

# **ICT Users Forum,**

## **Michaelmas Term 2010**

### **Report from the Bodleian Libraries**

#### **1. SOLO**

Since SOLO was released in 2008, it has become the primary resource discovery service for the Oxford Libraries (<http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>). Of great value to our readers is its ability to integrate searches across different catalogues, e.g. OLIS, ORA, electronic journals and databases, and our Chinese and Japanese catalogues. We are continuing to add more of Oxford's catalogues and finding aids to SOLO, most recently, the Refugee Studies Centre's catalogue of grey literature.

A major software upgrade timed for Michaelmas 2010 has brought, as well as an improved interface, significant functional enhancements, including left anchored title searching (index browsing), more sorting options and support for iPhones and other mobile devices.

Over the last year, Oxford has partnered with the library systems company, Ex Libris, and a number of university libraries in the development of Primo Central, a cross disciplinary, high performance resource comprising citations to c.400 million articles. This has now been introduced as the default database when searching for journal articles within SOLO. Complementing Primo Central is the new bX Recommender service to which the Library now subscribes. Based on usage data, it will present next to search results other articles of potential interest which the researcher might not otherwise have discovered.

Other methods of enriching the SOLO database are being developed by Library staff, and it is now possible to import tables of contents, summaries and annotations for many items held in Oxford. As well as presenting this additional information to users, it can also be indexed to provide extra points of access to our bibliographic records

#### **2. OLIS: The New ILS Project**

The core project team have now received their system training and are already busy testing the 3rd of the 3 test data migrations that we will run this year. A 4<sup>th</sup> test run of the migration has now been scheduled for April 2011 to ensure that the large amounts of data that will be affected by the various books moves (including the move of material to the BSF) does not introduce any unforeseen issues.

We now have two installations of the ILS software (test & what will be production) and the majority of the production hardware installed. An initial install of the application client has been packaged and rolled out the test team.

Ex Libris have delivered the requested enhancements to the software to support Closed Stack Management (the replacement for Automated Stack Requests) and these are currently being tested.

Commencing February next year, librarians will be asked to check the configuration of their own libraries and a full programme of staff training will commence in May 2011 and run over the summer. The project continues to go well and we remain on track for the acceptance of the system in December and "go live" in July 2011.

#### **3. BSFIS Implementation Project**

The BSFIS application supporting operation of the Bodleian Libraries' new Book Storage Facility at Swindon is now in production. A few modifications were made to the LAS software package to support our requirements; the application will print the book slips that accompany requested books back to the reading rooms; it will also support the 8 character eye legible shelf addressing system adopted within the BSF.

The hardware is now in-situ at the BSF and the final operational testing and trialling was completed in preparation for the start of staff training on the 25<sup>th</sup> October. 40 BSF staff were trained and operations started successfully on the 8<sup>th</sup> November as planned. To date, c.400,000 books have been ingested into the system and daily retrievals to Oxford are taking place.

## 4. ORA (Oxford University Research Archive)

### a) Facts & figures

There is a total of over 4200 items in ORA. Content comprises a wide mixture of item types (articles, conference papers, theses, posters, reports etc) both full text (open access and restricted access) and 'record only' with links to full text where appropriate. There are over 300 Oxford digital theses in ORA. This number is expected to grow as the University requirement to deposit D.Phil., M.Litt. and M.Sc.(by research) takes effect this year.

Accesses & Downloads (figures for academic year 2009-10)

- There were over 78,000 accesses to ORA records during the year
- There were over 10,300 downloads of full text items
- Visitors originated from over 100 different countries
- ORA is heavily crawled by search engines. Google is the most popular means of finding items in ORA with over 45,000 accesses via Google during the year 2009-10.

### b) Projects and expertise

ORA staff expertise continues to be sought by external agencies:

- Neil Jefferies (SERS R&D Manager) and Sally Rumsey are participating in the JISC Research Information Management working Group (comprising representatives from HEFCE, RCUK, HESA, Bristol, King's & Southampton Universities and others) and which has recently recommended a standard data exchange format (CERIF) for the UK research information.
- Sally Rumsey is a member of the DataCite<sup>1</sup> working group created to discuss recommendations for citing research data
- Sally Rumsey is a member of the IDMB project<sup>2</sup> Steering Group (Southampton University). Creating a 10-year blueprint for managing research data for the institution.

### c) Staff

Ben O'Steen, the ORA Software Developer, left the University in June 2010. His final months were spent ensuring documentation was complete for his replacement. Anusha Ranganathan took up the post as DAMS (the Bodleian Libraries' Digital Asset Management System) Software Developer in early October. This post is now a permanent position and is dedicated to ORA development for 2 years. The new postholder will not have the considerable additional responsibility for DAMS systems architecture as was the case previously: this will be the responsibility of another member of staff. Anusha previously worked as developer on the JISC-funded BRII Project (see below). These staff changes have meant that development of ORA (both the underlying system and visible user interface) have been seriously disrupted during 2010. Plans are now in place to re-start ORA development (a list of tasks and priorities has been drawn up) and to ensure our project commitments will be met (see above).

