Language Box – Some cool stuff to do with EPrints

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LanguageBox.EPrints.org
What is Language Box

• Language Box is a learning teaching repository

• It is a place on the internet for Language teachers to store and manage their teaching materials

• It primarily stores day to day teaching materials

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It’s Fully Buzzword Compliant

AJAX

Pragmatic

Interactive

Novel

Inline Previews

Interlinked

Tags

Hierarchical

Feedback

Organized

Community Engagement

Folksonomy

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Whys is that?

• Because it had to be
• Because it can be
• We made a mess of it once before…

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Clare

- It was pretty much a default EPrints repository
- It used LOM 😞
- People said it felt “Flat”, “Uninteresting”, “Over complicated”.
- IMPORTANTLY: it didn’t really get used.
A Closer Look At The Problem

• It used LOM 😞
• People don’t use LOM
• People use Word and a photocopier
• People don’t understand Zip files and XML

• The product didn’t suit the target audience

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The Solution

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Build A Community Of People

• You need a user community if you want to get deposits without a mandate

• For that Community to exist each individual needs a identity

• Users need to be able to communicate with each other

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Give Your Users Familiar Tools

• Don’t unnecessarily inconvenience your users. Change the way you work to suit the way they work.

• Make your interfaces familiar.

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Completely Reduce Complication

• 7 Field work flow and I wish it was less…

• No enforced formats. We will take what ever you’ve got

• Make it easy to organise
Make It Easy To Find Things

• Search on every bit of metadata you’ve got in the simple search

• Have recommendations, derivations, activities

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Give The Community A Voice

• Get suggestions at workshops

• Give them a comments system so they can talk to each other

• Give them a system so that they can talk to the people in charge.

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What’s in it for them?

- You have to sell this to them.
- They get an online space to store and organise their materials.
- They can give links to their colleagues and students.
- Make their stuff look good.

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Where Next?

• We are spreading the love
  – More deployments
  – More publicity
  – More deposits

• EPrints plugins for you to use in your repository

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