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8-15-2008

# LAKH Conference in Albuquerque, International Cooperation for Digital Harvesting and Scientific Research

Cynthia Radding

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# LAKH Conference in Albuquerque
## *International Cooperation for Digital Harvesting and Scientific Research*

### *Cooperación Internacional para la Recolección Digital y la Investigación Científica*

### *Cooperação Internacional para Coleta Digital e Pesquisa Científica*

**June 11-13, 2008**
**University of New Mexico-Zimmermann Library**

***Cynthia Radding***
LAKH Project Co-Investigator
(With contributions from ***Johann van Reenen***, ***Hélio Kuramoto***, ***Silvio Barbin***, ***Simoni Valadares***, and ***José Almeida***)

## Summary

This three-day meeting brought together the four LAKH Latin American partner institutions and the UNM team for the first full meeting. The main objectives were to know the mission of each partner and the specific goals for their participation in the LAKH project; state the achievements and problems that each team has encountered; organize informational panels on specific themes that are central to the LAKH project; discuss in workshops the technical, administrative and budgetary issues of the project; establish goals for the fourth year of the TICFIA grants; establish guidelines for project evaluation and exchange ideas for new proposals and additional collaborators. Many of these goals were met, although specific strategies for 1) meeting our goals in Year Four, 2) implementing the evaluation plan and 3) establishing a framework for the new proposal await further discussion and additional information.

Two important achievements of the LAKH conference are the signing of Memoranda of Cooperation between UNM and IBICT and Abya Yala, respectively.

The conference started with two introductory presentations provided by ***Johann van Reenen*** and ***Cynthia Radding***, both related respectively to the Open Archives philosophy and the objectives and progress to date of the LAKH project.

## Institutional Presentations

1. **UNM-HSC-LAKH**: **Latin American Social Medicine**

June 11, 2008, 2:00 to 3:30 PM

*Celia Iriart* explained briefly the history and challenges of the LASM Project within the UNM. *Howard Waitzkin* developed a Social Medicine research project from 1995 to 1999 with the collaboration of Latin American researchers. After that, *Howard Waitzkin* understood the importance of disseminating these new field and methodologies in USA and promoted along with LA researchers and *Holly Buchanan,* UNM-HSLIC director, the creation of LASM data base and a portal for publishing LASM structured abstracts in three languages (English, Portuguese, and Spanish). Several international teams were organized under the UNM *Celia Iriart* coordination.

The main challenges were:
- Complexity of abstracting process in three languages
- Subscription and access to LASM publications
- International and multidisciplinary coordination
- Interchanging of abstracts and peer review among participants

As result, the portal has been created and approximately 400 abstracts have been posted in three languages. Since its implementation, thousands of portal visits have been registered and numerous USA and LA researchers have contacted the LASM team in search of these knowledge.


2. **Universidad de Guadalajara**, **CUCS: Latin American Social Medicine**
   June 11, 2008, 2:00 to 3:30 PM
   *Francisco Mercado*, *Eduardo Hernández-Ibarra,* and *Igor Ramos*

*Igor Ramos* started the presentation with UG and CUCS overviews, in order to contextualize the CUCS program. The UG CUCS Latin American Social Medicina Project has the formal name of "*Programa de Investigación y Evaluación Cualitativa en Salud*." *Francisco Mercado* emphasized the program's methodological orientations in qualitative research and in a socialist tradition that has supported the principles of social medicine. However, the UG does not have a department of social medicine. He noted that the *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco* (in Mexico City) does have both a MA and PhD program in social medicine. In terms of the CUCS participation in the LAKH project, *Francisco Mercado* underscored four main questions: What does the UG gain from this project? Are the terms of participation equitable? Are the financial resources adequate? How can the project serve the CUCS' strategies for promoting and disseminating the published research in Latin American social medicine? *Eduardo Hernández-Ibarra*, finally, explained in detail the CUCS abstracting production process, and pointed out administrative difficulties.

Suggestions and action items: *Pepe Almeida* responded to *Francisco Mercado*'s exposition by praising the work of CUCS and suggesting that we join efforts to consolidate an enduring (sustainable) product in the LASM/MSLA database and to seek additional resources.

