

07-02 Digital Libraries and VLEs (DiVLE) Programme

Reporting period:	1 October 2003 - 31 January 2003		
1. Project Details (as requested in the project plan overview – please update and indicate any changes)			
Project Title:	INFORMS Project [Information Skills Project]		
Project Director:	<p>Jenny Brook <i>Computing & Library Services</i> <i>The Learning Centre</i> <i>University of Huddersfield</i> <i>Queensgate</i> <i>Huddersfield</i> <i>HD1 3DH</i> j.a.brook@hud.ac.uk 01484 473051</p>		
Project Manager:	<p>Project Manager (Loughborough) Ruth Stubbings <i>Pilkington Library</i> <i>Loughborough University</i> <i>Loughborough</i> <i>LE11 3TU</i> <i>Tel: 01509 222345</i> r.e.stubbings@lboro.ac.uk</p> <p>Project Manager (Oxford) <i>Paul Davis</i> <i>Computing Services</i> <i>13 Banbury Road</i> <i>Oxford OX2 6NN</i> <i>Tel: 01865 283414</i> paul.davis@oucs.ox.ac.uk</p>		
Start Date:	October 1st, 2002	End Date: July 31st, 2003	
Lead Institution:	The University of Huddersfield		

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Project Partners:	<p>Project Manager Loughborough Ruth Stubbings Pilkington Library Loughborough University Loughborough LE11 3TU Tel: 01509 222345 r.e.stubbings@lboro.ac.uk</p> <p>Project Manager Oxford Paul Davis Computing Services 13 Banbury Road Oxford OX2 6NN Tel: 01865 283414 paul.davis@oucs.ox.ac.uk</p>
Project URL:	http://informs.hud.ac.uk

Project Briefing:	
<p>Aim: <i>Main aim of the project</i> The INFORMS project will be part of the gradual iterative process of disseminating and scaling up the INHALE model for delivery in a wider range of institutions and will therefore enable the: -</p> <p><i>Replication, testing and refining of all the models, methodologies, tools and materials already developed by the INHALE project in the area of the delivery of Information Skills within VLEs.</i></p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to integrate VLE and Digital Library use into teaching practice• to develop the information seeking skills of both academic staff and students• to raise the awareness of the resources available through the Information Environment• to involve staff who might not otherwise be involved• to enable and provide support for re-using content and learning objects• to develop the skills and knowledge of librarians- pedagogical and technical	<p>1. Project Advisory/Steering Group: <i>(if appropriate)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chairperson- Margaret Weaver• Jenny Brook , Project Director-Huddersfield• Ruth Stubbings, Project Manager – Loughborough• Peter Maunder, Assistant Dean for Teaching- Loughborough• Paul Davis, Project Manager –Oxford• Stuart Lee, Head of E-Learning- Oxford• Frances Boyle, Electronic Services Manager-Oxford• David Pattern, Advanced Web Developer-Huddersfield• Sheila Anderson, Evaluation Officer-Huddersfield <p>2. Project Team: Project Director Jenny Brook Computing and Library Services University of Huddersfield Huddersfield HD1 3DH Tel: 01484 473051 j.a.brook@hud.ac.uk</p> <p>Project Manager Loughborough Ruth Stubbings Pilkington Library Loughborough University Loughborough LE11 3TU Tel: 01509 222345 r.e.stubbings@lboro.ac.uk</p> <p>Project Manager Oxford</p>
<p>Deliverables/Outputs:</p>	

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2. Activities and Progress

This section is concerned with activities and progress in relation to your proposal and contract with JISC. It should identify what has been achieved since your last report.

Tasks or Activities for period to 31 January 2003	Planned Completion Date	Actual/Predicted Completion date	Explanation for an slippage or changes to original plan
Workpackage 1- Informs Dissemination Tool Set up web site/design logo/discussion board/shared content areas and test.	Nov/02	Completed	
Workpackage 2 – Database Documentation & Support. Write , disseminate & test database instructions with partners. Continue updating & amending as database developed.	Version 1 Nov/02 Continuous to Jul/03	Completed Nov/02 Jul/03	
Workpackage 3- Evaluation Strategy Create strategy for evaluation with partners Modify evaluation instruments	Dec/02 Dec/02	Completed Completed	
Workpackage 4- Identify academic staff & modules to be included in the project	Dec/02	Completed	
Workpackage 5- Workshops for partner project teams & relevant key academic/library & technical staff on project database, additional tools & methods. Additional Workshops, as required, the project progresses	Dec/02 Ongoing to Apr/03	Completed Apr/03	
Workpackage 6- Identification of key resources for new units	Dec/02	Completed	

