Open Access Movement in India

ARD Prasad
Documentation Research and Training Centre
Indian Statistical Institute
Bnagalore, India

Open Mantra

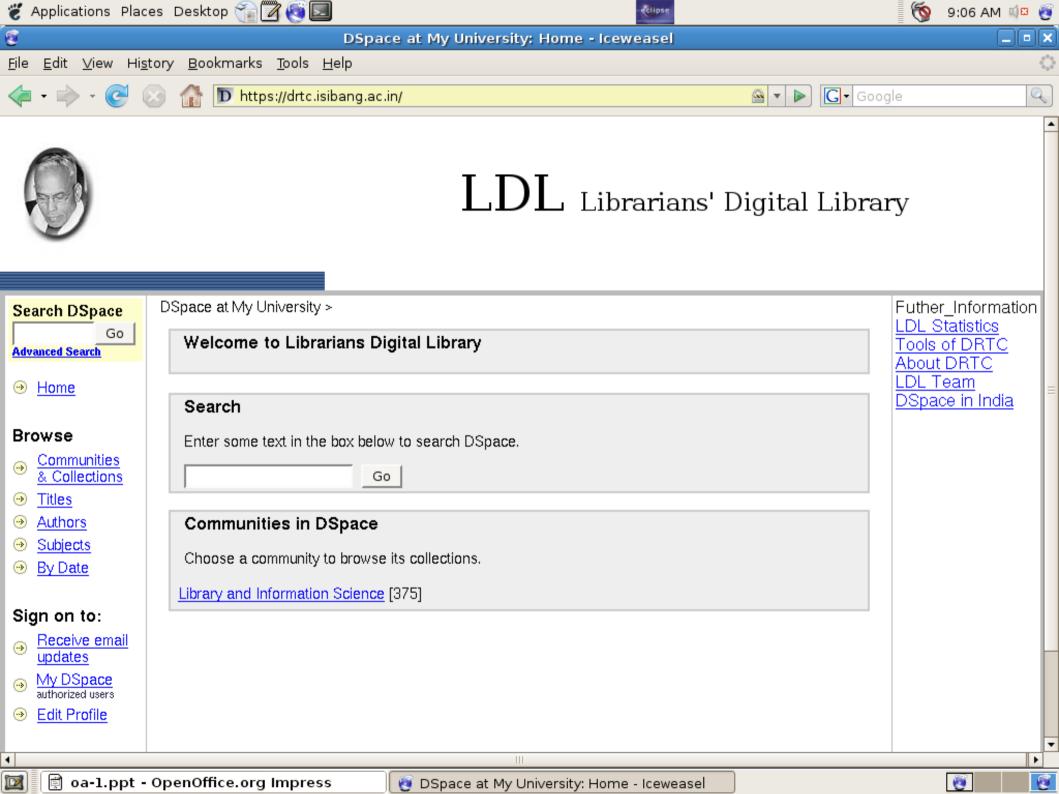
- Open Access to Information
- Open Source Software
- Open Standards
- Open Courseware

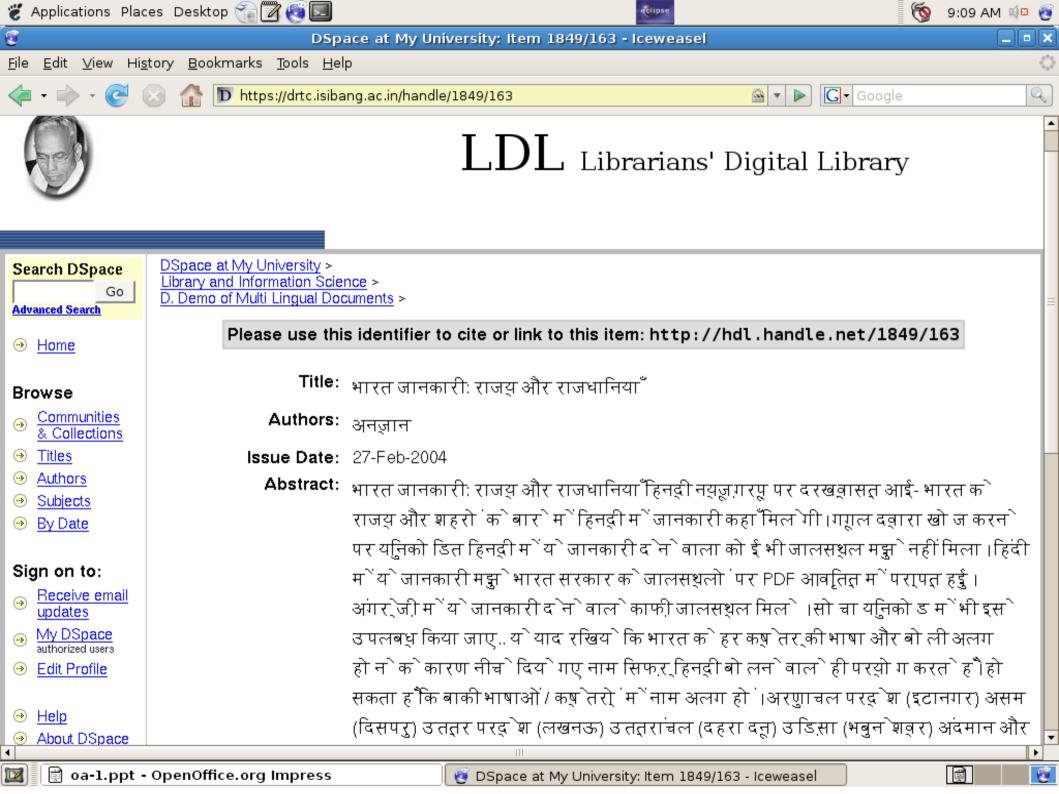
Motto

- Use
 - Open Source Software
 - Open standards
- To Create
 - Open Repositories
 - Open Access Journals
 - Open Courseware
- To facilitate Open Access to Information

