



JIBS User Group AGM

25th November 2004

JIBS User Group: review of 2003-2004 and plans for 2004-5

The last year has seen much activity at the national level, and at the JIBS UG level. This report attempts to summarise all of these.

Membership of the committee

The membership of the committee has remained stable with the exception:

- Caroline Williams has resigned from the Committee. She takes up a new post as the new Executive Director of the RDN.
- We would welcome nominations for new members to the Committee.

Infrastructure

The Committee has revised the Constitution and asks members for feedback on the amendments, an item we will discuss later. We are also working hard to tighten up on housekeeping procedures e.g. mailing list management to which I'm grateful to Sue Cumberpatch efforts.

JIBS continues to see its role as an independent body that seeks:

- * to stimulate and maintain interest in the use of JISC supported online services and the Information Environment, focusing especially on matters of content
- * to provide an effective and independent forum for discussion and information exchange between the users of such services (HE, FE and RCUK)
- * to bring matters of concern to the attention of the data suppliers and the data service providers
- * to influence collectively the development of JISC supported online products and services

We have also expanded our remit beyond just those resources contained in JISC's IE.

JIBS has made a concerted effort to attract more 'members' – the treasurer will expand on the current membership level in her report. This year we have offered reduced rates or free registration to anyone from an institution that has paid its JIBS membership, and have charged others.

JISC

The JIBS UG has ongoing relations with activities under the JISC. Members of the JIBS committee sit on many of the working groups that have been started by the JISC and report back to the community on any developments. Committee members have also attend the strategy meetings for the JISC Collections team.

As many of you are aware the JISC resource guide initiative will not be extended. We have also raised accessibility issues with the JISC and that SENDA compliance of resources should be raised whenever possible. We are also looking at the JORUM project which leads on from discussions about the establishment for a repository for learning materials for electronic resources.

EDUSERV

We have also continued to link up with EDUSERV/CHEST.

Data Centres

The Committee continues to meet regularly with the data centres. Representatives were met in the July meeting were the new WoK was discussed. JIBS welcomed the forthcoming enhancements.

Liaison and Feedback

User Group committee members have been actively involved in several other working groups, committees, and evaluations related to particular datasets and data centres. In particular we would like to draw attention to the following:

- IBSS Steering Committee meetings
- JUGL UG Committee has been would up but there have been developments in JIBS' relationship to JIBS which culminated in their funds being transferred to JIBS. The Treasurer will report in more detail on this.
- Web of Knowledge Enhancement Committee
- SunCat Project Team
- A new enhancement group with Ovid/SilverPlatter has been set up after a meeting with Ovid representatives

To note ProQuest User Group has ceased.

We have also continued to monitor progress in other areas through attending seminars and conferences. Other activities:

- The new JIBS promotional leaflet went public. These are available today for your perusal.
- Organised two workshops throughout the year:
 - Resource/Reading List Software (Oxford, 9 September)
 - Walk-in Users: Extending Access to Non Traditional Users (Manchester, 25 November)
- Our third workshop. 'JISC Discovery Tools Update' to be held in July had to be cancelled due to the low level of registrations received. It would be interesting to get a feel for topics that our members would wish us to see for future workshops..

- Responded to the JISC discovery tools gap analysis
- Provided feedback to the JISC on the Science and Technology Committee Inquiry
- Web of Knowledge: Enhancement Committee report was sent out to JIBS lists.
- Have produced a couple of columns for the UKeIG newsletter
- Provided feedback to the JISC website.

Future Activities

- Explore future workshops on portals and e-books
- Rebranding - does JIBS speak to/for you?