

Questions from the Scholaris Information Session - September 11, 2024

Q: What is planned for managing the transition for organizations that may have already been minting DOIs in their own repositories?

A: As we work with institutions that are looking to set up and or migrate DOIs we will be able to provide more guidance about this process. We have had some initial meetings with DataCite to talk about what's involved but this is an evolving discussion/process. We know this is an important topic for institutions and we are looking forward to providing best practices and further details as we work through it together with participating schools.

Q: For those who are currently using CrossRef, should we plan on switching our DOI service provider to DataCite Canada ahead of migration? Do we need to do anything to our existing DOIs with this migration?

A: We are in the early stages of integrating DOIs into Scholaris DSpace instances. We will have further updates regarding recommendations for DOIs at a later date. As we work through use cases and with participating schools that are migrating/integrating instances with DOIs we will have more to share. Please feel free to drop us a note if you have any specific questions about the DOI integration process.

Q: Passing on this suggestion / question for a colleague: I realize this is unlikely, but it would be great if folks could get into the dev environment and poke around before committing.

A: For participating institutions in our Early Adopters Program, we provide a dev instance by default which accompanies a testing checklist that we provide during onboarding. We also provide support during the testing as well as suggestions and guidance for implementation. At the moment we do not have a public Scholaris-hosted instance, but the DSpace community does have a public demo site if you would like to play around with DSpace <https://demo.dspace.org/home>

If you have the resources and capacity, there is also documentation to support set-up for DSpace locally: <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/Try+out+DSpace+7>

Q: Follow up to the above question - thanks for the responses. We do have several years of experience with DSpace here — I think my colleague's interest may be more in understanding the extent to which existing workflows may need to be reconsidered in this new environment versus the ones in which we have worked throughout all that time.

A: During onboarding, we do an intake process with institutions about the types of customizations they have implemented. Each institution's workflows are unique but some common reconsiderations we have seen so far with the institutions we are working with include configurable workflows, embargo workflows, and harvesting configuration for DSpace.

Q: Does Scholaris support Azure SSO as an external authentication option?

A: We have yet to work with an institution that has Azure SSO enabled, although some of our Early Adopter institutions require other authentication methods such as Shibboleth or openID, and these are use cases we are working through. Regardless of authentication options, this is something our team can work on with you to figure out in terms of integration/migration.

More about DSpace-supported authentication plugins:

<https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSDOC7x/Authentication+Plugins>

Q: Which level of support model can schools expect from the Scholaris Team? Will it be like a 100% Software as a Service (SaaS) model?

A: That's right, we are using the service model of SaaS, or DSpace-as-a-Service, in this case. More information about the service is detailed in [our Service FAQs](#).

Q: Why was the decision made to host the front and back end on a single VM? Will this affect performance and storage capacity?

A: Great question. This decision was made in consideration for performance and ease of implementing customizations with our current infrastructure set-up. This could change in the future as we work with more institutions and as our infrastructure model matures.

Q: During his presentation, Mike Nason mentioned "open air" (?). What is that?

A: More information about openAIRE and openAIRE integration in DSpace is available at <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSDOC8x/OpenAIRE+Integration> & <https://www.openaire.eu/>.

Note: Mike also provides some further background about openAIRE later in the info session - beginning at the 48:00 min mark. Transcript below.

Mike: So OpenAIRE - we're all familiar with the problem where people say that you can't find anything and search across all repositories other than maybe Google Scholar or Google, OpenAIRE is this major initiative that's happening in the EU to sort of index open scholarship. So in the case of repositories, if something is indexed by openAIRE, you're pushing all of your repository content to openAIRE. You can go search openAIRE for all stuff that is pulled in from all of these repositories.

Zenodo, for example, the very common sort of disciplinary or data repository - everything you create in Zenodo is automatically added to openAIRE as part of the deposit. So the idea is that we're creating this huge search interface for all of this open content and making it more discoverable in general, which is really big and really, really important. And because OpenAIRE

has such clear tie ins with other pieces of open scholarly infrastructure, like ROR and ORCID and Crossref and DataCite, you can see things like a single record having 4 or 5 different versions, and where you can find the versions of those records, or you can push to your existing publications and claim them from openAIRE and add them to your ORCID record. And there's all kinds of really wonderful stuff.

I'd just like to maybe empower people to think about instead of panicking about a world without Google Scholar, maybe celebrating a world without Google Scholar and just using openAIRE. I think it would be a better way to go. That code is open, their governance is open, and I think ultimately it's a better way to go. So the hope is we can push stuff there. You know, not just a federated search for repositories in Canada, but a way to include our scholarship on a global platform.

Q: In the Scholaris business model, is there a tiered fee relating to data size (i.e less than 1 terabyte = tier 1 (\$) ; More than 1 terabyte = tier 2 (\$\$) etc.)?

A: The Scholaris business model is based on various factors which we use to assess the complexity of the migration. This can include factors such as institution size, customizations, IR origin (DSpace vs non Dspace). For more information regarding the business model please drop us a note at info@scholaris.ca.

Q: How long do you estimate a complete migration to take, from first contact to production launch? Considering that we're currently using Eprints 3.3.16, do you think this could have an impact on this timeframe?

A: Each institution is unique and various factors can affect the migration timelines. Factors to consider are size of IR, whether we are migrating from non-DSpace vs DSpace to DSpace, number of customizations etc. We are working with a variety of use cases as we are supporting institutions coming from both DSpace and non-DSpace instances to Scholaris.

Q: Is a redirection service (from the old URLs to the new ones) a part of the migration infrastructure? If yes, then the Ontario Tech repository one isn't working.
<https://ir.library.dc-uoit.ca/>

A: Redirection of old URLs is the responsibility of the institution (or vendor) as they are managing that part. When getting ready for production, a discussion needs to happen with the institution's Central IT or Library IT to point the old URL to the Scholaris URL. Thanks for pointing that out, and we'll get in touch with Ontario Tech!

Q: A future feature will be providing institutional access to the Git repository for specific configuration files with the ability to make Git Pull Requests. Is this to offer participants a way to suggest new features or report bugs? Or will it only be a way to ask for new configurations to be set?

A: The reasoning for this future feature is to provide schools with the flexibility to update configurations for their instances on-demand. In regards to customizations and new features, feature development would have to be discussed/considered among all participating institutions. We have heard from current institutions about certain features that they would like to have and that's something we are considering for future development. For reporting bugs, we continue to participate in the DSpace community and report issues/contribute fixes in the public DSpace GitHub repository.