Minutes of JIBS CIS User Enhancement Group

1st August 2013

Present: Frances Hyde - Chair – Subject Librarian, Sheffield Hallam University (FH)
Ian Johns - IHS Director – Strategic Relationship Management (IJ)
Keith Deverill – IHS CIS Senior Product Manager (KD)
Keith Wilson - NBS (RIBAE) Technical Information Director (KW)
Ruth Wilkinson - NBS (RIBAE) Information Services Coordinator (RW)
Shazia Arif – Subject Liaison Librarian, Brunel University (SA)
Emma Delaney - Minutes – Faculty Librarian, UWE Bristol (ED)

Apologies: Jo Robinson, Rachel Pownall

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Welcome to Shazia, who has joined the group representing Brunel University. Rachel Pownall will be joining the group while Davina Omar is on maternity leave, but was unable to attend today.

ACTION

1 MINUTES
Minutes of the meeting of 27th February 2013 were agreed by email.

2 MATTERS ARISING
2.1 10/07/12 Item 6: Communication of forthcoming updates and enhancements
FH still to contact Edina regarding their site rep model and pass relevant information and contacts to KD.

3 CIS and OHSIS updates
3.1 CIS
The CIS platform is now stable following changes being made to the Advanced Search. No negative feedback has been received, so users appear to be happy with it.

Development plans include looking to increase core and supplementary content from British Standards, and also increasing historical content, such as price books and building regulations. This latter action is at early stages. Is there a need for this in the University Context? FH, ED & SA were not sure, but would talk with academics.

IHS will be asking users about it in their next survey, as there are issues about how much to include and how to package it.

Mention of a survey, which may fall before the students are back at University, raised the issue of whether there is a need to run a survey for students at a better time. It was noted that NBS have a student liaison specialist who has done some broad polling around construction information, and this could be shared.

Work to add Harvard references to content is ongoing but slow progress. It was noted this needs to come to a resolution this year. They are aware there is no standard Harvard style, so hope to come forward with something which is non-controversial and sufficiently usable.

KW
They are in discussions with EndNote to develop an export plug-in. All three Universities at the table use RefWorks, so hope that the EndNote work can easily be converted to a suitable plug in for RefWorks.

A new technical guide for BIM has been released. Our Universities are teaching this, so it will be welcomed. KW gave a presentation for the librarians at Umbrella 2013 and his slides are available online: http://www.cilip.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/4.%20Keith%20Wilson.pdf

Due to changes to the building regulations, there is a new article on the rules and regulations, plus 2 more new amendments.

To help keep up to date with new content being added, Committee members will be added to the CIS Product Information email listing.

As the RIBA plan of work has changed, there will be lots of updates to materials and supporting documentation. The Architect’s Job Book is now called the RIBA Job Book. http://www.ribaplanofwork.com contains an online tool to help architects map their design and delivery against the plan of work.

The quick link to the Metric Handbook was removed due to other changes, and was merged into one PDF, but due to customer feedback, the split between two PDFs and the quick link have been reinstated. Taylor & Francis have imposed an embargo, so CIS will always be slightly behind print publication.

IHS reinforced the message that users need to remind students and staff to respect copyright and not pass documents on to non-authorised users. A publisher has become aware of this happening. FH, ED & SA confirmed they take this very seriously and will continue to keep it high on the agenda.

Updated print CIS Help guide will be sent out ready for September, and a poster is being developed that may help students realise that CIS is relevant for them. These will be distributed to known contacts, but it was agreed that we could invite librarians to contact KD to ensure they will receive a selection of promotional materials. FH will contact the Sci-Tech JISC group, ED will contact Arclib.

Master planning is one of the areas on the poster. Is this taught? Probably as part of a module or programme. RW & KW are building their content in this area to boost the sustainability supplement included in the JISC deal.

As an aside, FH reported that planning has moved back to be with geography and housing at Sheffield Hallam, and ED reported that at UWE Bristol, planning has been moved back together with geography and environmental management. At UWE, architecture has moved to join the construction and property subjects, making a new department called Architecture and the Built Environment.

3.2 OHSIS
Not yet moved to the Standards Expert platform. Continuing to look at improved content.

4 Resource Discovery Networks & Deep Linking
FH reported that the University sector is unhappy that CIS will not be included in
RDNs. The issue is that most students will begin a search with an RDN, which searches the library catalogue, subscribed and free content, and they will often stop there if they find enough. Although librarians and academics do teach them to go further – especially to look at full text resources such as CIS - many will not, and there are also many students we do not get to teach who would benefit from this message.

