REIMAGINING LIBRARIES’ PROJECT 2
OPEN BORDERS

Background

The Open Borders Project encompasses four aims for the NSLA group:

1. a plan for leveraging Trove data,
2. the use of Trove to cater for access to e-resources,
3. pushing content into popular social spaces, and
4. a mechanism for ensuring user annotations contributed to Trove can be shared with local systems.

Progress since April 2010

Leveraging Trove data
The National Library issued a survey to agencies which had expressed interest in using a Trove Application Programming Interface (API). Questions sought information on the intended purposes for reusing Trove content, preferences for the range of content on offer, and the most suitable protocols.

No final decision has been made regarding what API will be developed, although the National Library intends to support a similar range of protocols and data formats to those offered now in the existing services which make up Trove.

Authenticated access to eresources via Trove
An overview of the possible scenarios for providing seamless access in Trove to licensed eresources was provided in a paper to the Advisory Committee at its April meeting¹. These scenarios of different types of authentication, based on library memberships and libraries’ licences, will be tested in Stage 4 of the Trove project.

Stage 4 will commence in October 2010. Some draft scope documents have been made available to the NSLA group, as the State and Territory libraries will support automated access to membership information and test the functionality.

RMIT Publishing has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work with the National Library on the project. Subscribing libraries will initially be given access through Trove to five Informit products: the Humanities and Social Sciences Collection, the Health Collection, the Engineering Collection, the Business Collection and the Backfiles Collection.

¹ NSLA Open Borders Project, LAAC/2010/1/11, April 2010
Pushing content into popular social spaces
Each NSLA member has established their own arrangements for services including Wikipedia, Facebook, YouTube, Flickr Commons, iTunesU, Vimeo, Twitter and Slideshare.

Where appropriate, Trove pulls reviews from Amazon and keywords from Wikipedia as well as allowing individuals to link back to various services.

Sharing user annotations contributed to Trove
The possibility of sending user annotations from Trove to individual community services was canvassed. All annotations are able to be viewed at any time by clicking the comments link on the Trove home page.

The National Library agreed to analyse the percentage of high quality comments. Initial results show that of all the comments provided, 44% are longer than 10 words, and of those, 83% add useful information to the record or newspaper article. The next step will be to determine how best to extract and share the annotations.

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the paper.

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