Creating An Online Survey Using Zope & QSurvey:

A Step by Step Introduction Download this Document as PDF

Main URL for the Zope Management Interface:

https://web2survey.unt.edu/users/EUID/manage (replace "EUID" with the appropriate user folder name, i.e. - your EUID)

NOTE: In Windows under "My Network Places", "Add Network Place" with URL:

https://web2survey.unt.edu/users/EUID/ (replace "EUID" with the appropriate user folder name, i.e. - your EUID)

Yahoo Groups Forum for using Zope with QSurvey at UNT:

Group name: zopeunt
Group home page: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/zopeunt
Group email: zopeunt@yahoogroups.com

AVI Tutorial Download

These are a set of 14 zipped AVI videos (approx. 53 meg. total) with sound (5-10 minutes each) that demonstrate how to authenticate in to the Zope server and create a QSurvey object from beginning to end. I will post more AVI's as I record them. I will also post some AVI's on how to download the data and import into a statistical package.

Introduction

Zope

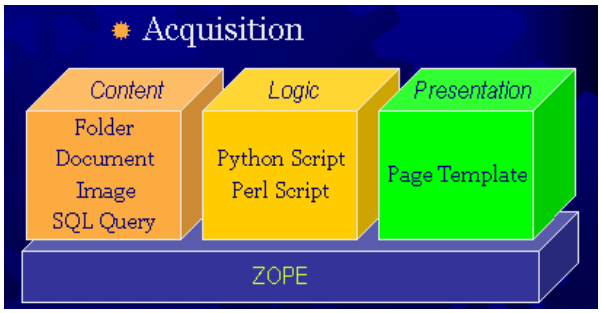
Zope is a web publishing system. It consists of an optional web server, a middle layer which coordinates getting things into and out of the database, and an object database. You can leave out the web server and run Zope behind Apache or IIS. Zope is designed to, and excels at, publishing dynamic content. If you have a three page web site, Zope is overkill. If you have hundreds and thousands of pages, lots of users, and impatient readers, Zope is a very good thing. Zope is also open-source, which is crucial to its success. (Zope is actually an acronym: it stands for Z Object Publishing Environment. The programming languages used to build Zope are Python and C. Most of Zope is written in Python, and any bits where performance is crucial have been rewritten in C. Zope has been described as Python's killer application; that is, the one application that makes it well worth learning Python and which best shows off the power of Python.

Zope (Z Object Publishing Environment

- Digital Creations (1998) → Zope Corporation. (2001)
- Originally Used for Newspaper Publishing
- Zope is Based on Python; Cross-Platform
- Zope uses an Object-Oriented Web development Model
- Content, Logic, & Presentation are separated

Component Features

- ZServer + Apache - Can be used alone or in conjunction with Apache
- Through-the-Web Management - Zope Management Interface (ZMI)
- Integrated Control: Undo, Security
- ZODB + SQL Database Adaptor - Built in Object Database and API's for Popular Databases
- Built-in Search Tools: ZCatalog
- Safe Delegation: acl_users folder allows management of usernames and passwords
- Extensible Modules: Products - QSurvey is one example



QSurvey

The QSurvey product is designed to make on-line surveys easy to write. Instead of having first to develop the backend for the storage, then adapt the questions to the storage available, this product allows you to concentrate on the survey and its questions. Zope takes care of the storage. The page-centric model with optional branching determines at run-time which page to display next. If you need more than simple questions, you may include DTML Document material interspersed with your questions. This means that Images and other content are allowed inside a QPage.

QSurvey features:

- A page-oriented model, with the QSurvey holding QPages, and QPages holding DTML Documents and Questions.
- Multi-page interaction is possible with branching dependent on the values of a multiple-choice question.
- All Multiple-Choice are a single type. Select listbox, radio, checkbox, formatting from a single "options" tab.
- Ordering of things within a page from a management tab in the QPage object.
- Uses css instead of tables. Looks very nice in IE4+, Mozilla. Acceptable on NS4. Degrades nicely for Lynx. Deliberately ugly default css provided to encourage customization.
- Pays attention to AUTHENTICATED_USER for results ID creation .
- RESULTS available in various tab-delimited formats.

Resources

Information on the Zope Web-Content Management System

Installing and Starting Zope
http://www.zope.org/ - Main Zope Site
http://www.zope.org/Members/michel/ZB/ - "The Zope Book" Online
http://www.zope.org/Resources/
http://weblogs.userland.com/zopeNewbies/ZopeFAQ/
http://weblogs.userland.com/zopeNewbies/zopesites/http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/network/2000/02/02/zopekeynote.html
http://www.sdtimes.com/cols/webwatch_023.htm

Free Zope Hosting

http://www.freezope.org/
http://www.nipltd.net/Free

General Introductions to Survey Methodology

General Introduction to Internet Survey Construction
Using the Internet for Quantitative Survey Research
Survey Analysis via Email and Internet - Online E-Book
Articles on Survey Construction and Analysis
Everything About Web Surveys
American Statistical Association Series on Surveys
Essentials of Survey Research
Social Surveys Online
Survey Design
A Collection of Papers on Non-Response in Surveys
Articles on Internet Survey Methodology - Dillman

Review Article on Internet Data Collection
Review Article on Survey Research

S Language Interface and Links

Statistical Computing Interface
Download R for Windows
Help Page for the R library "survey" - library for analyzing complex surveys

Other Resources and Free Statistical Packages for Surveys

Website for AM Statistical Software (Windows platform) - Software for Complex Survey Analysis
Download AM software, manual, and patch file - ZIP file contains self extracting file
Digital Resources for Evaluators

Introduction to the QSurvey Zope Software

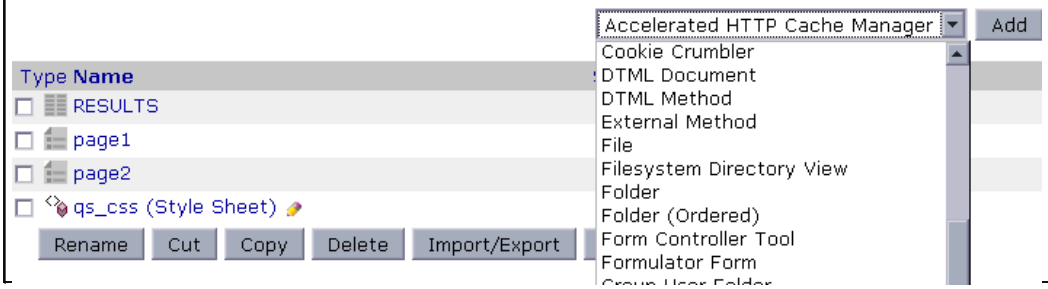
Quick Overview of General Usage of QSurvey

