

# ICT Forum

## Hilary Term 2013

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### Report from the Bodleian Libraries

#### The ILS/SOLO

- The transfer of responsibility for the Libraries' Unix/Linux infrastructure from IT Services to the Libraries continues. Good progress has been made with the handover of the ILS infrastructure, though "assorted other" servers have yet to be handed over. The transition from IT Services is scheduled to finish at the end of April.
- Final preparations are under way for the launch of "non-print legal deposit". The solution, to provide access to electronic legal deposit material, has been developed by the British Library. Access will be provided via SOLO **only** from Bodleian Library reading rooms. It is expected that the legislation will come into force at midnight on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2013 and the aim is to have a solution available as soon as possible thereafter.
- Initial testing of the next major release of the ILS (Aleph v.21) is going well, and the launch is currently scheduled for the start of July this year.
- We've had some challenges in setting up the development environment for the next major release of SOLO (Primo v.4), but these now appear to be resolved in the main and we remain on target to release it into production in late summer.

#### Digital Initiatives

##### ORA (Oxford University Research Archive)

As a result of the publication of the Finch report and the government's response RCUK has distributed £10m towards open access initiatives, of which Oxford has received £879K which is to be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013. This funding is being used to run a programme (OAOxford <http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/>) to enable Oxford researchers to meet RCUK requirements. It will focus on the 'green route' to open access i.e. using ORA as the most cost effective method of making the considerable number of Oxford authored publications open access (note Oxford OA statement approved by Council 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013). In tandem, Oxford will set up procedures for managing authors' payment of article processing charges (APCs) for open access articles published within journals ('gold route' to open access). The University is committed to the widest possible free dissemination of its research, and sees this funding as an opportunity to make rapid progress in this area. The 'OA Oxford' programme will pump-prime improvements to existing services and infrastructure, and new initiatives towards this goal. The programme runs beyond July 2013 and will focus on actions that enable members of the University to comply with the RCUK policy on open access.

The OA Oxford programme comprises 10 projects under four main themes, plus programme administration. The projects overlap and are interdependent. Projects that are directly embedded, or closely relate to ORA are:

- OA publications dissemination support project

- Integrating research outputs data project (the existing 'Author ID' project)
- ORA enhancement project

Tasks that will be tackled include: data cleaning for improved search and data delivery, improved deposit workflows and interfaces; improved reviewer and administrator interface; Citation style support.

A major step has been the import of 96,000 trawled bibliographic records into ORA from Symplectic. These are now available in SOLO. This is a significant development for the improved freely available details of Oxford research outputs. 950 person records have been created using WebAuth IDs as key unique identifiers.

The programme involves a number of units: Research Services, IT Services, the Bodleian Libraries. It is being directed by Dr Glenn Swafford, Director Research Services with Sally Rumsey (Bodleian Libraries) seconded half-time as Senior Programme Manager. The focus at Oxford is for use of ORA rather than payment of APCs in all cases – this is because of the considerable cost of APCs and that the forthcoming RCUK block grants for APCs (from April 2013) will not cover Oxford's total APC charges.

## Research Data Management

The Damaro project developer has joined the team and has upgraded the Oxford DataBank repository to Django. Investigations into metadata requirements are on-going. The starting point is the DataCite minimum kernel, however, other elements will be required depending on context. Fields common with Oxford DMPOnline (Data Management Plan Online) being developed by Dr David Shotton, have been identified to enable close integration between the two systems.

The DataBank core software is being upgraded as is handling of large files. This work is being carried out by an external consultant (Ben O'Steen who designed the software).

A small amount of work is scheduled for enhancements to DataBank and DataFinder as part of the OAOxford programme. The tasks are directly related to open access for publications and RCUK requirements and are focused on linking publications with data.

## Integrating Broadside Ballads Archives (IBBA) Project

@BodleianBallads

[ballads.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](http://ballads.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)

The Broadside Ballads beta site was launched on February 23, 2013 at the Broadside Day event with The English Folk Dance and Song Society. This resource is maintained by the Bodleian Libraries on the Digital Asset Management System (DAMS) and features the Bodleian digital collections of ballads, with links to the English Broadside Ballad Archive's digital presentations of pre-1800 ballads from other libraries. Further work to incorporate content from the Vaughan Williams Society and English Broadside Ballads Archive and to integrate 'Image Matching' functionality will be completed by May 2013.

## Cultures of Knowledge – Phase II

<http://cofk.history.ox.ac.uk/>

The Mellon-funded digital humanities research project 'Cultures of Knowledge: Networking the Republic of Letters' began Phase II on January 1, 2013. A new Digital Software Engineer is being recruited specifically to work on tasks related to the on-going development and enhancement of the

project's flagship union catalogue of sixteenth-, seventeenth-, and eighteenth-century correspondence, 'Early Modern Letters Online' (EMLO) (<http://emlo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>). This person will build on all existing technical aspects of this fledgling collection including software development, documentation, and security.

Now in an intensive second phase of development, EMLO is a freely accessible inventory of correspondence to which individuals and institutions can contribute epistolary metadata, texts and images of individual letters, small calendars of individual corpora, and extensive catalogues of institutional holdings. It consists of a free-standing data collection application based around Open Office; a sophisticated, web-based editorial environment implemented in PHP; and a search and discovery interface implemented in Python/Pylons. Records are available for harvesting via OAI-PMH and OAI-ORE standards in order to maximise reuse in the wider community.

### **Enabling Digital Humanities research through effective data preservation**

From Trinity Term 2013, a one-year project initiated by the Humanities Division and funded by the John Fell Fund, will begin which aims to address some of the issues surrounding the sustainability and preservation of data and resources created by digital projects in the humanities. Working closely with key stakeholders in the Humanities Division as well as the Bodleian, IT Services, and OeRC, and with 14 major Oxford projects in the digital humanities, a new Research Assistant will develop, test, implement and promote a set of guidelines and procedures for preparing data for preservation. S/he will operate in close conjunction with the recently instituted university-wide services for data management, and complement these by providing for the specific preservation needs of humanities data creators. The outputs of this 1-year position should be a set of well documented best practice guidelines for preservation of data in the humanities, plus the creation of an archive of humanities data (in existing systems) with sufficient critical mass to encourage uptake by future data creators.

### **Theses**

The first two batches of DPhil theses have been added to ORA and are now live. Work is underway to improve the citations that display on each record. This will require re-indexing. The options for download have been improved. Batch 6 of the theses has been received from the scanning company and deposited in Fedora. There are now more staff from Cataloguing and Special Collections involved within the workflow and with extracting abstracts.

### **EEBO-TCP**

A new website has been launched jointly with the University of Michigan (EEBO-TCP partners) at <http://www.textcreationpartnership.org/>. Each site will have its own local website, but the new site means better efficiency and integration for information common to both sites.

*Andrew Bonnie, BDLSS, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013*