

SAA Publishing Options

Overview and Description of Technologies and Services

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Executive Summary

This document provides background information regarding technology options that the SAA Publications Board may wish to consider as part of a new publishing strategy for SAA's book publications. It groups the reports into four broad categories by primary purpose. That said, certain tools can be classified in more than one area:

- Ebooks and Print on Demand Services
- Licenced content publishing platforms
- OA Tending Platforms
- Commenting/annotating engines

At this time, not every system has been fully assessed; we concentrated on those systems most likely to be of potential use in either the “Research Series” proposed by Clemens, Hagenmaier, Appel, and Myerson, or in the Envisioning the Future document prepared by Prom. This document should undergo additional development if shared externally.

As additional background, the Dean of the University of Illinois Library, John Wilkin, has orally offered to partner with the Society, as a member/collaborator in the “Publishing without Walls” project.¹ This four-year, Mellon-funded initiative seeks to provide new publishing outlets for humanities scholars, and Wilkin noted that Illinois can host technology options for SAA while we explore sustainability planning and/or pursue additional grants/partnership ideas.

I would like to thank Publications Board Intern Krista Gray for the extensive research, analysis, and writing that make up the remainder of this document.

CHRIS PROM
January 21, 2016

Digital Publishing Platforms

Digital Culture Books

Overview/Description

From MPublishing, this is an imprint that hosts eBooks online for free and charges for print copies. Books can be read online as web pages, but also purchased as print or ePub (via Adobe Digital Editions).

For more information, see:
<http://www.digitalculture.org/>

Example:

- <http://dx.doi.org/10.3998/etlc.13455322.0001.001> or <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?cc=etlc;c=etlc;idno=13455322.0001.001;rgn=full%20text;view=toc;xc=1;g=dculture> (first link will resolve to the second)

¹ See <https://illinois.edu/blog/view/6367/256174>. The four year project is just getting organized, and while the article notes some initial partners, the grant documents allow and encourage the identification of additional partners/collaborators.

- <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?cc=dh;c=dh;idno=13396229.0001.001;rgn=full%20text;view=toc;xc=1;g=dculture>

Detailed Description

Formats

- Web only; other formats are sold but probably created through separate systems?

Distribution

- Link/button to buy at the top right of the “home page” for the book that goes to the MPublishing store
- Within the store itself there is no indication that I saw saying it was available for free online (they charge for eBooks)

Navigation (user interface)

- Linked table of contents at “front” of the book (cannot access this except by clicking back to this page -- there is information at the top of the web page about the book, and the table of contents is linked there)
- There are “next section” and “previous section” buttons are only available at the top and bottom of each “page” (chapter) of text
- Clicking a endnote number brings up a separate page with only that note; there is also a “notes” section of the table of contents where you can see them all at once
- Links at the bottom of the page to jump back to the top
- Search box at top right to search within the book currently being viewed or in all books

Access

- Designed for open access

Platform/development

- Unknown; hosted on quod.lib.umich.edu, which is also where the DLXS EAD finding aids are -- not sure if there is a connection

Other features/notes

- Header with book information persists at the top of the page as you are reading
- Responsive design

Comments

- Appearance is more like a web page (whereas PressBooks looks more like a very long page of a book due to the styling)
- Navigation is more limited due to the basic webpage-like structure

Pressbooks Wordpress Plugin

Overview

A platform built on WordPress Multisite for publishing books. The system can create print-ready PDF files as well as a web-based version and several eBook formats including ePub and Mobi.

For more information:

<http://pressbooks.com/>
<https://wordpress.org/plugins/pressbooks/>
<https://github.com/pressbooks/pressbooks>
<http://www.slideshare.net/mackinaw/pressbooks-2015>

Examples:

- <http://epress.trincoll.edu/ontheline2015/> (this book also integrates hypothesis commenting)
- <http://opentextbc.ca/introtourism/> (book home page with download and web based options)
- <http://open.bccampus.ca/find-open-textbooks/?uuid=fdb68dba-0709-4778-a2f7-af8bafd84fa9&contributor=&keyword=&subject=Hospitality%2FTourism+-+General> (catalog record with buy option)

Description/Features:

Formats

- Exports in multiple formats: web, pdf, mobi, epub (though if DRM features are desired, they'd have to be added separately or as part of a separate commerce site)
- Multiple templates to choose for formatting for the book's text (includes footnote support)
- Chapters/pages of the book have many formatting options available (headings, pull quotes, sidebar-type text, images & other media embedding, etc.)

