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International Dateline — JUSP: the UK Journal Usage Statistics Portal

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It is understandable that librarians' joy at receiving growing quantities of reliable usage statistics in the form of **COUNTER** reports from an increasing number of vendors may be tempered by a certain feeling of trepidation at the volume of data that this involves. Librarians are not, on the whole, statisticians and most have limited time to devote to the collection, consolidation and analysis of usage data. **NISO** and **COUNTER** have developed the **SUSHI** protocol to enable the automated collection and consolidation of the **COUNTER** usage reports. **JISC** (the **UK Joint Information Systems Committee**) has taken this further with the development of the **Journal Usage Statistics Portal (JUSP)**.

JUSP provides a "one-stop-shop" in the UK for participating libraries to view, download and analyse their usage reports from publishers that participate in **NESLi2**, the UK national initiative for licensing online journals on behalf of the higher/further education and research communities. **JUSP** is designed to provide these libraries with a cost-effective and time-saving service.

JUSP Benefits

JUSP aims to support UK academic libraries in managing use of their e-journal collections. It provides a single point of access for libraries to view and download their journal usage reports from multiple publishers and provides the data they need to analyse journal usage and to assist evaluation and decision-making. **JUSP** benefits participating libraries by enabling them to:

- Collect **COUNTER**-compliant usage data and to generate reports.
- View all titles with high usage.
- Analyse trends and usage over time.
- Complete annual **SCONUL** returns for titles provided by **NESLi2** publishers.
- Separate journal backfiles from current collections.
- Include usage data from intermediaries and hosts.
- Compare usage of different **NESLi2** deals.

Participating publishers also benefit from **JUSP**. The portal makes the delivery and analysis of usage statistics to customers more efficient and the aggregated usage data from publishers and gateways provides a more complete picture of overall use.

Participants in JUSP

The portal is being developed by a consortium in the UK involving **JISC Collections**, **Mimas** at the **University of Manchester**, **Evidence Base** at **Birmingham City University** and **Cranfield University**. This is a

team that brings together expertise in working with libraries and publishers, and the technical expertise to develop the database and to implement the **SUSHI** protocol.

Over 100 higher education libraries in the UK are now signed up to **JUSP** — the **Journal Usage Statistics Portal** and as of September 2011, 14 publishers have signed agreements with **JUSP**. This includes most of the major "big deal" publishers and negotiations are ongoing with a number of others. In addition, the three main intermediary and gateway services are also participating in **JUSP**.

offers a number of other tables and reports. These include:

- Usage through gateway and intermediary services.
- Usage of current deals and backfile collections shown separately.
- Top 100 titles from one publisher or across all publishers.
- Title or ISSN search.
- Keyword search.
- Trends over time.

See Table 1 below for a list of the reports that **JUSP** can currently provide.

Table 1: Current JUSP Usage Reports

JUSP report type	JUSP report title
Journal level reports	Journal Report 1 and Journal Report 1a
	Journal Report 1, including usage from intermediaries and gateways
	Journal Report 1 excluding backfile usage
Summary reports	SCONUL return
	Summary of publisher usage
	Summary use of gateway and host intermediaries
	Summary use of backfiles
	Tables and graphs
	Titles with highest use
Experimental reports	Additional figures
	NESLi2 deals
	Titles vs NESLi2 deals
	Individual journal search and usage
	Breakdown of publisher usage (title and year)
Benchmarking	Calendar year and academic year

How JUSP Works

All tables and reports are based on the **COUNTER JR1** and **JR1a** reports and reports are gathered using the **Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI)** protocol. Libraries in **JUSP** only need to provide a few account details and their usage data can be gathered on a monthly basis. We also collect usage reports back to January 2009 via **SUSHI** for all publishers joining **JUSP**, so libraries are able to look at trends over time.

COUNTER, with its consistent reports and its requirement for **SUSHI** harvesting, has made possible the development of a usage statistics portal for which the need had been established some years ago. Publisher support in developing the portal has been splendid, particularly in the implementation of **SUSHI**, where some of the work done by **JUSP** has been pioneering.

