a brief history of PKP
Public Knowledge Project

10 years old in 2008
directed by Dr. John Willinsky

aims to improve the quality of scholarly research and the public access to this research
who is PKP

a small but determined team

11 people in total
5 researchers, 5 librarians, 4 software developers
2 new members per year in 2007 and 2008

motivated by cause, flexibility, and perks … not $$

http://pkp.sfu.ca/people
where is PKP

distributed across Canada (and Brazil)

at four major universities
Simon Fraser University
University of British Columbia
Stanford University
Arizona State University
what does PKP do

established software
Open Journal Systems (OJS)
Open Conference Systems (OCS)
Open Archives Harvester (OAH)

software in development
Lemon8-XML (L8X)
Open Monograph Press (OMP)
how is PKP sustained

direct funding from journals (e.g. CJC)

various grants and associated projects

funding from host universities

cost-recovery mechanisms such as hosting

PKP software is Open Source (GPL v.2),
broadly applicable, and standards-based
consumers of PKP
how widespread is PKP

2100 - 2700+ OJS journals
roughly doubled in the past 12-18 months

support forum: 13000 posts, 1500 members

52 countries
OJS is available in 16 languages, with more in progress
OJS Journals by Continent  October 2008
Number of Journals

- Asia: 220
- Europe: 426
- Africa: 331
- Oceania: 56
- North America: 641
- South America: 502
what about other PKP software

OCS adoption is increasing, often from users already familiar with OJS

OAH use remains sparse, but active

http://nzresearch.org.nz

interest in L8X and OMP remains high both to be released in 2009
contributing to PKP
how does PKP communicate

take cues from support forum and emails
email list and weekly teleconference/skype call
send announcements via webpage and blog
put roadmap and resources on wiki
provide feedback on forum and by email

all communication is as open as possible
a history of contribution

translations have been largely done by contribution this works because of a distribution of expertise

ad-hoc contributions from groups offering code fragments to PKP
eg. major metadata i18n overhaul in OJS 2.1

extremely labour intensive to incorporate this work
the nature of contribution

many journals add or customize features
these are often one-off or unmaintainable, done in isolation or “reinventing the wheel”

unfortunately, these are usually not fed back to PKP to share or include with releases
contributing PKP plugins

a better approach is to implement code as plugins

OJS/OCS METS export plugins from ANU Shibboleth plugin, various citation plugins, etc. XSLT code from Monash, Molecular Vision plugins are upgrade-safe, maintainable, and shareable
infrastructure for contribution

simple but comprehensive toolkit

CVS code repository
bugzilla bug tracking

PHPBB support forum (eg. plugin gallery)
listserv mailing list
doxygen documentation

mediaWiki roadmaps, minutes, documentation
collaborating with PKP
a history of collaboration

PKP has partnered with OJS consumers, mostly support and training for portal and journal development

INASP (Asia)
IBICT (Brazil)
AJOL (Africa)
Redalyc (Mexico)
but...

users have questions outside of our expertise
5 people can't readily support 1500+ users

we know the tools work

but we need to focus on more than just technology

we need to engage on the rest of the PKP suite
not just OJS
keys to success

direct engagement between users, partners, and the relevant experts

UI / design: Rochester Tech OPL, UVic
open access / policy guidance: OAK Law
monograph development: CCSP, Athabasca U
ePress knowledge: UTS ePress, Monash ePress
keys to success

- encourage peer support
- introduce users in the same institution, city or region
- develop regional and/or topical PKP user groups
- increase community participation
keys to success

document users' experiences through feedback

actively pursue options for research to share knowledge gained by the community

focus on PKP as a conduit for knowledge, not just a provider of software
how this all helps our objective

users have a sense of shared stewardship

community develops a trust for the work PKP does

make it possible for one person or group to secure support by giving an easy, low-cost and self-managed option

...all by using a grassroots approach
to learn more

http://pkp.sfu.ca

contact the PKP team at pkp-support@sfu.ca

or email me at mj@suhonos.ca

thanks!