

VERSIONS Project informal update for June 2006

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

Publicising the project survey

Much of June was spent publicising the VERSIONS Project questionnaires. Information about the survey was disseminated in various ways:

Through the Nereus network:

- 1) Survey details were added to the Nereus website by Vanessa Proudman.
- 2) Nereus partners helped to promote the survey by emailing the details to their economists and / or adding links to the survey to their library websites.

At LSE:

- 1) Brief introductions to the project and questionnaires were published in the LSE Online Briefing and the school's weekly paper publication 'News & Views'. These pieces were designed to capture the interest of academic researchers based here at LSE.
- 2) The project team worked with library staff to get information and links onto the library homepage, news page and projects page, as well as the front page of LSE Research Online.

Beyond LSE and Nereus, various promotion efforts were made by the VERSIONS Project Team:

- 1) Informative copy relating to the surveys was added to the news section of the JISC wiki.
- 2) An invitation to participate in the survey was circulated via several repository, OAI, library and university administrator discussion lists, as well as through library contacts in other countries such as Australia. It was hoped that this approach would yield responses from a diverse range of experts in the field.
- 3) The project team contacted a large number of economic associations, inviting them to publicise the survey via their own discussion lists. It was anticipated that this approach would yield responses from geographically diverse repository users. We received positive responses from the European Economic Association, the Royal Economic Society and from the Latin Americana and Caribbean Economic Association.
- 4) SSRN was also used to publicise the survey through the Economics Research Network Announcements Service (see Announcements and then Other Announcements at <http://www.ssrn.com/ern/index.html>).

Many thanks to all of our Nereus colleagues who have assisted us by promoting the surveys within their own institutions. By the end of June the questionnaires had attracted over 500 responses. The survey open dates were extended to early July and respondent numbers have continued to rise.

Publications list analysis

The first draft of this report is undergoing revision and will be circulated to the Nereus partners shortly. Having analysed the availability of journal articles in different ways it was decided that some analysis would also be conducted on the availability of working papers. It was felt that adding this element to the report would provide a more comprehensive view of repository content in the sample group.

Forthcoming articles

During June the project team completed two articles which are due to be published in the ALISS Quarterly journal (Association of Librarians and Information professionals in the Social Sciences) and the D-Lib Magazine.

Links with related projects and activities

Frances Shipsey attended the kick off meeting of the JISC-funded Eprints Application Profile Working Group on 5 June 2006. Documents of the Working Group are available at:

http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/repositories/digirep/index/Eprints_Application_Profile