Distribution

- Options to set a "buy" button on the book "home page" to link out to an external site (<http://pressbooks.com/blog/new-feature-pressbooks-book-home-page/>)
- Examples (e.g. BC Open Campus) show also download options on the book home page as well, but this was not a feature of the PressBooks hosted version
- From the examples given, it looks like either all formats are completely open for reading or download (OpenTextBC), or distribution for e-books is handled through external sites such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, etc. (Fortress Press; Minnesota), or perhaps the digital copy is free but it will later be available for purchase in print (above, *On the Line*)

Navigation (user interface)

- Table of contents with two levels (parts and chapters; each "chapter" will appear as a single page online; there may be a way to break up a chapter without it appearing twice in the table of contents, as well)
- Access to the table of contents from the top right
- Ease of navigation between pages (chapters) with forward/back arrows that follow you as you scroll down the page
- No search options within the book, or across the catalog, only browse options (however, texts in BC Open Textbooks do have a search option when you are reading them, so maybe I haven't found the setting, or it is something they added themselves)

Access (administrative settings)

- Can set privacy setting for the book as a whole and on a chapter basis (<http://guide.pressbooks.com/chapter/privacy-settings-making-some-of-my-book-invisible>)

[-to-the-world/](#) ;

<http://pressbooks.com/blog/new-feature-privacy-management-for-books-and-chapters/>)

- Types of users: admin, editor, author, contributor, subscriber
(<http://guide.pressbooks.com/chapter/users/>)
- Privacy settings can be adjusted so that subscribers have access to content marked as private (when testing on the pressbooks hosted version, though, this also resulted in each chapter being preceded by the word “private”)
- Each book is actually a separate site, which means that as it is a subscriber has to be added manually to each book (though there are plugins that could maybe help with this: <https://wordpress.org/plugins/join-my-multisite/> or <https://wordpress.org/plugins/multisite-user-management/>)

Platform/development

- Wordpress multisite, heavily modified for book production
- Open source code on github

Other features/notes

- Option to create a catalog page with links to the book home pages.
(<http://pressbooks.com/blog/new-feature-catalogs/>)
- Responsive design

Comments

- It is not clear how well the PressBooks code will work with additional plugins -- i.e. whether regular wordpress plugins would work with minimal modifications or not
- Having only two levels in the table of contents might make the TAP series harder to format as desired

Scalar

Overview/Description

A scholarly publishing platform for digital works, especially those that incorporate multimedia elements and might possibly allow for multiple “reading paths,” that is being developed by AVAC (Alliance for Networking Visual Culture) out of USC.

For more information, see:

<http://scalar.usc.edu/>

<https://github.com/anvc/scalar>

<http://scalar.usc.edu/works/guide2/index>

PC Magazine review from 2013: <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2419697,00.asp>

Examples

- <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/pathfinders/index>
- <http://whybusingfailed.com/anvc/why-busing-failed/index> (companion site to *Why Busing Failed*, to be published in April 2016:
<http://www.ucpress.edu/book.php?isbn=9780520284258> ; consists of prose with

numerous images and video clips; not sure at this point how this text relates to what is published, but according to his reply to a question on Twitter: “For @anvcscalar site I broke the book down into more bite sized pieces focused on seeing "busing" differently ”)

- <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/complex-television/index> (companion site to *Complex TV*, published in April 2015: <http://nyupress.org/books/9780814769607/> ; designed to host the video clips from the print book with a brief one-paragraph introduction to each chapter’s clips)
- <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/jwr/index> (Scalar 1; Prof. John Randolph using scalar as his professional website)
- <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/scalar-for-historians/index> (Scalar 1; a work authored by Prof. Randolph about the using scalar as an historian, or in teaching history)