3. **Universidad Simón Bolívar, Instituto Bolivarium: digital historical collections**
   June 11, 2008, 4:00 to 6:00 PM
   *Carole Leal* and *Francisco Muñoz*

*Carole Leal Curiel* reviewed the state of the art in archival recovery and preservation in Venezuela. She cited projects initiated by the *Universidad Católica*, the *Archivo General de la Nación de Venezuela*, and USB. She observed that archival preservation with digitalization requires the political will and cooperation of local and state authorities. Leal noted that only the IB has developed a database (*Papiro*) with search capability. The translation of the *Papiro* database into DSpace, successfully accomplished during the third year of the grant, has increased the speed of search results and the visibility of the collections, but with some loss of the richness and detail of the data.

http:dspace.bolivarium.usb.ve/dspace/handle

Suggestions and action items: *Johann van Reenen* asked about translating terms from the metadata for each collection within the IB repository for the *Actas de Cabildo de Valencia* in order to create a data load for standard items and guidelines for the individual translation of metadata for the objects in the collection. *Johann van Reenen* emphasized that we should write articles about our process among the project participants.

4. **IBICT, Ministério de Ciência e Tecnologia do Brasil: Instituto Brasileiro da Informação em Ciência y Tecnologia**
   June 11, 2008, 4:00 to 6:00 PM
   *Hélio Kuramoto*

*Hélio Kuramoto* reviewed the standards that govern IBICT collecting policies and pointed to a number of international protocols that guide both the formation of institutional repositories and harvesting of metadata. IBICT collects metadata for scientific articles from Scielo, a database of Latin American journals. IBICT uses the ETD language (editing theses and dissertations) which is compatible with DSpace and complies with the Dublin core of metadata. IBICT has over 70,000 full-text theses and dissertations produced in Brazil, with 78 universities integrated into the IBICT system. *Hélio Kuramoto* brought to our attention opportunities like the UNL (Universal Networking Language) as well as ongoing problems with common standards, especially with the use of open access software like the OJS (Open Journals System) in order to comply with ISO standards.

IBICT's objectives and accomplishments include:
- Collect metadata from OJS journals
- Promote institutional repositories
- Serve as an incubator of OAI-PMH compliant journals
- Distribute technological kits

- Legislative initiatives, such as the Brazilian Manifesto in Support of Open Access

**5. Centro Cultural Abya Yala del Ecuador**
June 11, 2008, 4:00 to 6:00 PPM
*Juan Bottasso* and *Anabel Castillo*

Padre *Juan Bottasso* and *Anabel Castillo* explained the origins of Abya Yala and its objectives to advocate for the dignity and rights of indigenous peoples through the publication of verifiable research about and, where possible, by indigenous peoples. It initiated with *Juan Bottasso*'s work among the Shuar and other tribes of the Ecuadorian rain forest, and extended to cover Andean groups and publications from and about other Latin American countries. At present, Abya Yala's connection with the LAKH project is through University Libraries and the Indigenous Nations Library Program of UNM.

# Thematic panels

**Panel I**
> ***OAI principles and Uses of Technology in the international collaboration for accessing and exchanging information in Sciences, Humanities, and Arts***
> June 12, 2008, 9:00 to 10:00 AM
> *Silvio Ernesto Barbin* (Moderator), *Johann van Reenen*, *Hélio Kuramoto*, and *Igor Ramos*

*Silvio Barbin* introduced the topic of the panel by a succinct overview on the main issues related to the OAI. He made a presentation aiming at international collaboration by sharing the work of CenPRA in its three main areas of research and development, i.e. microelectronics, software and IT applications. He emphasized projects linked to social development and inclusion and how they connect science and technology with social demands. One of the examples that he showed was a high tech user friendly desk for K-12 students designed to fulfill the social requirements for education. Projects on e-government, prosthesis fast prototyping, medical public software and management benchmarking were addressed in view of possible collaborations. Finally, he introduced the ORE initiative as a new trend for open archives.

