

## **Aquifer Communications Plan Proposal**

A **web page** for information, background documents, reading lists, helpsheets, etc. I will maintain this on the DLF website, loading documents on it by request or as they come to maturity on the wiki and are ready for publication.

<http://www.diglib.org/aquifer/>

A **wiki** for documents and registries that are more dynamic -- that are in the process of being built by lots of hands (e.g. the tools registry): <http://wiki.lib.umn.edu/Aquifer/>

See also **A Quicki on Wiki** (executive summary on Wikis)

<http://www.diglib.org/pubs/execsumm/wikiexecsumm.htm>

A wiki is also useful for a document to which several of us are contributing sections) and for checking off tasks from a checklist (or commenting on items therein).

The main limitations for us are as follows:

a) there is no way to prevent multiple people editing the same document simultaneously (or to know that you are doing it). The last one to save, wins (although all the changes are held in the "changes history"). This limits the utility of the wiki as a way to get quick edits on a central document from lots of people.

b) in order to do anything other than changing a few words and numbers, an author will have to learn an easy (but new and idiosyncratic) text markup language that indicates to the wiki software when to make a list, or a table, or emphasis, and so on.

c) not all wiki software uses the same markup language -- our wiki software is PmWiki. If you have used a different one, there may well be different markup commands in this one.

d) wiki pages look like plainly laid-out web pages. For us, the right way to think of the wiki is as a draft-space, with publication copies being extracted, laid out in a more effective manner, and published on the DLF website.

A **listserv** – rather than using email simply, we would be better served with a listserv that allows an archive of past messages. DLF is in the process of working with ISP (CLIR's internet hosting company) to set up the latest version of LSOFT's listserv software for a range of DLF needs (testing started the week of October 18, 2004). Aquifer members would subscribe to the listserv, and then email all members by mailing to the listserv email address.