Detailed Description

Formats

- Web-based only (“designed to make it easy for authors to write long-form, born-digital scholarship online”)

Navigation (user interface)

- Allows for defining multiple paths through the content, but also provides a more straightforward table of contents (accessed at the top left with a 3-bullet point menu icon)
- Table of Contents appears as a single level, but (if the author has created paths of paths) you can view subsections by clicking an arrow at the right of the menu entry
- Search box at top right, results display in a modal overlay window
- Facilitates various visualizations of the content (but I am not quite clear on the value of this/what types of works these would be most valuable for)
- As you read each section, at the bottom of the page it gives you the option to “continue to [name of next section]” or to go back, or to the introduction
- Usability issue: the way the next and back buttons are laid out, it aims to de-emphasize going backward (the back button is smaller and only includes arrows, whereas the forward button is longer and includes text “continue to [name of next stop on the path]”), but the use of text only on the next/continue button makes it look like the back arrows are associated with the “continue” button, which is confusing (for example, see <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/complex-television/comprehension>)
- References to embedded media are kind of anchored links in the text; clicking them scrolls down to the figure referenced and/or with a label appearing on top of the image briefly
- Running titles at the top of each page display progress in reading/navigating the work in order (e.g. 5/13)

Access

- Can set “availability” of the URL to public or private
- Can set pages to “live” (available to the public without a login) or not
- Possible permissions levels for users (per book) : Author (“Full editing privileges”), Editor (“Can edit existing pages, and create pages which will be flagged as commentaries to end users; no other editing privileges.”), Reviewer (“Can edit existing pages; no other

editing privileges”), and Reader (“Can add signed comments to public pages; no other special privileges”) (see <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/guide/book-users?path=dashboard>)

Platform/development

- Open source on github, written in PHP: <https://github.com/anvc/scalar>
- Recently received an NEH grant for further development (see <http://scalar.usc.edu/anvc-receives-neh-digital-humanities-implementation-grant/>); 2 year project to integrate publication workflows into the system
- Appears to be standalone software, would need funding to implement [or run off of their servers]
- They recommend using the version hosted on their own site; they do not appear to have a clear way for updating installs on external servers (so, it looks like it is aiming to be a kind of CMS but it doesn’t look like they have the administrative functionality to fully support that yet?)

Other features/notes

- Plugin integration with Hypothesis for commenting (see <http://scalar.usc.edu/scalar-feature-update-hypothes-is-annotation-sidebar/>)
- Some elements may run on flash (on Firefox I got a warning about this being outdated)
- Option to add comments at the bottom of the page (like a blog post); these are moderated (or can be?)
- Embedded media has its own metadata that you can toggle open (e.g. see <http://whybusingfailed.com/anvc/why-busing-failed/the-origins-of-antibusing-politics-in-1950s-new-york?path=index>)
- Can load/view citations by clicking on the icon and it appears via javascript as a kind of tool-tip
- Catalog page called an “index” for each installation of Scalar (“Every installation of Scalar has an Index Page which lists all books which have been made public by their authors..”)
- Responsive design

Comments

- Not sure how to integrate with licensing model
- Use of “paths” and “tags” for navigation seems to require a learning curve both for the user and creator (I found the examples confusing to navigate)
- Terminology and concepts (“index” = catalog list, “path” = table of contents, sort of) may make things more challenging for users
- The concept of “path” seems very tied to forward movement (back button is de-emphasized, etc.) and may not be best for books that are good for skipping between chapters based on interest/what you need to learn
- Not sure how well this would work for books with subsections within chapters that you want to appear in a table of contents (you could have a path element containing another path to hold its subsections, but I don’t know how easy this would be for a general user to understand)

Commenting/Annotation Engines

CommentPress

Overview

CommentPress is a WordPress plugin that facilitates paragraph-by-paragraph commenting on texts. It is a project of the Institute for the Future of the Book.

