

# Newsline from EDINA

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## About EDINA

EDINA, based Edinburgh, Scotland, is a JISC-funded national datacentre. It offers a library of data, information and research resources. All EDINA services are free of charge at the point of use. For information on institutional subscription fees, visit the EDINA web site, or contact us (details below).

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## Changes at Jorum

Jorum, the free online repository service collecting and making available learning and teaching materials to UK Further and Higher Education Institutions, has some significant improvements to report as it reaches the end of its first successful year of service.

### New Developments

Development of the Jorum service has always been based on comments and feedback from the user community. As a result, the Jorum web site has recently been upgraded and redesigned.

**Improved usability.** Because Jorum comprises two types of service (contributing and downloading), navigation can sometimes be confusing. Two new sections – ‘An Introduction to Contributing for Beginners’ and an improved ‘Getting Started with Jorum’ section – should help users find the answers they are looking for more quickly than before.

**Quick statistics.** Many Jorum users have requested some basic statistics such as how many resources the service holds, how many users and how many institutions have signed up to use Jorum. By December 2006 there had been 2263 downloads of 1949 resources by 1714 users at 301 institutions.

**RSS feeds for materials in Jorum.** Users can now set up RSS feeds in Jorum so that they are automatically notified when new resources they are interested in are contributed. Users can log into Jorum, search for resources about History, for example, and then save the search as an RSS feed. They can bookmark this feed in their web browser favourites or simply drag the RSS feed button to their RSS reader.

**Improved accessibility.** The site has been designed to meet at least level 2 (AA) of the W3C’s Website Accessibility Initiative (WAI) Guidelines, and as far as possible to meet level 3 (AAA). In addition, each page on this website has been checked to ensure that it is XHTML-strict and also validates against its associated Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). If you have any difficulty accessing this service and require further help, or if you have any suggestions to help improve accessibility, please use the feedback form.

### Science film clips available to Jorum

Following negotiations between JISC and IWF (one of the leading science film institutes in the world), permission has been granted to allow IWF Knowledge & Media films to be used in Jorum learning resources. UK colleges and universities contributing resources to Jorum are now able to incorporate these films, or parts of them, into any digital materials they intend to deposit.

The IWF films that can be used by Jorum Contributors are available from **Film & Sound Online**. This service, based at EDINA, hosts other collections besides IWF, but the permission to include films in Jorum resources applies only to the IWF collection.

There are currently 837 IWF films in Film & Sound Online, covering nature and technology, the biological sciences, and ethnographic customs. The Jorum Project Manager at EDINA, Moira Massey, is delighted at the news: “The IWF’s decision offers the Jorum Contributor community the opportunity to

use free, high quality audio-visual recordings to incorporate into learning resources.”

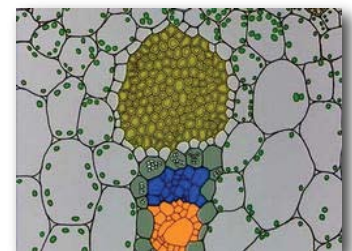
Jorum Contributors wishing to take advantage of the IWF films can download them freely, providing that their institution subscribes to Film & Sound Online. For further information on subscriptions, please visit the link below.

- <http://www.filmandsound.ac.uk>
- <http://www.jorum.ac.uk/>

Stills from a selection of IWF films in Film & Sound Online.



Anopheles: Blood-sucking female mosquito



Anatomy of a Transverse Leaf Section



Aibom (New Guinea, Middle Sepik) - Painting a Sago Jar

# MasterMap Early Adopter Programme

As part of the move to provide the OS MasterMap dataset through Digimap, EDINA is about to commence an Early Adopters Programme. Seven institutions have been chosen from nearly 40 volunteers to trial the MasterMap data and the facilities we are providing to deliver MasterMap. The feedback from these early adopters will help EDINA support the roll-out of the data to the whole community in September 2007.

