

ORI-OAI (Referencing and Indexing Tool for a network of OAI portals)

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The huge increase of institutional digital contents creation in French higher education institutions let us ask ourselves about the coordinated and global management of digital contents production. One of our goals is to guarantee digital contents long-term access.

Several actors in higher education institutions are involved in the digital contents production (teachers, researchers, students, librarians ...). Some others are involved in the digital contents promotion and long-term management (library, information systems department ...).

Higher education's thematic portals (UNT - Universités Numériques Thématiques) are under development in France. They come within the scope of global open access movement. The French Ministry of Education and Research (MENESR) supports the content production and best practices development. UNTs are higher education virtual gatherings around the same fields of knowledge. The underlying requirements for such thematic oriented portals leads us to consider resource sharing by means of interoperable systems, and resource access through institutional Digital Workspaces (ENT – Environnement Numérique de Travail).

The ORI-OAI project is meant to be a tool for indexing and for referencing, based on OAI/PMH protocol. This project has been built upon former works from French ESUP-Portail Consortium, which produces Open Source solutions for higher education under GPL License. All others built-in API and frameworks used in ORI-OAI, such as Lucene, Spring, Hibernate, are either under GPL or Apache Software License; thus the ORI-OAI tool itself is open source software under the GPL license.

Its main functionalities are:

- Digital resource **management** in higher education institutions, including learning resources, student's papers, research papers, using an advanced publishing workflow that can be configured to respond to each institution needs. The ORI/OAI software offers a unique repository for all digital resources in universities. Digital documents updates and storage are centralized and their management is made easier.
- Digital resource **promotion** with good quality descriptions. The ORI-OAI software proposes describing digital resources with different metadata schemas (LOM, Dublin Core ...) and linking these descriptions with other information systems to ensure, for example, authorities sharing.
- Digital resource **sharing** with other institutions. The system shares metadata following the OAI/PMH protocol.
- Digital resource **access** with different rights using ergonomic interfaces. Users discover resources through an advanced search interface or by browsing a thematic tree. The publishing and management advanced system enable administrators to manage the access for university students and staff; external users can use the system by a federated Single Sign-On system (Shibboleth).

In this paper we propose to detail the main features ORI/OAI software could offer to higher education institutional information systems. We also describe our motivation in the choice of technical components.