*Johann van Reenen* gave a brief overview of the growth of international protocols and agreements for Open Archives Initiatives, beginning with the pioneering Open Access Initiative (OAI) agreement by 21 participants in Santa Fe, NM in 1999. This resulted in the OAI Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI/PMH). European advances include the Berlin Open Access Accord (now in its fifth iteration) and the Portuguese Foundation for Interaction between Portugal and the U.S (FLAD) with whom the UNM Libraries and *Universidade do Minho* have a successful grant project. Currently the most promising new protocol is being developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory Digital Library

Protocol Group called Object Re-use and Exchange (ORE). Two graduate students from Portugal funded by the above FLAD grant are coming to UNM to work on ORE for their PhD programs from UdoM. In addition, the U.S. NIH requires as of next month (July 2008) that all published research funded by NIH grants be deposited in the PubMed Central open-access repository. The general movement is away from exclusive copyrights to co-ownership of scientific information and its free accessibility.

Citations: http://www.dlib.org. For data warehousing and curation issues see: http://aisti.org/home/files/ERSWhitePaper.pdf. ROAR is the Registry of Open Access Repositories. ROMEO (http://romeo.eprints.org/ ) provides a search function to find out which journals have and have not already given their green light to author self-archiving. It is based on data currently maintained by the SHERPA project.

*Hélio Kuramoto* addressed the use of technology for collaboration to access and exchange knowledge. He presented OAI model as a set of interoperability standards, following the OAI-PMH: protocol of communication and the Dublin Core metadata set. He addressed the advantages of using OA for its flexibility, low cost, and good distribution and spoke of the consolidation of the model (NDLTD, DOAJ, BDTD, FAST, Aleph, VTLS, etc). Many open source software packages are OAI compliant (E-prints, DSpace, OJS, OCS, Greenstone, TEDE, Nou-Rau, etc). IBICT is using the OA through the OAI compliant Data Provider and by using a Harvester for a Service Provider. He addressed the kinds of application of OA that involve more than one collection or information system, integrated in an information network with several examples currently used in Brazil for referral information, scholarly communication, legal information, digital contents for distance education and digital object preservation.


*Igor Ramos* presented briefly the experience of UG. The UG is advancing in the use of Open Archives by the construction of repositories and planning for an on-line journal.


**Panel II**
> ***Creation of repositories for non-conventional documentation (historical and indigenous materials): challenges and perspectives under OAI Initiative***
> June 12, 2008, 10:30 to 12:00 PM
> ***Cynthia Radding*** (Moderator), ***Paulita Aguilar***, ***Rebecca Blum-Martínez***, ***Juan Bottasso***, and ***Carole Leal***

*Paulita Aguilar* and *Rebecca Blum-Martínez* emphasized *both* the need for expanding and disseminating texts and non-text cultural materials produced by indigenous and other self-identified communities *and* the need to respect the silences and reservations of these communities to sharing their histories and ritual languages with outsiders. *Paulita Aguilar* demonstrated several on-line sources and collections and reported on the ways that INLP is helping small tribal libraries through the technology of DSpace. Challenges are:

- Tribes are sovereign nations with changing tribal governments each year, thus political cooperation must be renegotiated frequently.
- Infrastructure and training in OA techniques is not easy and is costly for tribes.
- The digital divide and broadband access makes it difficult to assure tribal access to IRs.
- There are opportunities to teach the younger generations.

*Rebecca Blum-Martínez* underscored three challenges to scholars who work with indigenous groups and other self-identified communities: how to respect their sovereignty and the knowledge that they need to protect; how to influence educational policies; how to work in these communities without falling into colonialist practices that may dilute internal customs and native languages. To address these challenges she pointed to the efficacy of seeking out discussions with colleagues in Latin America who face some of the same challenges and of formalizing agreements among scholars, institutions, and native communities.

*Juan Bottasso* echoed the earlier speakers in pointing out the Indians' resistance to share their knowledge with outsiders and their views of oral/written language and of historical memory which often differ from academic notions of universal dissemination of knowledge. He emphasized the contrasts and contradictions from oral traditions to written text, as in the "profanation" of religious mythologies when thee are written. At the same time he pointed to the valuable information to be discerned from mission archives.

*Carole Leal* questioned the panel's theme of "non-conventional" sources, and reoriented the discussion to historical treatment of textual sources and the need for sensitive and critical readings of texts in early colonial languages. She pointed to the mediation between the object – the document – the subject – the reading public – and the intermediary – the historian, archivist, or scholar. *Carole Leal* underscored that the ordering of information affects its meaning. She questioned the benefits of DSpace, which increases the speed of retrieval and the visibility of entire collections, but which tends to homogenize the information in the metadata and loses the density and richness of data in a database like Papiro, designed for historians.

