

# Project Cover Sheet

Project	<p><b>Deep Blue Institutional Repository</b> <i>Formal User Test</i></p> <p>Deep Blue (<a href="http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/">http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/</a>) is the University of Michigan's service for representing UM's rich intellectual environment. The primary goal of Deep Blue is to provide access to the work that makes Michigan a leader in research, teaching, and creativity. It represents UM's scholars-- from faculty through students-- as individuals and as members of communities, and provides a framework for preserving and finding the best scholarly and artistic work done at the University. Deep Blue runs using DSpace technology.</p>
Committee & Members	<p><b>Usability Working Group</b> Kat Hagedorn (chair), Karen Downing, Suzanne Gray, Jennifer Nardine, Gurpreet Rana, Robert Tolliver</p>
Report Info	<p>Report Author(s): Jim Ottaviani Contact Information: <a href="mailto:ul-usability@umich.edu">ul-usability@umich.edu</a> Report Date: June 2006; Last Revised: June 2006 Date Submitted to PARC: June 2006</p>
Objectives	<p>The goal was to collect user data on the functionality and usability of Deep Blue, specifically the terminology, searching and browsing options, and navigation for both the end-users and depositors of institutional repository documents.</p>
Methodology	<p>Method – Formal User Test Dates of study: October 2005-June 2006</p>
Results & Analysis	<p>Users were often frustrated by deposit and search/retrieval functionality on the development Deep Blue site. While a number of problems were not resolvable due to technical limitations, issues related to navigation and search options could be modified in the current system.</p>

## Recommendations

- Make the search default a Boolean AND.
- Provide the ability to sort within retrieved results (by date, title, author).
- Put the just-executed search in the upper left search box so the searcher can immediately edit/revise.
- Provide the ability to contact authors directly, via email links.
- Create a "bookmark this" link next to the handle at the top of an item's page.
- Current collection pages are cluttered, so need to rearrange to highlight action items and options (deposit, subscribe/unsubscribe).
- Change "submit"/"submission" to "deposit", and change "My Deep Blue [DSpace]" to "Deposit/Edit an Item".
- Having multiple "Describe" tabs was confusing and each should be distinctly labeled.
- Change "bitstream" to "file".
- Remove checksum information from the deposit form.
- Provide email notification upon successful deposit of an item.