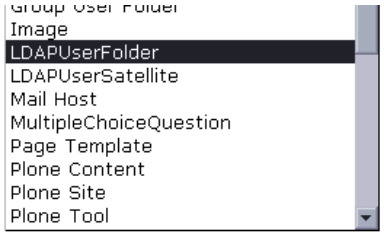
Create a QSurvey. Within the QSurvey, create a QPage. Within the QPage, add questions. Within each question, enter the text for the question and the choices if it is a multiple-choice question. Set options on each question from the "Options" management tab."View" or index_html from the QSurvey level actually writes to the ZODB when submitted; "View" from QPage or "Question" level will dump REQUEST when submitted. Please note that a QSurvey page will not work outside of a QSurvey survey object, nor will QSurvey questions work outside of a QSurvey page - you must retain the hierarchical structure of the QSurvey objects. QSurvey uses Zope's session tracking and commits save on submission of the last page. To make this happen, create a final FINISH page, and on the Button_Text tab, set the button text. This is a good place to say "thanks for completing the survey." **Make sure that you set the first page of the survey by going to the "Navigation Tab" at the survey folder level. Choose the first page of the survey. You will need to set the transitions for each page at the survey page folder level.** ***It is very important that you DO NOT set the transition on the "Transition Tab" for the last page. This will cause the survey to not submit the results to the Zope ZODB database.*** A "RESULTS" folder and a "qss_css" file will be created when the first survey result is submitted. The qss_css file is a cascading style sheet that can be edited to change the look and feel (colors, formatting) of the survey. Within the RESULTS folder there are a few tabs that extract the data from the ZODB database. The tabs: "tsv_single" (single selection questions); "tsv_multiple" (multiple selection questions); "tsv_text" (text box only questions) extract your submitted data into a tab-delimmited text file that can be downloaded to your desktop for input into Excel or SPSS for example. Lastly, it is important to note that browser errors are cached whenever a QSurvey survey is being built and tested. So that whenever a problem is corrected in the survey, that the error will persist in displaying. You will need to close all browser down and re-spawn your browser to have the corrected survey display without errors.

Adding an LDAPUserFolder to an Existing QSurvey Survey

PLEASE NOTE UPDATE: THE LDAPUserFolder will need to use the *auth.unt.edu* LDAP server instead of id.unt.edu (for example, the information in the following screen shots is inaccurate on this information).

To use an LDAPUserFolder you must first delete the regular "acs_users" folder object if it exists. Select LDAPUserFolder from the drop down list of Zope objects. **Note: If you currently use your EUID as your username for login to the Zope management interface, you will need to change your Zope login username to a username different from the EUID username currently in the LDAP database - there are conflicts between the LDAP EUID username and any usernames assigned in Zope that are identical to the LDAP usernames**. Once the LDAPUserFolder object is created, go into that folder and fill in the form with appropriate information as listed in the screenshots below:





Change the basic properties of your LDAPUserFolder on this form.

Title	ldap		
Login Name Attribute	uid (uid)		
User ID Attribute	uid (uid)		
RDN Attribute	uid (uid)		
Users Base DN	ou=people,o=unt	Scope	SUBTREE
Group storage	Groups not stored on LDAP server		
Groups Base DN	ou=people,o=unt	Scope	SUBTREE
Manager DN		*Password*	
Manager DN Usage	Never	Read-only	☑
User object classes	top,person		
User password encryption	clear		
Default User Roles	Anonymous		

Apply Changes

LDAP Servers (Currently connected to: ldap://id.unt.edu:389)

☐ id.unt.edu	389	LDAP

Delete

Add LDAP Server

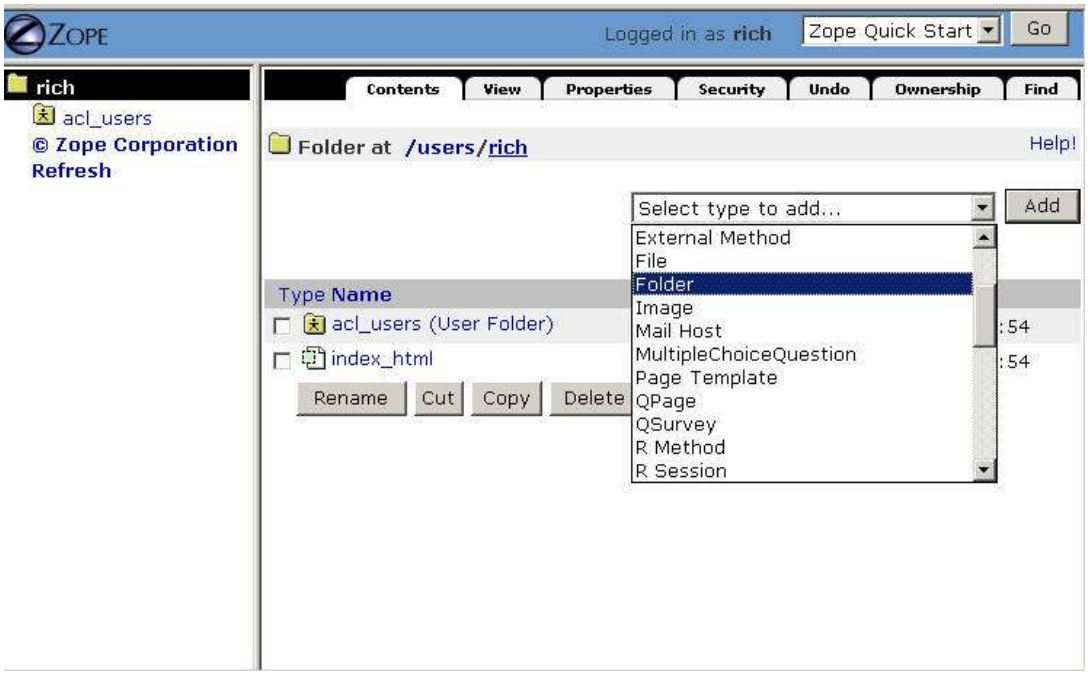
Server host name or IP	my.ldap.server
Server port	389
Protocol	LDAP

Add Server

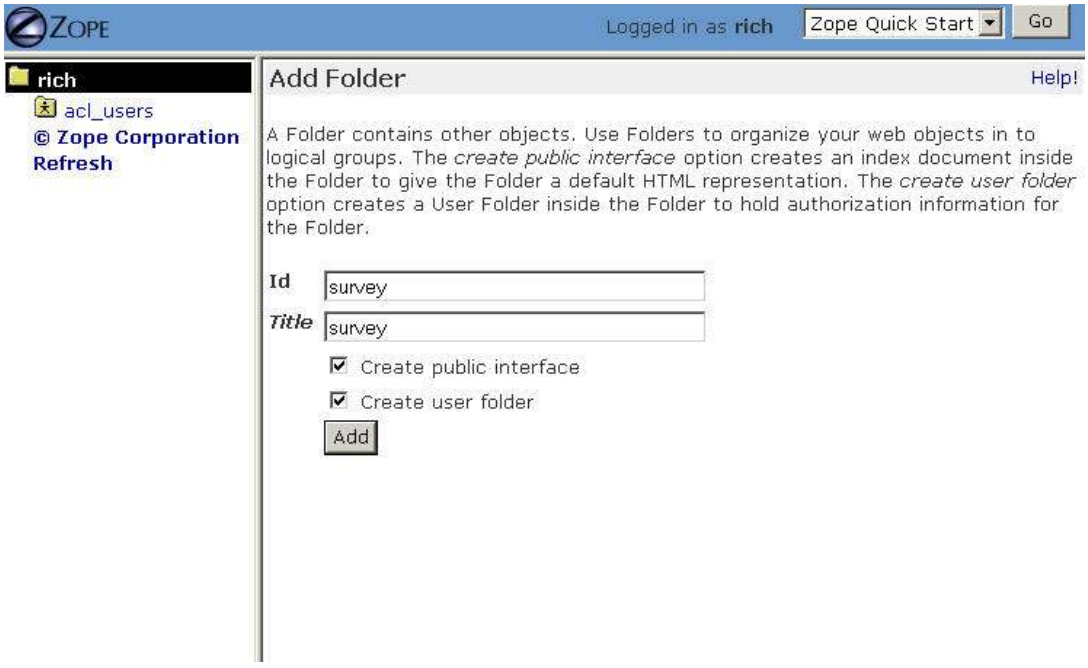
Creating a QSurvey Survey: Screenshots from beginning to end:

Screen 1

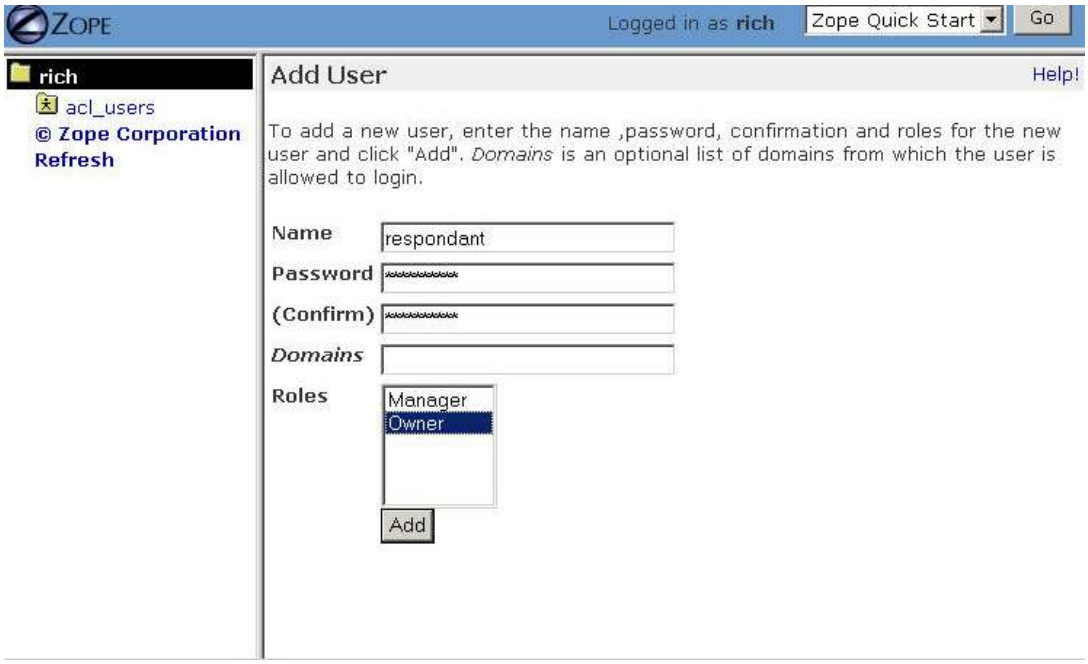
Screen 2



Screen 3



Screen 4



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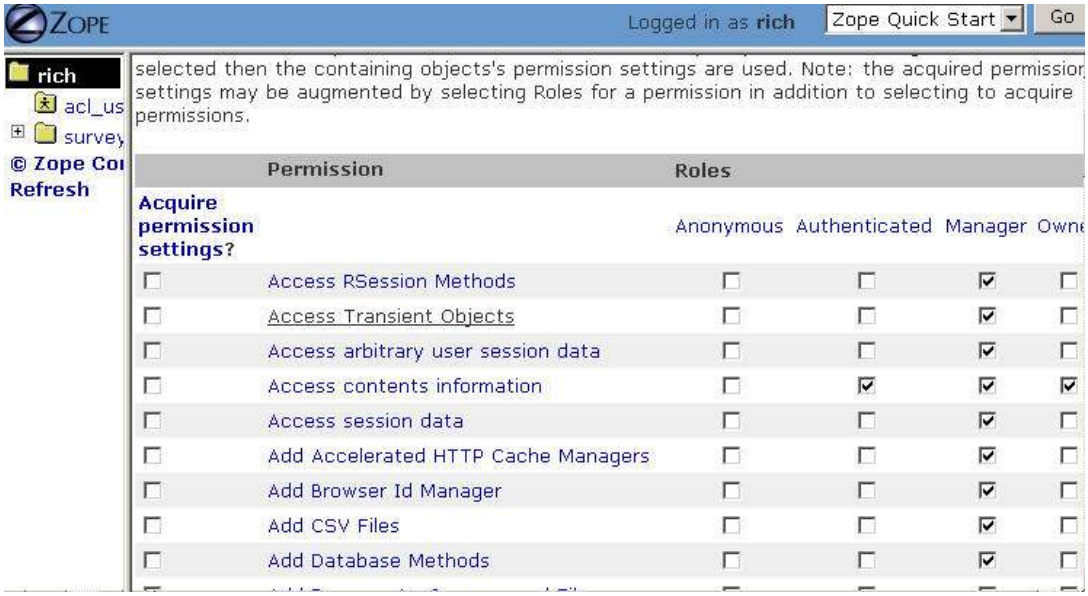
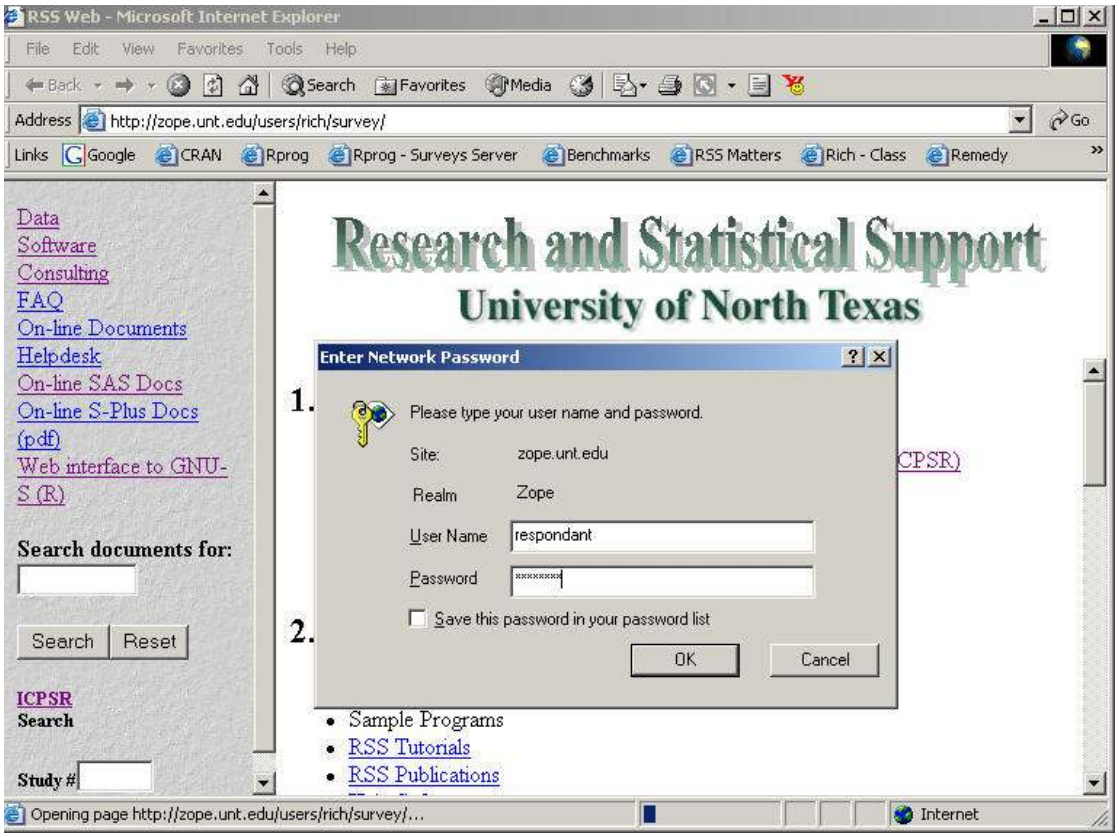


