An introduction to the ...

JISC Digital Repositories Programme (DRP) Support Team (DRS)

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UKOLN is supported by: JISC M(L)A

JISC E-learning team meeting
Bristol, 11th April 2006

UNIVERSITY OF BATH

www.bath.ac.uk

UKOLN A centre of expertise in digital information management

Overview

- The Digital Repositories Programme
- The team
- The work
  - clusters
  - dissemination package
- The wiki
- The e-learning perspective

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The Digital Repositories Programme

- 25 projects
- 2 years
- Cross-disciplinary
- Cross-theme
- E-learning projects
  - CD-LOR, Rights and Rewards, Prowe, SPIRE, TrustDR, UKCDR, ASK, RepoMMan

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The DRS team

- **Neil Jacobs** – Digital Repositories Programme Manager (JISC) n.jacobs.@jisc.ac.uk

- **Rachel Heery** – Digital Repositories Support Manager (UKOLN) r.heery@ukoln.ac.uk

- **Mahendra Mahey** – Digital Repositories Support Officer 1.0 (UKOLN) m.mahey@ukoln.ac.uk

- **Julie Allinson** – Digital Repositories Support Officer 1.0 (UKOLN) j.allinson@ukoln.ac.uk

- **Sarah Currier** – Digital Repositories Support Officer 0.5 (CETIS) sarah.currier@strath.ac.uk

- **Mark Power** – Digital Repositories Dissemination Officer 0.5 (CETIS) m.power@bolton.ac.uk

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DRS Workplan : workpackages

- 2 years; 6 Workpackages
    1. Management
    2. Collation of process-oriented outputs
    3. Support JISC strategic direction
    4. Advice and support to projects
    5. Programme dissemination
    6. Consultation and validation of work
- Working closely with Neil

DRS Workplan : 3/05 Circular

- Objective and activity area (v)
  - "Defining repository functional components and developing and synthesising frameworks"
- Objective and activity area (vi)
  - "Developing guidelines and exemplars for the implementation of relevant standards, specifications and good practices in the repository area"

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WP1 : Repositories Support Management (1)

Reporting to JISC

To establish working methods and structures for the support team, including discussion lists, wikis, websites

Ensuring delivery of other workpackages

- Digital Repositories Programme wiki – DigiRep (open)
  - www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/
- Digital Repositories Support wiki (access-restricted)
  - www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep-support/

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WP1 : Repositories Support Management (2)

- JISCMAIL discussion lists established
  - JISC-DRP – Programme announcements
  - JISC-DRP-ADMIN – Support team
  - JISC-REPOSITORIES – for the repositories community, 700 subscribers and rising
  - JISC-DAPI – Deposit API working group
- DRS monthly teleconferences
- f2f meetings when possible
- Progress reports for RPAG

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WP2 - Collation of projects' process-oriented outputs (1)

Development of guidelines for writing scenarios and use cases

Collection of scenarios and use cases, rendering in a standard format

- Training in 'Writing Effective Scenarios and Use Cases' and 'UML for use cases'

- Supporting documents and templates available on DigiRep

- Templates and submission process established

- Some scenarios and use cases collected.

- Other projects have indicated willingness to share.

www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/Scenarios_and_use_cases

WP2 (2) : scenarios and use cases

Comments on 'Writing effective scenarios and use cases':

- "Speakers were all knowledgeable and convincing"
- "The event completely convinced me about this approach to project management/software/user requirements"
- "Very interesting and thought provoking event"

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WP2 (3) : workflows

Reviewing good practice with respect to documenting workflows

Collation of projects' documented workflows according to good practice

- UML training included workflow elements
- DigiRep FAQ on workflow mapping software
  - **www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/FAQs**
- Further work scheduled in this area

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WP2 (4) : standards

Identifiy projects use of standards, map practice to JISC IE Standards Catalogue, recommend conformance set of standards for repositories.

- Collaboration with JISC Standards Catalogue activity at UKOLN
- Sub-group of projects to input into the Catalogue
- Standards section in DigiRep
  - **www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/Standards**
- Conformance work planned
- Gathering information on use of standards

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WP2 (5) : reference model(s)?

Using this work to scope (a) reference model(s) for repositories, with reference to the e-Framework.

Validating this scoping work with reference to the projects and their outputs

- Evaluation of OAIS as a reference model
  - CETIS Metadata and Digital Repositories SIG meeting
  - Evaluation page on DRS wiki, not public (yet)
  - Interim information on DigiRep
    - www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/Reference_models
    - www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/OAIS
- Identifying cross-project repository themes through site visits, to be mapped to reference model work.

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WP2 (6) : e-Framework

- e-Framework
  - Input into e-Framework working and operations groups
  - Editing and commenting on 'bricks'
  - Framework will impact on any reference model(s) work

WP2 (7) : international connections

Drawing from and collaborating with international partners as appropriate

- Some contacts:
    - DARENET
    - SURF
    - DLF
    - E-Framework (JISC and DEST)
    - Sayeed Chowdhury, Johns Hopkins University
    - U.S. Interoperability work

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WP3 - Support for JISC strategic direction

Drawing on appropriate sources, to maintain and validate a roadmap for a repository infrastructure, to include:

> *A typology of repositories, their scope, policies, standards, etc*

> *A visualisation of the repository ecology, or repository and service interactions*

- Roadmap produced by Rachel Heery and Andy Powell (Eduserv Foundation)

- Typology - based on the Repositories Review, drawing on project outputs.

