to confirm that you are taking a sound approach and acting as a checklist of the core areas that need to be addressed. All in all this is an excellent, well-presented and easy to use text.

Russell Burke, Electronic Resources Co-ordinator, ISS - Information Resources, King's College London

Press Releases & News

SAGE signs agreements with CLOCKSS and Portico to Preserve E-Journal Content

As a publisher of over 400 scholarly journals, SAGE Publications is committed to ensuring the long-term stability of its valuable journal content so future generations of scholars, researchers and student will always have access to it. In order to accomplish this goal, SAGE is participating in CLOCKSS (Controlled LOCKSS Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) and has signed an agreement with Portico, a new, not-for-profit electronic-archiving service launched last year.

In the event of a disaster that would prevent the delivery of content, CLOCKSS will assure that access to the journals is maintained. A joint advisory board, made up of societies, publishers and libraries, will determine if the content is orphaned and whether it should be made publicly available. Since it's collectively managed, publishers are assured that content is controlled and no one entity has authority over orphaned digital materials in the system. During the two-year pilot, participants will collect and analyze data for use in developing a proposal for a full-scale archiving model. As part of a longer-term strategy to permanently preserve published work, CLOCKSS will report the results to the research community and begin a dialogue about a global infrastructure to ensure preservation of all past, present, and future scholarly content.

Portico will provide an ongoing, permanent online archive of SAGE journals, ensuring that an accessible copy of each issue will exist for decades to come. The service also offers the migration of the content into future technological formats as they are developed. Portico's archiving service meets library demand for a trusted, third-party archive and perpetual access while providing SAGE with insurance against loss of the journal content. "It's important that SAGE preserves our content using a variety of archiving solutions", commented Alison Mudditt, Executive Vice President of SAGE's Higher Education Group. We're pleased to add both CLOCKSS and Portico's specialized service to our other archiving agreement with the KB (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the National Library of the Netherlands) ensuring that access to our journals is not only protected indefinitely, but will still be accessible as future technologies are developed.

About SAGE

SAGE Publications is a leading international publisher of journals, books, and electronic media for academic, educational, and professional markets. Since 1965, SAGE has helped inform and educate a global community of scholars, practitioners, researchers, and students spanning a wide range of subject areas including business, humanities, so-

cial sciences, and science, technology and medicine. SAGE Publications, a privately owned corporation, has principal offices in Thousand Oaks, California, London, United Kingdom, and New Delhi, India.
www.sagepublications.com

About CLOCKSS

CLOCKSS is a collaborative, community initiative to build a trusted large dark archive. The CLOCKSS governance and administration structure is distributed to insure no one-single organization controls oversight of the archive or has the power to compromise the long-term viability of the content's safety. CLOCKSS is a decentralized and safe solution to long-term archiving based on the LOCKSS technical infrastructure. Access to archive content will be granted in response to a trigger event (for example, when content is orphaned or abandoned or a long-term business interruption), reviewed by a group of people all of whom will be working on behalf of the broader community. Our goal is to build an archive where content, when accessible, will be available to all.
http://www.lockss.org/clockss

About Portico

Portico is a new, not-for-profit electronic-archiving service established in response to the library community's need for a robust, reliable means to preserve electronic scholarly journals. Portico was initiated by JSTOR (www.jstor.org) and has been developed with the initial support of Ithaka (www.ithaka.org), The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (www.mellon.org), and the Library of Congress (www.loc.gov). Portico's mission is to pre-serve scholarly literature published in electronic form and to ensure that these materials remain accessible to future scholars, researchers and students. www.portico.org

Pilot subject-based cross-repository search tool now available

A Pilot service http://www.engineering.ac.uk providing subject resource discovery across a variety of digital repositories of interest to the engineering learning and research communities has been released by the PerX Project. Although the target repositories included in the Pilot are relevant to engineering, the cross-searching methods and interface used, plus the range of repository types included, should be of interest to many as a demonstrator of one method of resource discovery across multiple digital repositories.

