



welcome

Welcome to Issue 6 of our newsletter. As it becomes easier to create digital content it becomes harder to know exactly what is available, where it is held and what rights you have to use it. In this issue we look at how intraLibrary can help make sense of these problems. We are also delighted to announce our learning object competition, in conjunction with ALT-C in September. If you know people who would like to receive the newsletter they can sign up at <http://www.intrallect.com/news/newsletter.htm> where this and previous issues can also be found.



contents

ALT-C 2007: learning object competition	p1
intraLibrary - more than just a learning object repository	p2
ALT-C 2007: learning object competition (con't.)	p4

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ALT-C 2007: learning object competition

Intrallect is delighted to announce the sponsorship of a Learning Object Competition to be held in conjunction with this year's ALT-C exhibition in Nottingham in September.

The panel of judges will be looking for exciting, innovative Learning Objects to showcase at the exhibition, and the overall winners will be presented with their prize at the ALT-C dinner on 5th September 2007.

If you create Learning Objects, either individually or as a team, you are eligible to enter.

The criteria on which the Learning Objects will be judged, and how to enter are detailed on page 4.

Closing date for entries is 30th June 2007.

ASSOCIATION
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intraLibrary – more than just a learning object repository

The dynamic world of Universities and Colleges faces challenges in managing digital resources on many fronts. And for many the key issues are the same:

- Getting maximum return from valuable digital learning resources
- Meeting onerous mandatory reporting requirements - Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), copyright auditing etc.
- Managing research outputs and making them available through open access

- Giving access to special collections - images, past exam papers, e-prints etc.
- Enhancing the quality of learning resources across teaching, research and management

A single instance of intraLibrary can help solve all your digital management needs in a central, flexible and configurable library of resources that keeps things simple and focused.

Continued on Page 2

ALT-C 2007 presentations

Intrallect will be attending ALT-C as usual this year. As well as having a presence in the exhibition area we are giving three presentations:

Connecting Learning Object Repositories

How can federations of repositories combine with other technologies? *Short paper*

Evolution of learning resources

How can the process be accelerated? *Demonstration with MyKnowledgeMap*

Community Dimensions of Learning Object Repositories

The recently-completed, JISC-funded project CD-LOR is summarised. *Short paper*

intraLibrary – more than just a LOR (con't.)

intraLibrary for Open Access Research Outputs

Increasingly, research outputs (papers, reports and data sets) are being made openly available, particularly when they have been produced using public funding.

IntraLibrary can store all research outputs, those to be made available openly and those which are not. An open access web site can be easily created using Intrallect's open source tool (SRU – Search and Retrieve by URL). This web site can then search and display the open access research outputs while keeping private those which are not (yet) open access. Only people with appropriate permission can add research outputs but anyone can use the open access web site without a username and password.

IntraLibrary may be used for many other things yet through the open access web site it appears in this instance as a simple open research output repository.

intraLibrary for Learning Resources

Many universities and colleges have virtual learning environments or learning management systems that support e-learning. However, universities and colleges have many more different ways of teaching than through e-learning. Lectures, tutorials, laboratories and project work, private research and many others use digital learning resources.

IntraLibrary enables the institution to manage all its digital resources in one place yet makes them available for use in learning platforms as well as in other forms of teaching and learning. This separates the management of resources from the management of e-learning courses and student activities so that the resources can be reused in many different contexts.

Learning resources can be handouts, presentations, worksheets, podcasts, video clips, Flash animations and other simple objects. Or they can be more complex simulations, case studies,

interactive modules or short courses which contain hundreds of files and have multiple learning paths.

The key thing is - intraLibrary handles them all with ease.

intraLibrary for RAE (Research Assessment Exercise)

Document management is also a key issue for universities and colleges. For example, every few years universities in the UK have to cope with the Research Assessment Exercise. This requires every research active member of staff to submit up to four of their research outputs. Managing these research outputs is a major headache. Many will be journal articles (increasingly available in electronic form) but many others will be books, conference proceedings, performances or patents. How can a university manage this diversity of resources while prioritising which to submit?

What is needed is a digital object



If you recognise these issues within your organisation and would like to discuss how Intrallect can help you manage your digital resources, please call 0870 234 3933 or email us at enquiries@intrallect.com

intraLibrary - more than just a LOR (con't.)

repository that can hold all types of digital resources (including data sets and web sites as well as electronic copies of journals and books). In addition some research outputs may exist in electronic copies on the Web or as physical copies on library shelves. IntraLibrary manages all of these with common record keeping for all types allowing them to be described, commented on and rated in workflows organised by internal groups within the University in preparation for the RAE. Every research output, whether it is digital or not, whether it is stored in the repository or elsewhere has its location unequivocally defined.

intraLibrary as an Image Repository

Images are commonly shared resources in universities and colleges. They can be reused in so many different contexts, however, a big problem is finding the perfect image from the vast number available. That is where metadata and thumbnails become important. The

keywords, titles and descriptions all help, but so do classifications that match the teaching and learning in your institution. When images originate in digital cameras there is even more metadata available automatically from the camera. IntraLibrary handles all these forms of metadata, making it easy to discover exactly what you are looking for.