For more detail, see:

<http://futureofthebook.org/commentpress/>

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/commentpress-core/>

Examples

- Public Philosophy Journal: <http://ppj.matrix.msu.edu/a-tale-of-two-nations/>
- MLA Commons: <https://dlsanthology.commons.mla.org/>
- Media Commons:
http://mcpress.media-commons.org/postmedieval_comicmedievalisms/
- The Readers' Thoreau (SUNY Geneseo): <http://commons.digitalthoreau.org/>

Detailed Description

Commenting functions and display (user interface)

- Comments display to the right and can be read alongside the text.
- When viewing the comments for a particular paragraph, the text color changes in the center pane; if the comment was made on a particular phrase, it is highlighted in yellow in the text
- Users have the option to comment on the paragraph, the whole page, or a particular selection. When selecting they are able to choose “comment or quote & comment”
- Can also have an image or embedded media as a commentable “paragraph”
- Small speech bubble icons to the side of each paragraph provide indications of the number of comments made.
- Not able to hide the comments to read without that as a distraction (unless you narrow your browser window)
- Comments take up a lot of space and require a lot of scrolling to read through
- If you click a paragraph, the text turns red and I can't figure out how to change it back to black without simply clicking another paragraph

Navigation (user interface)

- Current interface provides for a navigation pane on the left (with the ability to create levels of child pages/sections) as well as arrows at the top and bottom of the page to move to the next page/section of the work.
- Permalinks to paragraphs

Formats

- Options seem limited for structuring the text (probably couldn't be used to annotate some of the complex document types proposed for the "toolkit")

Access

- In more advanced installations (combined with "Commons in a Box"), commenting groups can be set up (registration of users would be required) and then the comments can be filtered by group (and groups can be public or private)
- Unclear whether it would require manual moderation or whether it could integrate with Mollum (<https://www.mollom.com/>) or a similar spam-prevention system; any additions of this type would take up even more space as well

Platform/Development

- Actively developed Wordpress plugin (code last updated a month ago)
- Has been developing since around 2007 or earlier

Other features/notes

- Is said to meet web accessibility guidelines
- Sort of has a responsive design, but doesn't scale down well if you want to read/leave comments (the comment sidebar takes up a lot of space)
- Footnotes display with a light red bubble/highlighting and give you a short citation if you hover over it with your mouse, or the full citation with a clickable link (if applicable) if you click to jump to the bottom of the pages

Comments

- Should be relatively simple to implement (wordpress plugin),
- Inexpensive to implement (open source), at least at the basic level, but we should analyze sustainability demands
- Works best for static, completed texts -- version control may be in the works, but not part of the current feature set
- Not sure how well it is set up to be part of a site where some material will be published with commenting features and others will be behind a subscription or purchase requirement
- Not sure how well it would scale up in hosting multiple documents (appears to require separate sites for each book)

Hypothes.is

Overview/Description

This is a javascript-based tool that can be used to annotate any text online in a browser. Originally it was developed with the use of a bookmarklet or chrome extension, but now it

appears to be moving toward direct integration in websites when used for specific projects (such as annotating texts for an English class) and texts (such as the new initiative to involve 40+ scholarly publishers). Annotations are stored by hypothesis itself.

For more information, see:

<https://hypothes.is/>

<https://hypothes.is/for-publishers/>

<https://github.com/hypothesis>

Toolbox Article in Nature: <http://www.nature.com/news/annotating-the-scholarly-web-1.18900>

Examples

- <http://teaching.lfhanley.net/eng528f15/texts/edgar-lee-masters/>
- <http://epress.trincoll.edu/ontheline2015/>. Integrated with PressBooks; for a page with comments, see <http://epress.trincoll.edu/ontheline2015/chapter/learning-about-the-lines/>
- Brief screencasts/tutorial:
<https://hypothes.is/blog/varieties-of-hypothesis-annotations-and-their-uses/>

