



AQUATIC COMMONS INITIATIVE:

a model for resource sharing
in marine and aquatic sciences

**Presented at the Open Repositories Conference 2007
San Antonio, Texas**

**by Stephanie Haas, University of Florida
for**

**International Association for Aquatic and Marine
Science Libraries and Information Centers**

IAMSLIC's Network

IAMSLIC: parent organization

325 members from 86 countries

Regional Groups:

- Africa
- Cyamus: West coast of North America and Hawai'i
- EURASLIC: European libraries and information centers
- Latin America
- Pacific Islands
- SAIL: Eastern United States, Gulf coast and Caribbean



IAMS LIC Membership 2005

Mission

(IAMSLIC) is concerned with the recording, retrieval and dissemination of knowledge and information related to aquatic and marine sciences and their allied disciplines. The association provides a forum for exchange and exploration of ideas and issues of mutual concern.



IAMS LIC Goals

- **Facilitate free resource sharing among all IAMS LIC members**
- **Help smaller facilities share their unique or geographically distinct collections with our global community**
- **Simplify searching and borrowing of materials and equitably distribute the burden of lending materials across all libraries**

IAMSLIC PROVIDES

- **Publications: quarterly newsletter, conference proceedings**
- **Membership Database: printable and electronic formats**
- **Research and travel grants**
- **Partnerships with IOC, FAO**
- **Mentorship Programs**
- **IAMSLIC Duplicate Exchange Program**
- **IAMSLIC Z39.50 Distributed Library supporting interlibrary loan requests between libraries for no fee**



IAMSLIC Z39.50 Distributed Library

- Provides a common search interface to the holdings of over 84 libraries
- Launched in July 2002
- During 2005-2006:
 - 2,741 requests were made from 102 libraries representing 41 countries

70 libraries from 18 countries filled these requests



AQUATICS COMMONS INITIATIVE

expanding resource sharing

The initiative was developed in part as a response to Pauline Simpson's continuing educational efforts to make IAMSLIC members aware of institutional repositories.

As technologies became available, a more integrative approach seemed achievable. Termed the Aquatic Commons initiative, it was modeled and presented to IAMSLIC and the ASFA secretariat in Rome in 2005.

Aquatic Commons initiative is a model for digital resource sharing between stakeholders in the marine/aquatic information world. Its integrative architecture accommodates researchers and research institutions at all technological levels.

As originally proposed the model included:

repositories,

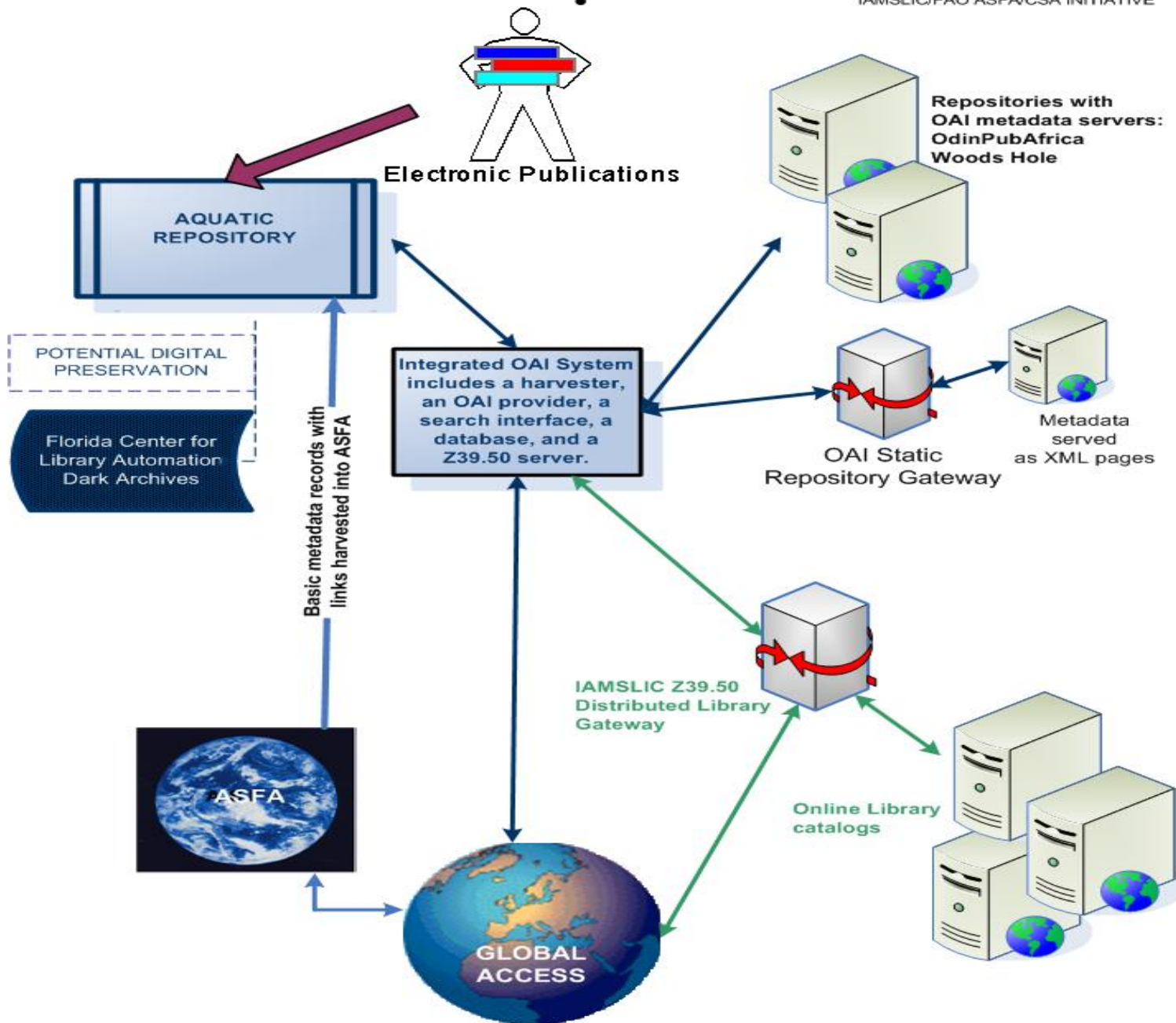
harvesting functions,

searchable database creation, and

integration with IAMSLIC's Z39.50 distributed library and the ASFA database.

Aquatic Commons: a networked reservoir to digital documents

IAMSLIC/FAO ASFA/CSA INITIATIVE



**Approved in concept by the IAMSLIC Board,
an implementation team was charged to:**

- **Implement the "Aquatic Commons" in the most economical fashion for IAMSLIC and make the best use of existing resources**
- **Ensure that we end up with an IAMSLIC-owned product.**
- **Come up with a plan for raising additional funds (and in the best-case go after donors and grant opportunities themselves).**

The Task Force chose to focus on the repository piece of the model.

A request for proposals to develop the Aquatic Commons repository was submitted to the IAMSLIC membership,

and

proposals to develop the repository were prepared by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and the Florida Center for Library Automation.

Woods Hole and IOC proposed DSpace based repositories.

FCLA proposed using EPrints.

The Task Force spent time analyzing both the functionality of the two platforms and the institutional characteristics and sustainability of the submitting organizations. The final report is available at

<http://www.iamslc.org/index.php?section=147>

The Task Force report included:

Recommendation 1: Establishment of an Aquatic Commons Board

The Aquatics Commons Board should be established with the express responsibility of making policy and management decisions related to all aspects of coverage, funding of content creation, training, intellectual property rights and access rights.

Recommendation 2: IAMSLIC's existing Memorandums of Understanding with FAO and IOC should be used to develop the infrastructure for the Aquatic Commons repository including a base level of funding.

Complementary development:

Avano, a marine and aquatic science harvester has been developed by Fred Merceur of IFREMER. It has the potential to fulfill the harvester function in the Aquatic Commons initiative.

Actions taken by IAMSLIC:

Finalize the choice of the facility

By IAMSLIC Board recommendation and a vote of the membership at the 2006 IAMSLIC meeting, the Florida Center for Library Automation was awarded the contract to set up and maintain an EPrints repository for IAMSLIC.

Establish the Aquatic Commons Board

The Aquatic Commons Board was established by the IAMSLIC Executive Board in late 2006.

The Aquatic Commons Board represents the major stakeholders whose common goals may include:

- **Using digitization technologies** to provide free, global access to marine and aquatic information.
- **Building the digital capacity** of developing countries by providing appropriate combinations of training, equipment, and IT services.
- **Providing access** to the indigenous literature that is not part of the traditional publishing cycle, including technical series from academic and research institutions.
- **Eliminate duplication** of effort by coordinating content building and metadata creation.