The panel discussion centered on problems of globalization. Does technology work effectively to solve these problems of cultural sensitivity? How best can minority communities access and contribute to the growth and management of information? *Hélio Kuramoto* and *Silvio Barbin* reminded us of important international conventions and resources through the United Nations, especially UNESCO for establishing OAI repositories and expanding access to information. One of these is IFAP (Information for All Programme) which is an intergovernmental program aiming at enhancing opportunities in the digital age to create equitable societies through better access to information. Participating countries are working to establish policies toward the objectives of IFAP. In Brazil, IBICT is leading a task force with other institutions including CenPRA for making this initiative effective.

**Panel III**
> ***Building conceptual bridges among partners as a contribution to the production and dissemination of knowledge: Latin American Social Medicine***
> June 12, 2008, 2:00 to 3:30 PM
> ***Roberto Ibarra*** (Moderator), ***William Wiese***, ***Francisco Mercado***, ***Eduardo Hernández***, and ***Celia Iriart***


*William Wiese* gave a presentation around the challenge of bridging the biomedical sciences and social sciences. He started making a distinction between personal health care and population health. *William Wiese* criticized as a fallacy the belief that the path to reducing the incidence of disease is to identify persons at particularly high risk and intervene to reduce the risk. Strategies are needed to examine the causes that affect the population broadly rather than focusing only on high risk individuals: environmental determinants of behaviors and the social and economic enablers of these determinants. This strategy belongs to a socio-ecological model. The information needed lies outside of the familiar biomedical world. It lies in the social sciences literature.

*Francisco Mercado* and *Celia Iriart* gave brief histories of the philosophy and praxis of Latin American social medicine. *Francisco Mercado* offered interesting reflections on the themes and methodologies of MSLA, emphasizing that this field represents a political and ideological stance as well as an area of study, including traditional medicine and the history of medicine. The boundaries of Latin American social medicine have changed over time, having begun with Marxist and neo-Marxist theoretical approaches; MSLA has provoked numerous debates from different disciplines and expanded to include theoretical perspectives from feminism, gender studies, and cultural studies. MSLA is now distinguished by classical authors, different methodological schools, and themes like labor and health, biomedical practices, and non-hegemonic, self-treatments by different sectors of the population. *Francisco Mercado* raised the issue of whether placing the abstracts of social medicine articles removes them from their context; that is, from the process of research that gave rise to the scientific publication. *Celia Iriart* spoke of several bridges between MSLA, European social medicine and practices of social medicine in the U.S. She cited the work of ***Howard Waitzkin*** (UNM) and the residency in social medicine established at the Albert Einstein Hospital in New York.


# Group Discussions


**Group A**
> *OAI and Sciences, Humanities and Arts*
> June 12, 2008, 4:00 to 6:00 PM
> Participants: ***Hélio Kuramoto***, ***Igor Ramos***, ***Silvio Ernesto Barbin***.

The discussion centered on the relationship between open access and OAI and the flexibility of the OA model. First, the emphasis was on the use of OA for integrating distributed repositories. Repositories were linked to the idea of Open Access, which is not appropriate because OA is a set of patterns that permits interoperability between one or more repositories, independently if they have open or restricted access. Secondly, the flexibility of the OA model was discussed. It allows a network of information services to use different software packages to manage its repositories, in compliance with the OAI metadata protocols, as observed by the uses of Eprint, DSpace and Open Journal System.

All of this software shares the following:
- A communication layer that permits the harvesting of metadata (OAI-PMH protocol)
- A set of Dublin Core metadata

The advantages of using OA were shown in a presentation on the Digital Library of Thesis and Dissertation, a successful experience in Brazil. The Brazilian Digital library integrates about 78 universities, with over 70,000 theses and dissertations. This initiative presents the universities as Data Providers and hosts of their local repositories for thesis and dissertations and the *Instituto Brasileiro de Informação em Ciência e Tecnologia* (IBICT) as the Service Provider. IBICT plays the role of Service Provider for the Brazilian universities and that of Data Provider in relation to the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD). A NDLTD collects metadata of the Brazilian theses and dissertations at IBICT. IBICT plays the role of aggregator.


