

Content Management System Evaluation Team

Report to the eTeaching Steering Committee

25 October 2005

1. The CMS Evaluation Team was formed by the eTeaching Steering Committee on 2 March 2005 with **terms of reference** to investigate and report on a system, or systems, best suited to meet the university's institutional repository needs.
2. The Team has met bi-weekly since March. A web site (ir.uow.edu.au) records its work and provides links to relevant resources and repository examples.
3. The Team's **focus** has been on the use of a CMS in the development and maintenance of teaching and learning objects and peer reviewed re-usable resources, and for research-based digital objects such as refereed articles, book chapters, working papers, e-readings, theses, images and datasets.
4. A preliminary **needs assessment** was undertaken during May-June, with approximately 40 members of staff interviewed concerning their use of digital objects and attitudes towards an institutional repository.
5. To date the Team has developed an action plan and timeline; engaged in a discovery process; broadened its membership, specifically in regards to academic representation; put in place a pilot project using the open-source DSpace software; commenced developing checklists of the university's requirements; and begun to appraise relevant options.
6. The Team has identified the need for an **open access** research repository which will form part of the core research infrastructure, and a largely **closed access** teaching and learning object repository which can work closely with Vista.
7. Institutional repository support of emerging initiatives such as student portfolios, archived administrative records and elements of the web content management system are also being considered.
8. Software solutions such as **DSpace**, Proquest's **Digital Commons** and Harvest Road **Hive** are being investigated in detail.
9. Initiatives such as the Graduate School of Medicine and the Research Quality Framework *RQF* have impacted upon the work of the Team in recent weeks.
10. It is envisaged that a **report** will be completed by December for presentation to the eTeaching Steering Committee, setting out recommendations on the way forward in regards to the university's institutional repository needs.

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