

# elpub.scix.net

Bob Martens

Vienna University of Technology, Faculty of Architecture and Regional Planning  
Karlsplatz 13, A-1040 Vienna, Austria  
e-mail: [b.martens@tuwien.ac.at](mailto:b.martens@tuwien.ac.at)

## ABSTRACT

The Digital Library of ELPUB conference papers is hosted at <http://elpub.scix.net>. In this paper, in addition to a demonstration of implemented features, background information and matters of handling will be elaborated. In the framework of this workshop similar libraries with post-conference publishing entities will be described. Furthermore, parallel systems that are aiming at submission and review procedures as pre-conference publishing activities, and are based on the same database environment, will be presented.

**Keywords:** digital preservation; shared information; self-organization; collaboration

## INTRODUCTION

**elpub.scix.net**, a repository archiving ELPUB conference papers [1], was created in 2003. Ironically, although ELPUB stands for ELectronic PUBlishing, the ELPUB-proceedings were not published electronically before the 7th conference in 2003. The number of recorded ELPUB-entries is currently 298, each of which is typically a full paper in PDF-format. A basic search in this Digital Library is as simple as in Google. But with the help of some enhanced search features, more valuable information could potentially be retrieved. In other words: How do we get more out of **elpub.scix.net**?

**elpub.scix.net** has been developed in the context of the SciX-project [<http://www.SciX.net>], - an acronym for "Open, self organising repository for scientific information exchange" [2]. SciX Open Publishing Services ("SOPS" - <http://www.SciX.net/sops.htm> ) can be regarded as modular software that allows the setting up of various on-line Digital Libraries, such as personal, institutional and themed archives; conference support (submission, review, publishing, registration), and electronic journals. Descriptions concerning the repositories mentioned in this workshop can be found in the references [1-3].

## EXAMPLES OF POST-CONFERENCE PUBLISHING

In order to support associations with self-organizing archives, a collection of Digital Library solutions has been established, such as **elpub.scix.net**, **iaps.scix.net**, **itc.scix.net** and **cumincad.scix.net**. These electronic libraries should be "sustainable" concerning the handling and maintenance and not require a massive input of personal resources. The number of records, years of publication covered and usership can be rather different. For example, **elpub.scix.net** contains a relatively low number of recorded entries and less than ten years of publication activity are covered. However, the number of papers is growing from year to year, which makes the repository interesting to the community. More importantly, there is not only access to the citation data, but also to the corresponding full paper. In the course of time it is worthwhile to see how the field, covered by the series of ELPUB-conferences, has been evolving and changing. A repository can possibly act as a kind of market place in between conferences and can bring people together. Also reviewers of forthcoming conferences can trace back to where an entry has already been published. As long as thousands of entries are not recorded, (advanced) search and advanced features will not be of high importance. However, the manual searching of nearly 300 ELPUB-entries is already time-consuming and therefore there is a need for new features to facilitate information retrieval.

## EXAMPLES OF PRE-CONFERENCE PUBLISHING

In comparison with a journal paper, a conference paper has usually to be "produced" within extremely tight timelines, as conferences are scheduled for a certain date and in many cases organizers are not aiming at the production of post-conference proceedings. Electronic communication means can facilitate the fast and uncomplicated distribution of submitted entries, for example, to reviewers. By means of web-based interfaces the reviewing work can be handled at nearly any location in the world. This may not apply in the same way for a conference of seminar with 40-50 participants. However, for larger numbers enhanced support may be required. The examples of **iaps2004.scix.net** and **aesop2005.scix.net** will be presented in this context, as we are talking here about 400-500 recorded entries (and 800-1500 assigned reviews). Several checks related to access rights are needed, as, for example without such checks, a submitter can act potentially as a reviewer. Once the conference has taken place, the accepted entries can be efficiently transported to the post-conference publishing library.

## REFERENCES

- 1 Martens, B.; Linde, P.; Turk, Z. *A Digital Library for ELPUB Proceedings: The Use of a Web-Based Prototype*, ELPUB 2003 Conference Proceedings, Guimaraes, Portugal, 2003, p. 363-371
- 2 Bjoerk, B.-C.; Turk, Z.; Martens, B. *Re-Engineering the Scientific Publishing Process for the "Internetworked" Global Academic Community*, ELPUB 2002 Conference, Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic, 2002, p. 152-159
- 3 Martens, B.; Cerovsek, P. *Experiences with Web-based Scientific Collaboration: Managing the Submission and Review Process of Scientific Conferences*, ELPUB 2004 Conference Proceedings, Brasilia, Brasil, p. 204-217