2017-10-27 DSpace Entities WG Meeting Notes

Attendees

- Andrea Bollini (4Science)
- Claudio Cortese (4Science)
- Fernando Ribeiro
- João Moreira
- José Carvalho
- Lieven Droogmans
- Mark H. Wood
- Nelson Torres
- Paco Dominguez
- Pascal-Nicolas Becker
- Paulo Graça
- Paulo Lopes
- Stephen Hearn
- Tim Donohue

Agenda/ Notes

This was the second meeting for the DSpace Entities Working Group and it had only one topic in the agenda:

- Deep dive into how DSpace-CRIS manages Authors and Author Profiles (Researcher Pages)

This presentation was prepared by Andrea Bollini and is the answer to a set of questions based on this document file:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UEX2Tn38Zpz1qlr58cbJKNgymVR8xcPRHcZYHDfvxKA

The questions were grouped in three topics:

- Data Model
- Data API
- Front end

The link for the presentation:
https://www.slideshare.net/4Science/dspacecris-technical-answers-for-the-entities-working-group

Discussion

- Data Model:
  - The entity Author within DSpace-CRIS is called Researcher Profile or Researcher Page
  - The Data model is dynamic and it's manipulated using the interface or an EXCEL document
  - DSpace-CRIS uses UUID underneath and presents identifiers like "rp0001" for a ReserchерProfile ("rp" is the prefix for a researcher profile)
  - Jdyna_values table is similar to the metadatavalue table and it has columns to specify the data type that is been stored
    - Tim: The values are stored in different columns, only that type of fields?
      There are used String, File, Date type fields and Links for other entities
    - Tim: Does jdyna need to be modified for new entities?
      There is a Generic Entity for that. It is related in jydna_values. There is no need to change the database for new entities
  - Every first-class entity (Authors, Projects, Organization Unit) has a specific table.
  - Every other entities have a generic entity and don't need a specific table
  - It isn't possible to change the database directly for new Entities instances. This is assured by the User Interface.
  - CRIS_DO_TP ("DO" means Dynamic Object) this table is the base for dynamic entities
- Data API:
  - DSpace-CRIS uses Java Hibernate, works with Oracle, PostgreSQL
  - Data is replicated in Apache Solr, the same strategy as DSpace
  - Profiles are Data types? Can they be dynamically assigned?
    One profile is a dynamic object with a set of definitions.
    One profile could be a Journal with a set of properties or attributes.
  - Each property has a widget
  - Widget has a validation, it isn't dependent on the User Interface and ensures each data entry has validation in a certain type. You can't insert a string where you should insert a date, for instance

        - Tim:Attributes, Properties are the same thing?
          Yes
        - Profiles: is a set of properties and definitions
        - When we have a researcher profile we don't have a generic "Profile". Researcher Profile already has a set of definitions
        - A Profile only applies to dynamic objects
    - Permissions
        - It doesn't use the same solution that DSpace uses. Each Property has an active/inactive state.
        - How permissions are managed?
            - The permissions are configured by the epersongroup that creates the entity. The administrator and also who he defines that can manage that field in an Entity.
        - When the property is inactive, in the public page, in search page results, it isn't showed.
        - This active/inactive state is very useful for authority fields (to hide them)
        - Each property has a flag, to control if data is visible or not
        - Only the administrator can change attributes or widgets of a Profile
    - REST API
        - DSpace-CRIS uses SOAP webservices, but they are planning to abandon it
        - REST API is in the DSpace-CRIS plans to replace SOAP WS
        - The REST API will support CRUD operations for all Entities

- Front end/User Interface:
    - DSpace-CRIS is planning to also change to Angular Interface
    - DSpace-CRIS is also planning to keep the same features when migrating to DS7
    - Plans for using microformats and Signposting

- João: Was this presentation useful? It's needed additional information? What to do next, what are the next steps?
    - Tim: it was useful to understand what is underneath. But Tim already had some notions.
    - Mark: I like the flexibility
    - Lieven: It's a different approach. But it raises some issues that must be considered like the duplicated solution for logging. If a merged solution is adopted, some DSpace aspects must be reviewed. It doesn't make sense to have two options for the same thing.
- João: proposed one exercise to help better understanding of DSpace-CRIS. One Hand-on experience.
    - Andrea: The user experience will the completely transformed. It doesn't make any sense to make tests on the current version. There is a demo version online that people can use. Data model setup is a very complex procedure, it's trivial to make a new one.
    - It was proposed 2 or 3 groups to work on the configuration setup and the data model. And Bollini could create some exercises.
    - Tim: remembered that Bollini is making part of DS7 REST team and have time issues
    - Bollini: said that this process needs to go a little bit slower. It was an addional effort to prepair this presentation. He proposed to create a online Google Doc to collect some questions and after a 2 hours hand-on meeting. For that meeting He proposed local setups.
    - It was proposed **wednesday, 22nd november at 15:00 UTC**, for the third meeting. It will be held again in the same place, Zoom platform, and it will be a 2 hours meeting with DSpace-CRIS hands-on (locally installed).
- Bollini: It's important to watch older webinars like the COAR.