Detailed description

Commenting functions and display

- To annotate, highlight part of the text and choose “annotate” from the contextual option (assuming you have a hypothesis account); can also choose to only highlight
- Can add tags to comments
- Can turn off the highlighting, and minimize the comment pane/drawer when reading the page
- Annotations are linked to passages in the text (not paragraphs or sentences specifically), quoted above in the annotation
- Annotations can be text, images, gifs, etc.
- Small pointer markers along the right side of the screen show the number of comments on different areas of the text as you scroll down; click this to open the comment drawer (or open the comments for that section if the drawer is already open)
- The density of comments is somewhat conveyed through different yellow highlighting colors
- On the PressBooks example, opening the comment pane blocks the main text (like the debates in the digital humanities)

Access

- Users have to register with hypothesis to create annotations
- Allows the creation of private groups (and private annotations)
- Annotations can be public (visible to anyone viewing the page) or private (only visible to you) or visible only to a group of people
- Public comments must be released to the public domain and can be reused for any purposes (including commercial ones); comments made within groups do not have to be released to the public domain

Platform/development

- Integration with Scalar, wordpress, and drupal.
- Website creators can also add it as javascript to any (?) page
- Annotations are stored by hypothesis itself (what happens if the webpage is deleted or migrated to a new system? -- they are working on a project to archive the pages with comments but I'm not sure how that would work if the content was behind a paywall)
- Javascript can be a bit slow to load, especially with a lot of comments

Other features/notes

- Highlighting is also supported and is always private (and you can highlight without an account, though in that case the highlights will disappear when you refresh the page)
- Working on making this feature available in ePub books as well (<https://hypothes.is/blog/fund-annotations-in-ebooks/>)
- No moderation (I think) -- one of their core principles (<https://hypothes.is/principles/>) is "100% community moderated: Bottom-up not top down."

Comments

- Looks simple to implement at a basic level
- Not sure the extent to you are able to save personal user settings (e.g. make my comments all private by default)
- Development and integration support from many academic publishers, libraries, etc. (<https://hypothes.is/blog/a-coalition-of-over-40-scholarly-publishers/>)
- Appears simple to add to a webpage source code (or template)
- Has a small grant fund they administer for partnerships w/ individuals or small organizations: <http://anno.fund/>
- Open source with code (in python) on github: <https://github.com/hypothesis/h>
- May be more complicated to implement in conjunction with a licensing system
- Users may not want to create hypothesis accounts apart from SAA to be able to comment (or take notes, in the case of private notes and highlights)
 - This may be something they are working on? From their roadmap page (<https://hypothes.is/roadmap/>): "Allow partners' logged-in users to use Hypothesis without creating separate accounts."
- If comments are integral to a piece (such as the research series proposal), is it an issue that they are stored apart from the text itself in hypothesis (rather than in the same wordpress database, for instance, as the text)?

Debates in Digital Humanities

Overview/Description

Another platform for responding to portions of a text, albeit by sentence. In addition to commenting, users can also mark sentences as important and add them to the index. This appears to be a stand-alone platform built on Ruby by the Graduate Center of CUNY Digital Scholarship Lab.

For more information, see:

<https://github.com/castiron/didh>

<http://dhdebates.gc.cuny.edu/news>

Implementation

- <http://dhdebates.gc.cuny.edu/debates>

Detailed description

Commenting features and display

- Clicking a sentence highlights it and provides options to mark as interesting, open or add comments, or add to index
- Cannot comment on the footnotes
- Clicking the sentence also provides stats on the number of times it was marked as interesting
- Comments are not visible until you open them, and the interesting indicators can be turned off -- easier to read the text without as much distraction
- Speech bubble icons alongside the text to the right display when there are comments on a particular paragraph
- Sentences have a dashed blue underline when they have comments attached (so to view the comments associated with a particular paragraph, you first have to find the blue-underlined sentence)
- Usability issue: clicking the comment bubble with the count does not open the comment pane (have to click on the appropriate sentence and choose the “view or add comments” option)
- Cannot view comments and the text at the same time; opening the comments blocks part of the text.
- Not clear what “add to index” does -- I cannot find the index

Navigation (user interface)

- Current interface provides for access to the table of contents at the lower right side of the screen in a sort of drawer that can be minimized
- Drawer only displays the first level of the table of contents but then clicking on an entry opens the drawer farther to reveal a second level (this second level extends the drawer out far enough to the left to block the lower half of the main text)
- No “next” buttons for advancing to the next chapter or article

