Using Ajax to integrate institutional electronic theses and dissertation repository with corporate systems at University of São Paulo

Rogerio Toshiaki Kondo (rogerio@sc.usp.br)[*], Maria de Lourdes Rebucci Lirani (lurdinha@sc.usp.br)[*], Vinicius Augusto Tagliatti Zani (Vinicius.Zani@gmail.com)[*], Caetano Traina Junior (caetano@icmc.usp.br)[**], Paulo Cesar Masiero (masiero@icmc.usp.br)[**], Fabio Kon (kon@ime.usp.br)[†]

Centro de Informática de São Carlos, University of São Paulo (USP)
CP 438 – 13560-970 – São Carlos – SP – Brazil
**Instituto de Ciências Matemáticas e de Computação, University of São Paulo (USP)*
CP 668 – 13560-970 – São Carlos – SP – Brazil
†Instituto de Matemática e Estatística, University of São Paulo (USP)*
Rua do Matão, 1010 – Cidade Universitária – 05508-090 – São Paulo – SP - Brazil

Abstract

The University of São Paulo (USP) has the biggest graduation system in Brazil with more than 32.000 students and produces more than 5.000 theses and dissertations every year. These students are distributed in 236 graduation programs in all human knowledge fields, which are grouped in 53 different academic units located in 6 different cities. Theses and dissertations in paper are archived in 39 libraries. Since 2001, the Digital Library of Thesis and Dissertations of USP (DLTD/USP) is being used as the repository of this work.

This paper aims at describing and discussing the Ajax implementation used to integrate DLTD/USP with corporate systems taking into account the university's spatial and institutional diversity. Ajax is one of the key components of Web 2.0.

The university's graduation management information system, which is used by all programs throughout the academic life of the students, is used as input for the DLTD/USP system for uploading their thesis or dissertation. Institutional information, such as author's name, date of defense and advisor, are retrieved from this corporate database. Students use the password of the graduation system to do this activity. Members of the graduation registrar's office access the DLTD/USP system to review and approve the submitted electronic thesis or dissertation. During the catalog process executed by members of the staff of each library, a MARC file is generated as output to feed the university's library catalog, where theses and dissertations available on DLTD/USP can also be retrieved.