There is also an issue that CIS doesn’t allow us to link to specific content by offering a unique and stable URL (“persistent”), and access through the Info4Education portal takes many steps. All of this makes it harder to draw student’s attention to the valuable content and to explain how to find it.

IHS noted that they take these views on board, but are concerned that students would miss the added value content on the CIS home page if students arrive at specific documents. In addition, as previously reported, discussions in the US with RDN providers did not come to a satisfactory agreement.

KW reported that architectural clients have given feedback about the dissatisfactory levels of information literacy of some of their new graduates, implying a concern that RDNs are contributing to this.

ED responded that recent graduates are unlikely to have encountered RDNs in their present form, and also that RDNs are the academic sector’s response to student expectations which have been set by the external search landscape. The need to know how to search is reducing, enabling information literacy teaching to re-focus on higher skills such as evaluation. The skills we teach are also not tool specific, but more generic and transferable. None of this will go away, and it is now for the information suppliers (and industry) to consider how they need to respond to new user behaviours.

FH added that many Universities are also introducing reading list software, with Talis Aspire being the most prevalent. Being unable to link to a full text document on CIS can cause confusion for students, particularly the first year undergraduates who need to get started quickly, before they have been taught basic IL skills.

IHS agreed that deep/persistent links (possibly using OpenURL or DOI protocols) to the document summary pages of CIS could be useful, and agreed that this would be something they ought to look at quickly.

They remain less comfortable with RDNs, due to preferring a solution that will outlive the current players in this market, and would prefer to work directly with JISC on behalf of University libraries.

It was noted that IHS need to consider their 530 publishers when looking at implications of deep linking.

As FH was asking on behalf of other JISC libraries, KW agreed to provide a form of words on this subject to enable her to respond to them.

KW would also find it useful to have sight of Talis Aspire and other systems to better understand how it might work. FH will arrange to invite KW to Sheffield Hallam and speak to their systems people.
ED had been asked by another librarian whether Marc records could be provided for CIS content, however, based on the conversation above, it may be something we can discuss if deep linking is deemed possible.

5 Student Rep
ED suggested that IHS consider recruiting a student rep who would be paid for and trained by IHS, at each subscribing University. They would have a remit of supporting and training other students to make best use of the suite of IHS products included in the Info4Education portal. This model could follow similar lines to the Westlaw UK student rep system (see: http://www.westlaw.co.kr/eng/westlawstudentrep.htm and http://www.buckingham.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Westlaw-student-representative.pdf), asking for around 5 hours per week in return for full training and £9 ph pay.

NBS have employed an intern for the last 3 years with a student liaison role, and have experimented with using the intern to train students at some of the technical universities. The Westlaw model could be a progression of this.

IJ and KW were interested in this idea, and requested more information (see above links).

6 Developments in e-publishing
A question had come through the JISC list for FH, asking whether IHS intend to move into e-publishing. The group were not entirely sure what was meant by this, as CIS is a full text online resource, which is e-publishing.

It may be that they wanted to know if CIS documents could be read on an eBook device such as a Kindle, or the ability for documents to be more linked up with cross references between, or the ability to make notes within the document.

It was recognised that providing the documents in PDF format makes them available on various tablet and mobile devices already, and that amongst small publishers there is an uncertainty about e-publishing. Some organisations, such as CIBSE, have moved all of their documents online and added the cost of this to the membership fees. They are less concerned about selling print copies to non-members because they have chosen a different model that maintains revenues.

IHS confirmed that they keep a close eye on e-publishing developments, but also noted that not a lot has changed in the past 2-3 years.

They also noted that the RIBA Journal re-launch investment has been significant, modernising this journal to develop a more online-centric presence – evidence of engagement in e-publishing developments.

7 Personalisation
FH also raised the question of whether a system could be evolved that would allow individuals to register for a personal account within the parameters of the subscription, giving them additional personalisation tools.

The group was not sure if this would be possible in tandem with the Athens/UK Federation log in, as IHS do not see individual user details, but they agreed to look at this to see what the technical barriers might be.
AOB
No issues were raised

Date of next meeting: February 2014