MasterMap data is replacing the current Land-Line.Plus data. It has significant advantages over Land-Line and will bring Digimap users many benefits.



OS MasterMap image © Crown Copyright/database copyright 2006. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied

From January 2007, users in Early Adopter Institutions will be able to download MasterMap data using a new data supply facility. A new version of Classic will also be available in which MasterMap maps replace Land-line maps. Likewise MasterMap maps will replace Land-Line maps in Carto. This means that for these sites "ready-made" Land-Line maps will no longer be available

through Digimap. Users will be encouraged to use OS MasterMap data wherever possible in teaching and research.

In return for early access to the new dataset, EDINA will ask for feedback on various aspects of using the data – how easy it is to download, how easy it is to manage, whether it is more or less useful for teaching and research than Land-Line.Plus data, etc. Feedback from the experiences of the Early Adopter institutions will enable EDINA to provide more comprehensive and useful support to all other institutions when MasterMap is released to all subscribers.

OS MasterMap will be made available to all Digimap subscribers from September 2007. Land-Line.Plus data will continue to be available, but it will not be updated and will be completely withdrawn in August 2008. Any enquiries about the addition of OS MasterMap to Digimap should be addressed to the EDINA Helpdesk: [edina@ed.ac.uk](mailto:edina@ed.ac.uk)

EDINA would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who expressed a willingness and enthusiasm to participate. We are sorry not to be able to select all those who volunteered.

- <http://edina.ac.uk/mastermap/>

# Geology Digimap launch

In the last edition of *Newsline*, we wrote about an exciting new Digimap service, Geology Digimap, which offers subscribing institutions data from the British Geological Survey.

We can now announce that Geology Digimap will be launched in January 2007. Geology Digimap's look and feel will be familiar to existing Digimap users, offering an intuitive interface to all users, regardless of their level of experience with maps. Users will be able to view maps through their web browser and download the geological map data for use in geographical information systems. Access will be through the Digimap login page. Once your institution subscribes, just pick the Geology Digimap link from the Digimap Collections page after the login. Geology Digimap will be available under licence from JISC; subscription fees are given on the Collections pages of the JISC web site. (See link on page cited below.) Note that the BGS maps and data are available under a separate licence and subscription from other Digimap Collections.

## Early Access

Expert users from the community are currently helping with final testing of the service. Preview screenshots of the interface are available via the URL below. Institutions will be able to subscribe to the service in January 2007.

- <http://edina.ac.uk/digimap/description/geology.html>

Geology Digimap will become an indispensable tool for geologists.



photo © 2006 Tom Armitage

# New Intute tutorial

A new edition of the Internet for Social Statistics online tutorial has been released in the Intute: Virtual Training Suite. The tutorial, which teaches Internet research skills, has been completely updated and revised by Robin Rice of the Edinburgh University Data Library. It is ideal for use in Higher Education courses, particularly in social science or research methods courses.

The tutorial recommends key Internet resources for social statistics, offers advice on Internet searching and web site evalua-

tion, and has a new section called "Success Stories" to illustrate how the Internet can be used to support education and research in a variety of scenarios.

Learn how to use the Internet to:

- find out about your neighbourhood
- find commentary about statistics in the news
- find complete information about an academic study

- find a list of forthcoming conferences
- locate teaching materials on data analysis

Internet for Social Statistics will be updated and maintained by staff at Intute: Social Sciences.

See the new tutorial at

- <http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/he/tutorial/social-statistics>

## VSM portal demonstrator project commences

The JISC development team has given EDINA the go-ahead to lead a project that will build a demonstrator portal for accessing moving and still image collections within the JISC Information Environment. With input from our collaborative institutions, St Helen's College in Merseyside and Glasgow Caledonian University in Glasgow, we will build and test a demonstrator portal that both facilitates discovery of multimedia content and links users to tools for manipulating that content.

By November 2007, the project is scheduled to deliver the portal interacting with a cross-section of collections, along with a set of supporting policies. It will also report on the development process and make recommendations for future development of a service-scale portal.