Screen 6

Screen 7



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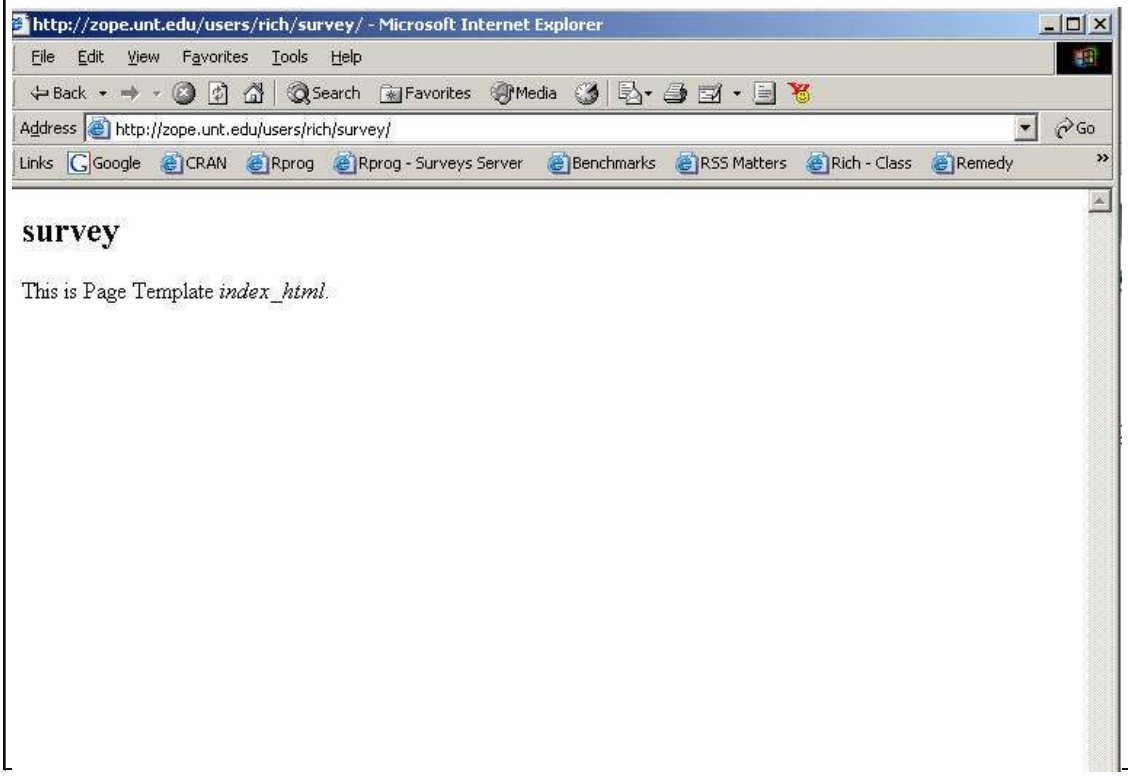

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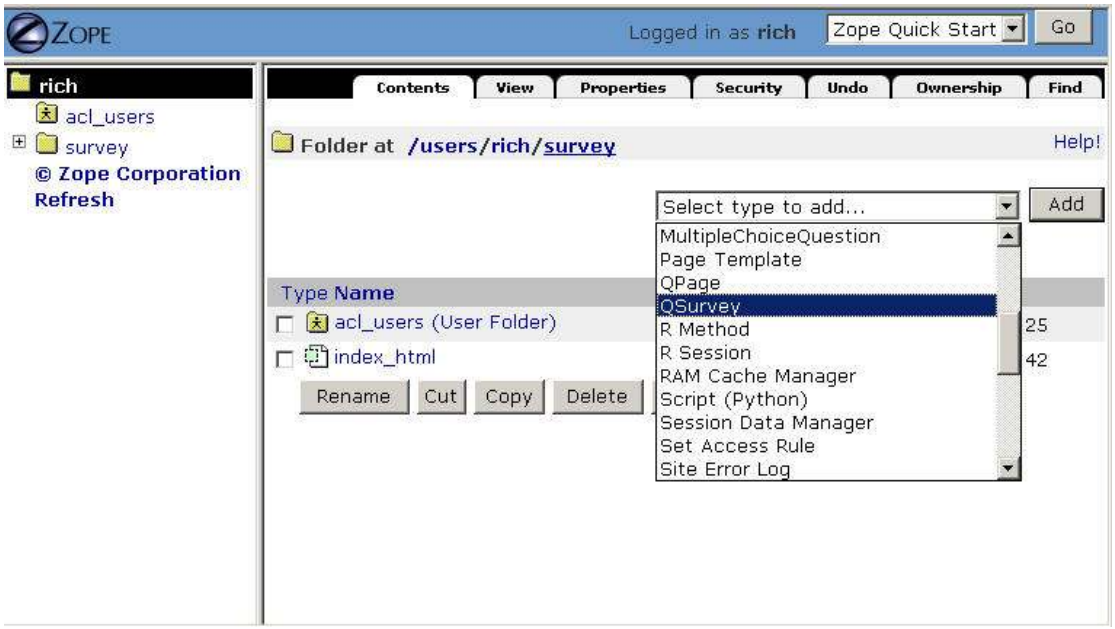
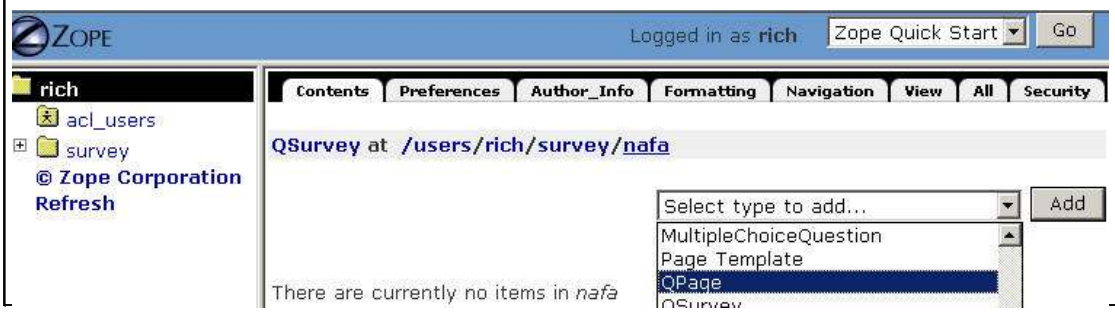
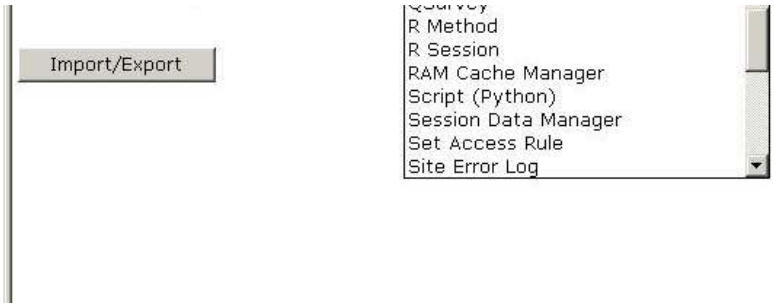