IntraLibrary can also manage the intellectual property rights for using digital content, so that all users will be aware of how they can use images in the repository.

And intraLibrary is not just an image repository - it can also store video, Flash animations or audio - all discoverable through the metadata.

intraLibrary as a bridge to collaborative working between institutions

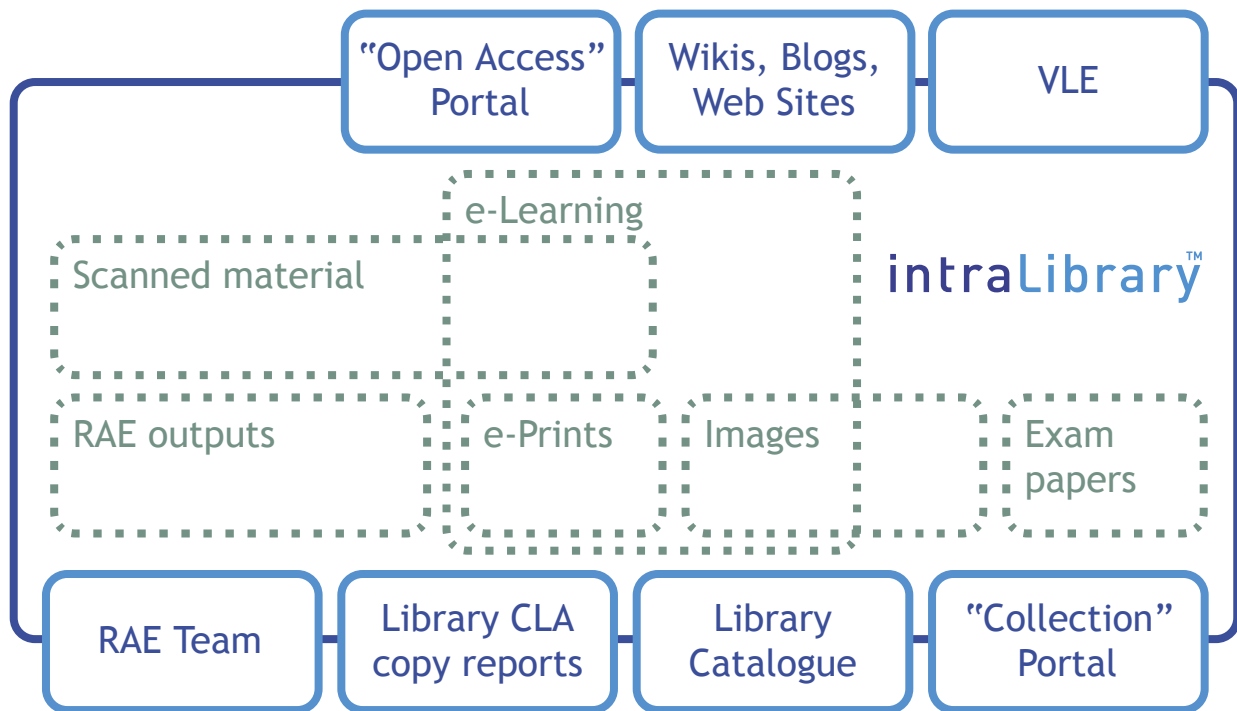
It is common for academics to share resources with others in their own

subject domain across different institutions or even different countries. Repositories are an ideal way of supporting these sharing communities. Digital resources can be research data or reports, teaching and learning resources, images, video and audio clips, case studies or simulations.

IntraLibrary encourages communities to share by supporting all types of digital objects. But intraLibrary goes further because it also breaks down many of the barriers that inhibit sharing.

IntraLibrary's community licenses allow people who make their contributions available to assert the terms and conditions under which they can be used. Gone are the days of not knowing what uses are permitted.

What is more, intraLibrary will keep you up to date. There is no need to log on regularly; just tell intraLibrary what your interests are and the intraLibrary news feeds will let you know whenever new material becomes available that matches your interests.



IntraLibrary's digital collections make it easy to offer many different services from a single repository. This might be through the RAE team using detailed workflows to manage submissions, making learning resources available to students through both VLEs and wikis, offering an open access service to research outputs, or linking the content of our repository to your existing library catalogue.

ALT-C 2007: learning object competition (con't.)