Our Efforts

- LDL: Librarians' Digital Library
 - A thematic repository in Library Science (LIS)
- SDL: Search Digital Libraries
 - An OAI based Harvester of DLs in LIS
- DLRG: A Discussion Forum
- LIS News
 - A blog: collects news and contents from journals
- DL Testbeds
 - Testbeds of Open Source DL software







SDL Search Digital Libraries

In Library and Information Science

HOME ABOUT SEARCH BROWSE HELP Home > SDL SDL	HARVESTER STATS ? Harvester2 currently has 21297 papers from 9 archive(s) indexed. CONTENT
Welcome to DRTC's Search Digital Libraries (SDL) SDL havests metadata from open access digital libraries and e-journals in the area of Library and Information Science. You can see the list of Digital repositories SDL harvests by clicking 'Browse'. You can browse all the documents in each repository.	Search Search FONT SIZE A A A
The search results display the metadata, you can can see full metadata by clicking "View Record" or you can access the full text of the document by clicking "View Original".	
NOTE: If you wish your digital library to be harvested by SDL, Please add your archive's baseURL, only if your repository contains at least one LIS related set	
Thank you for visiting SDL	

@ 2005-2007 Alec Smecher and John Willinsky















DL Testbeds

http://drtc.isibang.ac.in/DRTC/testbeds.html















DLRG: A Discussion Forum

http://drtc.isibang.ac.in/dlrg

- Digested User:289
- Non-Digested Users: 243
- Members from about 15 countries
- Mostly on
 - cost of setting up an IR
 - Migration
 - troubleshooting
 - Installation problems
 - announcement of new IRs
 - general information of Open access, forth coming workshops etc.

India's Contribution to OSS

NewGenLib



- An open source software for library management
- Java/jsp based
- compliant to international standards MARC21,
 DC, ILL,
- can be downloaded at
 - http://sourceforge.net/projects/newgenlib/
- Registered on 2007-11-21
- Downloads as on 15-4-2008: 6,386

Digital Repositories in India

- About 30 DSpace based repositories
 - we helped about 20 of them
- About 10 EPrints based repositories
- A few Greenstone based repositories
- There are a few on the Intranets of Defense Labs, Space Research Labs (Not open access)

Open Access Journals of India

- Indian Academy of Science 11 journals
 - http://www.ias.ac.in/
- Indian National Science Academy 3 journals
 - http://www.insa.ac.in/html/home.asp
- Indian Medlars Centre 38 journals
 - http://medind.nic.in/
- Medknow 61 journals
 - http://www.medknow.com/

Approaches to OA

- Bottom-Up Approach
 - Training the implementation workforce
 - Awareness programs to researchers
- Top-Down Approach
 - Convincing the head of organizations
 - Convincing the policy/law makers

India's Public Funded Organizations

- UGC University Grants Commission (about 450 Universities)
- CSIR Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (about 50 labs)
- ICMR Indian Council of Medical Research
- ICAR â Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- Many such like ICSSR, ICCR etc.

National Knowledge Commission

- Launched by the Prime Minister of India
- Both higher education & Libraries are in its purview
- We could only manage to recommend open access, could not mandate
- Still efforts are on

Government of India

- Should come out with a policy statement with regard to research institutes and research projects funded
- Should make it mandatory to publish the research results in open access repositories or journals
- Copyright laws should be modified, especially with regard to transfer of copyright to publishers

Institutes and Universities

- Should set up institutional repositories
- Should modify the promotion policy with regard to publications
- Should offer incentives for self-archiving
- Run awareness programs to its faculty and scientists

Library and Information professionals

- Should undergo training in setting up digital repositories, OA Journals
- Should demonstrate the citation patterns of the publications in order to prove the visibility of publishing in OA repositories

Hands-On Training

- Conducted about 18 training courses on DSpace
- Average number of trainees in each course 25-35
- A total of about 400 from 100 organizations

How are the training program funded?

- Registration fee about Rs. 2000-5000
- Duration: 3-4 days
- Sometimes the host organization partially funded and provided infrastructure free

Reasons for Low Outcome

- Getting support to attend a training course is easier than getting support to launch an IR
- Trained people might have failed to convince the authorities in launching a repository
- Apprehensions of the Bosses in terms of manpower, costs and
- Innumerable excuses

General Observations (technological)

- Many OA journals are not OAI-PMH compliant
- There is know mechanism to know the baseURL of OAI from the site, unless given
- Discipline-based harvesting is difficult
- Many are not RSS compliant

General Observations

- OA in India: Mostly individual effort
- Recently a society to promote Open Knowledge was initiated, yet to prove
 - http://www.oksociety.org/
- National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) should make OA as an evaluation criteria for Universities
- UGC provided guidelines for ETD repositories, did not mandate it

Future Plans

- More Awareness Programs to the Heads of Organizations & researchers
 - Open Access
 - Copyright Issues
- More Training Programs on
 - Digital Library Software
 - E-Journal Software

Thank You