

# **Report on the Launch of the HeadLine PIE at the London School of Economics**

July 2000

## **1.0 Target Groups**

- LSE Library and IT Support staff (as alpha-testers)

The Department of Economics was identified as a suitable department due to the project's subject focus and due to their forthcoming TQA review. The PIE will be launched to the following groups within the department:

- Students on the degrees:
  - BSc Economics
  - BSc Economics and Economic History
  - BSc Econometrics and Mathematical Economics

Who are studying the following courses:

- EC102 Economics B
  - EC201 Microeconomic Principles I
  - EC202 Microeconomic principles II
  - EC210 Macroeconomic principles
  - EC220 Introduction to Econometrics
  - EC221 Principles of Econometrics
- Academics and researchers in the Department of Economics

The original plan was to start by launching the first version of the PIE early in the Summer term, 2000 to students within the Department of Economics on EC102, an undergraduate course. However, the first release of the PIE was subject to a slight delay. We decided that it would be better to delay this launch until the Michlmas term, rather than release the PIE to students during the revision/exam period.

## **2.0 Subject Pages**

The LSE PIE contains 96 resources. The resources include all of those that were listed on the LSE's prioritised resources list, plus the additional resources that are contained on the EASI Economics list.

Following discussions with the Departmental Administrator, it was decided that rather than create PIE pages of relevance to individual degrees, it would be better to create a PIE page of relevance to each course.

A page of relevance to Economics was created in July 2000, prior to the launch the LSE PIE to academics and researchers in the Economics Department. The Economics page contains all of the resources that are listed on the EASI Economics list, plus a few additional items, such as links to the Economics Department Home page, and to the exam papers.

## **3.0 The Launch of the LSE PIE**

The second release of the PIE (v1.1) was launched to LSE Library and IT Support staff (the alpha-testers) on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2000. A email advertising the launch of the PIE was sent via the Library Bulletin. Anne Gambles ran five half-hour sessions in which she demonstrated the LSE PIE. Attendees were shown how to use their PIE and were able to practice customising their PIE page. 21 members of Library and IT Support staff attended these sessions.

The second release of the PIE was launched to academics and researchers in the Department of Economics on the 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2000. An email advertising the launch and inviting target users to use the PIE was forwarded to them by Helen Gadsden, the department's Administrative Officer.

#### **4.0 PIE Usage Statistics**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Total users</b>	<b>Total pages</b>	<b>System pages</b>	<b>Pages created by users</b>	<b>Total resources</b>	<b>Resources not owned by HeadLiner</b>
20.7.2000	15	21	5	1	250	101
25.7.2000	26	33	5	2	381	201
27.7.2000	35	42	5	2	439	259

The number of Library and IT Support staff using the PIE increased following each of the launch sessions. Several members of staff that did not attend a launch session have become PIE users.

Only two members of the Department of Economics have used the PIE. The low-level of up-take so far is disappointing. It is perhaps due to the timing of the launch - during the vacation. A reminder about the PIE will be sent to the Department of Economics during September.

#### **5.0 Evaluation**

The launch of the second version of the PIE at the LSE went smoothly, with relatively few technical problems. Problems were identified during the period of alpha-testing by Library and IT Support staff. They included missing arrows for some resources and problems with expanding/contracting lists. The problems identified were either solved for the second version, or they were added to the list of bugs to be fixed in the third version.

Feed-back from Library staff has been positive, and like the Staff at Herts, they mentioned that they are looking forward to the implementation of cross-searching. A few members of staff mentioned that they could see the PIE replacing EASI - the LSE Library's gateway to electronic information resources.