Measuring Twice: Choosing Tools for Open Access Publishing
IMLS Publishing Services Workshop (May 18-20, 2011)

Presenter
Tschera Harkness Connell
Head, Scholarly Resources Integration Department
The Ohio State University Libraries
The Ohio State University

Colleges: 14
Undergraduate majors: 170
Total enrollment: 64,077
Columbus campus enrollment: 56,064

Size of Columbus campus:
more than 1,700 acres & 457 buildings
E-journal publishing is one of our institutional repository services.

(Both these journals distributed using Dspace)
New services needed to complement DSpace-driven Knowledge Bank

Partnership with OSU faculty editors of Disability Studies Quarterly
Background

- Journal of the Society for Disability Studies (SDS)
- 2000 - Journal published exclusively online
- 2007 - New editors named from OSU faculty
- 2007. Journal was subscription based
- With change of institution there was a need for a new arrangement for publishing
Goals for A Year of Learning

Commercial platform (vol. 21, nos. 1-2)
- Transfer responsibility
- Learn commercial platform
- Assess accessibility of journal
- Identify html markup requirements
- Build initial templates
- Install DPubS

Commercial & DPubS (vol. 21, no. 3)
- Set up management of institutional subscriptions
- Learn XML & XSLT schemas used by Penn State
- Learn DPubS user interface
- Migrate content
- Develop workflows

DPubS (vol. 21, no. 4)
- Publish solo on DPubS
Status/Progress for DSQ: Disability Studies Quarterly
Week of March 19    Publication of volume 27, no. 1

Progress notes:

Article mark-up: Henry has tested templates on "practice" article and has compared the formatting with earlier articles. The process of mark-up took approx. 1.5 hours.

Access to Membership database:
Earlier today Mansha Mirza provided Tschera administrative access to the database containing subscriptions.

Next steps:

Getting content: As content has been received, send content to Cami who will copy and paste content into final mark-up.

Administering procedures:
Get administrative access to the GoDaddy server (from Joy Hammond). Get a detailed description of process of loading articles and table of contents on GoDaddy server from Alec Haavik.

Management of subscriptions: Get authorizations and technical instructions for creation and maintenance of institutional subscribers. Urmia can provide the training.

Regular communication is essential
Goals and Expectations of a Publishing Tool

• Publishing program support

• Technical, maintenance, scalability issues

• Content submission

• Online editorial management process

• Content mark-up and uploading

• Presentation / customization options

• Access control
Platform Comparison Study (2008)

DPubS and the Open Journals System (OJS)

**Model A Service**
Represented
- active, web-only, limited-access publication
- editors who would want to use the system to facilitate editorial processes & to distribute multimedia content
- clients who would take responsibility for all aspects of content creation

**Model B Service**
Represented
- retro-conversion project for a defunct paper-only periodical
- content will consist of back issues in both paper and electronic form
- content will be open access
Specific requirements

**Publishing Program**

- Ability to support multiple discrete publications
- Ability to handle multiple administrative roles
- Ability to configure editorial workflows per publication
- Availability of help support
- Ability to delegate / assign tasks and track progress
Points for comparison (examples)

Technical, Maintenance, Scalability

- Mobility of content
- Mobility of platform
- Non-interdependence of distinct journals
- Server resources required
- Security of system

Submission of Content

- Ease of use of platform
- Ability to format text
- Ability to create or transfer content from Word …
- Metadata creation tools
- Metadata customization capabilities
Points for comparison (examples)

Online Management for Editorial Processes

- Ability to integrate with email for notifications
- Ability to set up customized workflows
- Ability to track versions control
- Administrative functions for quality control

Content Mark-up and Uploading

- Ability to batch load
- Ability to handle special characters
- Ability to migrate existing content
- Content auditing: validation, links checker
Points for comparison (examples)

Publishing & presentation

• Ease of creating & modifying templates for content
• Support for multiple document formats (e.g., html, PDF)
• Support for usage statistics
• Effective navigation
• Search functions
• Accessibility

Access control

• IP and password controls
• Flexibility to accommodate various business models
• Ability to manage and track rights
Additional Considerations

**Training materials** - Are training materials available?

**Documentation** - What documentation is available for administrators and developers?

**Resources required** - What hardware, software and operating systems are required by the publishing system?

**Skills required** - What skills and knowledge will be required to customize and maintain the system?

**IT constraints** - Is the platform compatible with existing IT infrastructure?

**Reference sites** - What other sites have successfully implemented the software?
Data Gathering

Data gathering activities simulated the work of the two model clients

Evaluated the two systems on each functional activity

Data sheets facilitated gathering data in real time
# Model Analysis Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model A Features and Flexibility</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>DPubS</th>
<th>OJS</th>
<th><em>Cost Benefit Advantage</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content Creation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Editorial Services</strong></td>
<td>Facilitates communication and editorial workflow between authors, reviewers, editors, etc.</td>
<td>Present but could not get it working</td>
<td>Supports a complete and robust editorial process</td>
<td><em>Which system generally provides less cost &amp; more benefit for the feature</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roles</strong></td>
<td>Ability to assign and define multiple roles for multiple users (editor, reviewer, author, journal manager, etc)</td>
<td>Supports role definition but primary administrator must perform some critical functions</td>
<td>OJS supports robust system of roles and users but flexibility may be limited. e.g. enabling editors to review as editors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revision/Versioning</strong></td>
<td>System tracks and stores</td>
<td>Not present</td>
<td>Every time from every source that</td>
<td>OJS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results Analysis

Calculated Cost Benefit Advantage – comparison for each function evaluated

Used scoring system to produce an advantage score that took into account the relative importance of each function

Results led to a recommendation to adopt OJS
Timeline of Lessons Learned

2007 (May)  Learning curves can be steep: plan ahead
2007 (June) Rights issues require particular attention, expertise
2007 (Sept.) Reliability is a very important feature, even with enthusiastic developers
2007 (Nov.) Small bureaucratic details can lead to long delays; start early
2008 (Jan.) It is difficult (impossible?) to overdo testing
2008 (May) Choose tools systematically and collaboratively
2009 (May) Not all prospects will become clients
2009 (July) Clients will use services in unanticipated ways
2009 (Nov.) Colleagues come and go; build a system that can persist. Document decisions.
Desiderata for Future Tools

Migration tools to help existing/journals migrate to the system
  • simpler content migration (non-xml batch-loading)
  • procedure migration assistance

Incorporate ADA Web Accessibility Standards & best practices

Metadata batch processing capability through the interface

More capabilities to integrate multimedia within content presentation

Integration with other systems/platforms

More flexibility in content organization

More granular control over display and formatting

Even more flexible/customized workflows
Reference:

Also available from OSU Libraries page on Open Access Publishing:
Summary recommendation
Description of Model Journals Used in Evaluation
Data-gathering Tools for each Model
Many thanks to the members of the partnership:

**DSQ editors:**
Brenda Brueggemann
Scot Danforth

**Society for Disability Studies staff**

**OSU Libraries**

Scholarly Resources Integration Dept.

Henry Griffy
Ruth Gallegos Samuels

Web Implementation Team

Kyle Kaliebe
Thank you!

Tschera Harkness Connell, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Head, Scholarly Resources Integration Department
• Knowledge Bank
• E-Journal Publishing
The Ohio State University Libraries
Phone: 614-247-7462
connell.17@osu.edu