

VERSIONS Project informal update for April 2006

Please find below the VERSIONS Project informal update for April 2006.

Preparation of VERSIONS Project online questionnaires

The VERSIONS team were on holiday during the first two weeks in April, and have spent the remainder of the month working on the VERSIONS questionnaires.

Following circulation of the first draft questionnaire to the NEREUS partners in March, it was decided that the VERSIONS survey would be more effective if split into two separate sets of questions, one for researchers and one for other interested parties (Library staff, IT support staff, research funders, publishers etc.). The questions being addressed to each group are quite different and, to avoid wasting respondents time on irrelevant material, two separate surveys was an ideal solution. Very useful written comments on the questions were received from NEREUS partners.

Both sets of questions have been revised and tested numerous times in an attempt to ensure that they are highly relevant and as concise as possible.

Two draft surveys were circulated to the NEREUS partners and a conference call held on 24 April, allowing the NEREUS partners to comment further on each. These valuable comments provided a fresh view on the questions, and the feedback was used by the VERSIONS team to prepare the final drafts.

Publications list analysis

A final publications list that had originally been sent in XML and which was presenting technical difficulties for the VERSIONS Team was requested and received in Excel format from the NEREUS partner during April, allowing this work package to proceed towards completion.

VERSIONS Evaluation Workshop

The project team are hosting a half day evaluation workshop at LSE on 10 May. Expert participants from a range of backgrounds (repository software developers, repository managers, digital curation community, metadata experts) were invited and a good line up was taking shape during April. Practical arrangements were also carried out during April and we look forward to a productive day next Wednesday.