Goals for the Aquatic Commons Board for 2006-07:

- ✓ Finish negotiating cost sharing for repository setup between cooperating stakeholders (partners) and finalize contract negotiation with facility.
- ✓ Document the basic policies of the repository and a written statement of purpose. <http://www.iamslic.org/index.php?section=147>
- ✓ Do the usability testing necessary to open the repository. (Will begin after this conference)

Determine goals for collection building for first year.

Explore the possibility of a single metadata formulation for repository/ASFA use.

Work with partners to determine plan for content building and minimize duplication of effort

Use Board expertise to determine priorities for content building and needed resources.

Determine feasibility of collaborating with IFREMER to use AVANO as harvesting facility for the Aquatic Commons initiative.

Begin investigation of technologies needed to link harvester to IAMSLIC's Z39.50 Distributed Library.

Explore the idea of partnering IAMSLIC institutions with digital capacity to those needing capacity.

Establish and maintain a list of Aquatic Common partner efforts to build this repository through grants; thereby, providing leverage for future grants

AVANO, a marine and aquatic sciences OAI harvester

- **Developed by Fred Merceur, Ifremer / Bibliothèque La Pérouse**
- **As of August 2006, contained 38,000 records from more than 40 repositories**
- **Designating Avano as the official IAMSLIC harvester for the Aquatic Commons initiative is under consideration.**



Avano offers an access to **29295** electronic resources about the marine and aquatic sciences (aquaculture and fisheries for instance, but also geosciences, biology, ecology...).

Quick search:

[+ Last electronic resources added](#)

These ressources available in Avano comes from the OAI harvesting of several Open Archives ([How does it work?](#)).

This project is still in development stages, please do not hesitate to point out problems you may have encountered or share your comments.

This project is part of the Open Access international movement, which aims at making scientific documentation accessible to a broad public through free publishing on the Web.

Avano

Marine and aquatic science harvester

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2004, Dillenburg Sérgio R. , Esteves Luciana S. , Toma...

[\[Notice OAI\]](#) [\[View original\]](#) 2. **Apatite (U-Th)/He age constraints on the development of the Great Escarpment on the southeastern Australian passive margin**...vertical **erosion** rate of 130 in Myr(-1) along the coast. The rapid denudation period across the **coastal** plain in...

2002-06-01, Journal article (on-line or printed) , Persano, C. , Stuart, F.M. , Bishop, P. , Barfo...

[\[Notice OAI\]](#) [\[View original\]](#) 3. **An Analysis of the Physical Processes and Model Representation of Cold Air Damming Erosion**...in five CAD **erosion** scenarios: (1) Northwestern Low, (2) Cold Frontal Passage, (3) **Coastal** Low, (4) Residual...

2003-08-11, text , Stanton, Wendy Marie

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Search : coastal erosion

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Sort by : Date descending Hit frequency[Print](#) [Export](#) [Email](#) 1. **A critical evaluation of coastal erosion in Rio Grande do Sul, Southern Brazil**[Go to the resource](#)

Dates: 2004 , 2004-09-03T00:00:00Z

Authors: Dillenburg Sérgio R. , Esteves Luciana S. , Tomazelli Luiz J.

Subject: coastal evolution , Quaternary , shoreline changes , coastal barriers , sediment budget

Descriptions: Evidences of coastal erosion in Rio Grande do Sul have been obtained by three methods: (a) analysis of the long-term morphodynamics and stratigraphy of coastal barriers, (b) annual shoreline mapping using the Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS), and (c) local beach profile measurements. The first method reflects coastal erosion as continuity of the geological evolution in the last 5 ka, taking place mainly along the southern half of gentle coastal projections. The second method represents a shorter temporal scale and indicates that approximately 80% of the coast is eroding. Beach profiling has been measured in very few places that are distant from each other since the early 1990s; consequently, their results reflect local and very short time shoreline behavior. A critical evaluation of published data addressing coastal erosion in Rio Grande do Sul strongly suggests that short and long term negative balance on the sediment budget is the main cause of erosion along this coastline.

Identifier: oai:doaj-articles:6921d11b5ec954e294d709a627530daf

http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0001-37652004000300014<http://www.doaj.org/openurl?genre=article&issn=00013765&date=2004&volume=76&issue=3&spage=611>

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A critical evaluation of coastal erosion in Rio Grande do Sul, Southern Brazil

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Technical information on AVANO is available in

**Set up an Institutional Repository and an OAI
harvester for marine and aquatic sciences at
Ifremer**

at

<http://www.ifremer.fr/docelec/doc/2006/acte-2122.pdf>