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Workpackage 7- Creation of new information skills units/re-purposing of existing units	Jan/03	Completed	
Workpackage 8- Baseline Skills audit of students/academic staff & library staff. Dissemination & collection of survey questionnaires at partner sites.	Underway Jan-Feb/03	Mar/03	
Workpackage 9- Publicity Create project logo/ write news items to the web site/write articles to key publications.	Underway & ongoing to Jul/03	Jul/03	
Workpackage 10- Embedding/testing new units in modules	Underway to June/03	June/03	

3. Finance

In this section you should detail the expenditure of the project so far. Against the budget headings you should set out the expenditure for the previous half year noting any significant over/under spend giving reasons for this. You should also state the total expenditure to date against each budget heading. The template below is designed to help this reporting process but additional budget headings may be added to fit an individual project's budget.

Total Grant: £99,000

Duration of project: 10 Months

Reporting Period: to 31 January 2003

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Budget Headings	Total budget allocated	Expenditure this reporting period	Total expenditure to date	Further information
Staff	£69,500	£13,997.00		[Hudds allocation of £26,000 carried forward to March]
Travel & Subsistence	£4,500	£771.98		
Equipment	£6,500	£30.00		
Dissemination activities	£2,500	£55		[Note the dissemination activities have so far mostly only incurred travel costs]
Evaluation activities				[Not extracted out- but could be construed as staffing costs for the evaluation officer]
Other (please specify) Technical support	£16,000	1,000		

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4. Feedback and comments to the Programme Manager

Please indicate any issues/slippages (if any) and what you are doing to bring things back on schedule.

No problems so far here.

Are there any outcomes you would like to share? (Please describe, provide URLs or attached documents etc.)

The main outcomes so far are the ease and speed with which the partner institutions (Loughborough & Oxford) have picked up (as hoped) the use of the INHALE database, tools and methods. This can be seen in the portfolios of units at Loughborough & Oxford.

Do you have any specific training needs, requests or suggestions for supporting workshops for the programme?

I think that Metadata is still an area that is hazy in lots of people's minds. I'd like a really practical workshop on this where I had to input some metadata for a live project.

Please list any dissemination activities planned.

Ruth Stubbings at Loughborough is hoping to get papers sent for the Glasgow Annual Conference and for the LTSN Conference.

We have INHALE/INFORMS presentations at:-

University of Glamorgan- 5th February

Nottingham Trent- 19th February

Coventry- 28th February

ST. Martin's College of HE- (Ambleside campus)- Planning for early March

5. Technologies Audit Sheet

Please complete the tables below to show which standards, specifications or protocols and technology products (internal or commercial) you are working with as a part of your project. The focus is on those that are being developed as part of the project, not everything which underpins your institutional information and learning systems.

<u>Standards/ Specifications/ Protocols</u>		
Type	Examples	Used as part of your project
Interfaces:	e.g. HTTP, Z39.50, LDAP, OAI harvesting framework	HTTP
Interchange formats:	e.g. MARC, RDF, XML	XML
Sharing Learning Objects	e.g. SCORM, IMS Content Packaging Spec	IMS (just beginning to look at this)
Learning Materials:	e.g. IMS metadata spec (built into Dublin Core) IMS Question and Test Interoperability Spec IMS Content Packaging Spec IMS Learner Information Packaging Spec	IMS (again at the stage of investigating)
Cataloguing and Metadata	e.g. Dublin Core metadata set	
Collection Description	e.g. RSLP Collection Description	
Network Services for Interoperability	e.g. Z39.50 / ISO 23950, OAI harvesting framework, Rich Site Summary (RSS), aka RDF Site Summary,(XML application for syndicating news feeds)	
Security and Middleware:	e.g. X.509, Shibboleth,	
Programming and Scripting Languages	e.g. Perl, Java language, Zope, ColdFusion, SOAP	Perl
Client-side scripting	e.g. ECMAScript,	

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Accessibility	e.g. W3C Web Accessibility Initiative recommendations, HTML, CSS, Document Object Model	W3C
OpenURL		
IMS Specifications	e.g. Enterprise, LIP, QTI, etc.	
Technologies		
Category	Examples	Please list all technologies/products/systems which are part of the development of your project (core systems need not be listed)
MIS systems		
VLE/intranet/learning systems	e.g. COSE, Boddington	Blackboard/LEARN/Bodington
Portal tools	e.g. uPortal, ORACLE Portal tools	
Content management systems		
Web Services		
Other		

What emerging technologies or standards, if any, do you think will have a significant impact in your project area in a few years' time?