CRIS2018 extended abstract

Title:

Implementation of the OpenAIRE CERIF-XML guidelines in Pure: a marriage made in heaven

Authors:

Anna Clements, University of St Andrews & euroCRIS
Alex Kujath, Elsevier
Henrik Rasmussen, Elsevier
Jan Dvorak, Czech Technical University & euroCRIS

Abstract:

Pure from Elsevier is widely accepted as the market leader for research information management. With more than 250 customers worldwide and a player in the CRIS market since 2004. The Pure application helps research institutions capture the scope of work for their research staff in order to provide insights for evaluation, showcasing, dissemination and supports institutions on national assessments and statutory returns.

Pure is an open and agnostic system that interoperates with a number of other systems. From import and synchronization of data from university systems like HR records and finance systems to imports of research outputs and research datasets from more than 15 different online sources. A robust and comprehensive API in Pure is used to transfer data held in Pure to a variety of external systems, services using standard protocols. Amongst them ORCID, OAI-PMH, MODS & CERIF XML. The implementation of the OpenAire guidelines for CRIS Managers is another practical example of this interoperability, which was reiterated at the Pure International Conference in Barcelona, Nov 2017, where J C Heyneke (Senior Vice President, Products Management Pure) reiterated that Pure always had been, and always would be, an open product. For Pure customers, the importance of the OpenAIRE guidelines for CRIS Managers (CERIF-XML), is not only related to the requirement to meet funder compliance but to do this by reusing the rich metadata captured in their institutional CRIS. The limitations of Dublin Core are well known and, as a model to represent the interconnected research information landscape much beyond publications, it is too limited and inflexible.

OpenAIRE and euroCRIS have worked together for many years in a joint effort to improve the efficiency of, and data quality in, research information systems - whether at the institutional, national or international level. In July 2013, the first version of OpenAIRE guidelines for CRIS managers was published and presented at the CRIS2014 conference in Rome, (Houssos, Joerg, Dvorak, Principe, Rodrigues, Manghi & Elbaek 2014). However, the complexity of the CERIF-XML underpinning the guidelines, was a significant barrier to adoption with a paper presented and debated at the CRIS2016 conference in St Andrews (Vestdam, Plauborg and Van Camp 2017.) To address these issues, the euroCRIS CERIF Task Group developed an updated version of CERIF-XML designed to be easier to understand and, in particular, suitable for large scale information exchange; one such example being the OpenAIRE aggregator of information from CRIS systems. This was presented to the community at the euroCRIS Strategic members meeting in Athens, Nov 2016. (Dvorak, Bollini, Vestdam 2016.)

In this paper we describe the collaborative work between euroCRIS, Elsevier and Pure customers in achieving this important practical implementation of the OpenAIRE CERIF-XML guidelines. We will present views from all three parties - the customer, the supplier and the standards organisation - and describe the role and priorities from each perspective view point including reflections on what worked well and what we have learnt from the process.

References:

Houssos, N., Joerg, B., Dvorak, J., Principe, P., Rodriques, E., Manghi, P., Elbaek, M. (2014) OpenAIRE Guidelines for CRIS Managers: Supporting Interoperability of Open Research Information through Established Standards, Procedia Computer Science. 33 p. 33-38. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procs.2014.06.006

Vestdam, T., Plauborg, B., Van Camp, L. (2017) FRIS R3 - CERIF XML in Large Scale Exchange of Research Information, Procedia Computer Science. 106 p. 74-81. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procs.2017.03.037

Dvorak, J., Bollini, A., Vestdam, T. (2016) CERIF XML Update, euroCRIS Strategic Members Meeting, Athens, Nov 8-10 2016. Presentation available at: https://dspacecris.eurocris.org/handle/11366/560

Keywords:

CERIF; OpenAIRE; Pure CRIS; Interoperability; Open Science; Open Access; Research Information Management