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1. DRIVER News

a) Belgium

- The minutes and presentations of last DRIVER's meeting in Ghent on June 26th, are available on the website at

<http://www.driver-repository.be/content1.aspx?pageId=247&lang=EN&online=TRUE>

- ULG proudly announces the birth of their repository 'ORBI' (Open repository and Bibliography), which will start to serve as an academic bibliography/OA repository with mandate from the start of the academic year 2008. Congratulations!
- DRIVER presented at Communia Conference on the digital public domain in Louvain-la-Neuve, see PPTs and speakers at <http://communia-project.eu/conf2008>

b) Europe

- DRIVER is proud to announce the software release of D-Net v 1.0. The first of its kind, this open source software offers a toolbox for deploying a customizable distributed system featuring tools for harvesting and aggregating heterogeneous data sources. Together with the release of the repository search portal and new services for repository managers, D-NET embodies the Vision of DRIVER for a common European Information Space. More info at:

http://www.driver-repository.eu/DRIVER-News-Events/PR_D-NET_1_0.html

- Validate (test) your repository (e.g. specific sets, and preferably only 20-50% of these records) at:

<http://validator.driver.research-infrastructures.eu/validator/validateInfo.do?action=load>

Feedback welcome at helpdesk@driver-support.eu

2. Open Access talk

- The Netherlands release a national portal that integrates national bibliography, DAREnet, datasets and CRIS systems: <http://www.narcis.info/?wicket:interface=:1:::>
- Stanford University- School of Education adopts Green OA mandate : <http://www.eprints.org/openaccess/policysignup/>
- JASIST (Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology) goes Green (allows self-archiving): <http://tinyurl.com/6jc9wu>

3. Technical Gossip

- Fedora and DSpace: A happy marriage?
Extract from the DSpace mailinglist, June 1st

(...)

Over the last few weeks, we (Michele Kimpton and Sandy Payette) have been discussing the possibilities of our organizations collaborating. The reasons for exploring the possibilities of collaboration are based on the following:

1. **The missions** of our non-profit organizations are **very similar** and we are motivated to provide the best technology and services to many of the same communities
2. Over the next 12-18 months, **our existing technology roadmaps suggest convergence of thought in several key areas of our architectural visions**
3. We are both motivated to show how our **open source repositories offer a unique value proposition compared to proprietary solutions**

Over the past couple of weeks, we have had informal discussions with members of our communities, leaders in libraries and higher education, and Board members to get initial feedback as to whether they would support collaboration and the outcomes they would like to see as a result.

This past week, we convened members of both communities during the PASIG conference to get input and ideas regarding a collaboration.

Thus far, all of the stakeholders we have had the opportunity to talk **with have been extremely supportive and excited about the possibility of the Fedora and DSpace communities working together in some capacity.**

As a result of these discussions, we have agreed to move forward in our exploration of collaborative possibilities. Over the next several weeks our organizations will meet to plan the next steps in the process. Our intent is to bring together the ideas and expertise within both communities to come up **with the most compelling issues to work on to best serve our communities.**

As we move through this process it is our commitment to ensure that all discussions, meetings and decisions made are transparent and open in the hopes to engage and inform the community.

We look forward to your ideas and inputs! (...)

- June 2nd, 2008: The ORE (Object re-use and Exchange) project released their specifications and implementation guide in beta:
<http://www.openarchives.org/ore/0.9/toc> This document describes a data model to introduce aggregations as resources with URIs on the web. They also detail the machine-readable descriptions of aggregations expressed in the popular Atom syndication format, in RDF/XML, and RDfa.

More info on ORE :Over the past eighteen months the Open Archives Initiative <<http://www.openarchives.org/>> (OAI), in a project called Object Reuse and Exchange <<http://www.openarchives.org/ore/>> (OAI-ORE), has gathered international experts from the publishing, web, library, and eScience community to develop standards for the identification and description of aggregations of online information resources. These aggregations, sometimes called compound digital objects, may combine distributed resources with multiple media types including text, images, data, and video. The goal of these standards is to expose the rich content in these aggregations to applications that support authoring, deposit, exchange, visualization, reuse, and preservation. Although a motivating use case for the work is the changing nature of scholarship and scholarly communication, and the need for cyberinfrastructure to support that scholarship, the intent of the effort is to develop standards that generalize across all web-based information including the increasing popular social networks of "web 2.0".

The full press release for this beta release is located at
<http://www.openarchives.org/ore/documents/oreBetaPressRelease.pdf>

- Muradora: a GUI for Fedora

The DRAMA team at Macquarie University would like to announce the 1.3 release of Muradora, available for download at: <http://www.muradora.org/software>

Muradora is a web-based GUI for the popular Fedora repository, built using enterprise Java Spring and Struts 2 frameworks. Amongst the common features found in a typical repository such as search, browse, self-submission, and versioning supports, Muradora enables flexible access control for end users (based on the XACML standard), inter-domain authentication and federated identity (using Shibboleth implementation of the SAML standard), and multiple metadata schema management (via W3C XForms standard).

More information about Muradora, including deployment and user guides, can be found at:

<http://www.muradora.org>

Notable features in 1.3 release: Faceted Search / All-in-one installation/RSS-Atom Feeds/Thumbnail preview

4. Conferences and dates

- TICER's Summerschool 'Digital libraries a la Carte' takes place in Tilburg from August 25 - 29, and features, on Friday 29th, the DRIVER workshop 'Put yourself in the DRIVER's seat', an excellent opportunity to get hands-on experience and learn a lot more about the DRIVER guidelines 2.0, D-Net 1.0, and registering your repository (preferably taken together with the Open Access module on Aug 28, but it's an independent workshop) . Check

<http://www.tilburguniversity.nl/services/lis/ticer/08carte/index.html>

- Repository Fringe Festival: end of July, Edinburgh: 'un-conference'- like festival with booths and posters and a lot of live demos and sessions: www.repositoryfringe.org
- Early announcement: the 9th Bielefeld Conference will take place on February 3-5, 2009, in Bielefeld, Germany, under the name: "Upgrading the e-library: enhanced information services driven by technology and economics."

Confirmed speakers: Mario Campolargo (EC), Herbert van de Sompel (LANL) , Sijbolt J Noorda (European University Association)

<http://conference.ub.uni-bielefeld.de/>