

# Music Research Data Management project

C4DM, Queen Mary University of London

## Monthly report – Month 2 - November 2011

- Visit to the DCC Roadshow in Cambridge (day 3), with presentations of some DCC tools (DAF, DMPOnline), as well as DSpace@Cambridge. A report about the day can be found on the project's blog.
- Interviews in line with the DAF have started. The first to be interviewed were those more involved with research data production and management, as emerged from the analysis of the publications. A pre-interview questionnaire (available on the blog) was sent to the interviewees a few days in advance to allow them to get prepared and speed up the interview. The interviewees were only asked to read through the questionnaire and think about the questions, but not to write answers down. We chose this approach (and a single-page questionnaire) since past experiences showed that a long questionnaire is less likely to be read and answered thoroughly. The questionnaire was inspired by the examples provided in the DAF Implementation Guide. The interviews focused on three main aspects: the data each researcher produces and uses; their data management strategies (if any); their requirements for a data management system to be implemented at C4DM. Four groups of people were interviewed. A summary of the interviews can be found on the project's blog.
- The assessment of DAM systems continued. Test installations of Islandora (Fedora Commons module for Drupal), DSpace and Dataverse Network are now available on an internal server at C4DM. We also contacted the DataFlow project at Oxford's University, exploring the possibility of testing their system. They plan to release a beta version before Christmas.
- We prepared a list of user requirements for the data management system to be implemented from the answers to the interviews. The plan is to compare them to the features of the different systems in order to choose the most appropriate. Other considerations include the administrative requisites such as the possible risk factors (long term updates to the systems) and the amount of work required to keep the system running. An analysis of the different platforms will follow and made public on the blog.
- A meeting with Sarah Molloy from QMUL Library was organized to explore the possibility of taking advantage of the Queen Mary Research Online (QMRO) platform (DSpace). Since there is very little support from the IT Services for QMRO, we proposed an hybrid solution in which datasets from C4DM will be stored on C4DM servers and linked from QMRO. This could be done for example using the SWORD protocol. Another meeting is programmed for the beginning of December, although the fact that the only DSpace developer at IT Services has moved to a different job might create some problems.