CrossRef Member Update
Ed Pentz, Executive Director
March 7, 2001

Members, Affiliates and Agents

Members: 69


Agents: Allen Press, BioOne, American Institute of Physics, ingenta/CatchWord and HighWire.

Annual Member Meeting 2001
The 2001 Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 20th, 2001 to be held in London, UK. Elections for the PILA Board of Directors will be held at the Annual Meeting. Procedures for the elections will be announced in June. We will be setting up a Member Meeting Planning Committee shortly – volunteers welcome.

Implementation Workshop, February 12, New York
There were 27 attendees for the CrossRef Implementation Workshop on February 12th, at McGraw Hill in New York. There was a full review of the CrossRef system and a presentation from the IEEE about how they went about implementing CrossRef. Presentations from the meeting are available from the “CrossRef Meeting Page” link in the Member Area of the website. Future workshops are being planned for April in Washington, DC and in Europe in the summer.

CrossRef Internal Matters
CrossRef has hired Punya Rawal as a Web Application Developer. She started on March 5th and joins us from PriceWaterhouseCoopers. She will be working on Java programming and technical support for Members and Affiliates.

Wolf and Co. will be performing a full audit of PILA’s finances starting on April 9th. The audit will be available to Members around June.

CrossRef System
The system has been running with no major problems. A test environment has been created for data deposit. This is a dedicated test server that will allow publishers to submit real
batches to be validated but not deposited in the CrossRef or DOI systems. The test server includes a DOI Handle server that is “disconnected”, so publishers can check batches to see if the format is correct before submitting them to the live production system. We have also made improvements to the data validation processes that are being tested on this server. After testing, the new validation processes will be moved to the production system in April. Further details will be available.

We’ve had initial discussion with ONIX about ONIX for Serials and Conference Proceedings. A preliminary report will be ready in April. Parameter Passing: a group will be convened to start to implement this by the end of March.

**Operations Meeting with IDF and CNRI**

CNRI hosted a DOI operations meeting on February 6th to review current DOI system performance and to define future requirements due to anticipated increased levels of usage. The meeting was very productive and an action list of items to streamline and improve the DOI deposit process was created. There have been a number of follow on conference calls to check on progress. Among those attending were CNRI staff, Eamonn Neylon, IDF, Mark Kosinski, CrossRef and Mark Donoghue, contractor for CrossRef. We have a very good working relationship with CNRI and the IDF and this will lead to improvements in depositing DOIs and URLs in the DOI Handle system.

**System Rewrite**

The CrossRef System Rewrite group made a recommendation to choose Parity, Inc., of San Diego, CA as the System Rewrite vendor to the Executive Committee, which approved the decision. We will be working on a schedule and contract and moving forward quickly with the project.

**System Stats (as of March 6th, 2001)**

3631 total journals in database
2,735,247 records in database
Members: 69

*Note on content:* The oldest content in the system is from 1849 from the Astronomical Journal published by the University of Chicago Press and archived in the Astrophysics Data System. UCP also has assigned DOIs to material archived in JSTOR. The DOI for these archived articles resolve to a page at UCP and the user is then given a link to either JSTOR or ADS. The bulk of the content in CrossRef is from 1996 onwards.

**Depositor Reports** (sorted by depositor)

1. AIP 101,109 records
2. ALPSP (Association of Learned and Professional Soc) 43 records
3. ASME International 1,631 records
4. Academic Press 171,890 records
5. Acoustical Society of America 12,022 records
6. American Association of Physicists in Medicine 761 records
7. American Association of Physics Teachers 636 records
8. American Chemical Society 96 records
9. American College of Medical Physics 27 records
10. American Geophysical Union 108 records
11. American Mathematical Society 4,876 records
12. American Physical Society 174,225 records
13. American Psychological Association 30,206 records
15. American Society of Civil Engineers 1,814 records
16. American Society of Plant Physiologists 4,127 records
17. American Vacuum Society 7,713 records
18. Biomedical Engineering Society 367 records
20. Churchill Livingstone 4,482 records
21. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press 172 records
22. Elsevier Science 1,038,906 records
23. Geological Society of America 2,565 records
24. IEEE 149,024 records
25. Institute of Physics 109,881 records
26. Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) 2 records
27. International Union of Crystallography 40,649 records
28. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 301,023 records
29. MAIK 10,613 records
30. Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. 3,423 records
31. Mosby, Inc. 8,120 records
32. Munksgaard 4,104 records
33. NRC Research Press 32 records
34. Nature Publishing Group 17,681 records
35. OUP 29,530 records
36. PNAS 14,276 records
37. Pion Ltd. 208 records
38. Portland Press Ltd. 1,866 records
39. SCIENCE 17,889 records
40. SOR 2,365 records
41. SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engin 1,675 records
42. Springer-Verlag 107,757 records
43. Taylor & Francis Ltd 40,867 records
44. The Royal Society 2,692 records
45. The Royal Society of Chemistry 21,134 records
46. The University of Chicago Press 153,611 records
47. Turpion Ltd. 3,157 records
48. W.B. Saunders 6,370 records
49. World Scientific 1,168 records

Reference Linking
Most publishers begin by depositing their article metadata and DOIs and start retrieving DOIs and creating reference links at a later date. It is very important that publishers both deposit content and start creating reference links. For scientists and researchers, CrossRef won’t be real until they start finding lots of reference links.

