

## ProjectDB Virtual Water Cooler Session - 6/1/2009

- <http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/project/LTERProjectDatabase/documentation>
  - basis for presentation
- schema
  - based on EML project schema
    - wanted to boost to a higher level - like datasets and citations
      - now a top level element
      - took off top eml wrapper (not EML right now)
        - maybe basis for EML-DEV
    - pulled in RESOURCE from EML
  - added additional nodes
    - reporting content
    - material
      - datasets
      - papers
      - pubs
    - links to other projects
    - permissions
  - questions
    - another place to view the schema? this is too small!
      - follow tech docs link
- Best practices
  - rudimentary document
  - doing a lot with keyword sets
  - needs to grow quite a bit!
- User Guide
  - how to get out at the web services
    - <http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/node/450>
  - eXist Database understands REST
  - sample displays and queries
  - code for embedding projects in pages
  - web services
  - questions
    - specifications for how to get things out of database
    - getting things in?
      - see Database link
      - exist is document-based, so you just copy document into directory
        - really looking at files
      - so right now 3 ways
        - web interface
          - use link to AMBLE and select ADMIN link at bottom of left menu

- includes way to navigate collection and upload documents
    - need to develop some rules on how to do this in Best Practices
    - requires local management - overwrites files
  - Exist Desktop client
    - can do batch upload
  - Xforms
    - forms follow the queries
  - can also use Oxygen to edit them
- discussion
  - impressive!
  - need more work on forms
    - Suzanne volunteers!
  - Oxygen made uploading personnel files from our database really easy!
    - if set up periodic export, could allow sites access to personnel
    - would like to also make the relational database update
  - if we had an ID for a person we really could be doing a lot!
    - LDAP
    - Network - relational ID
    - in EML party is "userID" with system
  - next steps?
    - finish forms & Best Practices
    - get some more projects in
    - want to see some people try it out
    - uses
      - managing collections of datasets
      - want to see them in groups
    - no mandate for required use
  - Lessons learned?
    - had not try operating this way to advance projects and this worked really well!
      - get a lot done - quickly
    - VTCs help, but really helpful to have people in the same room
    - but big groups don't work all that well for training
    - great to be away from distractions!
    - training sessions can be larger than 5 people
    - need feedback on training session for eXist and Oxygen
  - scaling issues?
    - would like to do some stress tests
    - some queries can be pretty harsh - but can be rewritten to be more efficient
    - some complex joins are actually easier
    - would like to try getting all EML documents in
    - have used for citations
    - XML probably not good for data
      - better for text/ document-based

