How Star helps to disseminate French e-theses

How ABES helps to develop Open Access

Raymond Bérard, ABES, 4 December 2009
Who are we?

Our job: metadata
ABES products
E-theses
New legislation in 2006

Either paper or electronic copies must be collected

If legal deposit is paper
several copies for preservation, ILL, reading + microfiches
Description in French Academic Union catalogue (Sudoc)

If legal deposit is electronic:
new workflow: STAR
Legal deposit of theses

• Compulsory for PhD students to get graduation.
• Each university has to choose: either print or ETD.
• In case of electronic legal deposit, a digital version of the dissertation must be registered in ‘STAR’.
• Transitional period: paper legal deposit will gradually decline.
A national tool: STAR

• STAR (signalement des thèses électroniques et archivage) = description and preservation of ETD

• A national scheme launched by ABES

• Star is an intermediary, a ‘clearing house’
A national tool: STAR

• A workflow software tool developed by ABES

• Aims:
  – secure relationships between author and its affiliation: the university (and not the PhD student) is in charge of the deposit
  – **the deposit document is true to the original which has been validated by the jury**
  – take into account the life-cycle of electronic theses
  – manage the document and add metadata to increase its online visibility
A specific set of metadata: TEF

- TEF = « Thèses Electroniques Françaises », an AFNOR standard (French member of ISO)
- A set of metadata based on Dublin Core Qualified
- Several ETD adaptations (jury...)
- TEF takes into account the needs for
  - Preservation
  - Legal status of thesis : METS Rights
Different sets of metadata despite of their partial overlapping
Inputs

Each university

ETD local repository
Dspace, ePrint, Castor, Cyberthèses, ORI-OAI, Apogée...

and / or

Web forms

Imports (web service, e-mail)

Metadata and file
PDF and/or XML

STAR

Metadata and file
PDF and/or XML
Outputs

Repositories (national, international…)

Each university:
ETD local repository

Dissemination

OAI-PMH server

Preservation

Description

Persistent Identifier

Etc.

STAR
Long term preservation

- CINES (Centre Informatique National de l'Enseignement Supérieur = National Computer Center for Higher Education)
- In charge of long term preservation of French electronic PhD theses
- A generic solution for archiving digital and electronic documents: PAC ("Plateforme d'Archivage CINES" = CINES’s long term preservation platform).
Dissemination

• International, national, local repositories (metadata and access)
• OAI-PMH repository (metadata)
• Integrated library systems (description)
Who uses Star?
How many e-theses in Star?

Evolution des dépôts dans STAR

- Nombre de dépôts
- Cumul

03-11-2009
Opening ABES name authority files

• Why?
Public data: a political challenge
A public service of free data!
Let others re-use them for new, innovative (yet unknown) uses
Opposing public & private monopolies
...... *a legal challenge*
Opening ABES name authority files

How?

- Linking French data bases
- Align identifiers or better: share them!
- Standardize names by linking them to Sudoc authority files
Opening ABES name authority files

• First restricted to Sudoc catalogue
• Then extended to Calames, Star
• Our project: make them available to other research & HE organizations
  – Persée
  – ORI-OAI
  – HAL
  – Revues.org
  – ETC...
Opening ABES name authority files

Why a link to Sudoc authority files?

• Internal quality of each base
• Enrich each base with others’ infos
• Later, allow more sophisticated requests and searches
Opening ABES name authority files

• A project supported by TGE Adonis

• For Adonis « metaportal »: enriched authority files for the data bases of Adonis metaportal, using semantic web technology -RDF

• Partnership with LIRMM (Montpellier Laboratory of Informatics, Robotics, and Microelectronics)
www.abes.fr