Screen 10

Screen 11





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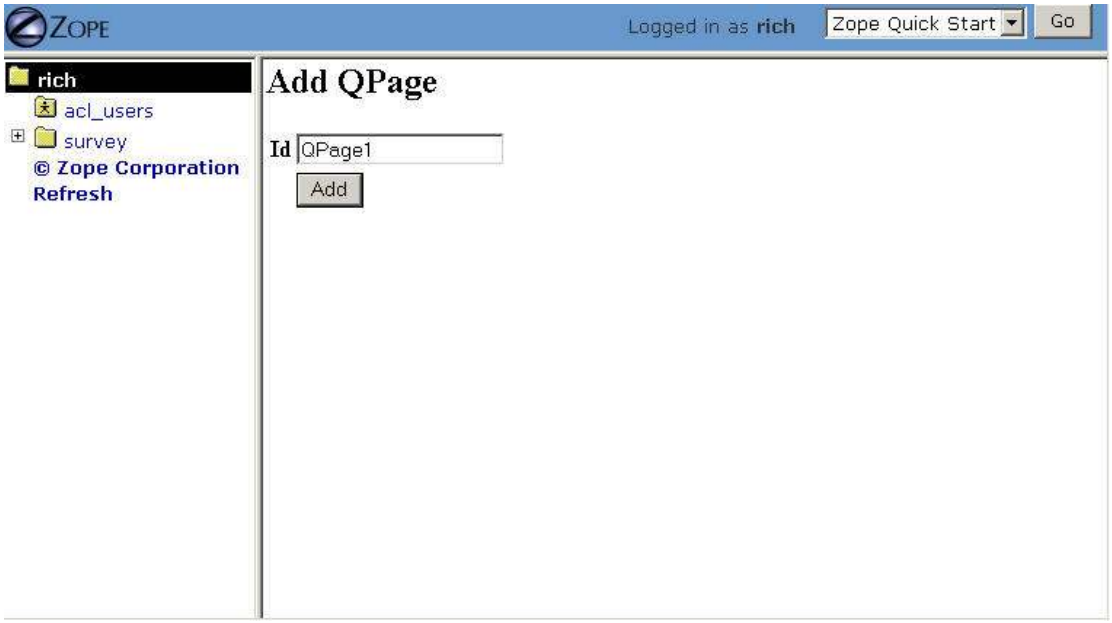
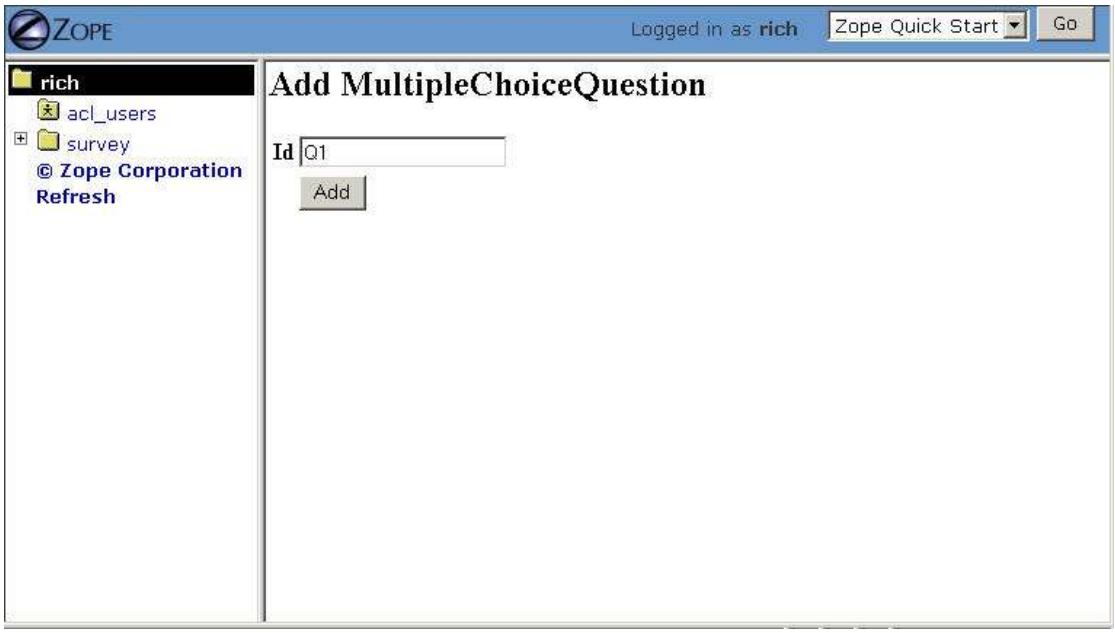


