Building RPM* with BibApp

Research Profiles @ Mason

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Mile Zero

As part of its mission and goals, the Libraries' Scholarly Communications team is piloting a new library service to:

- ✧ highlight GMU's institutional scholarship.
- ✧ increase regular deposits of content into our DSpace repository, MARS (Mason Archival Repository Service).
- ✧ consolidate the static, incomplete information on faculty expertise and research scattered throughout the university's web domain.

The team selected BibApp, open-source software designed by University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and University of Wisconsin-Madison to build RPM (Research Profiles @ Mason).

Why BibApp?

- ✧ Open-source software
- ✧ Emphasizes research connections among faculty
- ✧ Allows batch-importing of content
- ✧ Assigns various permission roles to allow distributed maintenance of profiles
- ✧ Links to local catalog record and full-text content in databases or institutional repository

RPM drivers

The team:

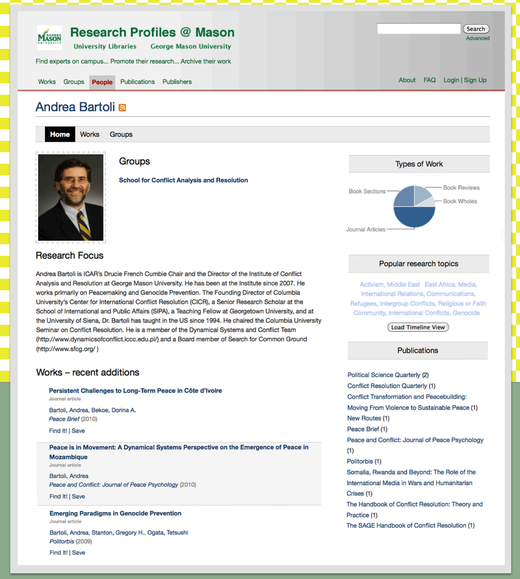
- ✧ 6-8 library assistants working up to 5 hrs/wk
- ✧ 1 admin assistant serves as profile reviewer
- ✧ 2 librarians as project managers
- ✧ 1 librarian as technical support

The tools:

- ✧ wiki to track profile-building and review, troubleshoot issues, foster team framework, and develop guidelines

The training:

- ✧ introduction to BibApp software via presentations
- ✧ regularly-scheduled group work sessions



Batch load works using zotero

BibApp can accept citation-building formats such as Medline, Refworks XML, and RIS. We used Zotero, a research management tool built by The Center for History and New Media at GMU, to generate batch files of faculty publications.

Identify department interested in RPM service

The Scholarly Communications Team and liaison librarians work together to identify a department or group interested in having profiles created.

Add works manually

Some works, such as book chapters, cannot be captured using Zotero. These citations are entered manually and require less review than batch loaded citations.

Review records

New records are held in a queue until reviewed and verified by a team member. Records imported by batch may require more attention at this stage to remove proprietary database content and add missing information, such as ISBNs.

Verify and publish records

Once all relevant fields are complete and reviewed, the record is verified and published to RPM.

Maintain profiles

The team provides training and online guidelines to department staff who are responsible for adding content to faculty profiles.

Push content to MARS, our institutional repository

RPM will push content to our DSpace repository via SWORD*. As faculty users add content to their RPM profiles, they can select works for deposit in MARS, such as gray literature.

*Simple Web-service Offering Repository Deposit

Miles to Go for RPM

- ✧ integrate as a regular service of the library
- ✧ establish as the primary interface to deposit works in MARS and highlight MARS content
- ✧ used by librarians to engage with faculty and stay updated on scholarship
- ✧ offer as a CV generator to facilitate annual reviews
- ✧ develop API to allow BibApp profile content to be embedded in department and personal websites

Road Blocks

Logistical challenges

- ✧ working with library supervisors to identify staff who could easily integrate BibApp tasks into their existing responsibilities
- ✧ developing a workflow and communicating priority shifts to the team as our practices evolved
- ✧ setting boundaries for content
- ✧ sorting through messy data from batch imports
- ✧ establishing consistency in citation format
- ✧ meshing with existing departmental websites

Technical challenges

- ✧ SWORD implementation
- ✧ optimal connection with the catalog and databases

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