CWRC Technical Meeting

October 28, 2009

- Design fest

  - Susan: November 6 and 7, Orlando will hold a design fest to assess Orlando's current interfaces and prototypes. Based in Stan's ideas to work as team to design and get live feedback on the prototypes. Different people working on different stuff while conducting user interviews. Come up with a strategy for getting users specs information.

  - Jeff will be working on the Orlando API; Alejandro Giacometti in the Googlesque interface; Matt Gooding in a Mandala browser for Orlando. Users will participate with user stories, will be also interviewed, and will provide narrative accounts on how they might use Orlando to engage in a literary research project.

  - Eleni would like to attend to see what tools people are using, preferably during the most useful time for attending and watching people's work.

  - Susan: are we going to do anything with JiTR in the design fesrt? Work would be more for content providers than for content users.

  - Susan: some people will be coding, some others will be watching during the meeting.

  - Ofer: What is the relationship between Orlando and CWRC?

  - Susan: Closest project to what we want to get to do with CWRC, but not in the collaboration side. CWRC is a project heavy on the side of content providers. Some people from CWRC are interested in Orlando's content, some other people is interested in Orlando's structure, but not in the content. Take Orlando as a starter point for the creation of CWRC. Same larger user community; methodologically there should be enough carryover between both groups.

  - Ofer: The ways scholars are using Orlando might be helpful to understand what should be developed for CWRC.

  - Susan: The piece that would offer the best documentation is JiTR as the collaboration part of CWRC. An Orlando editor would be a very important part of the project.

o Ofer: Suggested the need of extracting information of particular usage patterns for the system, if you can synthesize how Orlando is being used, that would be great for the technical team.

o Eleni will sit with the graduate student working on the user studies to see what can be useful for creating the CWRC user specs.

o Susan: We will put the user information up on the wiki and send it by email too. During the design fest we will be getting feedback and pushing forward the experimental interfaces. Emphasis is in the experimental interfaces, but will also go back to current interface user study results. Orlando is not distributed through the current system, so we don't know exactly how Orlando will work in CWRC

o Eleni: Would like to know about the activities existing in the workflow, a comprehensive understanding of the workflow.

o Ofer: What tools would people use for collaborating in the workflow?

o Susan: Workflows associated to each type of project will be different, this should be an open system, but there may be also closed projects.

o Arie: What are the relationship between the tools available and the context of use? Will there be restrictions for using specific tools to certain people?

o Susan: Some conversations will be closed, but tools themselves should be open.

o Eleni: content can be restricted, but don't see why an algorithm or a tool should be restricted to a group.

o Arie: Will the content control be done through a content management system?

o Susan: We had a conversation with the UofA library, they didn't adopt an existing front end, and the programmer is really happy with it, he is willing to come and attend a meeting, they are really interested in the possibilities that could be open by our project adopting Fedora, not only would we be partnering with them, but also www.canadiana.org digitized a huge body of early Canadian text, and they are going to work with Fedora too. The library set up a digitization workshop. Two of our partners are working with fedora, and they will provide help for setting the system. If CWRC goes well, we won't have long-term responsibility for preservation and access.

- Eleni: Would it be possible to arrange a demo of what the library has done? This would be very useful to see what CWRC needs that is not already there.

- Susan: Library is looking forward to launching ERA Education Research Archives. We will possibly hire someone who works with their people.

- Eleni: will introduce Susan to computer scientists at CLOUD. November 5th. Eleni will forward email conversation with Cybera, they can help solving infrastructure problems.

- Arie: Are there any other sample projects similar to what we are trying to do?

- Ofer: We need to see if there are interfaces, plug-ins in general, social networking plug-ins that can be added to CWRC.

- Susan: Still thinking on what we could be doing to get everything together for the RFP, RFI is too general. Should we anticipate every case? A huge part of the work relates to how you organize it.

- Ofer: There should be some level of granularity on how to describe the RFP. What level of detail are we going to use when defining the architecture, basic workflows, skeleton of the database (content management, system a, system a), user interface (basic features), you need to tell the vendor what you expect with some level of detail.

- Susan: User interface: separate RFP? Hire a designer? Can we specify the system in a way that will make it easy to come and put a user interface seamlessly?

- Eleni: Test cases, validation test cases, on how delivery will be assessed.

- Stan: When incorporating some existing features in the user interface, the fact that they are written in different programming languages should be considered.

- Eleni: It is likely that whatever you have will be potentially incorporated in the delivery system, but if not, we can implement your design in the system. I can imagine a storyboard and the interactions that are possible in a workflow would be very useful to imagine how it would look like. What are the workflow management's, and the social networking's role in the workflow?

- Susan: Is there any percentage of work in the design fest that will go towards the CWRC specifications?

- Arie: When you work on those interfaces, it is important that it will guide people on how to use it. Guide the people you talk to to come up with exactly what you want from them.

- Eleni: suggests inviting the Orlando community to think on what they expect of CWRC.

- Jeff: We should also use ideas of things that are not possible in Orlando or that haven't been implemented

- Susan: Is it better to have Matt or Mariana as test users? Do we need someone who has understanding of the domain

- Get Silvia, Mariana and Matt together for the interviews, prepare interviews. Interviews on Friday, November 6th.

- Eleni will see about someone writing a document on security standard issues that should be considered for CWRC

- Arie: Will submit document on GIS development to serve as a response to the grant committee

- Susan: Send email to Eleni on security and backup document.

- Susan will put a page on the Wiki called "Fedora questions."