Indo-US Workshop on Open Digital Libraries and Interoperability

Position Paper by

Prof. Mohammad Zubair
Department of Computer Science
Old Dominion University
Norfolk, VA 23529
Email: zubair@CS.ODU.EDU

Title: Building Digital Libraries for Communities using Kepler Framework

Abstract:

In the last decade, literally thousands of digital libraries have emerged. One of the biggest obstacles for dissemination of information to a user community is that many digital libraries use different, proprietary technologies that inhibit interoperability. One major effort that addresses interoperability is the Open Archive Initiative (OAI), which facilitates the discovery of content stored in distributed archives. Realizing the benefits of OAI, a number of communities are interested in an out-of-the-box solution that will help them deploy OAI based digital libraries consisting of publishing tools, archives, and search services. This would allow communities to set up and operate their own communal digital libraries without the high costs of implementation and maintenance associated with starting from scratch. Building a communal digital library is currently severely hampered by the lack of tools and software that are easy to use and address diverse requirements of different communities. In particular, metadata, as the codification of the world views that define a community, needs to accommodate varying formats, uses, encodings and pedigrees. In this talk, we will present Kepler and related tools that can be used for building communal digital libraries.