

## EDITORIAL

Running for two years to date, the project has only four more months to go. Before the final workshop that will take place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, April 20<sup>th</sup>, its results – both the reports and the software - will be given the final touch-ups.

In this newsletter we are highlighting some the results achieved so far, particularly the SciX Open Publishing Services (SOPS). This software will be the basis for the services that the SciX partners will continue to provide after the end of the project. As an open source development it is expected to start its independent life. SOPS is based on Web Services which can be assembled to provide support for several open access repositories, journals, conference organization workflows and other forms of scientific publishing and archiving.

While large part of the electronic publishing community was focusing on institutional repositories, SciX made a closer look at the societal and topic archives; in its conceptual, organizational and software prototyping work it has been concerned with the question on how can the learned societies exploit the power of the internet to regain control of the scientific publishing process.

Through several demonstrators, particularly in the field of engineering an architecture, the SciX project is proving that this is a viable solution.

## SCIX OPEN PUBLISHING SERVICES

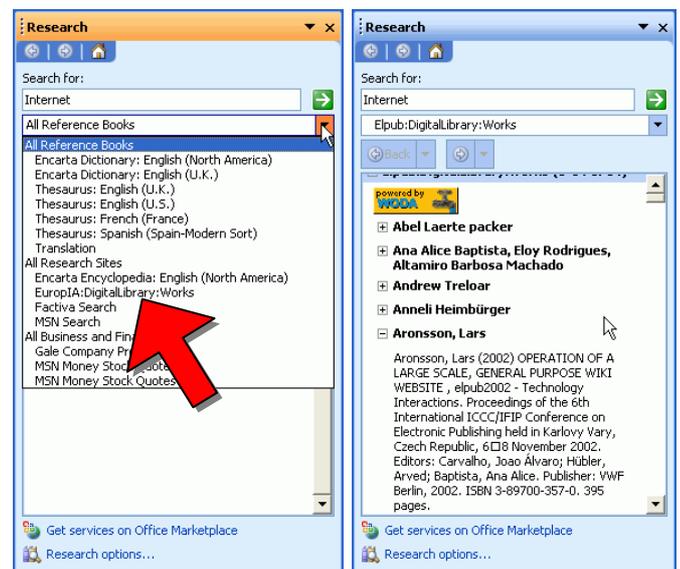
SciX Open Publishing Services (**SOPS**) is software that allows setting up various on-line scientific publishing media such as:

- personal archives,
- institutional archives,
- topic & society archives,
- electronic journals,
- electronic conference proceedings,
- workflow support for conference and journal review process.

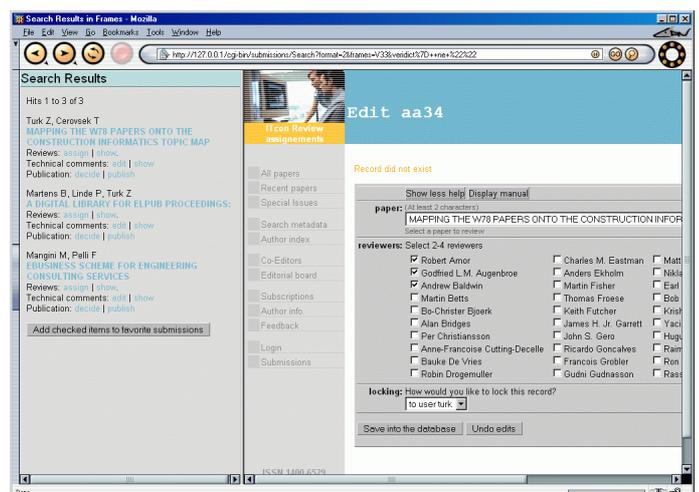
SOPS provides generic building blocks, such as repository, user management, discussions, ratings, collections, reviews, review process support etc. out of which the above on-line publications and libraries can be built. SOPS is open in the sense that it provides:

- WSDL definitions of all available functions;

- Metadata harvesting according to the OAI-PMH 2.0 standard; can harvest and be harvested.
- Compatibility with citation management software such as Reference Manager, Citation Manager and Endnote;
- Compatibility with Microsoft Office 2003 Research Task Pane.
- Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds and Office Smart Tags.



SciX service listed as one of the Office Research Sites (left).  
SciX search results fed into Office ready for inclusion into Word or PowerPoint.