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WP3 (2) : advising JISC

Advising JISC on the scope and direction of future development programmes, studies and other activities, and internal and external partnerships.

Advising JISC on the potential for, and scope of, particular services identified as being relevant to repositories (certification, metadata authority, etc)

- Input through meetings and discussion
- Deposit API
  - Meeting of repository developers to specify a Deposit API
  - Further funding agreed
  - A 'brick' in the e-Framework

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WP4 - Advice and support to projects (1)

Offering technical advice to projects on standards and specifications, service architectures, etc.

Identifying and meeting selected training needs of projects, in consultation with the programme manager

- Gathering intelligence through project visits
- FAQs and information pages on DigiRep
  - **www.ukoln.ac.uk/digirep/index/FAQs**
- Training courses
- Project visits help identify synergies / themes
- Themes pages collate information
  - including Personal Resource Management Strategies
  - **www.ukoln.ac.uk/digirep/index/Themes**

WP4 (2) : clusters

Supporting groups / clusters that include repositories projects, but also projects outside the programme, helping them exploit synergies, minimise duplication, manage dependencies, etc.

- Clusters established, including DigiRep pages to facilitate collaboration.
  - E-learning
  - Scientific data
  - Repositories and preservation
  - Legal and policy issues
  - Integrating infrastructure
  - Machine services

www.ukoln.ac.uk/digirep/index/Clusters

WP4 (3) : clusters

- Cluster meetings were held at the Warwick Programme meeting.

- DRS input into session planning, organisation and note-taking at the sessions.

- DRS are helping disseminate outputs from sessions.

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WP5 - Programme dissemination (1)

Undertaking thematic syntheses of programme outputs, along the lines of the FAIR Synthesis. Precise details to be agreed at the time.

Disseminating the programme-level outputs of the Repositories projects (note, excludes project-level dissemination)

- Presentations, publicity, meetings
- DigiRep and jisc-repositories for news and announcements
  - **www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/News**
  - **www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/Events**
- Themes as a step towards synthesis

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WP5 : Repositories demonstration and advocacy package : what

- "To roll up various outputs from the repositories projects
  - JORUM, RELOAD, X4L1/2, FAIR and elsewhere
- into a package that can be distributed to
  - institutional managers for (e)learning, (e)research
  - information services
  - enterprise systems
  - institutional strategists
- to enable them to demonstrate the value, methods and potential of using repositories to:
  - manage
  - share
  - exploit
  - reuse and re-purpose

the intellectual outputs of their institution"

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Dissemination package : why

- Increasing interest in repositories
  - from a range of stakeholders
  - for managing a range of assets
- Current and previous JISC Programmes are developing the repositories landscape
- Forthcoming JISC funding places further focus on repositories
- There is a need for better guidance for those responsible for commissioning, planning, resourcing, implementing or using repositories.

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Dissemination package : how

- Develop character-based scenarios for 4 targeted stakeholders. Characters used as a way to navigate through to the relevant resources available
  - Researcher, HE Teacher, Repository / ILT Manager, Library Manager (Still in discussion)
- Resource identification
  - Identify relevant resources (JISC and Other)
  - Digestible summaries in the scenarios
  - More detailed information from source of information
- Web site
  - Central place where stakeholders can identify and navigate to relevant resources

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Dissemination package : who, when

- Project team:
  - Mahendra Mahey (UKOLN)
  - Mark Power (CETIS)
  - JISC Comms
- Duration: 6 months
  - March – August 2006
- First deliverable complete, March 2006

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WP6 - Consultation and validation of work

Working with the programme manager on a programme-level quality plan, and ensuring that programme-level outputs are of an acceptable quality by validating them via wider development communities.

Participating in standards development communities with a view to promoting evidence-based good practice as revealed by the projects

Advising and assisting projects as they liaise with development and standards communities.

- CETIS and UKOLN
  - Existing relationships with standards bodies
  - Expertise in standards

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DRS Wiki (DigiRep)

www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/

- Why a wiki?
  - Collaborative environment
  - Controlled access to editing
  - Ease of use and technical management
  - Extensions and features
  - User community (Wikipedia)

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DRS Wiki (DigiRep)

www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/

- Why not?
  - Lacks CMS functionality
  - Code-hacks and extensions
  - Encouraging contributions
  - Editorial control and management
  - Guidance and help
  - Maintaining currency and dynamism

DRS : E-learning perspective

- E-learning in the DRS team
  - Sarah Currier
  - Mark Power
  - Mahendra Mahey
  - CETIS

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E-learning projects

- DRP E-learning projects
  - CD-LOR
  - Rights and Rewards
  - Prowe
  - SPIRE
  - TrustDR
  - UKCDR
  - ASK
  - RepoMMan
- Other Cluster members
  - JORUM, WM-share
- Other JISC
  - X4L, E-learning Programme, DeL, more …

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E-learning repositories cluster topics

- Identifying communities
  - OAIS Designated Community (producer-consumer)
  - User requirements
  - Spans across clusters

- IPR and DRM
  - Exploring licence models
  - Expression languages
  - Human, policy and organisational aspects
  - Again, spans clusters

- Personal Resource Management Strategies
  - Cross-cluster theme

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E-learning : questions

- Where does E-learning diverge and converge?
  - From/with other 'types' of repositories
  - From/with other domains (e-Research, e-Admin)
- How do DRP projects and other activities work together?
  - JISC Programmes, National, International work
  - Synthesis role for DRS

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That's it … questions?

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