2017-08-03 DSpace 7 Working Group Meeting notes

Date

03 Aug 2017

Angular updates

Attendees

- Art Lowel (Atmire)
- Giuseppe Digilio (4Science)
- Tim Donohue
- Matheus Silva
- Nelson Torres

Notes

- Waffle Board: https://waffle.io/DSpace/dspace-angular
- Giuseppe's PRs waiting for final approval/merger:

    - https://github.com/DSpace/dspace-angular/pull/131
    - https://github.com/DSpace/dspace-angular/pull/132
- Art's ngrx-platform upgrade is backlogged. It wasn't working cause of a known bug in ngrx-platform. Will pick back up when bug is fixed

    - See https://github.com/DSpace/dspace-angular/issues/86 for more info
- Art will be working on browse by date / alphabet selector for collection browse options
- Also created tasks for upcoming Search work
    - First task is SearchService with mock data (which can be done even prior or in parallel to Search REST API work): https://github.com /DSpace/dspace-angular/issues/134 (Ready to be claimed)
    - Simple Search component (depends on 134): https://github.com/DSpace/dspace-angular/issues/136
    - Once REST API is ready, we'll replace mock data with real data. Ticket for that at https://github.com/DSpace/dspace-angular/issues/135
- Giuseppe has opened a ticket about library to use for forms (ng2-dynamic-forms suggested): https://github.com/DSpace/dspace-angular/issues /133
    - Feedback on this selection is welcome! (from anyone)
    - In meantime, Giuseppe is creating a basic proof of concept to ensure this will meet our needs.
    - Noted that our ts-lint settings are currently a bit strict (throwing warnings for this new module). We may need to look into possibly loosening the ts-lint requirements, or finding a way to disable on third-party modules. Will bring to Slack as necessary.

REST updates

Attendees

- Terrence W Brady joined
- Mark H. Wood joined

Notes

- Andrea still out on holiday
- Tim gave an update on DSpace 6 efforts. It's very important to note that we've all realized that DSpace 6's behavior with regards to database connections is **significantly different** from how DSpace 5 behaved. The behavior change came with the move to Hibernate and our current Hibernate configs.
    - The DSpace 7 REST API team needs to be aware of this difference in behavior as they develop new Java code.
    - Behavior is described at DevMtg 2017-08-02 (see bullet #2), and also discussed in great detail in the logs of that day's meeting. Copied description/notes below:
        - In DSpace 5, each "Context" established a new DB connection. Context then committed or aborted the connection after it was done (based on results of that request). Context could also be shared between methods if a single transaction needed to perform actions across multiple methods.
        - In DSpace 6, Hibernate manages the DB connection pool. Each **thread** grabs a Connection from the pool. This means two Context objects could use the same Connection (if they are in the same thread). In other words, code can no longer assume each `new Context()` is treated as a new database transaction.
    - Currently, the DSpace 6 team is stabilizing the codebase based on this behavior (a 6.2 release coming very soon with fixes to Context & Hibernate)
    - In discussion is what we want to do for DSpace 7 API. Already a few ideas proposed. No formal plans yet.
        - Change "Context" to work how it used to (create a new connection per Context object), reconfiguring Hibernate as needed
        - Refactor "new Context()" into something like "Context.getCurrentContext" and "Context.getNewContext" (where former is an existing connection, and latter is a new one)
        - Or, potentially pull apart the Context object altogether, and split it into several objects based on the various jobs/tasks (e.g. a session-based object for things in HTTPSession, a request-based object for current HTTPRequest, etc etc)
- Andrea looking for more feedback on Authentication for REST API: https://github.com/DSpace/Rest7Contract/issues/10
- Tom looking for feedback/final decision on Search endpoint design: https://github.com/DSpace/Rest7Contract/pull/9