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Breakout group 3. OAI technology for the Virtual Research Environment (VRE)

Thursday, 18 June 2009 16:15 (2 hours)

Summary

TITLE: The extensible infrastructure and data model of the NEEO project.

NEEO is a an EU funded project in the eContentPlus programme, aiming at aggregating the economics content, including publications and datasets, from repositories of about 20 institutions with a high reputation in the field of economics research, and other important information sources in economics, such as RePEc. NEEO wants to bring this information to the user community through various added-value services, including, amongst others, a feature-rich portal system, which permits searching on metadata and full-text of the publications, with links to the publication texts in the repositories and on the publisher sites, possibilities for exporting metadata in multiple bibliographic reference formats, present dynamically built publication lists per author. NEEO also addresses the problem of automated enrichment of the original metadata with entries from the JEL classification system and with well-structured metadata for the bibliographic references included in the publication. Building these services for the researcher requires that the metadata of the publications has a higher level of granularity. This presentation will give an overview of the services that we have already built and will build in the remaining project time, the general technical infrastructure and the extensible data model that we use, our implementation of this model as DIDL/MODS formatted complex objects, and the possibilities of applicability of this model in an OAI-ORE setting. We believe that our NEEO model can be an example for other networks of data and service providers, that wish to bring services to the user community that surpass the classic information discovery service typically built on repositories of DC structured metadata.

At Leiden University in the Netherlands, a project has begun that aims to develop a web-based collaborative environment for historical research. This paper discusses two questions that will be investigated in the course of the project. Firstly, it will explore the factors that contribute to a successful online collaboration, focusing in particular on issues that are relevant in the field of the humanities. In the project, attention will be devoted to the development of work processes, and to the organisation of collaborative authorship. A second question that will be addressed focuses on the role of libraries. The aim is to place the collaboratory with the wider infrastructure of the institution's digital library, and to link it logically to distributed repositories, so that scholars can easily access data from a wide variety of sources.

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