ISTEC & ISTEC LIBRARY LINKAGE INITIATIVE

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UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE LA PLATA

History

Definition and scope

The *Ibero-American Science and Technology Education Consortium (ISTEC)* is a non-profit organization comprised of educational, research, industrial, and multilateral organizations throughout the Americas and the Iberian Peninsula. The Consortium was established to foster scientific, engineering, and technology education, joint international research and development efforts among its members, and to provide a cost-effective vehicle for the application and transfer of technology.

History

June 1990

- Personnel from UNM visited countries in Ibero-America to identify and evaluate opportunities for successful collaboration in science, innovation, technology, education and entrepreneurship.
- Meetings were held with officials from governments, educational institutions, research facilities and industrial to gauge interest to improve international cooperation.

Obstacles to overcome

- Lack of updated information for planning and developing technology, lack of expertise in the use of information, lack of international cooperation, lack of interaction and confidence among universities, industries, governments, and multilateral agencies...

History

December 1990: an organizational meeting was held at UNM involving participants from universities, industries, governments, and foundations throughout Ibero-America.

Result of the meeting: creation of the Ibero-American Science and Technology Consortium.

Members: Universities, industries and other organizations

1990 MOU (Memorandum of Understanding). 1999 officially became a US 501 non-profit organization. http://sedici.unlp.edu.ar/handle/10915/65963

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History

Organization

- General assembly

- Board of directors

- Executive Office. Nowadays Office for Institutional Relations

History

Objectives

- to conceive, plan, and carry out activities of higher education, R&D, and technology transfer for the purpose of facilitating scientific and technical development of the Ibero-American countries;

- **to encourage the free flow of and access to information in the pursuit of technical excellence. Liblink.**

Initiatives: an innovative concept

What are the **Initiatives**?

- An organized effort to create activities to address a specific area of concern.

- The Initiatives are **member-driven**, flexible, and run concurrently.

- Within Initiatives, projects are identified, planned, and implemented.

- Projects are designed with both short- and long-term goals, and with consideration of social impact.

LIBLINK INITIATIVE

The LibLink Initiative focuses on academic and scientific information management. This means not only localization and bibliographic provision (sharing library collections) but also giving value and increase visibility to institutional production.

To achieve these objectives, LibLink has established a distributed network of libraries and institutions, and has developed a set of software tools that enable all nodes of this network to share information and statistics, to find and access open access resources, to handle users requests and to exchange bibliographic resources among nodes

Work lines

Celsius 3

Celsius 3 is a bibliographic exchange management software for member institutions of the ISTEC consortium. It is the third version of this tool, developed and maintained entirely by the PREBI-UNLP team, the LibLink node at the National University of La Plata, Argentina.

Harvester

Development of a new harvester of open resources for ISTEC members. This project helps improve Open Access visibility of publications in different institutions.

Infrastructure and diffusion

Maintenance of the ISTEC multisite and joint work for diffusion activities

Since 2018, the initiative launched

The Office for Institutional Relations receives and trains new consortium members, and ensures permanent communication with partners (ongoing project)

Since 2021, the initiative began a new project:

Training in Editorial Management, Quality and Visibility of Academic Publications of institution members.

See: https://www.istec.org/liblink/ and Liblink Strategic Plan

The **ISTEC Office** for Institutional Relations aims to enable communication among ISTEC partners, publicizing different benefits, activities and opportunities provided by the consortium through its different initiatives. It is also an open channel for the partners -both universities and companies- to submit their inquiries, concerns and needs.

How does the Liblink Initiative enable document exchange for ISTEC Institutions?

One of the most successful **LibLink** activities has been the provision of bibliographic services through a successful exchanging network among the libraries of member institutions.

What do institutions need to participate in LibLink?

The requirements to participate in LibLink are simple and in general, all university libraries already have them in place:

- Online library catalogue.
- Updated information on library inventories in the online catalogue.
- Qualified personnel for managing institutional libraries.
- Suitable tools and software for scanning documents.
- Setting up a Celsius instance and a suitable team to manage it.

How does the Liblink Initiative enable document exchange for ISTEC Institutions?

To start working on the **LibLink** initiative, each new member is required to provide institutional data in the format specified below so that they can be published on the ISTEC website and in the **Celsius** directory. Submit data to:

Office for Institutional Relations **oficinavirtual@istec.org**

Institutional information

Name of university or institution:

Department:

Department website:

Institutional contact (membership, payment):

Data for working in Liblink

Library website:

Catalogue website:

Library contact:

Director: E-mail:

Exchange Official: E-mail:

Liblink contact Information

Areas of interest: Libraries - Institutional Repositories - Open Access - Institutional Visibility - Rankings - Scientific Marketing
Contact: Marisa De Giusti marisa.degiusti@sedici.unlp.edu.ar   More information: https://www.istec.org/liblink/

What is Celsius 3?

Celsius 3® was developed to simplify the management of bibliographic exchanges among the different ISTEC member universities.

It was designed in 2001, with the initial purpose of providing ISTEC with exchange statistics and as a way of contributing to the rest of the institutions.

This is the third version of this tool (previous ones were Celsius and Celsius NT), and like its predecessors, it is developed and maintained entirely by the PREBI-SEDICI-UNLP team, the LibLink node at the National University of La Plata, Argentina.

Upgrades

Unlike previous versions, Celsius 3 is a centralized system. The software is hosted and run from a single central node, available to all member institutions.

This system allows:

- ❖ to carry out a comprehensive follow-up of the changes and stages of the queries,
- ❖ to develop statistics that allow for a transparent management and optimization of the service.

A simpler management

For institutions, this centralized model removes the need for:

- ❖ Server management
- ❖ Software management
- ❖ Monitoring and backups

Technical issues are handled in centralized infrastructure managed by PREBI-UNLP.

Celsius instances are dynamically created and launched by means of Celsius 3 management tools. Information regarding catalogues, contacts, communication services, workflows, etc. must be consistent across all instances.

Advantages

For users:

> ➢ Keeping a data record in a personalized site

> ➢ Tracking an online order status

> ➢ Possibility of downloading material directly from the platform

> ➢ Possibility of contacting operators using an internal messaging service

For operators:

> ❖ Global standardization of applications

> ❖ Tracking order management status

> ❖ Accessing automatically generated statistics and multiple global exchange management indicators.

For visitors:
★ Free and transparent statistics

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Advantages for institutions

❖ No installation required: the software runs from a centralized infrastructure.

❖ No technical staff required for software maintenance and updates.

❖ Independent statistics for each institution.

❖ Global, real time statistics for the entire network: order quantities, active users, request destination, service times.

❖ Infrastructured managed by a qualified team: data backups, system updates, resources monitoring, high availability network, security monitoring...

The **LIBLINK UNLP** team:

Initiative Director: Dr. Ing. Marisa R. De Giusti
Office for Institutional Relations: Mg. Carlos J. Nusch

Celsius Project and infrastructure management: Dr. Gonzalo L. Villarreal
Celsius Developers: Ariel Sobrado.
Celsius Administrators: Mg. Carlos J. Nusch, Prof. Enzo Golfetto.