Those publishers creating reference links (if you aren’t on the list but are creating links, let me know):

ALPSP
Blackwell Science
Elsevier Science
E. Schweitzerbart Science
Harcourt (Academic Press, Mosby, Saunders)
Institute of Physics Publishing
Mary Ann Liebert
Nature
The Royal Society
Springer Verlag
Taylor and Francis
Turpion
John Wiley and Sons

Some good examples of CrossRef links can be found in Nature’s issue on the Human Genome. Go to http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/35057062 and click on “Full Text” and then go to the references. References 80-120 have some interesting links to other publishers (wherever it says “Article” there is a DOI link). http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/35057149 is another good article - note that the last reference has a CrossRef link but no PubMed link.

**DOI Resolutions**

DOI resolution requests (all prefixes beginning '10.') through the proxy server (minus 10.1000, the DOI web site):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Requests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2000</td>
<td>87,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2000</td>
<td>128,984 (+47%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2000</td>
<td>187,738 (+45%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2000</td>
<td>209,684 (+12%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2000</td>
<td>226,060 (+8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2000</td>
<td>294,316 (+30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2000</td>
<td>304,071 (+3.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2000</td>
<td>250,666 (-18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2001</td>
<td>336,290 (+34%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2001</td>
<td>356,772 (+6%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

February's total is a 6% increase over January, and a 407% increase over May.

**International DOI Foundation (IDF) Update**

The next IDF Board meeting is March 15th. Please contact Ed Pentz with any issues. The IDF has started DOI-EB (http://www.doi.org/ebooks.html). A meeting was held February 26th at CNRI and the result is that some practical prototypes of DOIs being used for e-books will be developed.

**Appropriate Copy/Localized Linking Prototype**

There have been a couple of follow on conference calls to discuss issues for the Localized Linking Prototype. A number of libraries are now doing reverse metadata lookup (i.e. send a DOI to CrossRef and retrieve metadata) on a test version of the CrossRef Reference Resolver. The libraries are working on implementing SFX or their own systems to handle localized linking for their users. Cookies are set on the users’ machines and, based on the cookies, the DOI proxy (dx.doi.org) redirects users to their local servers where a list of options is presented to the user based on the metadata that is pulled from CrossRef.

A presentation on the above prototype will be made at the April CNI meeting (http://www.cni.org) in Washington, DC. The next CrossRef Member Update report will have details on the presentation.

**Open Archives/OpCit**

Open Archives initiative (OAI - http://www.openarchives.org) has released version 1.0 of their “Protocol for Metadata Harvesting”. Originally, this project was focused on e-print
archives but its remit has now expanded to deal with “interoperability standards that aim to facilitate the efficient dissemination of content.” The current specifications allows data repositories to make metadata available in a standard format so that other organizations can harvest the data and build services based on that data. For instance, there could be a service that creates a searchable index of multiple distributed e-print services. However, there is little formal structure beyond the technical specifications.

OpCit (http://opcit.eprints.org/) is collaboration between Southampton University, Cornell University and the Los Alamos National Laboratory. They are investigating interoperability between linking services, developing software for linking in Open Archives systems and looking at improving linking in documents. Norman Paskin and I were asked to be on the Steering Committee for this group but nothing developed. OpCit suggested sponsoring a meeting on OAi and asked if IDF and CrossRef were interested. Further discussions with OpCit and OAi would be useful.

I think it is useful to track OAi and OpCit and consider where there is overlap with CrossRef and DOIs; however, OAi and OpCit are focusing on e-print archives and author self-archiving initiatives.

**OpenURL**

The NISO OpenURL Standards Committee is being formed. CrossRef will not have direct representation but a number of CrossRef member publishers, the IDF and CNRI will be represented.

**Global Handle System Advisory Council**

The first meeting is on March 16th and a report will be sent to CrossRef Members. A main issue CrossRef will raise is the long-term scalability of the Global Handle System. Another key concern is the relationship of the Handle System with Metaplex, the new commercial venture being started by CNRI.

**ISTC (International Standard Text Code)**

The ISTC is under development as an international standard for assigning identifiers to textual works. The work is being down by an ISO Committee (ISO/TC 46/SC 9 Working Group 3 Project 21047). Information on it is available from NISO (http://www.niso.org/istc.html) and the project homepage (http://www.nlcbnc.ca/iso/tc46sc9/istc.htm). The group released a Request for Information (RFI) to identify companies and organizations that may have an interest in being an international Registration Agency for the ISTC. Responses are due by April 2, 2001 and a formal RFP will be issued in July 2001.

The ISTC is working in much the same way that CrossRef Members assign DOIs to journal articles. The description of the ISTC Registration Agency process sounds very similar to what CrossRef is doing. It would be possible for CrossRef to respond to the RFI and the RFP and basically say we would do what we are already doing. However, the ISTC is very prescriptive about the number assigned to the text work and this would not fit how we work
with publishers choosing their own DOI suffix strings. At this point, there is not any benefit in CrossRef being involved with the ISTC, but we will continue to monitor it.