Developing a Common Submission System for ETDs

A Report from the Texas Digital Library

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Overview

1. Background
2. Policy & Workflow
3. Requirements Analysis
4. Implementation Goals
5. Conclusion
Background
Texas Digital Library (TDL)

- 65+ campuses
- 425,000+ students
- 150,000+ faculty/staff

...Big!
ETDs

- Important focus
- Federated collection
  - Texas A&M
  - University of Texas
  - Texas Tech University
  - UT-Arlington
TDL ETD Collection

http://repositories.tdl.org
MODS Schema

- Metadata Working Group
- MODS XML schema
- Defines new fields
Problems

- No controlled vocabulary
- Format consistency
- Value ambiguity
Solution

- Single ingestion point
- Full control over metadata collected
- Consistent, authoritative formats
Policy & Workflow
ETD Working Group

- Formed in 2006
- Workflow surveys
- Policy questionnaires
Baseline Workflow

- Ingestion
- Verification
- Publication
Baseline Workflow

1. **Ingest**
   - Students

2. **Verify**
   - Thesis Staff
   - Students

3. **Publish**
   - Open access
Requirements
Requirements Analysis

- Scope analysis
- Author’s rights
- Access control
- Deployment schedule
Scope Analysis

- Engagement with stages of baseline workflow
- Monolithic system selected
- Model similar to existing systems
Author’s Rights

- Type of license
- Required for submission
- Publication holds
Access Control

- TDL committed to open access
- No restricted (campus-only) option
- Already successfully implemented at UT
Deployment

- Practical scheduling limitations
- TAMU and UT already have existing systems
- Large student population provides good testbed
Implementation Goals
Implementation

- User interface
- Identity management
- Turnkey solution
User interface

- Highly intuitive
  - Staff users: expert
  - Students: one-time
- Replacing existing systems
- Integrated help and documentation
Step 1
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  Richard Furuta
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Distributed Authentication

- Federated identity management
- Secure metadata
- Flexibility
Shibboleth Decisions

- Federation membership
- General-access identities
- User metadata additions
Turnkey Application

- Self-contained extension (Manakin Aspect)
- Give back to the community
- All source code, documentation, and training materials
Conclusion
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current</strong></td>
<td>Beta version of ingest stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall 2007</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrators of full system at TAMU and UT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 2008</strong></td>
<td>Full-scale deployment at TAMU and UT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall 2008</strong></td>
<td>“Open enrollment” and source code release</td>
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MODS Schema

Manakin
Questions