Title Federated Content Search 2.0 work plan

Version 0.3

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1 Planning

Month	2014				2015			
/Stage	Sep	0ct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Pre-dev								
Alpha								
Beta								
RC								
Stable								

Pre-development: September 2014

- create development plan
- create UI mockup

Alpha stage: October-December 2014

- implement new UI based on feedback
- update CLARIN branding
- create new unit tests
- update external libraries
- implement compatibility with the new FCS spec
- implement extended features

Beta stage: January-February 2015

- UI improvements based on feedback
- testing of endpoints conformity to the spec
- test extended features

Release Candidate: March 2015

- bug fixing
- update documentation

Final stable version: April 2015

- final code release
- final documentation release

2 Work

The CLARIN Federated Content Search suite consists of one central web application¹ that provides a visual interface and aggregates the search results from a multitude of distributed endpoints by using a client library. The work envisioned in this work plan has the goals of making the Aggregator web application more user friendly by updating and improving its user interface, making it compatible with an updated FCS - Core 1.0 specification, and adding new search capabilities.

2.1 User Interface

The current user interface is implemented in ZK², a Java library that hides the client complexity of a web application but has the downside of being difficult to optimize and customize and offering a restricted set of visual themes. The ZK library will be removed and the user interface will be reimplemented using HTML5 technologies. The new user interface will have a modern, lighter design and will also offer better responsivity to the user.

The UI will be redesigned as a single web page with a dynamically updated content, instead of the current page-based interface. This change will also improve the perceived responsivity of the application.

The new CLARIN branding elements will be added to the Aggregator's web interface, making the site's integration in the CLARIN infrastructure more prominent.

2.2 Compliance with the new FCS specification

The searching functionality interface offered by FCS is defined in the CLARIN-FCS - Core 1.0 specification document³. This specification has been recently updated; consequently, the web application will be updated for compliance. The Aggregator must support both endpoints using the old specification as well as endpoints that have upgraded to the new spec.

The client library, that mediates the communication between the web application and the endpoints, is in the process of being updated to support the new specification. If necessary for the development of the Aggregator, this library will be further improved to better conform to the new specification while keeping it compatible with the legacy endpoints.

2.3 Extended search features

A simple extension for searching in phonetic data layers, using the SAMPA script, will be also developed. This extension will require the addition of a new user interface element for the specification of the search data layer.

2.4 General improvements

The project uses a set of external common libraries that will be updated to the latest stable versions. Unit tests will be created to cover the server functionality which the user interface will use.

In the Release Candidate – Stable phase, the documentation will be updated to reflect the state of the project, its high level code structure, runtime parameters, used libraries and operational requirements.

¹ http://weblicht.sfs.uni-tuebingen.de/Aggregator/

² http://www.zkoss.org/

³ https://trac.clarin.eu/wiki/FCS/Specification