

CSU Scholarworks progress report: November 6, 2008

CSU Scholarworks is now on Solaris and Postgres, with full access to the features of Dspace version 1.5. Campuses have the option of using the Manakin XML based interface or the "Dspace classic" jsp-based interface. The technical infrastructure is in place with three tiered architecture and a virtual Apache server. Initial installations have been accomplished for twelve campuses and one center, with an additional test instance available for testing and training.

Instances are currently available for:

Center for Accessible Media  
Channel Islands  
Chico  
East Bay  
Fresno  
Monterey Bay  
Moss Landing  
Northridge  
Sacramento  
San Jose  
San Marcos  
Sonoma  
Stanislaus

Significant technical support has been received from Kevin Craig, of Channel Islands. He has worked on establishing the individual instances and has been working with the new SWORD (Simple Web-service Offering Repository Deposit) module. SWORD offers a method for ingesting submissions in batch mode which may be used to transfer existing digital collections into Scholarworks. Using SWORD, the Channel Islands repository has been successfully moved into production on the CSU Scholarworks server on October 27<sup>th</sup>. This same method may be used for transferring other Dspace archives, such as Humboldt's, to Scholarworks. SWORD may also be used to automate the transfer of digital theses from other campuses. Monterey Bay, Fresno and San Jose have digital theses and metadata available that should be sufficient to create collections in Scholarworks.

The Manakin XML interface to Dspace offers Scholarworks a powerful tool for customizing and branding individual campus' implementation Scholarworks, but the customization is labor intensive, requiring specialized technical skills. The Chancellor's Office staff has one highly skilled XML/XSLT person on staff, whose time is committed to multiple, high priority projects in addition to Scholarworks. The Chancellor's Office staff has recently begun to reassign a staff member from working on the Pharos union catalog to working on Manakin XML and other Dspace configurations. Like most highly technical projects, Dspace and Manakin XML work has a significant learning curve, but this addition of staff should begin to move Scholarworks projects along more quickly.

Northridge has done significant work in developing and debugging the sort of customizations of workflows, metadata, licensing and user management that are required for an effective program of end

user submissions. The expertise developed in working with Northridge will be directly applicable to most other campuses in implementing an end-user submission repository.

The recent release of a high quality user training program on the dspace.org wiki may greatly reduce the need for local creation of documentation and training materials. The course materials, authored by Stuart Lewis (DSpace committer, developer and trainer), Chris Yates (DSpace developer, support provider and trainer) are of very high quality and provide both introductory and advanced training.