For the **JR1** and **JR1a** reports for each publisher, any date range can be selected for viewing or downloading, and tables can be sorted by title or number of requests. **JUSP**

As a community resource, **JUSP** wants to ensure that the reports produced meet the needs of the member libraries, and the aim is to respond quickly wherever possible to suggestions made. Close links have been built up with the contacts in **JUSP** libraries, and user feedback is collected in a number of ways. Further enhancements planned with community support include an administration area where libraries can add details of their subscribed titles within a deal, and more work on identifying titles within each particular deal where the **JR1** may include titles not available.

Feedback from member libraries has been extremely positive. Features particularly appreciated are:

- Single point of access to data with no need to visit individual publisher sites.
- Automation provided by **SUSHI** offers time-saving benefits.
- Report comparisons across publishers, years, and platforms.

- Flexible methods of viewing data through tables, charts, or graphs.
- Inclusion of intermediary statistics.
- Data checked and quality assured.

The **JUSP** service is currently funded by **JISC** and there is no charge to libraries for membership. The aim is to include all 160 higher education libraries in the UK by the end of the year, and to extend still further the number of publishers. There has been interest around the world in the concept of **JUSP**, and the team is in discussions with other consortia on ideas for collaboration.

Sharing Ideas and Knowledge

Many of the issues **JUSP** is dealing with affect libraries wherever they are. The **JUSP** team is keen to share ideas and experience. Sharing knowledge enables the team to pass on things they have learned and avoids others having to replicate work already done. For instance, we've had enquiries and requests for support following our experience of developing **SUSHI** clients. We aim to make the outputs of our work openly available including a free, open-source **SUSHI** client.

By taking away the hard work associated with gathering usage data, the aim of **JUSP** is to allow libraries more time to concentrate on the actual analysis. **JUSP** continues to consult with libraries to inform development of the service, and through discussions the team aims to develop tutorials about ways of analyzing journal usage based on the reports in **JUSP**.

Further information on **JUSP** is available on the Website (*www.jusp.mimas.ac.uk*). Anyone wishing to look at the type of reports produced is welcome to email the helpdesk <jusp@mimas.ac.uk> for a password to view data for a "dummy institution." Any enquiries are most welcome. For further information contact **Jo Lambert** at **Mimas** <jo.lambert@manchester.ac.uk> or **Angela Conyers** at **Evidence Base** <angela.conyers@bcu.ac.uk>.

Further Reading:

Cradock, Chris, **Meehan, Paul** & **Needham, Paul**. **JUSP** in time: a partnership approach to developing a usage statistics portal. Learned Publishing, 24(2), April 2011, pp109-114. Available at *http://jusp.mimas.ac.uk/docs/LPub24-2_109-114.pdf*

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Estelle, Lorraine. Collaboration, communication and access to good data. Serials e-News, September 2010. Available at *http://www.ringgold.com/uksg/si_pd.cfm?pid=10&articleid=5616&issueno=228&xsection=Business*

No more personnel issues to keep me awake at night. The transition to a life of leisure, but not sloth, has been as smooth as a baby's bottom but with no diapers to change.

Long walks and gardening promote good health and peace of mind, and my books, family notwithstanding, provide companionship, adventure, and exercise for the mind. I have everything that I need, even time, although that is the great unknown and the commodity that, while seemingly infinite, is strictly limited. My only goal in retirement is to make the most of the time that is left to me. To think and act otherwise would be a sin.

Time with family, time with music, time with writing, and time with reading. But what to read? My personal library alone could sustain me for quite a while. I have access to a public library, a university library, and several book stores, new and second-hand. The problem is not a lack of books, but an overabundance of books. So again, what to read?

But that is another story. So if the stock market doesn't totally collapse and the political debates don't drive me insane, I will tell you about my reading lists the next time we meet.