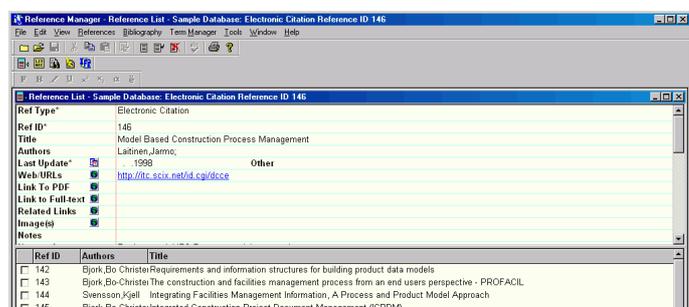
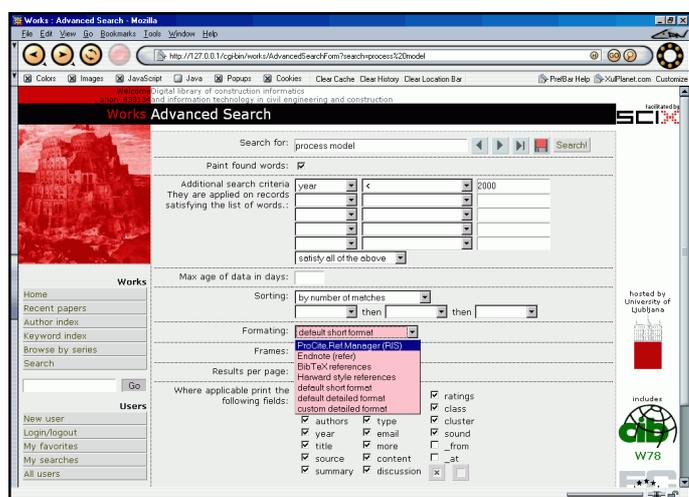
Assigning reviewers for a paper in the ITcon Journal

SOPS is multilingual. It exists in English, German and Slovenian languages. It can be easily translated into any other language because all user interface elements are separate from the program logic.

SOPS includes tools for intelligent maintenance and use of the archive, separate editorial interface as well as artificial intelligence based automatic classification and clustering of the papers. This is used, for example, to automatically assign most appropriate reviewers to papers or to group papers into conference sessions.

SOPS will be made freely available under an open source license as soon as the documentation and friendly installer are finalized. SOPS is built on top of the WODA database and web services engine.

About 10 sites including one Slovenian and two German are currently powered by SOPS including the ITcon Journal and the IAPS 2004 and ECPM 2004 conferences and the digital archive of the ELPUB conference series.



Export of search results into ProCite.

## NATIONAL SEMINAR IN FINLAND

A national seminar on Open Access publishing with invited foreign guests was arranged at the Swedish School of Economics and Business Administration (Hanken), 8 - 9 January 2004 in Helsinki, Finland. Around 250 participants from universities, libraries, publishers, the Ministry of education and the Academy of Finland were attending the seminar. The seminar was arranged by the Finnish Open Access working group (FinnOA) together with the National library of Finland, and the Ministry of Education and Hanken. Prof. Bo-Christer Björk is the acting chair of the FinnOA group and Dr. Turid Hedlund a member, both from the Finnish partner in the SciX project.

The seminar was arranged with opening sessions by Chancellor Ilkka Raivio from the Helsinki University, Prof. Jean-Claude Guedon from the University of Montreal, Director David Prosser from SPARC Europe and Prof. Bo-Christer Björk from Hanken. The theme of the session was the importance of open access to scientific communication and the individual presentations discussed the paradigm shift in scientific publishing, means to promote cheaper and open scientific information and new trends in online publishing. One of the main concerns for the speakers was the meritization of researchers.

A panel, consisting of professors representing different scientific areas, had a lively discussion on the publishing channels of researchers in different fields of science. The physicists are to a large extent happy with the open online preprint archive while the chemists relying mostly on journal articles.

The second day of the seminar started with concrete examples of business models and projects to promote open access. Head of marketing and sales Natasha Robshaw from BioMed Central presented the new way of publishing introducing article processing fees and institutional memberships for researchers to publish. The articles are published open access. Leo Waaijers from the DARE project in the Netherlands provided informative and interesting information about how to create and maintain institutional repositories. Head of e-resources Ingegerd Rabow from the Lund University made an appeal for the Nordic cooperation in supporting open access publishing.

The themes presented above were continued in the two workshops, one on Finnish open access scientific journals and the other on institutional repositories. The foreign guest speakers provided valuable information and future contacts to the participants of the second workshop, which was held in English.

Turid Hedlund

## SCIX ON THE ROAD

SiGradi 2003 (Rosario, Argentina, 5-7 November 2003). Bob Martens presented the paper "CUMI-CAD.ES: A First Step Towards Multilingual Digital Libraries in CAAD". The newly updated cumincad.ES-repository (<http://cumincadES.SciX.net>) was highlighted.

Project Review, Luxembourg, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

Most SciX papers and presentations are available at the [www.scix.net/db/use/bibliography](http://www.scix.net/db/use/bibliography)

**Project: IST 2001-33127 SciX <http://www.scix.net/>**

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