**Group B**
> ***Historical and Indigenous documentation***
> June 12, 2008, 4:00 to 6:00 PM
> Participants: ***Rebecca Blum-Martinez*** (UNM LAPE/COE), ***Christine Simms*** (UNM, Language Revitalization), ***Carole Leal*** (Universidad Simon Bolivar), ***Paulita Aguilar*** (Indigenous Nations Library Program), ***Juan Bottasso*** and ***Anabel Castillo*** (Abya Yala), ***Greg Cajete*** (UNM Native American Studies), ***Suzanne Schadl***, ***Carolyn Mountain***, and ***Johann van Reenen*** (UNM Libraries), and ***Susan Taylor*** (Center for Southwest Research).

The group agreed that the three day TICFIA grant meeting was a rare opportunity for researchers from diverse fields but all with a strong Indigenous peoples focus to share ideas and start joint projects between Latin American and US participants. The UNM library especially was grateful to have the opportunity for employees of the Library's Research Programs to meet with Latin American researchers and with indigenous people's experts and community members.

The outcomes exceeded our expectations:
- INLP and DILARES made an agreement with the Abya Yala Cultural Center (Ecuador), an important Indigenous publishing house, to purchase all their print book titles at list price (UNM has about 660 titles already) and all electronic

copies available now and in future of these books at 3X list price for the rights to submit these to DSpace as the sole representative in the US for Abya Yala. Additionally the TICFIA grant will translate the titles and keywords and in some cases abstracts into English from Quechua (Quichua, in Ecuador) and Spanish. Both of these languages are taught at UNM. This should provide additional exposure for this specialized publishing house and add to the UL's unique holdings.

- Padre *Juan Bottasso* from Abya Yala explained their objective to advocate for the dignity and rights of indigenous peoples through the publication of verifiable research about and, where possible, by indigenous peoples. *Greg Cajete* and *Christine Simms* brought examples of books published in English they would like to translate and publish with Abya Yala. There are additional opportunities to work on new book projects.  This was an unexpected addition to our agreement. Another was *Juan Bottasso*'s work among the Shuar peoples (*Jibaros* in Spanish or the so-called "Head Hunters") and other tribes of the Ecuadorian rain forest. Abya Yala owns a collection of descriptions in typescript of life stories, songs, and poems of the Shuar. We will work with them to digitize these for DSpace.


**Group C**
> *Latin American Social Medicine*
> June 12, 2008, 4:00 to 6:00 PM
> Participants: *Celia Iriart, Holly Buchanan*, *Francisco Mercado*, *Eduardo Hernández-Ibarra*, *Pepe Almeida*, *Cynthia Radding*.

The UG CUCS team raised specific questions about Years 3 and 4 of the TICFIA/LAKH project concerning the elaboration of the social medical abstracts in Spanish and their accurate translation into English and Portuguese. In addition, they stated that it was difficult to find books in the field to abstract, and that they will concentrate on journal articles. Concrete suggestions that arose from this session:

- Find (and pay, if necessary) editorial advisement for *Eduardo Ibarra* in the writing of the abstracts in Spanish. *Francisco Mercado* will inquire at the postgraduate social medicine program at UAM-Xochimilco in Mexico.
- The LAKH team will inquire in the HCS, RW Johnson Foundation Center, and BA/MD joint degree program at UNM for persons knowledgeable about social medicine who could review the translations in English against the Spanish abstracts. Both the UG and UNM LAKH teams committed to finding such advisors by the end of July.
- The English translator should communicate directly with *Eduardo Hernández-Ibarra*.
- An additional dimension to this solution is to organize academic courses or seminars around the review of the social medicine abstracts, in order to encourage students to participate in the exercise and to promote the use of the social medicine database.

To address **Francisco Mercado**'s concern about decontextualizing the abstracts from their professional and intellectual context, we propose to write a "white paper" or short essay about social medicine, to be posted in both the UNM and UG IRs, that will explain the field and precede the individual abstracts posted there. In addition, we need to define this Community and create links to key articles about social medicine on the portal to the UNM IR and our LAKH web site.