Access

- Do not need to log in to create comments or mark as interesting; but also provides a login option (or at least this was discussed in the introduction for use with peer review)
- Creating a comment requires a name and email address

Platform/Development

- Ongoing development on github (last commit was less than a month ago)

- Source code does not appear to be well-documented; README (with a note about a better one being in the works) was last changed in 2013

Other features/notes

- Sentences are highlighted as you mouse over them
- Displays bars at the left to show many times particular sentences have been marked as “interesting” (this can be optionally hidden by the user as they are reading)
- The “interesting” level bars at the left will sometimes block the text if it was marked as interesting too many times

Comments

- Open source on github
- May be challenging to implement due to a lack of documentation
- Would have to modify code to deal with some usability issues
- Would require tech investment to implement due to the lack of documentation

Digress.it

Overview/Description

Digress.it is a WordPress plugin that appears to be a now-abandoned fork of CommentPress. It is a similar system for facilitating paragraph-by-paragraph commenting on a text but development appears to have stalled in 2011.

For more information, see:

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/digressit/>

<http://mcpress.media-commons.org/open-review/appendix-1-open-review-software/#psCiaWpdbtlfFoBDifvpodETwsBaplcotiaohpspudntoipumihbuoeCsRRpmsdbtpsae> (brief review of Digress.it and CommentPress)

Example

ACRL/RBMS Core competencies: <http://rbms.info/digress/competencies/guidelines/>

Detailed Description

- Similar to CommentPress, but not as advanced -- only the ability to comment on whole paragraphs, for instance
- No ongoing development - last updated 4 years ago
- May have compatibility issues with current versions of Wordpress

Comments

- No apparant advantages to using digress.it rather than commentpress if we decide to go this route in terms of implementing a commenting system

Publishing Workflow Management

Open Monograph Press

Overview

A content management system for managing publishing workflows. Does not produce eBooks or web-hosted books, but focuses on the workflow prior to publication. Also provides a catalog interface, which can be integrated with eCommerce functions.

<https://pkp.sfu.ca/omp/>

Examples

Detailed Description

Comments

Ebook production and Print on Demand Services

PressBooks Service

Overview

Hosted version of the PressBooks wordpress plugin described above. They charge a set amount per book (or make it free with their advertising or watermark inserted) and also offer publisher packages (see PressBooksEDU slides). Does not provide direct integration with a printer, but recommends using IngramSpark (from Lightingsource).

<http://pressbooks.com/>

Examples

- BCcampus (to produce open textbooks) <http://open.bccampus.ca/find-open-textbooks/>
- Fortress Press (“produces more than 100 scholarly monographs every year on Pressbooks, producing print and ebooks”) <http://fortresspress.com/>

- Michigan Publishing (“uses Pressbooks for a number of applications, including scholarly monographs and gray publishing”) <http://www.publishing.umich.edu/>
- University of Minnesota Press (Forerunners series) <http://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/series/forerunners-ideas-first>

Detailed Description

- See above: [Pressbooks Wordpress Plugin](#)

Comments

- Unclear the extent to which a contract with them provides for customization support in terms of coding additional features as well as adding custom branding

Lightingsource

Overview

A printer with a print-on-demand service for book publishers of various sizes (note: for small/independent publishers the function is called IngramSpark). Publishers supply the source files for them to print. Packages tend to require an expectation of a certain number of books purchased per month. Also provides distribution services for print and eBooks.

<https://www.lightningsource.com/>

Examples

Detailed Description

Comments

Bookmobile

Overview

Another printer with a print-on-demand service for book publishers (or something similar to print on demand -- “automated replenishment program”). Prides itself on print quality. Publishers supply the source files for them to print. Also offers graphic design and typesetting services, as well as distribution services for eBooks.

<http://www.bookmobile.com/>

Examples

Detailed Description

- “ARP is a good fit for clients with at least five titles for ARP and more than 15 orders per title per month. If books are sold through client websites, a programmer must set up the interface with Bookmobile’s site.” (ARP= automated replenishment program)
- “[with ARP] Bookmobile maintains book inventory and reprints as needed based on a title’s sales history. Clients don’t pay for the printing of the books inventoried until the book sells or a drop ship order is placed.”

