Božana Bokan, Christina Riesenweber
Center for Digital Systems (CeDiS)

Freie Universität Berlin

Networking for OJS: the German initiative OJS-de.net

PKP Scholarly Publishing Conference 2015

DFG   Freie Universität Berlin   UNIVERSITÄTS-BIBLIOTHEK HEIDELBERG   Universität Konstanz   PKP PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE PROJECT   open access

Project OJS-de.net

Sustainable OJS infrastructure for electronic publication of academic journals.

Funded by DFG (German Research Funding) 2014-2016

Carried out in cooperation with PKP.

Project Aims

- Improvement and adjustment of Open Journal Systems software
- Determining further needs of editoral teams and service providers
- Building up an active German OJS community
- Enhancing visibility for German OJS journals (academic community and metadata)

Project Partners

University Konstanz (Kommunikations-, Informations- und Medienzentrum)

Freie Universität Berlin (Center for Digital Systems)

University Library Heidelberg

Software development for OJS

- Multiple languages for the Custom Block Plug-ins (OJS 2.4.6)
- Import/Export of the e-mail templates
- Integration with the print-on-demand provider epubli
- Public files upload, e.g. document templates for authors
- Easier article metadata DOAJ upload (in OJS 2.4.6)
- Rights management
- Versioning
- Shibboleth integration
- Etc.

Developer: Felix Gründer

OJS-de.net

Community building

User survey:

- Editoral teams and service providers

- Software usability, software demands, workflows, service demands, information and communication demands

- 285 responses (35%, total 810): 154 editors (59%), 52 hosting providers (20%), 47 authors, reviewers, editorial boards (ca.18%)

→ Results available in September 2015

Information supply and support:

Online-hub to connect German OJS users, support services, web-workshops

Network of OJS service providers:

Participation in information supply, workshops, user consulting and support

Know-how transfer and synergies

Sustainable services and infrastructure (beyond the project term)

OJS-de.net

Working in a multi-institutional project

Challenges

Remote teamwork: communication, scheduling, decision making

Decision loops to higher levels of management

Slower than one-location projects

Benefits

Funding is more easily attained when several institutions join in an application

More heads = more ideas

Broaden perspective by knowing several use cases

Reduced risk of parallel working on the same problems

Potentially greater network

What did we learn?

- Institutions using OJS are used to work by themselves, not in networks (but are grateful for the opportunity).

- Interest in cooperation and know-how transfer exists.

- There is a demand for direct support in addition to the PKP forum:

  - Interactive workshops (instead of online manuals), especially for editors

  - Consultation

  - Meetings (experience exchange)

  - Support.

- The network enables bundling and coordination of user requirements and a better approach to them (especially to the German specific requirements). It serves as a central contact point.

→ Sustainable?

Thank You!

Contact

Božana Bokan

bozana.bokan@cedis.fu-berlin.de

Christina Riesenweber

christina.riesenweber@cedis.fu-berlin.de

www.ojs-de.net

OJS-de.net