Twenty-eight repositories are currently cross-searched by the Pilot. These include: the Directory of Open Access Journals (engineering and technology sections), DSpace at MIT, the Energy Citations Database, the GROW Digital Library, NASA Technical Reports, Jorum, ePrints UK, Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD), National Engineering Education Delivery System (NEEDS), Australian Research Repositories Online to the World (ARROW), CISTI – Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information, Caltech Earthquake Engineering Research Laboratory Technical Reports, and several more established repositories of interest to the engineering community. More repositories will be added to the Pilot as they are identified and configured.

The Pilot's Basic Search interface http://www.engineering.ac.uk/index.html?action=basic and Advanced Search interface http://www.engineering.ac.uk/index.html?action=advanced enable cross-searching of the repositories, and allow filtering by resource type: articles, theses and dissertations, technical reports, books, learning and teaching resources, key websites, industry news and new job announcements. Overall, more than 1.5 million resources are cross-searched by the Pilot.

Access to the full text of items found is available from many of the repositories. In a few cases, the full items consist of details of books, articles, learning objects or websites, and in some others the full text may be available to subscribing institutions or by pay-per-view.

Other documents available from PerX include:

Listing of Engineering repository sources http://www.icbl.hw.ac.uk/perx/sourceslisting.htm. This document identifies the most significant repository sources of relevance to the UK Higher Education (HE) Engineering community.

Engineering Digital Repositories Landscape Analysis, and Implications for PerX http://www.icbl.hw.ac.uk/perx/analysis.htm
This document analyses the digital repository landscape identified in the Listing, and discusses various issues concerning repository provision in engineering.

'Marketing' with Metadata – How Metadata Can Increase Exposure and Visibility of Online Content http://www.icbl.hw.ac.uk/perx/advocacy/exposingmetadata.htm
This document gives a non-technical introduction to the means by which content providers can share, or embed, their descriptive data (metadata) with other websites, in standard and reusable ways.

PerX (Pilot Engineering Repository Xsearch) is part of the JISC Digital Repositories Programme (DRP)
http://www.jisc.ac.uk/index.cfm?name=programme_digital_repositories, and is based at the Institute for Computer Based Learning, Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh. Project partners are Cranfield University; the Institution of Civil Engineers/Thomas Telford Ltd; Geotechnical, Rock and Water Resources Library; and the Regional Support Centre East Midlands. For further details, please go to PerX http://www.icbl.hw.ac.uk/perx/
Roddy MacLeod, Senior Subject Librarian, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh

UK and New Zealand sign ICT agreement

Partnership will bring major benefits to education and research communities in the UK and New Zealand

7th April, 2006. JISC and New Zealand's Ministry of Education (on behalf of New Zealand's Education Sector ICT Standing Committee and Ministry of Research, Science and Technology) have signed a formal partnership agreement which will see close cooperation between the two organisations in the e-Framework initiative and the exploration of other potential areas for collaboration.

With international cooperation becoming central to the development and deployment of IT standards and systems, the agreement will provide a significant boost to the e-Framework initiative which has already attracted considerable international interest.

The initiative, an ambitious and far-reaching programme, undertaken up to now by JISC and Australia's Department for Education Science and Training (DEST) with growing international support, is exploring more flexible approaches to the technical infrastructures for e-learning, e-research and e-administration. The development of such a service-oriented technical framework, based on open standards, will, it is argued, maximise the flexibility and cost-effectiveness of IT systems.

While the principal focus of the agreement between JISC and New Zealand's Ministry of Education is the e-Framework initiative, other areas in which the two organisations might explore joint activities or share experiences include e-learning, repositories, network, e-Science, e-administration and middleware development. The agreement follows the exchange of visitors between the two countries with two more delegations from New Zealand arriving in the UK in the coming month.

JISC's Head of Development Sarah Porter said: ''It has been fascinating to see how much similarity there is between our two countries, particularly in the current major government strategies for the adoption of technology to support education. Both countries share many interests and issues and the UK envies the speed at which New Zealand can move to adopt new technologies; there is a lot to learn and share from both sides. We look forward very much to fruitful collaboration in the future.'

Howard Fancy, Secretary of Education for New Zealand, said: 'We are proud to be contributing our locally developed expertise to an international body such as JISC. This relationship is going to bring us a lot of benefits as by working with international standards, we all stand to benefit from innovations as we are creating building blocks we can all use.'

For further information, please go to: http://www.e-framework.org/ or
http://www.minedu.govt.nz
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