The Judges

The judges will be looking for learning objects that are innovative, able to be embedded in teaching and learning, are reusable, and have a high level of portability and interoperability.

The assembled judging panel has wide experience of developing and deploying learning objects, and is made up of:

Charles Duncan, CEO, Intrallect

Before co-founding Intrallect Charles was a senior lecturer at the University of Edinburgh where his EuroMET project won a European Academic Software Award in 1998. He has many years experience in e-learning and particularly in reusable learning objects and their management.

Dawn Leeder, Reward and Development Manager RLO-CETL

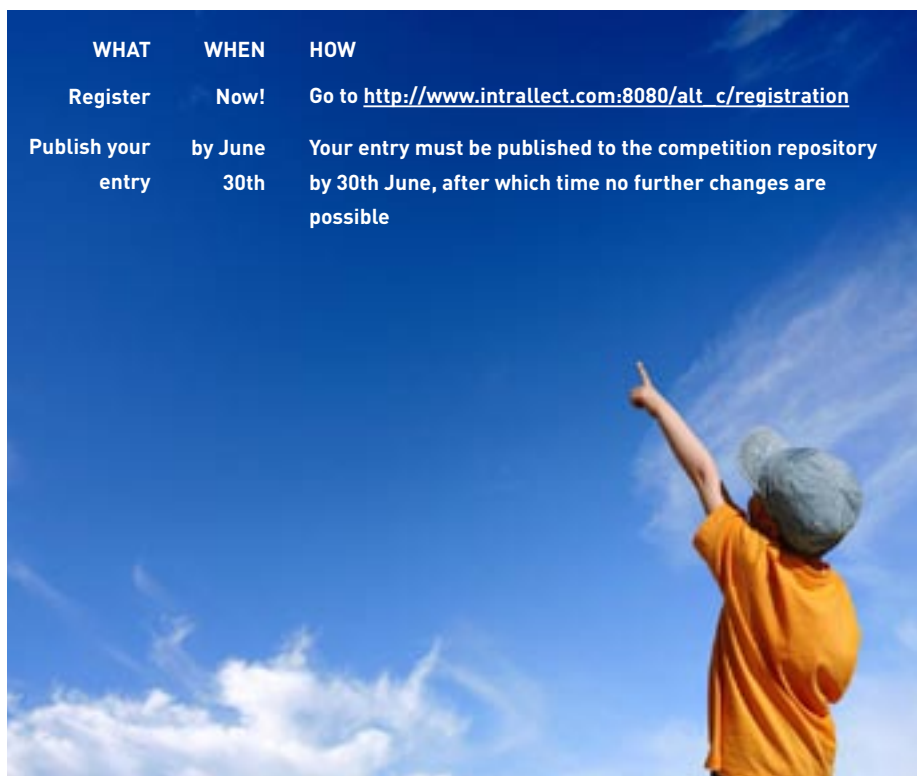
(Reusable Learning Object Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning) and Trustee and Central Executive Committee member of ALT. Dawn has been very involved in producing, sharing and evaluating high quality multimedia elearning resources in the form of reusable learning objects.

Lorna Campbell, Assistant Director, CETIS

Lorna first joined CETIS (Centre for Educational Technology and Interoperability Standards) as the coordinator of the Educational Content SIG, she now liaises closely with all the special interest groups. Lorna has a wide range of interests including metadata, the use of taxonomies and vocabularies, factors that influence the reuse of educational resources and the ability of standards to describe the process of teaching and learning.

Kevin Donovan

Kevin Donovan is now an independent consultant after a long career teaching and managing in further education colleges, including secondments to the Council for Educational Technology (the predecessor to Becta), and followed



by 16 years with the Further Education Unit, which became the Further Education Development Agency, then the Learning and Skills Development Agency.

How to Enter

Learning objects may be submitted by individuals or teams (in which each member should be named). No individual may be named as the creator on more than three submitted learning objects.

Submissions must be made via the competition installation of intraLibrary. By going here http://www.intrallect.com:8080/alt_c/registration you will be able to register for the competition. You will receive a password by email, and information on how to log-in to the competition repository. After logging-in, on the left of the "Browse Library" page, open the taxonomy to reach "How To Enter" to view details on how to submit your entry.

Eligibility

This competition is open to everyone

who creates learning objects. For full details of eligibility go to http://www.intrallect.com/ALT-C_LO_Comp_Info.pdf

Deadline

You have until 30th June to submit your entries.

events

4-6 September 2007 ALT-C Nottingham

As always we will be exhibiting at ALT-C this year. Please come and visit our stand for a chat and demos of the latest version of intraLibrary.

28-30 Nov 2007 Online Educa Berlin

We will also be returning to Online Educa Berlin this year. This is the showcase event in the e-Learning calendar and should not be missed.