

Minutes of Institutional Repository Task Force, July 21, 2004

Present: David Austin, Sara Blaszcak, John Cullars, Mircea Stefancu, Ann Weller, chair, Lisa Zhao Guest: Mary Case

1. Bicknese's minutes of the meeting of July 6, 2004 were approved, subject to his correcting two typos and an error as to the time and place of this meeting. Cullars was appointed to take minutes was instructed to inform Bicknese, who is on vacation, of the needed revisions.

2. Discussion with Mary Case

Weller thanked Case for attending the meeting and explained that the task force had been formed in March and had come to the conclusion of the first part of its timeline, having developed evaluation criteria to compare institutional repositories. The task force is seeking Case's input on its goals and activities up to this point, as well as her advice on future plans and goals. Questions raised included the kind of software favored by Case and whether she endorses our idea of a pilot project, first in the library, and then inviting other campus units such as Great Cities or individuals to collaborate.

3. Discussion of recommendations document: Weller led us through this document item by item. She pointed out that the proposed name, UIC Central Online Repository, could be replaced by something more striking if an appropriate alternative were suggested. Blaszcak's work in creating the website was commended. Discussing the range of material that could be included, Weller pointed out that course syllabi might be problematic in that they sometimes include copyrighted material. Case suggested changing the wording concerning copyrighted material as unsuitable to the repository ("Material covered by copyright or licensing agreements") to "Material restricted by copyright or licensing agreements" because some copyrighted material can legally be deposited. The copyright discussion included Blaszcak's question to Case whether she knew of any efforts to link IRs with publishers' electronic submission systems to facilitate self-

archiving. Case replied that publishers are gradually changing copyright agreements to allow self-archiving but are not yet able to push the prepress article to any IRs. She agreed that the proposed timeline was appropriate and that the task force was meeting its suggested deadlines.

Austin suggested an additional approach to the pilot project: targeting senior or retired UIC faculty with extensive archives to contribute. He suggested that working with someone in a discipline which uses unconventional symbols such as math or Asian languages would test the software's capabilities. Various senior or emeritus/a UIC professors were suggested as appropriate subjects to consider for collaboration. Case said that UIUC is receiving a \$2.6 million grant from LC to further develop its repository. It is likely that at a certain point in the UIC project's development we will need to work with the UIC Computer Center, just as UIUC is working with their Computer Center. Case is meeting with Provost Tanner on July 23 and will discuss the repository with him. She will also try to learn if any other campus group is looking at the issue.

4. Discussion of software options document: Weller also talked us through this document, giving particular attention to the three systems (Dspace, DLXS, and EPrints) that appear to fit our goals and needs more adequately than five others considered, which the task force found to be less appropriate due to expense, the need for extensive technical support, the lack of certain features deemed essential, or an approach that was geared more to the business rather than the community. The functionalities of some recommended systems might need a supplement; for instance, EPrints apparently do not support graphics, though Austin has heard that a more robust version is in development. It is also desirable for the operating systems to be compatible with systems such as the Luna software that the library has rather than going with a competing system, such as DLXS, which is used in many digital libraries. Austin told us that PDF-A is not yet readily available and that we might be able to work with Harvard on its further development with only staff costs as opposed to having to license or purchase it at a later date. Case recommended that we seek more specifics and in-depth analyses about the 3 preferred systems, talking to those who have implemented them and

determining what costs are involved since there will be at the very least staff costs with even “free” software. DLXS, for instance, offers a “light” search engine free, but if more power is required, their full XPAT search engine costs \$15,000 upfront with a \$5,000 annual licensing fee thereafter.

5. Composition of task force: when the pilot project goes beyond the library, it will be advantageous to seek membership among the teaching faculty and possibly administrators. More practically, due to the resignation of Deirdre Rawls, the task force now lacks any representative from Information Services. Weller will talk to Information Services head Carol Scherrer to solicit her advice on an appropriate choice.

6. Other: Zhao brought to our attention the website SHERPA: Publisher Copyright Policies and Self-Archiving, to which Blaszcak will supply a link on our webpage. Weller said that it would be good if the task force sends at least one representative to the November conference on institutional repositories in Washington DC. She also said that since Daniel Enoch has downloaded Dspace, he might be requested to also download DLXS and EPrints. When the task force becomes more involved in the implementation of the project, it may be good to bring in Enoch ex officio.

The next meeting is 9-10:30 AM on July 27 at LHS.

Submitted by John Cullars, July 23, 2004; approved July 27, 2004