

CREE Workshop

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Portals @ University of Edinburgh

- Some kind of portal since 2002
- MyEd (uPortal) since 2004
 - Alumni January 2004
 - Staff October 2004 (SSO)
 - Students July 2005
- 0.5 million logins per month / 20k + users

Library Resources

- Single Library tab
 - Tested this in our recent upgrade project
 - Library Catalogue / Website / Library News / Borrowing Record
- Separate 'Search & Info' tab
 - Google searches (inc ed.ac.uk)
 - 'Ask a Librarian' on our Help tab

Portals and Library Resources

- Resource Discovery / Personalisation
- Scalability (across resources)
- Usability
- Customisation
- Authentication
- Search Results

Discovery & Personalisation

- Institutional portals offer a 'captive audience' and opportunity to 'market' services
- Works best when targeted (subject area?)
- Requires underpinning user / profile data
- Referral services?

Scalability

- Scale of institutional portals
- Breadth of resources held by libraries
- What gets integrated?
 - Each resource?
 - Most popular?
 - Most generic?
- Federated searching targeted at subject areas?
- Still needs that user profile info though...

Usability

- Native Interfaces
 - Portal Interface
 - Resource Interface
- Google (Scholar) is popular for a reason
- Librarians dislike Google Scholar for a reason

Customisation

- User preferences for results display
- Ability to 'cut and dice' results
- Saved searches?
- Portals as alerting mechanisms

Authentication

- Seamless-ness
- Multiple methods
- Multiple personalities
 - Within the institution
 - Beyond the institution

Search Results

- What do we want to do with search results?
- Save them?
- Share them?
- Tag them?
- Find more (similar)