Title: Introducing BibApp 1.0

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This poster will introduce the BibApp 1.0 and outline the development path from the alpha version of the software (presented at Open Repositories 2007 and code4lib 2007) to the current version. We will present findings from focus groups with faculty and, based on these findings, how we developed BibApp to meet the needs identified through these and other work, and will discuss future plans for the BibApp.

At Open Repositories 2007 and code4lib 2007 Eric Larson of the University of Wisconsin (UW) Madison presented on the BibApp, an 'institutional bibliography' or 'citation repository' software. The BibApp allows capture of citations, analysis of these according to publisher policies on archiving, and, based on this analysis, straightforward population of an institutional repository where a publisher pdf can be deposited. A prototype implementation of the original version of the BibApp can be seen at http://www.library.uiuc.edu/bibapp/ (note that this is a prototype and may not be reliably available). In March 2007 the BibApp developers at UW Madison were joined by a group from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) to develop and release a 1.0 version of the BibApp software.

In Summer 2007 UW Madison conducted focus groups with faculty in the College of Engineering and the School of Medicine and Public Health. The goal of these focus groups was to understand how faculty were currently managing citations and publication history and the possible utility of the BibApp software in their environment. The groups included tenured and untenured faculty as well as department chairs.

Some selected results from these focus groups are:

- Publication lists are very important for recruiting new grad students and for research centers
- Faculty do not tend to keep publication lists up to date and responsibility for publication list is typically passed to someone else
- Comprehensiveness may be unnecessary for tenured faculty, but is extremely important for untenured faculty. Currency is important to everyone.
- Citation re-use is extremely important; faculty often have to contribute publication lists to multiple places.
- Organizing publications is often the hardest part of a departmental annual report.
- Faculty want to be able to highlight certain publications over others.
- Faculty are not motivated to archive, but if the library can help do this, "that's probably the right thing to do..."

Generally faculty agreed that the library could play an important role in keeping publication lists current and up to date.

After these focus groups were conducted, the UW Madison and the UIUC teams met to decide on a road map for a production version of the BibApp. Based on the results of the focus groups and the teams' experiences thus far with the BibApp, it was decided that the focus of development should be on a robust, scalable citation repository that allows faculty, departments, and librarians to:

- Easily import citations from a wide variety of sources;
- Easily export citations in a variety of formats;
- Edit citations from within the BibApp;
- Conduct basic authority control within the BibApp for authors;
- Identify publications that may be deposited into an institutional repository; and
- Easily assign permissions to appropriate users.

The upcoming, open source BibApp 1.0 release leverages the latest web application development technologies to ensure simplicity of design and encourage collaborative development. The software will provide connections into local campus directories and authentication schemes. In addition, it will support archiving into several repository systems and formats (e.g. DSpace, Fedora, METS). Feature additions to the 1.0 release include faceted browsing and harvestable authorities for publisher and publication data. The full BibApp technology stack includes:

- Ruby on Rails 2.0
- Solr / Lucene
- RESTful architecture
- MIME type action requests (HTML, XML, JSON, YAML)
- Prototype / Lowpro
- Microformats (hCard and XFN)

The poster will also highlight areas that are under consideration for a 2.0 release of BibApp. These include:

- Further analysis of publication patterns particularly aimed at collection management needs of libraries;
- Graphing the network of co-authors within an institution;
- Interoperability between BibApp installations at different institutions; and
- More extensive authorities work.

These areas are subject to change based on feedback and experience using the BibApp 1.0 release.