**UK Developments**

**EThOS**

In April the EThOS Update newsletter reported on an upgrade to the EThOS database to ensure that from now on it will support all non-standard character sets and diacritics. While advising that it would be some time before all the existing errors are corrected, EThOS indicated that it aimed to re-harvest or amend incorrect records as quickly as possible. The May newsletter reported that abstracts had been added to 2400 records from member institutions for the first time - and that a further 4100 had corrections made to replace non-standard characters. Attention is also being given to the issue of de-duplication.

Another recent development was highlighted in the announcement that EThOS data would be available via the Primo Central search and discovery service from early June.

EThOS ran a workshop, in partnership with colleagues from a number of UK universities, at ‘Open Repositories 2012’ in Edinburgh in July. The focus of the event was on technical and interoperability challenges and on the wider role of EThOS.

By August the British Library was able to report that EThOS held 60,000 full-text theses. The same month saw another development with EThOS content being indexed by Google Scholar – resulting in a significant increase in the number of page views of EThOS records.

With regard to administrative issues: EThOS has introduced a new membership model – with subscriptions based on a banding system. There is no increase in price planned for the second year of subscriptions (from November 2012). Amongst the increased services available to members is the provision of usage statistics (since all users have to register to download or order theses from EThOS, demographic data can be collected).

With regard to external liaison, the EThOS Service Manager attended the USETDA Conference in Boston in June and has met with the Chair of DART-Europe to discuss potential links between Dart-Europe and EThOS.

**ProQuest / RLUK Trial Project**

In addition to the opportunities for retrospective digitisation offered by EThOS, a small number of libraries have been offered the opportunity to participate in a trial service provided by ProQuest. Starting with the aim of digitising 8,000 theses in 2012, the project will evaluate the success of the activity with a view to further developments and expansion in future years.

**DART-Europe**

The Dart-Europe portal currently provides access to over 315,700 research theses from 436 universities in 24 European countries.

As indicated on the LIBER Blog ([http://libereurope.eu/blog/dart-europe-milestone](http://libereurope.eu/blog/dart-europe-milestone)), on 6th June, the 300,000th thesis to be aggregated was one awarded by the Université de Technologie de Belfort-Montbéliard and supplied by STAR – DART-Europe’s partner in France ([http://en.abes.fr/Theses/Applications-dedicated-to-theses/STAR](http://en.abes.fr/Theses/Applications-dedicated-to-theses/STAR)).

UCL, on behalf of DART-Europe, is a content partner in the Europeana Libraries project ([http://www.europeana-libraries.eu/](http://www.europeana-libraries.eu/)). DART-Europe contributors have been contacted by UCL with regard to an opportunity for them to opt-in to a service which involves DART-Europe records appearing in The European Library Portal ([http://search.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/en/index.html?hash=69675](http://search.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/en/index.html?hash=69675)).

The DART-Europe records will also be made available by TEL to the Europeana Portal ([http://www.europeana.eu/portal/](http://www.europeana.eu/portal/)).