



NJVid Project Team Conference Call Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2009, 2pm - 3:30pm

In attendance:

Grace Agnew
Isaiah Beard
Sujay Daniel
Jane Hutchison
Ron Jantz
George Laskaris
Sandie Miller
Chad Mills
Tom Nemeth
Sheri Prupis

FMG Collection update:

Ron described what had been accomplished over the past month and what still remained to be accomplished. There were still 2 issues yet with access permissions. Jeffrey & Sho will review the access permissions (System level) with Sujay. Right now, we can't view some of the data streams and are not able to connect to one of the local databases. Permissions should be out of the way in the next couple of days. Most significantly, NJEDge.Net recently ingested an object into their repository using the "njcore" naming convention. This was confirmed via a Fedora management utility. This confirmed that NJEDge had achieved "Fedora sanity." Remaining work to be completed over the next month was noted:

- Install the management software – DLR/Edit – that allows one to see datastreams (Sujay will send the Project Team an email when completed)
- Install Workflow Management System (WMS)
- Tom will create accounts for collection managers in WMS
- Transfer and ingest the existing seven collection objects (the eighth collection, Rutgers' collection, will be deleted at a later date when we are able to share, but for now will be duplicated) – Tom will likely work with Mary Beth Weber on this since she is believed to have initially created the eight NJVid collections in RUCore
- Redirect the NJVid video portal from RUCore to NJcore
- Transfer and ingest the 47 existing video objects from the NJVid Commons
- Evaluate the Commercial Video access with the FMG testing institutions

Ron and Grace felt that we need to have a collection architecture meeting with collection managers to discuss strategies for naming institutions' collections, organizing them into hierarchies, and addressing unique situations with them that could arise in the future. One possibility is multiple institutions may collaborate on video productions and will therefore want to access a single video collection. We need to be clear about which collections need to be created and then organize them based on the scenarios by which videos will be deposited, searched and accessed. Tom will set up this meeting soon with Grace, Ron, the collection managers, and Sandie. While it is not imperative to hold this meeting prior to the FMG collection going live, the sooner the better so as not to allow the current small number of collections to blossom and quickly get out of hand structurally speaking.

Tom reported that he had tested the XACML utility and it worked fine. He set up a test object and Sandie, Jane and Tom were able to login and access the video.

Tom asked when should he enter the Collection Managers' names – now or should he wait for the full NJCore implementation? It was agreed that he should wait for the full NJCore installation. Tom will get the alerts for commercial video as SCM.

Commons update:

The group next discussed whether to upgrade the video encoding standard. Isaiah proposed essentially doubling the current bitrate standard. While this would improve video picture quality, Sujay was worried K-12 schools do not have the bandwidth necessary to support an increase of streaming video file sizes. The group ultimately decided to stick with the current standard but permit institutions with large sized files to exceed our minimum technical specifications provided they have the downstream bandwidth to justify doing so. Sujay also asked that we implement a modification to our video player so that it can support letterboxed/widescreen videos (e.g. high definition videos). Isaiah will revise the Specifications to set minimum and upper levels.

Based on a recommendation given by Donna Liu of Princeton at the recent Advisory Board meeting, Tom wanted to know how the group felt about reaching out to the Jersey Access Group (JAG). Sheri said NJEDge has contacts at JAG and can schedule a phone call with an employee there to discuss what JAG is and see if and how JAG might become part of NJVid. UPDATE: Sheri told Tom on a later call that she would confer with her colleague Charlie McMickle to determine who would be best at JAG to reach out to for a phone conference.

Bob Wolk's Historical Society survey resulted in potentially more videos from the Commons. Tom is now working with the respondents to determine copyright information.

Web site update:

Sujay said he would like to address NJEDge's redesign of the NJVid web site after completing authentication of the initial FMG Test participants. The web site will be transferred from WPU to

NJEDge's server once we redirect the NJVid video portal. We will copy the existing web site over to NJEDge's server and then make modifications to the design as necessary.