EDINA secured agreement-in-principle to participate from a range of relevant content providers during the scoping phase for this project. We now seek to agree the detail of our technical and legal relationships in order to provide a sufficient range of content and media types to demonstrate the functionality of a VSM portal.

Multimedia collections that might be accessible through the demonstrator portal include the British Library, the JISC multimedia services Film & Sound Online and Education Image Gallery, Scran, AHDS- Visual Arts and the British Pathé newsreel archive.

During this project, we will seek to embed the portal demonstrator within the information environments of the collaborative institutions. We expect this to help us generate recommendations on addressing cultural and institutional variation in the JISC community.

The demonstrator portal will be based on the scoping phase report delivered in May 2006.

• <http://edina.ac.uk/projects/vsmportal/>

## EDINA helps save sounds of Scotland

EDINA is to play a key role next year in a multi-million-pound Heritage Lottery Fund project – Tobar an Dualchais – that will preserve, digitise and make available online more than 12,000 hours of recordings from the archives of BBC Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland and the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh.

"This ambitious project, to safeguard and make available the voices and knowledge of the Gaelic and Scots oral traditions, will help to ensure that an understanding of the vast legacy of Scotland's cultural heritage can continue to inform and inspire the ideas and aspirations of future generations," said Prince Charles, HRH The Prince of Wales.

Tobar an Dualchais/Kist o' Riches was launched on 12 October by Patricia Ferguson, MSP, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, at a ceremony at the University of Edinburgh.

More details will appear in the next edition of *Newsline*.

• Tobar an Dualchais (English): <http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/dualchas/indexbeurla.html>



## SEE-GEO and GEESE

EDINA has recently been awarded funding for two JISC projects: "Secure Access to Geospatial Services" (SEE-GEO) and "Grid Enabling EDINA Services" (GEESE). The underlying theme of this work is to link together work undertaken by the Grid, Shibboleth and Geographic Information communities to allow users access to national datacentre geospatial data via the National Grid Service (NGS).

SEE-GEO will demonstrate the use of Shibboleth to access Geospatial web services securely using open interoperability standards running on the NGS. The project will run from October 2006 to 31 May 2008.

GEESE will investigate issues surrounding access to EDINA services on the NGS. GEESE builds on existing investment in UK e-infrastructure and aims to take a significant step towards making national datacentre data available on the NGS using Open Grid Services Architecture Data Access and Integration (OGSA-DAI). The project will run from October 2006 to October 2007.

GEESE is strongly related to the EDINA-led SEE-GEO project and the MIMAS GEMS (Grid Enabling MIMAS Services) project. What distinguishes GEESE from SEE-GEO is the emphasis on EDINA's bibliographic and multimedia services as well as the geospatial services. The intention is that the exemplar applications will be developed in liaison with MIMAS and complement the work being done under GEMS and SEE-GEO.

• <http://edina.ac.uk/projects>

## Gaining access to web-based services: The UK Federation

As readers may be aware, the JISC have been funding the deployment of a new access management system, known as the UK Access Management Federation for Education and Research (or UK Federation for short). The underlying technology, code-named Shibboleth, has been reported on in recent editions of *Newsline*.

The UK Federation is intended eventually to replace the Athens system, which has been in use in UK academia for many years.

The UK Federation was launched on 30 November 2006. EDINA services have been modified to accommodate both access management systems, Athens and the UK Federation. This means that login pages for EDINA services now display at least two buttons: one labelled "Login via Athens" and one "Login via UK Federation".

In most cases users should continue to use the Athens login button unless they have been notified of a change. If in doubt, please seek local assistance.

Individual institutions will decide when their users are required to make the switch to the UK Federation.

