

Music Research Data Management project

C4DM, Queen Mary University of London

Monthly report – Month 1 - October 2011

- A project management for internal use has been set up on www.soundsoftware.ac.uk, including a repository for documents and possible software code developed during the project, and a wiki that will be used to share internal information among the people involved in the project.
- To fulfill WP 5.1, a public website for the project (<http://rdm.c4dm.eecs.qmul.ac.uk/>) has been set up and has been online since Oct. 31, 2011. The website includes a short description of the project, the objectives and expected outcomes, and a blog (with RSS feed) where the project's progress will be reported on a weekly basis.
- Several documents and guides from the Data Curation Centre www.dcc.ac.uk have been studied. We chose to follow the Data Asset Framework as a guide to complete the first task in the project plan (WP 2.1), i.e. the survey of data assets and data management practices already present at C4DM. As suggested by the Data Asset Framework, we decided to limit the scope of our assessment to the period 2009-2011.
 - The first step in this process has been to analyze the publications produced by C4DM staff and PhD students. This allowed us to identify those who are most involved in data production and usage.
 - The second step has been to look at the group's official data outputs on the web (www.isophonics.net, www.omras2.org), as well as the internal data server. A blog post with the results of this first analysis has been published.
 - From the first week of November we will start interviewing those researchers and PhD students that were identified to be the most involved in the data production process. We are planning to use the so-called "snowball" interview approach, i.e. to ask the interviewees to tell us whom we should interview next. A pre-interview questionnaire will be distributed so that the interviewees will have the time to think about the most important aspects of their data management practices. The questionnaire can be found on the project's blog. It was prepared on the lines of the examples found in the Data Asset Framework Implementation Guide (see DCC website).
- As described in the project plan, WP 2.2, we started to look into possible software solution to implement the data management system. A list of the most interesting ones has been published on the project's blog together with their pros, cons, and usage examples in similar projects. It was also

found out that the library at QMUL has put in place an institutional repository, based on DSpace (see blog entry). We plan to talk with the administrators to find out if we can integrate our system into this central repository.