

Link-o-matic: Automating Linking of Digital Objects in Harvard's Catalogs

First Progress Report, March 1, 2013

Project Summary

This project seeks to automate the process of linking digital resources held by Harvard libraries and archives and stored in the DRS with associated metadata in discovery systems (HOLLIS and OASIS).

Project Activities

The team established a regular meeting every two weeks on Tuesday afternoons. The team has met three times so far:

12/4/2012: Kickoff meeting, introductions, planning, etc.

1/15/2013: Use cases

2/12/2013: Discussion of functional requirements and systems

Between the kickoff meeting last December and the team's first meeting in January, members from each library wrote descriptions of the processes they currently use to add links to digital objects in the DRS from finding aids and HOLLIS records. At the meeting on the 15th, these descriptions were discussed and analyzed for common patterns and unique functionality that would need to be incorporated into a tool or system so that it would work for all.

After the January meeting, additional documents were drafted, including details of the processes involved in preparing materials for digitization, and a draft vision/requirements statement summarizing the input, output, and functional requirements that had been discussed.

At the February meeting, discussion around process specifics continued. The group further worked to define parameters of the tool and provisionally agreed to focus on the highest priority linking problem: adding links in OASIS finding aids. A revised vision and functional requirements document is in the works.

Next Steps

The group has invited Andy Silva (Web Developer, Harvard Law School) and Michael Vandermillen (Digital Library Software Engineer, HUIT) to our next meeting on 3/5/2013. We hope to get their input on the project and our vision and functional requirements document. The group may also consult with Randy Stern (Director, Systems Development, HUIT) and Sebastian Diaz (Berkman Center for Internet & Society) in the near future.

Budget

To date, no project funds have been spent.

Project Team Members

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