Comments

Allen Press

Overview

Offers a variety of publishing services including on-demand printing and fulfillment, copyediting, and eBook conversion and distribution.

<http://allenpress.com/services/publishing>

Examples

Detailed Description

Comments

University of Chicago/Bibliovault

Overview

“BiblioVault helps scholarly publishers preserve and extend the value of their books, providing long-term secure storage of digital book files for member presses, as well as a wide range of scanning, printing, transfer, conversion, and distribution services.” More specifically this includes print to eBook conversion scanning, conversion of PDF to ePub and other reflowable formats, distributing eBooks to vendors, and “fulfillment of electronic books (protected or unprotected) for press shopping carts.”

<http://www.bibliovault.org/BV.about.epl>

Examples

Detailed Description

Comments

Additional Digital Publishing Platforms (brief overviews)

Etextink

Overview

This is an eTextbook platform. It provides a web-based viewer for content with a login.

<https://www.etextink.com/index.cfm>

Examples

Detailed Description

Comments

- There were some usability issues when this was tested by SAA in March 2015

Ubiquity

Overview

An “open access publisher of peer-reviewed academic journals, books and data. We operate a highly cost-efficient model that makes quality open access publishing affordable for everyone.” Originally founded at UCL, now a separate [for-profit] company operating out of UCL’s entrepreneurship centre. Uses an author pays model to support open access (though they expect that these would actually be paid by a funder or the institution rather than the individual).

Also, “As well as operating our own highly cost effective press, we also provide access to the platform to give universities and societies the infrastructure and services they need to run their own presses, and allows societies to earn income from open access.”

<http://www.ubiquitypress.com/>

See also interview in the *Chronicle* blog: <http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/ubiquity/43312>

Examples

- <http://www.collabra.org/>
- Lingua-journal leaving Elsevier
- <http://jlsc-pub.org/>

Detailed Description

- From Aaron: pay it forward review systems. Honorarium, but encouraged to donate it back into the system.
- <http://www.ucpress.edu/blog/17878/collabra-changing-the-rules-of-open-access-journal-publishing/>

Comments

Vega

Overview

An open access academic publishing platform currently in development. Its release is not planned until 2018. It aims to provide for better integration of multimedia and more easily customized templates for production. The project is being developed by a software development firm in Norway, Bengler (<http://bengler.no/>), under the direction of West Virginia University and the Oslo School of Architecture and Design.

<http://vegapublish.com/>

Examples

Detailed Description

Comments

- Mellon funded project

E-journal in a box (Drupal)

Overview

Emory's drupal-based e-journal-in-a-box: apparently planned to release as a drupal distribution in fall 2015, but I have not been able to locate this, so perhaps their plans have been delayed. I did find the following reference to it on the drupal site: <https://www.drupal.org/node/2533856> (Southern Spaces journal)

August 2015 blog post about move to Drupal 7:

<https://southernspaces.org/2015/renewing-multimedia-scholarly-publishing-streamlined-and-mobile-friendly-design-southern-spaces>

Conference presentation abstract for AHA 2016:

<https://aha.confex.com/aha/2016/webprogram/Paper20158.html>

Examples

- <http://southernspaces.org/>

Detailed Description

Comments

Research Resources

Template (System Name)

Overview

Examples

Detailed Description

Comments

Stuff to examine:

Research Series/fully open access

- Whatever is powering MLA Commons: <https://commons.mla.org/> ([CommentPress](#))
- UIUC Mellon Grant--Aaron will send a copy. Four partners, Library, IPRH, AA Studies and GSLIS. Allen Renear and Megan Sensenney. Maria Bonn. <https://news.illinois.edu/blog/view/6367/256174>
-

Possible features of interest:

commenting and annotations

hosting both text and “toolkits”

perhaps the publication format could allow for moderated comments on the text,

social media content analysis,

hosting a series of virtual discussions about the publication, etc.