

MU-DIRT Report: MU Department of Economics Working Paper Series

- I. MU Department of Economics Working Paper Series
 - A. Abstracts for the series going back to 1997 are available at http://economics.missouri.edu/Working_Paper_Series/, with full text available in PDF format going back to 2000. There are currently 156 papers in the series, 110 of which are available in full text online.
 - B. The Department makes no effort at digital preservation of the HTML abstracts or the PDF files.
 - C. Indexing for the series back to 2002 is widely available online through the Research Papers in Economics (RePEc) project at <http://repec.org/> and this information is then provided to EconLit. Both RePEc and EconLit provide links back to the departmental files, though only RePEc provides hot links. EconLit does provide OpenURL links to the series, but the MU Libraries OpenURL resolver cannot resolve them as they are currently configured.
 - D. Dublin Core is sufficient to adequately describe these working papers in an institutional repository; however, there are a couple of noteworthy features that need to be kept in mind:
 - i. The most appropriate subject vocabulary for the series is the Journal of Economic Literature (JEL) Classification System: http://www.aeaweb.org/journal/jel_class_system.html.
 - ii. Working papers are frequently updated and while we may want to *preserve* the original content, the current practice of the Economics Department, and the preference of content creators, is to provide full-text *access* only to the most recent version.
 - iii. Many of these working papers are later published as articles in scholarly journals, and it is important to content creators to help users discover these articles. Currently the Economics Department only provides citations, but they would like a more efficient linking mechanism.
 - iv. The Economics Department has a lot invested in maintaining traffic to their working papers site, and would prefer that records point users to full-text copies on *their* servers, while maintaining preservation copies in the institutional repository.
 - E. Based on the above, there are a number of reasons to include a series like this in an institutional repository. The first is preservation of both the full text and the indexing. However, discovery and delivery would also be enhanced, the former by providing structured metadata prior to 2002, and the latter through better version control and enhanced linking mechanisms to published work. OpenUrl access to the working papers from EconLit would also benefit from their inclusion in an institutional repository, but there may be other ways to handle this.
- II. DSpace
 - A. The point of this portion of the pilot was to test two things: automatic ingest based on available indexing, and forms-based submission.
 - B. To test automatic ingest, I exported EconLit records into RefWorks, and provided Hardy with an XML file of these records. He then used Perl scripts to map these records into Qualified Dublin Core and import them into Dspace.
 - C. To test forms-based submission, I edited a copy of the "input-forms.xml" file in

DSpace to create a custom submission form for the series. This included automatic input of consistent metadata fields such as Publisher, and drop-down boxes to allow users to select one or more JEL Classifications. The file was edited using oXygen, an XML editor, and was fairly straightforward; however, to properly format the JEL Classifications for inclusion in the file, I required the assistance of Michael Salmons, who ran a Perl script against a list of headings. Unfortunately, repeated attempts to load the edited file into DSpace were unsuccessful, and I abandoned further testing; however, I'm confident that with a little more time spent on debugging, Hardy and I could have resolved the problem.