Possible additional sources of funding include: PAHO, BIREME (Brazil), AMSLA (*Asociación de Medicina Social Latinoamericana*), NIH-NLM (National Library of Medicine), and IMLS (Institute of Museums and Library Science).

Administrative solution to managing the funds: instead of channeling the invoice for the TICFIA funds through the UG bureaucracy, we can use the *Fundación Mexicana para la Salud*, and its Jalisco chapter. We will need a brief Memorandum of Understanding, and **Francisco Mercado** would appear as the responsible person for receiving the funds. (We later spoke to **Vickie Nelson** about this, and confirmed that it is a viable solution: we need to show that the agreement is still with UG, but that the Foundation is issuing the invoice.)

**Group D**
  *DSpace and LAKH Technology Issues*
  June 13, 10:30 to 12:00 PM
  Participants: **Brian Freells-Stendel**, **Ulf Hofemeier**, **Lance Lewis**, **Francisco Muñoz**, **Eduardo Hernández-Ibarra**, **Igor Ramos**.

The group reviewed the major concerns of partners implementing DSpace institutional repository software:

CUCS, Guadalajara experienced difficulty finding their Spanish Language entries in the UdG DSpace instance using Internet searches. A search using "CUCS DSpace" and titles found these items in Google™ as did a subsequent subject search. The UNM DSpace items are consistently found via search engines.

To establish relational tri-lingual collections at UNM DSpace for LASM was a challenge. **Francisco Muñoz** demonstrated an alternative way to do this. However this will require that all collections in a DSpace instance will need to be changed to this system and then re-indexed with each software update.

**Francisco Muñoz** took the group through a step-by-step process using a Powerpoint presentation demonstrating how he transferred the Bolivarium data to DSpace. He used the data schema proposed by **Christine Mueller** of LAKH. We were impressed by the professional and systematic process used. This will be very useful in future for partners wanting to transfer data into open access systems. LAKH will archive this presentation. Their repository currently holds 8,400 items in the register and 35,000 images.

**Questions**:
- Has this collection been harvested by LAKH? Can it be harvested so that titles, at least, can be translated?
- Are there common themes that can be described by recurring words in sub-collections? If so, these translated key words could be added to all records using a global update.

 **Action**: the UNM and USB partners will work on this.

*Igor Ramos* made a presentation on the UdG DSpace instance provided by the UdG *Biblioteca Virtual*. There is a CUCS community (acervo, in Spanish) and a LASM collection holding the Spanish abstracts. It functions seamlessly!

On harvesting, *Johann van Reenen* reminded the group that IBICT reported they successfully harvested SCIELO journal articles. *Zhiwu Xie* had previously tried to do this but found the SCIELO metadata to be non-compliant. IBICT did a lot of re-encoding. It may be useful to try harvesting directly from them. However, at a recent TICFIA meeting we decided not to harvest any more collections until we have translated the current harvested content.

On statistics, all our DSpace instances and the LAKH Harvester need to collect statistics for evaluation. DSpace has an integrated statistical module that is implemented at all sites.

A search box will be required on the LAKH website for all three languages to make it more obvious where to search. The LAKH group needs to publicize this function.

**Actions**:
- *Pepe Almeida* will need to ask for statistics (hits and downloads) regularly (quarterly or monthly) from all four services.
- *Brian Freells-Stendel* will develop a search box and ask *Ulf Hofemeier* to insert it on the respective web sites.

# Workshops

1. **Solving Technical/organizational Issues**
   June 13, 2008, 9:00 to 10:00 AM

On translations and abstracts, we noted the need to have groups of readers who are knowledgeable about the different fields review the abstracts and translations. We discussed the viability of creating seminars among *tesistas* (MA students at the thesis stage of their careers) to read the summaries for both social medicine (CUCS) and history

(USB, IB). **Hélio Kuramoto** suggested the possibility of using an electronic translating interface – UNDL (Universal Networking Digital Language Foundation), although this tool is not fully developed at the present time. The IB team pointed out the differences in the challenges of abstracting information from historical documents and from publications, like the USB *Anuario*.

Institutional articulations to explore include: Universidade de Brasília, its translating unit; medical faculties; BIREME and the *Fundação Oswaldo Cruz* (FIOCRUZ).