Screen 13

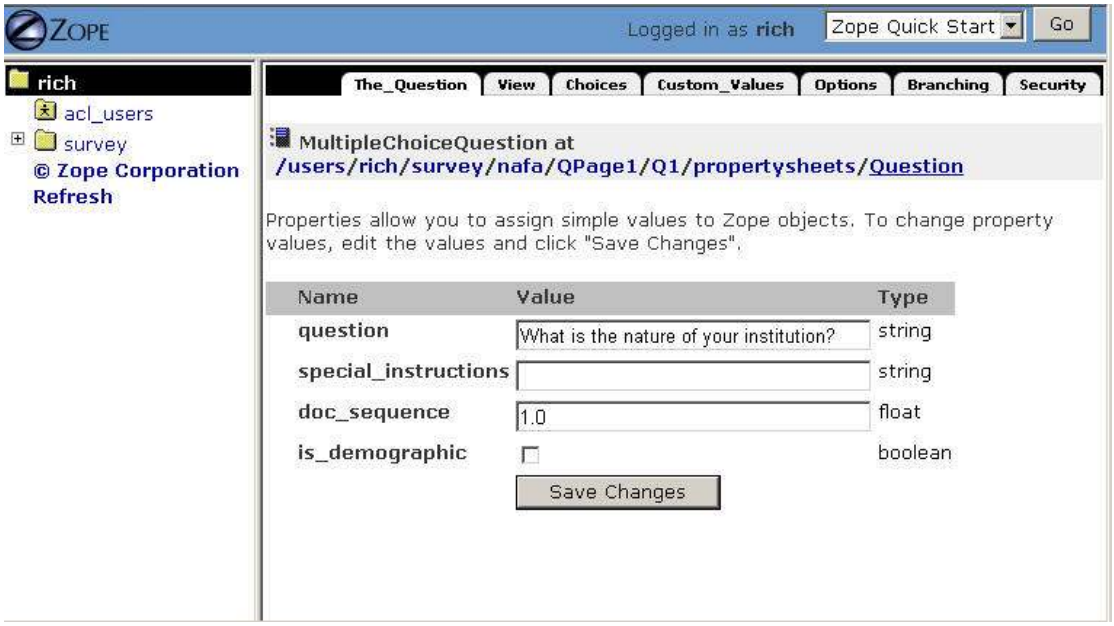
Screen 14

Screen 15



Screen 16

Screen 17



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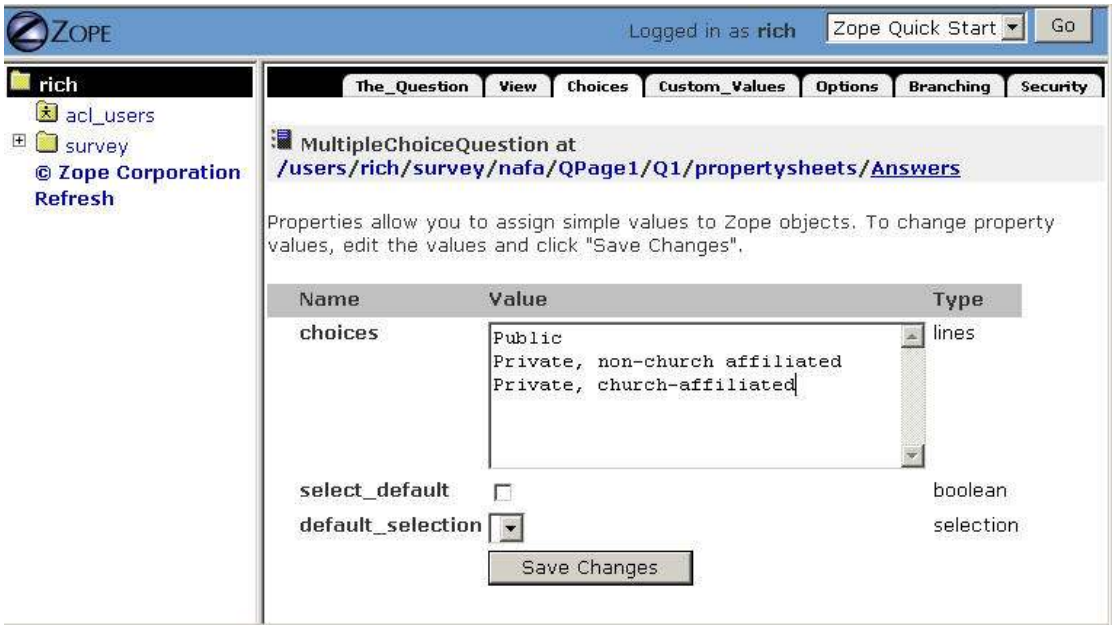
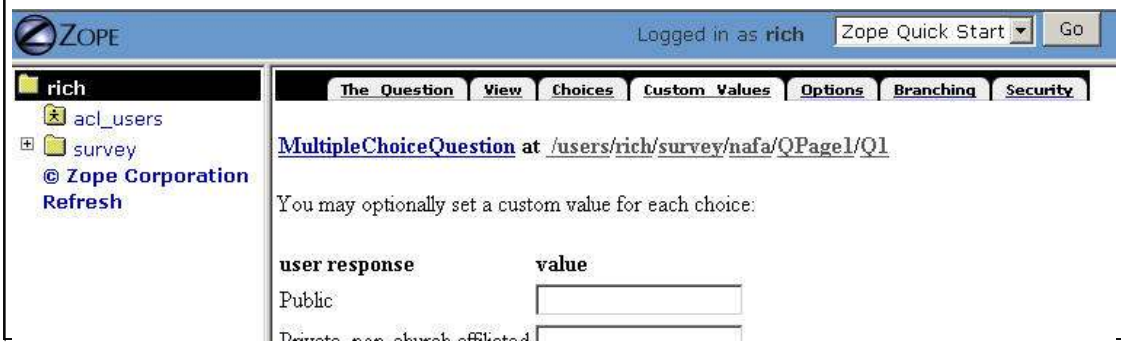
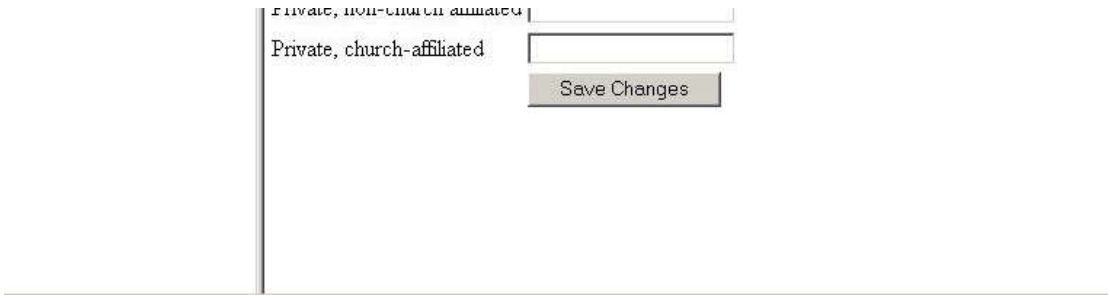
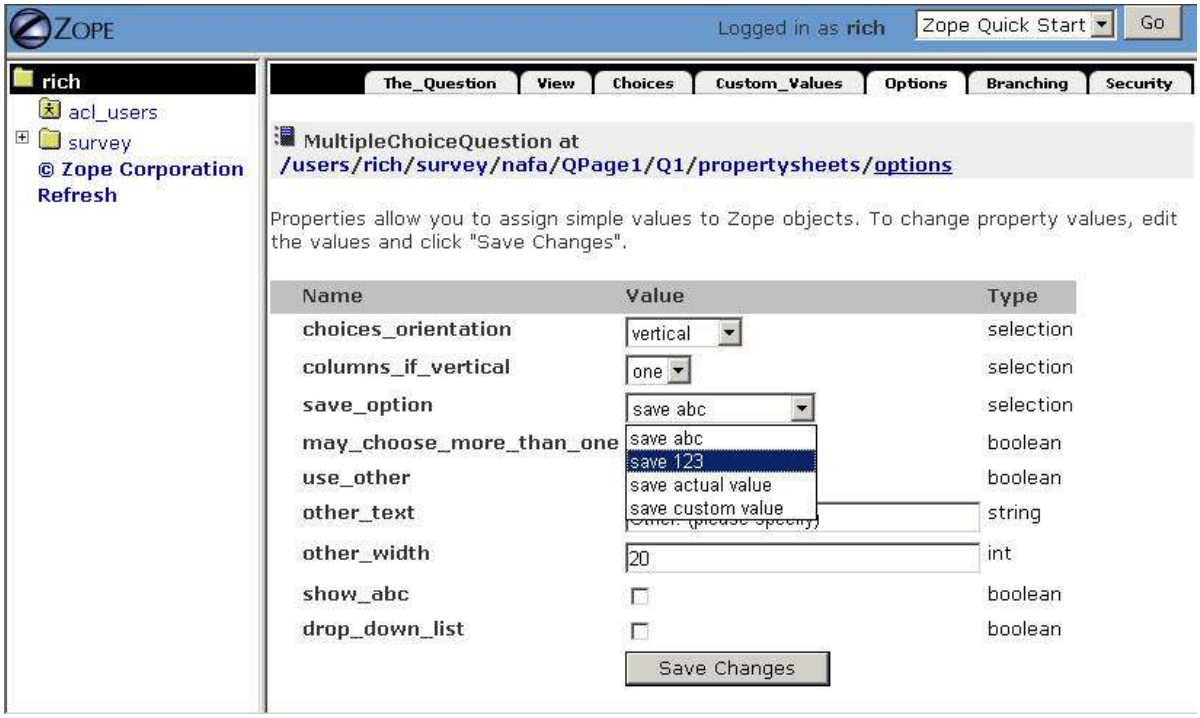


