. Bronwyn Lee was chief analyst with significant input from others at the National Library especially Gerard Clifton and Somaya Langley, and also Scott Yeadon and Peter Raftos from ANU and Christiaan Kortekaas from UQ. Useful input was also gained at a workshop with a wider group held on 7 April at the National Library.

The report will include

- recommended preservation metadata elements
- recommended file formats
- recommended tools for automatic metadata extraction and their capabilities
- gaps in preservation metadata collected in partner repositories and recommendations for enhancements
- functional specifications for preservation events and event logging (a significant piece of the digital preservation framework missing in current implementations)
- issues and recommendations regarding the PREMIS preservation metadata data dictionary
- a draft METS profile for exchanging preservation metadata
- future directions including implementation of the recommendations.

A public version of the report will also be published and will be presented on 31 August at the APSR event Long-term Repositories: Taking the Shock out of the Future and at iPRES (International Conference on Digital Preservation) in October. By presenting at conferences and through liaison with particular groups it is hoped to influence systems development nationally and internationally to better support metadata needed to ensure long term meaningful access to digital objects. [Contact *blee@nla.gov.au*](mailto:blee@nla.gov.au).

Australian e-Research Sustainability Project (AERES) Markus Buchhorn and Paul McNamara have met with research groups in Canberra, Sydney, Hobart and Brisbane in the last six weeks. Markus and Paul also met with Adrian Burton and Rhys Francis to discuss the progress of the sustainability survey in light of the work Rhys is doing as coordinator for the NCRIS platform for collaboration Paul met with Anna Shadbolt to discuss the University of Melbourne sustainability test bed project and the coordination of it and the national project. Paul and Markus have liaised with Anna and staff from the University of Melbourne on the development of a research group data audit tool. [Contact *paul.mcnamara@anu.edu.au*](mailto:paul.mcnamara@anu.edu.au).

SUGAR (Sustainability Guidelines for Australian Repositories), with a helping of PADI

The University of Sydney Library is working with the APSR partners in developing a set of guidelines to assist repository planning, creation and management.

Although there is a lot of discussion and documentation, worldwide, on the issues surrounding the sustainability of digital material, most of it is occurring within communities that understand the underlining premises and have knowledge of and/or access to large institutional repositories. A variety of presentation approaches is required to allow choice and flexibility in the browsing and retrieving of the mountains of available information. Where some people might feel comfortable doing a free search of the information, others may prefer answering a series of questions to narrow down the scope or empathising with scenarios that describe real-life situations.

SUGAR will provide an online information service for people seeking guidance on digital sustainability issues. The guidelines, drawing on international best practice, will be developed as a prototype and tested with reference to digital repository projects within and beyond the University of Sydney. The underlying data management system will be sufficiently flexible to enable presentation of content through a variety of models and scenarios.

The service will include advice and link to sources on topics such as project planning, costs, digital conversion standards and processes, legal and copyright issues, metadata schemas and modes of access.

Rowan Brownlee (Digital Project Analyst with Sydney eScholarship) has been developing, indexing and loading content into the National Library's PADI (Preserving Access to Digital Information) service in preparation for uploading into the data management system. The relationship between SUGAR and PADI is a significant collaboration borne from the APSR partnership, and one which will ensure the most effective utility in gathering, assessing and providing access to the wide (and often confusing) range of information available through the web.

David Berriman at ANU has nearly completed work on developing a flexible framework to allow for a fresh approach to the presentation of diffuse information. Once this framework is in place, a presentation layer will be added, and the substantial amount of information already identified and annotated will be made available. This will provide access to SUGAR and other APSR resources in a way which is dynamic and user-led.

[Contact *r.brownlee@library.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:r.brownlee@library.usyd.edu.au) or david.berriman@anu.edu.au.

■ Around the traps ... Send your suggestions to Margaret.Henty@apsr.edu.au

Conferences and events

2006 June 29, *The Successful Repository*. Customs House, Brisbane. APSR and the University of Queensland in collaboration with QULOC and RUBRIC. <http://www.apsr.edu.au/news/index.html>

2006 August 31-September 1, Long Term Repositories: Taking the Shock Out of the Future: A 2 day Forum on PREMIS Preservation Metadata and Trusted Digital Repositories Methodology National Library of Australia, Canberra. <http://www.apsr.edu.au/news/index.html>

2006 August 30. Fedora Developers Group Meeting. The Australian National University. <http://www.apsr.edu.au/news/index.html>

2006 July 12-14 ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication, hosted by UCLA, sponsored by The Association for Research Libraries and Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). Los Angeles, CA <http://www.arl.org/training/institutes/arl-acrl06.html>

2006 July 26-28, Interoperability and Institutional Repository Symposium sponsored by the Alliance for Innovation in Science & Technology Information Albuquerque, NM. <http://www.aisti.org/events/IR2006/index.php>

2006 October 9-10, iPRES 2006: International Conference on the Preservation of Digital Objects. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York <http://ipres.library.cornell.edu/>

2006 November 21-22, Digital Data Curation in Practice 2nd International Digital Curation Conference 2006, Glasgow <http://www.dcc.ac.uk/events/dcc-2006/>

2007 February Open Repositories 2007. The 2nd International Conference on Open Repositories San Antonio, Texas. <http://openrepositories.org>

Publications

Ian Barnes, ***The Preservation of Word Processing Documents***. APSR, Canberra, July 2006. www.apsr.edu.au/publications/ (forthcoming).

"Lost in a Sea of Science Data", ***The Chronicle of Higher Education***. June 23, 2006. <http://chronicle.com/wiredcampus/article/1352/lost-in-a-sea-of-science-data>

Next issue?

Be the first to know ... join the APSR Announcements email service at: http://mailman.anu.edu.au/mailman/listinfo/apsr_announcements

Contributors to this newsletter were David Berriman, Ross Coleman, Margaret Henty, Paul McNamara, Anna Shadbolt, Belinda Weaver and Scott Yeadon. Spanish translation by courtesy of Ana-Maria Manzano, ANU Library.

The APSR partners



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