

Open Archives Forum

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Open Archives (or OA-) Forum

- European Union IST accompanying measure
 - to support EU projects and national initiatives
 - with funding for two years, then self-sustaining?
- Partners
 - Rechenzentrum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
 - CNR, Pisa (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche)
 - UKOLN, University of Bath
- Most important: **broad participation of those projects & initiatives we are here to support**

EU funding motivation

- Potential for EU of OAI aim to provide a “low barrier interoperability specification”
- “hidden web” of European resources
 - Eprints, the research literature
 - Products of digitisation projects
 - Other kinds of data
- Share experience among IST projects, and also other initiatives
- Support European input into OAI

OA-Forum core objectives

- To provide European focus for dissemination and sharing experience
- To encourage building of infrastructure
- To encourage new services
- To raise awareness of technical and organisational issues
- To provide focus for interaction with OAI
- ... *building a community of interest*

Need for OA-Forum

- OAI-PMH provides simple technical protocol
- OAI-PMH provides simple specification for data providers

... but building coherent services that meet user requirements is more complex

Relationship with the OAI

- Liaison via various channels
- Communication with Steering Committee
- Involvement with Technical Committee
 - through participation of Susanne Dobratz, SUB
 - also a Technical Committee member at UKOLN
- OAI participation in OA-Forum workshops
 - Mike Nelson spoke at 1st workshop
 - Carl Lagoze will speak at 2nd workshop

OAI – Organisation & support

➤ Organisation

- Steering Committee for policy direction
- Executive Committee for management
- Technical Committee for evaluation

➤ Supported

- by funding from (US) bodies
 - Digital Library Federation
 - Coalition for Networked Information
 - National Science Foundation
- ... and by (global) community participation

OA-Forum activities

- On the Internet
 - Information sharing and dissemination
 - Web site
 - Mailing list
- At workshops
 - Information sharing and dissemination
- Publishing reports and reviews

Participate via Internet

- Use the web site www.oaforum.org
 - Contains news, glossary, reports, events
 - Links to external information
 - an open archives information source
 - current implementations database
 - inventory of software tools
 - interoperability issues register

- Share experience online
 - contribute to web site information source
 - join mailing list info@oaforum.org



open archives forum

[Home](#)

[News](#)

[Overview](#)

[Resources](#)

[Workshops](#)

[Project Documents](#)

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The Open Archives Forum provides a Europe-based focus for dissemination of information about European activity related to open archives and, in particular, to the Open Archives Initiative. The aim of the Forum is to facilitate clustering of IST projects, national initiatives and other parties interested in the open archives approach. In order to do so, the Forum brings interested parties together to build a community of interest, enable exchange of information and establish a web-based European information source for open archives. In addition, the Forum undertakes comparative reviews of technical and organisational issues.

Open Archives Forum Public Email List

This email list informs about OAF forum activities, open archives in Europe and provides a forum for discussion of topics related to open archives approaches.

[>>> Archive](#)

[>>> Subscribe](#)

News

Ingenta and University of Southampton to create open archive e-print service [>>>](#)

OAI Releases Version 2.0 of the Protocol for Metadata Harvesting [>>>](#)

Development of a framework for working with MARC data in a XML environment [>>>](#)

2nd Workshop on the Open Archives Initiative (OAI) [>>>](#)

OAI in the Museum Community [>>>](#)



Project Documents:

[Reports](#) | [Internal BSCW-Server \(project partners only\)](#)

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Overview](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [Project Documents](#)
- [Contact us](#)

Reports

The Open Archives Forum project will produce several reports during 2002 and 2003. These reports will be made available here as they are delivered.

- **Project presentation**
This briefly sets out the objectives, describes the work and expected results of the OA-Forum project, and gives some administrative details.
- **Workshop reports**
 - Workshop report 1
This describes the 1st OA-Forum workshop: Creating a European Forum on Open Archives Activities, held in Pisa, 13-14 May 2002.
 - Workshop report 2
 - Workshop report 3
 - Workshop report 4
- **Liaison reports**
 - 1st liaison report
- **Community-specific expert reports**
 - IPR issues for open archives
 - Archival organisations and the open archives approach
 - Museums and the open archives approach [tentative]
 - [to be decided]



Resources:

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[Home](#)

[News](#)

[Overview](#)

[Resources](#)

[Workshops](#)

[Project Documents](#)

[Contact us](#)

Glossary

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

A

Archive -- "Archive" in the Open Archive Initiative sense is synonymous with a repository of scholarly papers (reflecting the origins of the OAI); and, more broadly, a repository of stored information. Outside the OAI, archivists have stricter definitions of what an archive is, these definitions include notions of long-term preservation, institutional policy, and document appraisal. See the [OAI FAQ](#): "What do you mean by an "Archive?" See also "Open Archive" in this glossary.

D

Data Provider -- A Data Provider's web server supports the OAI Protocol as a means of exposing metadata about its content (see Service Provider)

DC / Dublin Core -- a standard metadata format for web documents (with 15 core fields).



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[Home](#)

[News](#)

[Overview](#)

[Resources](#)

[Workshops](#)

[Project Documents](#)

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list information from OA-Forum database about

- [organisations](#)
- [projects](#)
- [software](#)
- [repositories](#)
- [services](#)

add information into OA-Forum database

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The Open Archives Forum (OAF) is an **IST**- Accompanying Measures project (IST- 2001-320015).
The partners of OAF are: **University of Bath-UKOLN** (United Kingdom), **Istituto di Elaborazione della Informazione-CNR** (Italy) and **Computing Center of Humboldt University** (Germany).



Webdesign by [Centromedia.com](#)

Open archives Information Source

- register your own
 - repository
 - service
 - project
 - organisation

http://www.oaforum.org/oaf_db/oaf_index.php

Participate in workshops

- Share experience face-to-face
 - 1st workshop set the agenda
 - started Organisational Issues working group
- Workshop material published on web site
 - speakers abstracts and presentations
 - breakout session summaries
 - final summing up and actions

3 more workshops

- 2nd Lisbon, Dec. 2002
 - focus on libraries and archives
- 3rd Berlin, spring 2003
 - focus on museums, also objects and images
- 4th, Bath (UK), autumn 2003

URLs for OA-Forum & OAI

- Open Archives Forum
<http://www.oaforum.org>
- Information on OAI from HUB
<http://edoc.hu-berlin.de/oai>
- Information on OAI from UKOLN
<http://www.ukoln.distributed-systems/oai/>