• <http://www.ukfederation.org.uk/>



EDINA login buttons

## DCC workshop: Maintaining long-term access to geo-spatial data

On Friday 27 October, the UK Digital Curation Centre (DCC) held a one-day workshop, hosted by the e-Science Institute (eSI) in Edinburgh, on maintaining long-term access to geospatial data. The workshop was targeted for people already knowledgeable about geospatial data use and management. The theme reflected the missions of both the DCC and the eSI, which is to assist scientists and other researchers in actively managing and adding value to the digital data collections they work with over long time periods.

The goal of the workshop was to bring together a group of people who could learn from and update each other on progress and best practices. This was achieved through eight short presentations covering the three following themes:

- Citation and management of geospatial databases
- Geospatial data formats and metadata
- Geospatial repositories and storage

Presentations and speakers included:

- **Using XML manifests to cite geospatial feature database**, Rajendra Bose and Guy McGarva, DCC.
- **Managing Ordnance Survey geospatial data in the UK legal deposit libraries**, Chris Fleet, National Library of Scotland and Kimberly Kowal, The British Library
- **North Carolina Geospatial Data Archiving project (NCGDAP)**, Steven P Morris, North Carolina State University Libraries
- **Go-Geo! UK academic geospatial metadata standards and formats**, Tony Mathys, EDINA
- **National Geospatial Digital Archive (NGDA) project**, Greg Janee, University of California at Santa Barbara
- **British Atmospheric Data Centre (BADC)**, Sam Pepler, BADC
- **The UK Geospatial Repository for Academic Deposit and Extraction (GRADE) project**, James Reid, EDINA
- **Geospatial Repositories**, Humphrey Southall, University of Portsmouth/Great Britain Historical GIS

A brief synopsis of the workshop, the presentations and other material for download are available at:

- <http://www.dcc.ac.uk/events/geospatial-2006/>

The original workshop web site is located at:

- <http://www.nesc.ac.uk/esi/events/697/>

## SUNCAT workshop presentations online

To coincide with the launch of SUNCAT (the UK Serials Union Catalogue) as a full service, EDINA ran three half-day workshops in September 2006 to promote the catalogue to library and information professionals in the UK research community. The major aims of the workshops were to raise awareness of the SUNCAT service and its benefits for librarians, information professionals and researchers in institutions across the UK.

Presentations were given by Brenda Young, Bibliographic Development, British Library; Elize Rowan, Head of Bibliographic Services, University of Edinburgh Library/Chair of SUNCAT Bibliographic Quality Advisory Group; and Stuart Hunt, Data Services Manager, University of Warwick Library.

The presentations are now available on the News and Events section of the SUNCAT web site.

- <http://www.suncat.ac.uk/news/presentations.html>

## Land, Life & Leisure open to the public

Access to Land, Life and Leisure has now been extended to a consortium of public libraries in West Wales.

The new provision was officially launched on 9 October. 60 public libraries across Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire now have unlimited access to the service.

Anyone in the three counties with a library card can use the service. This is in addition to the 40 existing subscribing university, college and non-academic organisations.

- <http://edina.ac.uk/landlifeleisure>



From left: Phil Colbourn, John Harries the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Alyson Tyler from CyMal, Peter Roberts from the FUW and Dan Downes from NFU Cymru, at the launch of Land, Life & Leisure access for public libraries in western Wales.

## Forthcoming events

### Conferences and Exhibitions

#### JISC Conference

13 March 2007 International Convention Centre, Birmingham

[http://www.jisc.ac.uk/events/2007/03/event\\_conf\\_0307.aspx](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/events/2007/03/event_conf_0307.aspx)

#### LILAC (Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference)

26th - 28th March 2007 at Manchester Metropolitan University

<http://teaching.lse.ac.uk/tech/lilac/>

## STOP PRESS!

### EDINA is moving house....

Due to refurbishment of the Main Library of the University of Edinburgh, EDINA is moving out of its premises in George Square and relocating a few minutes up the road to Edinburgh's leafy South Side. After 5 February 2006, our new address will be:

**EDINA, Causewayside House, 158-162 Causewayside, Edinburgh, EH9 1PR.**

Our telephone numbers will remain the same.