### d) Research Registry

The registry of research and researchers developed as part of the JISC-funded BRII (Building the Research Information Infrastructure) project<sup>3</sup> gained such interest and momentum that it is likely to be used as the model for a research data registry for the UK. When the project is confirmed, the development of this registry by the Bodleian Libraries will be funded by HEFCE as part of the UKRDS (UK Research Data Service) pathfinder work. We are waiting for confirmation from HEFCE. At the time of writing, no further funding has been secured to extend the registry and 'Blue Pages' (<http://163.1.127.171/index>) directory of researchers and research for Oxford. Research registry data will continue to be gathered and used for ORA and ORA will provide data for the registry.

## 5. Oxford Digital Library

Funding of £1M towards Phase II of EEBO-TCP has recently been confirmed by JISC Collections Ltd. Work on this endeavour to create an additional 44,500 textual transcriptions of early printed books (c.1470-1700) to complement the 25,000 etexts produced of Phase I, has already been underway for a year. Project partners based at

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<sup>1</sup> [www.datacite.org/](http://www.datacite.org/)

<sup>2</sup> [www.southamptondata.org/](http://www.southamptondata.org/)

<sup>3</sup> <http://brii.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>

the University of Michigan have been actively pursuing more than 100 of the top institutions in the US, to secure their continuing support for the project by subscribing to EEBO-TCP Phase II (at \$50K per institution for a 5-year membership). All those institutions that were partners during Phase I already have access to the texts that were created to use as they wish in their research and teaching, and these materials are scheduled to move into the public domain on 1st January 2016.

The Bodleian Libraries have also been fortunate to receive a donation of £1.5M from Dr Leonard Polonsky (see [http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/news/2010\\_jun\\_17](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/news/2010_jun_17)) to support the libraries' digitization programme. Staff of the ODL will be actively engaged in several projects and activities which can now begin, thanks to Dr Polonsky's generosity. Our initial involvement will concern the digitization of up to 5,000 Oxford D.Phil theses, the selection of which has yet to be determined.

ODL staff are continuing to migrate existing digital collections onto the Luna platform (<http://bodley30.bodleian.ox.ac.uk:8180/luna/servlet/allCollections>), giving priority to those that are currently only accessible via the Greenstone-based beta test site (<http://www2.odl.ox.ac.uk/gSDL/cgi-bin/library>). This requires the retrieval of the relevant master images from the OUCS HFS, and we are taking the opportunity to review our data holdings in advance of the ingest of this material into the Bodleian Libraries' DAMS. An upgrade of Luna was released over the summer and it now includes an integrated "page-turner". However, for the time-being we are continuing to work with "Turning The Pages" software to develop kiosk-style applications to accompany the displays in the Bodleian's Exhibition Room, and also plan to make these materials accessible via the web.

ODL staff have recently attended a number of conferences and training events, such as the AHRC-funded colloquium "e-Research on texts and images" which took place at the London headquarters of the British Academy in 11-12th May. From 7-10th July, our Metadata Coordinator, Alexander Huber, will be attending the Digital Humanities Conference at Kings College London. On 14th July, Dr Matthew McGrattan of the ODL spoke at the OeRC's Digital Humanities & Images workshop, taking part in a panel session on the contribution that museums, libraries, and archives, can make to the future of digital scholarship.

## 6. IT Strategy & Development Project Updates

ITSD has a number of projects in development, many of which are operating in a production environment:

- Cultures of Knowledge [www.culturesofknowledge.org](http://www.culturesofknowledge.org)
- OCIMCO <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/bodley/library/specialcollections/projects/ocimco>
- Blockbooks [http://www.odl.ox.ac.uk/digitalimagelibrary/blockbooks\\_home.html](http://www.odl.ox.ac.uk/digitalimagelibrary/blockbooks_home.html) (live)
- ADMIRAL <http://imageweb.zoo.ox.ac.uk/wiki/index.php/ADMIRAL> (live)
- EIDCSR <http://eidcsr.oucs.ox.ac.uk/>
- SUDAMIH <http://sudamih.oucs.ox.ac.uk/>
- Geniza (upcoming) <http://www.ochjs.ac.uk/news/newsletter/GenizahDigitizationProject.html>
- Repository Junction [http://edina.ac.uk/projects/Open\\_Access\\_Repository\\_Junction\\_summary.html](http://edina.ac.uk/projects/Open_Access_Repository_Junction_summary.html)
- PIRUS2 <http://www.cranfieldlibrary.cranfield.ac.uk/pirus2/tiki-index.php?page=pirus2>
- The BRII project website is still live (as requested by JISC) at <http://brii.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>
- Vocab <http://vocab.ox.ac.uk> (live)

The Cultures of Knowledge Project was recently previewed to a large group of scholars who are eager to work with the live system. The early success of the project has been encouraging and has helped to create a solid model for other projects in their early stages of development. SERS has partnered on the submission of two new external bids as well, which will continue to support the development of the Digital Asset Management System (DAMS).

Medieval Libraries of Great Britain (MLGB3) successfully demonstrated to Mellon a prototype service developed by SERS and received additional funding for three years to develop fully the resource.

We have just embarked on a joint project with Stanford, BNF and others to develop standards for describing the sequencing and display of manuscript images and also software for realising the display.

Most current resources have now been migrated to the Bodleian naming. ORA remains as an "ouls" site pending a new release of the user interface which will take on the Bodleian branding. Some issues with over-aggressive search-engine scanning were recently encountered but these have now been resolved.

We have a new staff member who will be working exclusively on making Oxford's copies of Google's scans publicly available. And we are very pleased that as of now, we also have a full time developer dedicated to ORA once again.

*Dave Price, SERS, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2010*