

Member's Briefing for the UK LOCKSS Alliance June 2010

This briefing is to provide you with an update on the various activities underway during the establishment of the UK LOCKSS Alliance as a co-operative organization whose overall aim is to ensure continuing access to scholarly work in ways that are sustainable over the long term. Current information on the UK LOCKSS Alliance will always be available from <http://edina.ac.uk/lockss>.

LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe), based at Stanford University Libraries, provides libraries with digital preservation tools and support so that they can acquire and preserve subscription and open access content. LOCKSS separates payment from access and provides both post-cancellation access and long-term preservation.

System Development

Library Access to Archived Content using Link Resolvers

Due for release by the end of 2010, the LOCKSS team is now integrating the LOCKSS software with the SFX link resolver from Ex Libris. The integration will enable a library to use a local LOCKSS repository as a target in their SFX enabled on-line public access catalog.

When a user locates an article in the catalog, SFX offers a choice of locations from where the article can be retrieved. When LOCKSS access is configured and enabled the user will be able to retrieve the article from the local, institutional LOCKSS box. When enabled, a copy will always be available, even if the publisher's site is offline or the publisher no longer offers on-line access to the article.

The current development schedule and roadmap is as follows:

- Summer 2010: Alpha implementation of LOCKSS integration with SFX.
- Autumn 2010: Invite and work with selected LOCKSS Alliance members in an early access program to provide feedback. The goal is to ensure that the integration and installation work in a variety of conditions and configurations.
- Winter 2010: Support for integration of LOCKSS with SFX will be included in a LOCKSS software release by the end of 2010.

If you are a UK LOCKSS Alliance member with an SFX enabled OPAC and would like to participate in the early access test program, please contact edina@ed.ac.uk.

Operational Development

Introducing the UK LOCKSS Alliance Steering Committee

The newly established UK LOCKSS Alliance Steering Committee gathered for the first time in April 2010. The governance board is made up of librarians participating in the LOCKSS approach, a representative from both JISC Collections and EDINA, and the UK LOCKSS Alliance Coordinator.

The UK LOCKSS Alliance Steering Committee was established in late 2009 to coordinate a community-driven strategy for the development and promotion of the UK LOCKSS Alliance, and to introduce a model of governance that ensures the LOCKSS approach meets its member's collection and technological needs.

Several activities are ongoing following the inaugural committee meeting:

- A three-year strategy is in draft that outlines objectives to establish the UK LOCKSS Alliance as a sustainable cooperative initiative to support library activity.
- UK LOCKSS Alliance members will be asked to share information on institutional preservation policies, and in particular to describe how LOCKSS is operated, used and supported at their local institution.
- The UK LOCKSS Alliance support service will assess the deployment of LOCKSS within UK institutions and suggest feature enhancements to the developers.
- The collection development policy of the UK LOCKSS Alliance is to focus on content that is of interest to participating institutions, and that members do not feel has been cared for sufficiently. Participating institutions will play a central role in identifying this content.

Minutes are available at: http://edina.ac.uk/lockss/steering_committee.html.

The Steering Committee welcomes the participation of more UK LOCKSS Alliance members to contribute to these activities. To find out more, please contact edina@ed.ac.uk.

UK LOCKSS Alliance Membership

EDINA and JISC Collections are pleased to announce that UK LOCKSS Alliance membership fees will remain at their current levels for 2010/11.

Renewals will be managed through the new JISC Collections subscriptions service. Institutions can renew their membership options by browsing to:

<http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/Catalogue/Overview/Index/879>

Meetings and Events

E-Journals are forever? Workshop on Preserving Access to Content

On 26th April 2010, the Digital Preservation Coalition, EDINA and JISC jointly held a workshop to bring together those responsible for e-journal strategy and archiving in the UK to share information on collaborative activities and identify actions at institutional, national and international levels.

The workshop was split into three sessions. The first set the scene, considering the challenges of preservation faced by libraries, actions being taken to keep track of what activities are out there, and ways of assessing the work being done. The second gathered representatives from organizations that serve libraries, tasked with summarising how academics, publishers, funding agencies and community bodies are involved with and support preservation initiatives. The final session brought together representatives from preservation agencies to highlight recent developments.



The event closed with a panel session to generate ideas for a national policy response, and to consider where responsibilities fell at the local, national and international levels. There was agreement that the time had come for action. A key question related to the relatively low library participation in the services provided by preservation agencies, with some feeling the issue would benefit from additional attention at senior university level.

Presentations are available at: www.dpconline.org/details/13-e-journals.html?xref=13.

Related Activities

Review Screenshots of the PEPRS Prototype

Screenshots to demonstrate the functionality of the prototype PEPRS registry are now available.

EDINA is a lead partner in PEPRS (Piloting an E-journals Preservation Registry Service). The aim of PEPRS, as a two-year JISC-funded project, is to investigate, build and pilot an online facility that enable librarians and policy makers, principally in the UK but also worldwide, to ascertain the archival provision for an e-journal: which publishers are participating in which archiving schemes, what access/release arrangements apply to each journal; which e-journals are not (yet) within an archiving scheme.

The PEPRS project has been prototype activity, with funding until July 2010. The project has consulted with both preservation agencies and librarians to gather user requirements and develop a prototype system. Screenshots to describe the main system functions are online at: <http://edina.ac.uk/projects/peprs/development.html>. A proposal to develop from project into service has been submitted, and pending funding, a beta system is scheduled for release in late 2010.

For more information on PEPRS see: <http://www.edina.ac.uk/projects/peprs>

The Community-Governed CLOCKSS Archive Grows Fast

Since it was incorporated in October 2009, the CLOCKSS community of libraries has expanded to 60 libraries worldwide, with eleven archive nodes at major libraries in North America, Europe, and Asia.

CLOCKSS has grown rapidly in the first half of 2010, with 21 libraries newly supporting the archive. The libraries to join in the past six months include Oxford University, the European University Institute, University of Utah, Vassar College, and the University of British Columbia, as well as members of the COPPUL consortium in Canada and the VIVA consortium in Virginia.

CLOCKSS is a dark archive governed by the community of participating libraries and publishers. All supporting libraries have a seat on the CLOCKSS Advisory Council and help steer the archive's strategy and policies. In the words of Vic Elliott, University Librarian at the Australian National University and one of the CLOCKSS Founding Librarians: "Together we decide our own future - it is not decided for us."

Participation details and pricing structures are now available for UK institutions at: <http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/catalogue/clockss>

Sign up for the EDINA e-Journals Twitter Feed

Sign up to the EDINA Scholarly Communications Twitter feed at:

http://twitter.com/EDINA_eJournals.

This Twitter feed is aimed at librarians interested in supporting continuing access to scholarly content, such as members of the UK LOCKSS Alliance, and will be used to share information and commentary related to EDINA's activities to support continuing access to scholarly content. Tweets related to LOCKSS will be marked with a #uklockss hashtag.

JISC Collections Archiving Report

January 2010 saw the release of JISC Collection's report on electronic journal archiving, titled "*Ensuring that 'e' doesn't mean ephemeral: A practical guide to e-journal archiving solutions*". This booklet provides a starting point for institutions interested in investigating e-archiving options. It gives a practical guide to the solutions offered by three of the main long-term preservation schemes and provides an overview of the distinguishing features of each solution.

The full text of the report is available online at: <http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/archiving.aspx>