Screen 19





Screen 20



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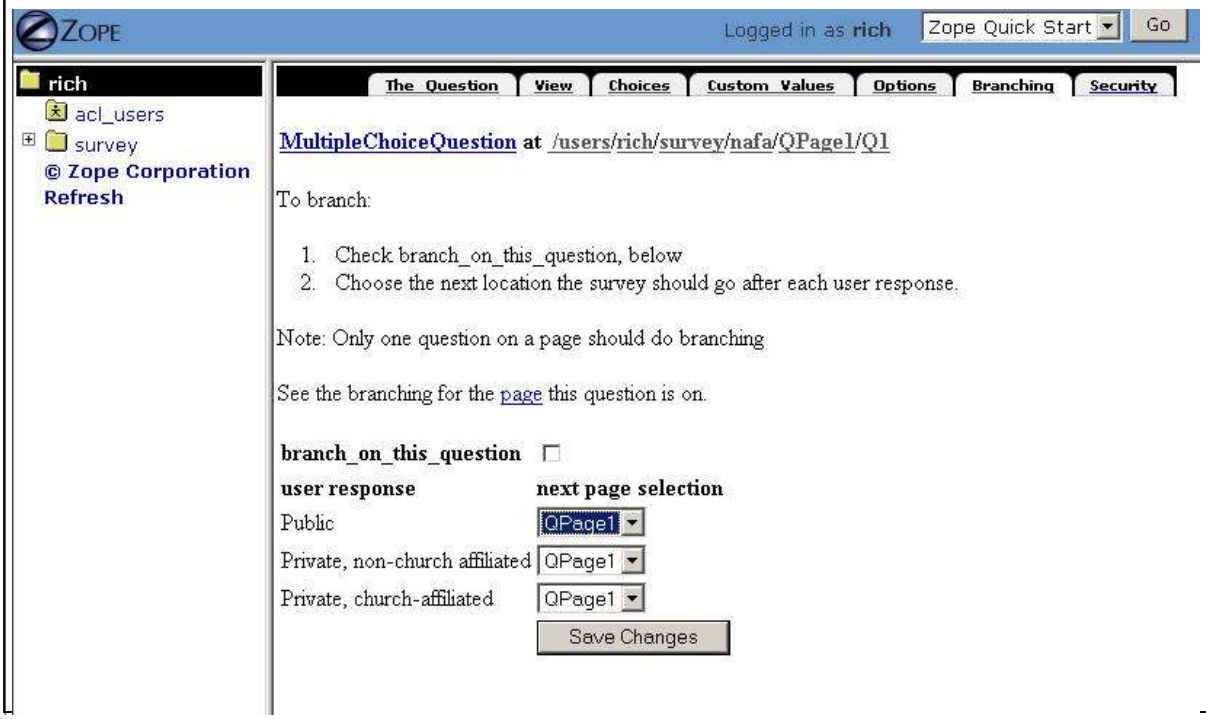

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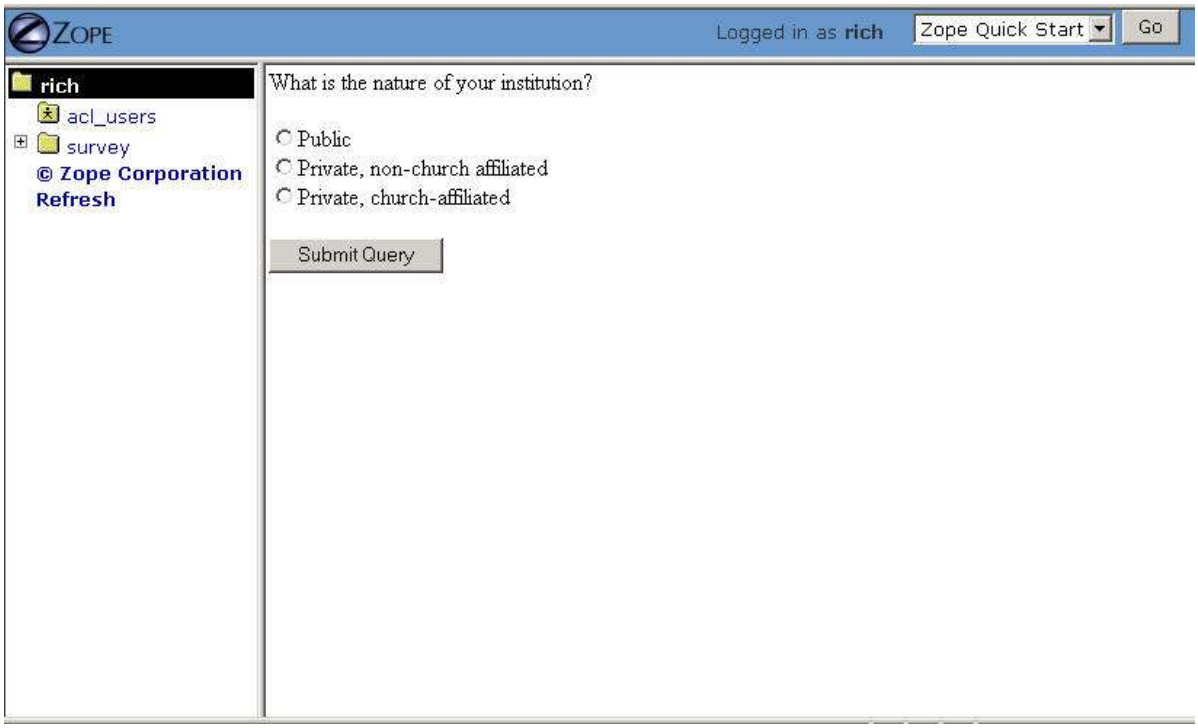

