Breakout Sessions In Detail

Authentication, authorization, & user profiles - Walter Hoehn, David Millman, and Mike Luby (CI)

The library access management system relies on the Shibboleth protocol to distribute identity verification (authentication) and cohort membership (authorization) to the administrators of distinct communities of users. Federated communities performing user identity and capability management can easily tie-in to this system using standard protocols (e.g., Kerberos and LDAP). This session provides an overview of the access management strategy of the core library, a summary of the technology being used, and an open discussion of future requirements and possible development paths.

1. Definition of the challenge (library requirements) - David M.
2. Intro to authentication & access management, user profiles - Walter
3. Open discussion on the evaluation of the current architecture and discussion of possible paths for the future

Collection Building - John Saylor, Diane Hillmann, Naomi Dushay, Jon Phipps (CI)

The initial release of NSDL relies on the strength of the metadata repository to support services that help end users perform their tasks. Collection building is a critical element of the NSDL, and this session explores the issues surrounding the metadata repository and how collection builders can interoperate more effectively with the core library repository, including metadata standards and best practices, and Open Archives Initiative (OAI) as a method of harvesting.

1. Definition of the challenge (library requirements) - John
2. Intro to current architecture - Diane (metadata), Naomi (OAI)
3. Open discussion on the evaluation of the current architecture and the possible paths for the future

Content and Quality Control - Kim Roempler (ENC, Content SC Chair), VivianLee Ward (BEON), Madeline Rothberg (WGBH) - *2 sessions only*

There are three basic content issues facing NSDL and they all deal with quality. Simply stated: what is it; how do we ensure it; how can we enforce it? Different audiences have different views of and needs for quality. For reasons of scalability, accessioning for the NSDL main repository occurs at the collection level, not at the item level. This session will focus on the sometimes conflicting priorities of growing the library and quality, along with discussion about what developers should consider while building their own quality collections.

1. Library scalability meets metadata: quality vs. quantity (VivianLee)
2. Metadata needs in support of educational usage (Kim)
3. Accessibility and diversity considerations (Madeline)
4. Open discussion on content issues

Effective and emerging uses of NSDL in learning and teaching - *one session per focus topic*

Whereas many other breakout sessions focus on technical issues concerning the development of collections and services, this session highlights some promising applications of digital libraries in education through work in the NSDL community.

Session number and speakers:

1. Online Journals: Martin Ruzek (JESSE), Lang Moore (MathDL)
2. Using collections: Karon Kelly (DLESE), Frank Settle (Alsos)
3. Community and Peer Review: Gerry Hanley (MERLOT), Kim Kastens (DLESE)
4. Teacher Services: Rachael Bower (NSDL Scout Reports), Bruce Caron (Data Discovery Toolkit and Foundry)

Evaluation - Tammy Sumner (U. Colorado, Educational Impact and Evaluation SC Chair), Sarah Giersch (iLumina, Educational Impact and Evaluation SC Acting Secretary), Casey Jones (CI), Mary Marlino (DLESE), Flora McMartin (MERLOT), Mimi Recker (Instructional Architect), Jason Taylor (Ecological Society of America)

Library evaluation is critical for guiding the ongoing development of NSDL. Activities range from formative evaluations, created to assess the needs of potential users and to provide feedback on library usefulness and usability, to summative evaluations, conducted to assess library impact on education at all levels. This session will:

1. Review the results of a pilot study conducted earlier this year to identify how people are using NSDL collections, how collections are growing and evolving, and whether NSDL distributed building and governance processes are working
2. Feature reports from individual project evaluation efforts
3. Engage in open discussion on next steps in library evaluation activities.

Integrating NSDL into formal and informal learning environments - *one session each*

These sessions focus on the kinds of planning, teaching strategies, and support structures that effective use of digital library resources might require. In addition, each session will challenge participants to think about teaching and learning requirements that might drive their own, or new NSDL collections and services.

Session number and speakers:

1. K-12 Focused Collections: Ted Sicker (WGBH/Teachers Domain), Troy Gobble (Atmospheric Visualization Collection)
2. Challenges of Scale: Joanne Silverstein (Virtual Reference Desk), Bill Wood (Metathesaurus)
3. Tools for Teachers: David Yaron (CREATE), Mimi Recker (Instructional Architect)
4. Under-represented Populations: Sarita Nair (Gender and Science DL), Carrie Billy (Services for Native Americans)

K-12 Education - Marcis Mardis (Merit, Community Services SC Chair), Ellen Hoffman (TeacherLIB), Len Simutis (ENC), Kim Roempler (ENC) - *2 sessions only*

In order to support NSDL's goal to impact science education at all levels, this session will explore K-12 educational realities and requirements. Topics will include how K-12 teachers use the Internet, the challenges facing the K-12 community, and an open discussion about the gap between developers' perception of the K-12 audience and the K-12 audience perception of what they need from developers.

1. How teachers use the Internet - Marcia
2. K-12 challenges - Ellen
3. Open discussion on K-12 needs

Service Integration - Carl Lagoze, Dean Krafft, Elly Cramer & Greg Jane? (CI), R. David Lankes (Virtual Reference Desk, Technology SC Chair)

The initial NSDL architecture lays a basis for extended services by collecting and storing metadata in various forms in a central repository. However, a more powerful multi-service framework requires standards for describing services, to permit interactions among them and access to them by users and agents. Many of the most valuable educational resources are dynamic, multimedia, interactive, or collaborative. This session reviews the current library architecture and discusses possible paths for broadening the choice of standards and interoperability mechanisms.

1. Definition of the challenge (library requirements) - Carl
2. Intro to current strategy - Dean (SimBaS), Elly (portals)
3. Integrating geospatial data - Greg
4. Open discussion on the evaluation of the current architecture and possible paths for the future

Sustainability - Dave McArthur (U. North Carolina, Wilmington, Sustainability SC Chair), Sarah Giersch (iLumina, Educational Impact and Evaluation SC Acting Secretary), Howard Burrows (ESIP, PC), Reagan Moore & Kate Wittenberg (CI)

What does sustainability mean for individual projects and NSDL as a whole? This session will include an overview of the issues, a report from the publishers' workshop, an overview of longevity and preservation strategies for the central library, and an open discussion, with individual project members contributing their own ideas on the subject, as well as learning what progress the Sustainability Standing Committee and others have already made.

1. Overview of sustainability issues for NSDL and digital library projects - Dave, Sarah
2. Report from publishers' workshop - Dave, Sarah
3. Longevity & preservation (what CI is doing) - Reagan
4. Open discussion and feedback on strategies for individual project sustainability, including what has worked and what has not been as successful

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