2. **New project and new collections to ingest or harvest.**
   June 13, 2008, 10:30 to 11:00 AM

*Pepe Almeida* summarized the TICFIA criteria for submission of new proposals:
- Significantly different from the ongoing project
- Using current technology, but adding major functionality
- Focus on Science, Technology, and Medicine

The USB Instituto Bolivarium questioned what role it would have in the new project, if the unifying theme if Science, Technology and Medicine. **Carole Leal** informed us about the Venezuelan *Ley Orgánica en Ciencia y Tecnología*, creating a fund to which the IB plans to request funds to transfer the O'Leary Collection to Word and PDF Electronic files.

Abya Yala informed us of the *Federación Shuar*, a collection of books that are in typescript, but not published. These could be scanned and downloaded to DSpace.


3. **Inter-institutional relations between LAKH and our Latin American partners.**
   June 13, 2008, 11:00 to 12:30 PM

All the participants in this workshop agreed on the following points:
- Communication of information about the intent of TICFIA and the full extension of the LAKH project – in terms of its thematic possibilities – was insufficient to help our partners get a complete picture of the project and the potential for new collections.
- *Convenios* or Memoranda of Understanding (or of Cooperation) are important to support our partners' participation in the project.
- Partners' satisfaction about the advantages gained by their institutions from participating in the project is still not fully confirmed.

**Francisco Mercado** (UG CUCS) reiterated his concern for the quality of the product, the dissemination of our collections and IRs, and the equitable relationship among the partners.

**Suggestions:**
- Create a list serve for open discussions among all the partners, moderated by UNM.
- Communicate to the partners the guidelines and specific goals for Year 4.
- Communicate to the partners the guidelines and requirements for the new proposal as soon as UNM receives the information.

**4. Project evaluation.**
   June 13, 2008, 4:00 to 5:00 PM

*Pepe Almeida* restated the fundamental objectives of the TICFIA grant – to enhance access to new information for North American audiences. We agreed on the following meaningful criteria for the LAKH partners:

- Participants' experience in the project, as "proof of concept": for example, how the USB, IB accomplished the migration of their database from Papiro to DSpace.
- Assessment: how did the partners' participation in TICFIA/LAKH help them meet their goals for technological advancement and for enhancing the basic functions of their institutions?
- Users: Anglophone, Spanish and Portuguese users. The Latin American Association of Social Medicine may help us find or create user groups.

*Hélio Kuramoto* distinguished between users in the U.S. and Brazil. He suggested putting a link to our user groups on the IBICT web site, and noted that IBICT users are usually universities and research centers.

The USB IB generally serves students of history, lawyers, and researchers from their own institute. They would like to see a user group created in the U.S.

**Evaluation criteria:**
   1) Internal experience;
   2) Responses from external users and constructed user groups;
   3) Proof of concept in creating OA repositories;
   4) Sustainability of the process: to continue the growth of the IRs and to promote and publish their usefulness to a wide potential audience.

We discussed means of evaluation – website surveys – that can be placed on the IRs and on the harvester portal.

**5. Summary of LAKH strengths and weaknesses:**
   June 13, 2008, 5:00 to 6:00 PM

- Strength: technological achievements in creating DSpace IRs and database migrations.

- Weakness: communicate effectively the global reach of the project.


**Action items:**
- To evaluate institutional difficulties and assume the search of solutions as much internally as along with project partners.
- To define carefully and prioritize the goals for the fourth year of the LAKH project.
- To create the discussion list group immediately.
- To create and send internal evaluation questionnaire to LAKH partners by early October.
- To design the plan for forming user groups to implement the evaluation of the project in the U.S., and where feasible, by our LAKH Latin American partners.
- Dissemination and outreach for the LAKH project.

Over the summer months, LAII/TICFIA/LAKH will create a strategy for establishing user groups and designing a questionnaire for them. We will share these instruments and our strategy with all four LAKH partners. We recognize that the educative impact of the IRs and harvester is different for each institution and we considered ways of finding new users for the IRs created through the project. The technological impacts need also to be questioned: we should not assume that the technology, by itself, will augment the visibility and the usefulness of the repositories we have created.