

CERN Workshop on Innovations in Scholarly Communication (OAI4)
20 – 22 October 2005, Geneva

Breakout Session: Friday, October 21 at 11:30 - 14:00

**Our authors are central.
Populating repositories and building on partnerships between libraries
and researchers. Economists Online as a case in point.**

**Facilitators:
Vanessa Proudman,
Tilburg University Library, Netherlands
and participants of the EO team**

Description:

This session will share some of the experiences and challenges of Economists Online (EO), particularly relating to relationships with the content-providers, as an example of how one can approach the mid-term population of repositories with a bigger emphasis on looking at the needs of the content-provider, where those of the library then fall into place. EO is a Nereus (a consortium of thirteen leading economics universities in Europe) project where leading economists are collaborating with libraries and their repositories to digitize, organize, archive and further disseminate their complete academic output aiming to make as much full text as possible publicly available. This international project is being utilized to stimulate the population of repositories as well as an opportunity to set up repositories in some cases.

This session will present the project in brief, and share success stories as well as more challenging ones relating to content acquisition from the authors in particular; describing how relations with authors have developed from skepticism at the beginning of the project to great enthusiasm in some cases.

Participants from different institutions will share experiences with the group. Lessons learnt and best practices will stimulate discussion relating to:

- How can the design of a project which is focused on the needs of the author as content provider achieve successful partnerships for collaboration on repository work in the future?
- We are not in competition with the publishers. Libraries have other services to offer and opportunities. What can we therefore address?
- What are the key challenges in such projects, e.g. IPR issues, quality issues?
- Obtaining critical mass - what are we still up against?

Participants of the session will also be invited to actively participate in sharing their similar or conflicting experiences with the EO team in order to conclude on how libraries can best proceed in the future for effective repository population and service development.