It was also suggested that in order to deal with issues concerning quality of viewing for our current videos, that a Help Request Form might be good. Form submissions could be programmed to be forwarded to many recipients on the Project Team all at once. Currently users are writing Robert Harris, who forwards the message to Tom, who forwards it to the appropriate person to investigate. A help request form would save time and effort by all by eliminating the middle men. Another suggestion for the website was to add more information on flash (slow Internet connection) and QT (fast internet connection) type of items.

Sandie said she would ask Greg Mattison, chair of the DV Production & Upload Training working group, if he and his group could oversee quality assurance of the web site as far as viewing videos.

Hardware and Fedora update:

The hardware installation at NJEDge is essentially complete.

There may be a session on 8/18 for the NJCore install. This date is on hold depending on the DRLEdit and WMS install. It may not be necessary unless they're hitting blockages. Then, it would be good to get everyone into one room and work it out in real time. So, all those involved in the installation were urged to keep 8/18 free until further notice. Ron & Sujay will convene this meeting if necessary.

Annotation Tool update:

Chad confirmed that the feedback submission feature of the annotation tool prototype is working. Sandie resent the link to the prototype to the Advisory Board so that they can leave feedback, but there was no response from the Advisory Board after the second email. Jane asked for the link and Sandie will forward it to her. Chad was able to recover the feedback that had already been submitted.

Shibboleth and NJTrust update:

Sujay gave a rundown of the each institution in the FMG test group as well as some possible new members:

Ramapo – set up and should work. Sujay is waiting to hear from Mike.

Rowan – set up and hasn't done the last step of testing with Tom

WPUNJ – set up and tested w/Tom

FDU - set up and tested w/Tom

Rutgers – full test not yet – Tom will do a test with Jane Sloan, but she's on vacation

Passaic – no shibboleth is set up – there's a problem with IT/Library communication

Georgian Court – no plans now and no response – could use AD

NJIT – test ok, with Sujay

Middlesex – They have AD but will use central LDAP. We can directly point to their AD and this is good news for K-12 schools with AD. At this point, it looks like member@njedge.net rather than the particular school. Sean is looking at how to correct this.

CCM- some discussion going on, but they don't know whether they would use Shibboleth or central LDAP.

It was mentioned that centralized LDAP can handle multi-institution sharing of Commercial Video.

At the recent Advisory Board meeting, Rob Zangara of NJ State Library asked Tom how A&A of public libraries will be conducted. The general answer is we can map a library's circulation patron records to NJEDge's Central LDAP. However, Rob is looking for a more specific answer since he has over 300 public libraries and thus many disparate circulation systems. Record mapping will be a significant undertaking. Sujay said in a follow-up email that he will focus on this matter after the initial FMG Test participants finish their authentication.

On the subject of public libraries, Robert White of BCCLS recently spoke with Anne Ciliberti, WPU library director. Reportedly, Robert told Anne there is no public demand for commercial videos at this time by his patrons. The lack of demand is exacerbated by the recent economic downturn, which is limiting the funds BCCLS would otherwise have to potentially devote to commercial videos. Tom said he'll see if Anne can speak with Robert to gauge his interest in licensing the FMG collection.

As far as museums go, we will need to develop policies for a trusted group and for aging out of members. It was suggested that we could develop a Museum group for A&A issues.

Sustainability update:

Grace volunteered to participate – and Sandie will ask John to assist with Marketing and Outreach. Sandie said she would try to get the Sustainability group to meet in September.

Learning on Demand update:

Grace noted a couple of issues that the Learning on Demand working group will have to address and that we need to develop:

- Limiting access to a video to course members
 - Currently faculty simply put in a unique link into their CMS. Limiting a video's access to a course is beyond what we said we'd do in the grant, but we do have an obligation to remind people that this is more risk management and we should give appropriate copyright guidance.
- Providing a means for institutions to upload their own videos

The Project Team felt it would be wise for the Learning on Demand to convene in the fall after the FMG collection debuts, because by that time the commercial videos collection will have momentum, and we will be able to shift our attention.

The group concluded the call by agreeing to hold the next one on 9/11/09 at 9:30am and all calls thereafter on the second Friday of each month at the same time.

Call adjourned at 3:30pm.