Brief Bio and (PR)²: Problems & Pitches – Rants & Raves by Jon Corson-Rikert

Self Introduction

Jon Corson-Rikert is the head of Information Technology Services at, the agriculture and life sciences library for Cornell University. He received a B.A. in Visual and Environmental Studies from Harvard and worked 15 years in cartography and GIS software development before coming to Cornell in 1992 as coordinator of the Cornell site of the NSF Science and Technology Center in Computer Graphics and Scientific Visualization. He joined Cornell University Library as a programmer in 2001.

While at Mann Library he has implemented online digital collections including the Cornell University Geospatial Information Repository (http://cugir.mannlib.cornell.edu), the eClips collection of digital video clips on entrepreneurship (http://eclips.cornell.edu), and VIVO (http://vivo.cornell.edu). VIVO is a research and scholarship portal for Cornell highlighting people, publications, grants, courses, talks and other activities spanning the campuses, colleges, and departments of Cornell University. Under a recent National Institutes of Health grant, VIVO: Enabling National Networking of Scientists (http://www.nih.gov/news/health/nov2009/ncrr-02.htm), the VIVO project has expanded to a consortium of 7 universities implementing VIVO as a prototype for a national network (http://www.vivoweb.org).

Publications


Home page:
http://vivo.cornell.edu/individual/individual22972

Software:
http://vivoweb.org
General Questions

1) What is your main interest in attending the workshop?

To learn from others’ needs and goals for researcher networking and other potential applications of VIVO and related platforms; to explain aspects of VIVO that may not be immediately obvious, including development directions.

2) What three features or functions of researcher networking (i.e., tools and services related to assisting researchers with finding people, resources, data, projects, and scholarly works) are most critical to adoption?

- Open, accessible data, APIs, and services
- Conceptual alignment where each tool has a clear purpose
- Transparency – ability to focus on the work and the people, not the tool

3) What three features of researcher networking are most critical to success after adoption, or sustainability?

- High-quality, well-structured data
- Flexibility and extensibility
- Technology (and complexity) appropriate to the goals

4) Are you aware of especially innovative approaches to any of these features or functions?

- I think the VIVO mini-grants offer a number of examples

5) What features of researcher networking are most important to you as a researcher, for your own use?

- Ease of adoption – low barriers, intuitive interfaces
- High benefit in relation to cost
- Task-appropriateness – I’d rather use a lot of special-purpose tools to do the job right, as long as they can communicate (hence linked data)

6) Are you or your group working on any of these features?

- Yes, for VIVO – primarily by trying to ensure we enable flexible integration with other services

7) What would you like to learn / achieve at the workshop?

- Meet and talk with people sharing similar interests and goals