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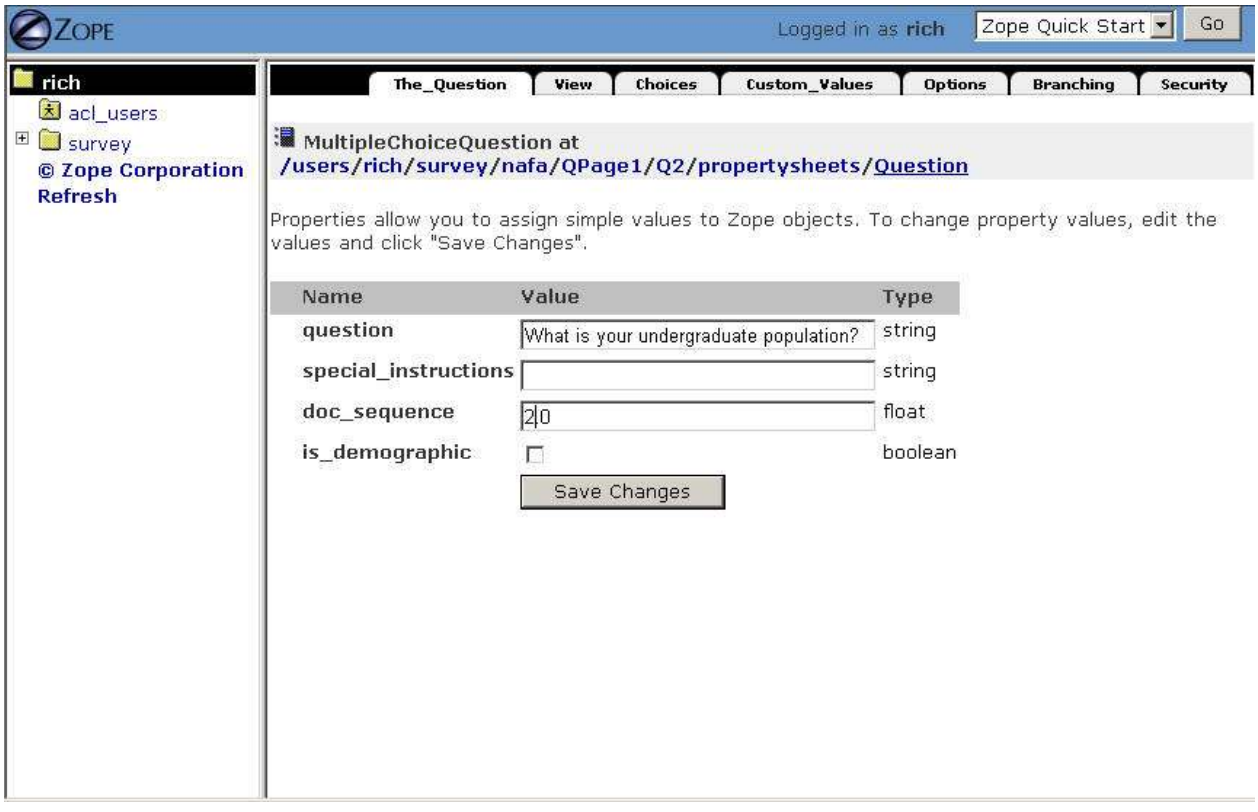

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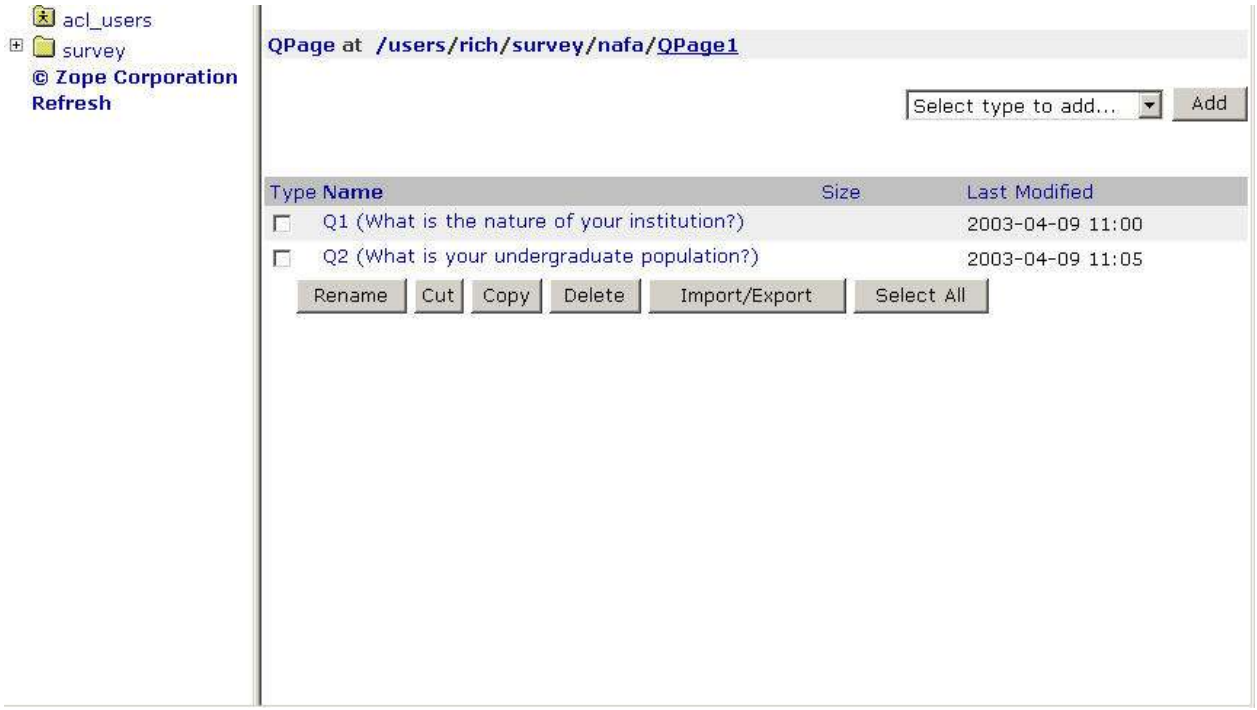
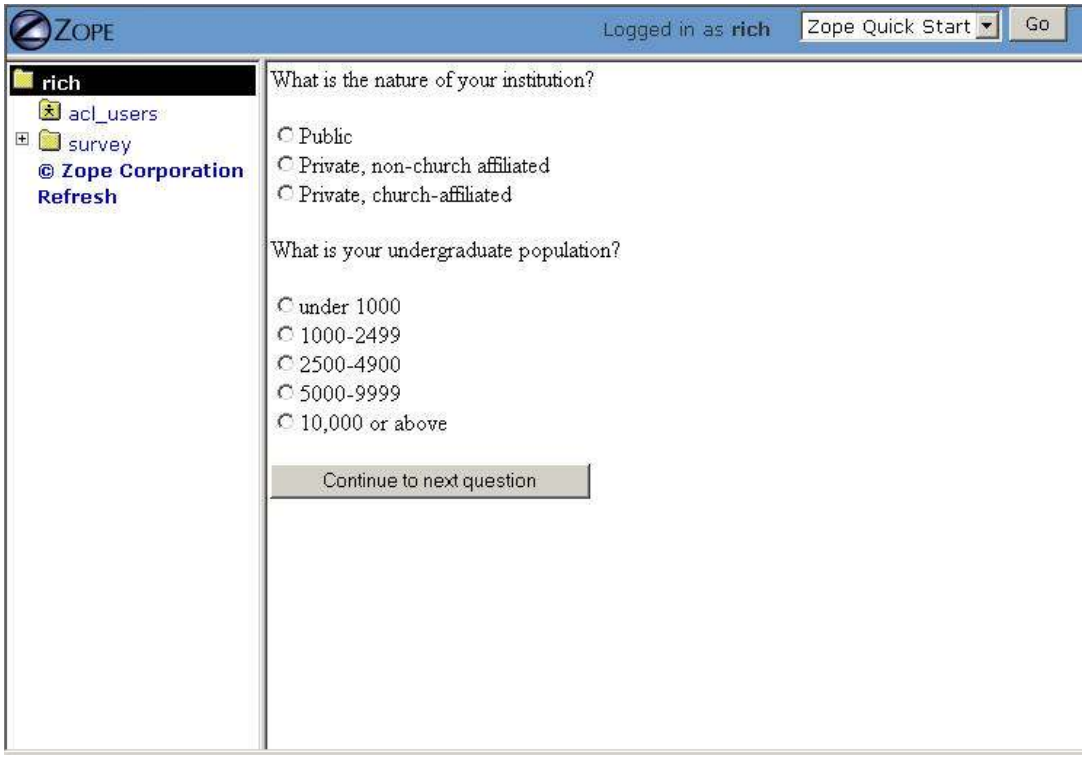
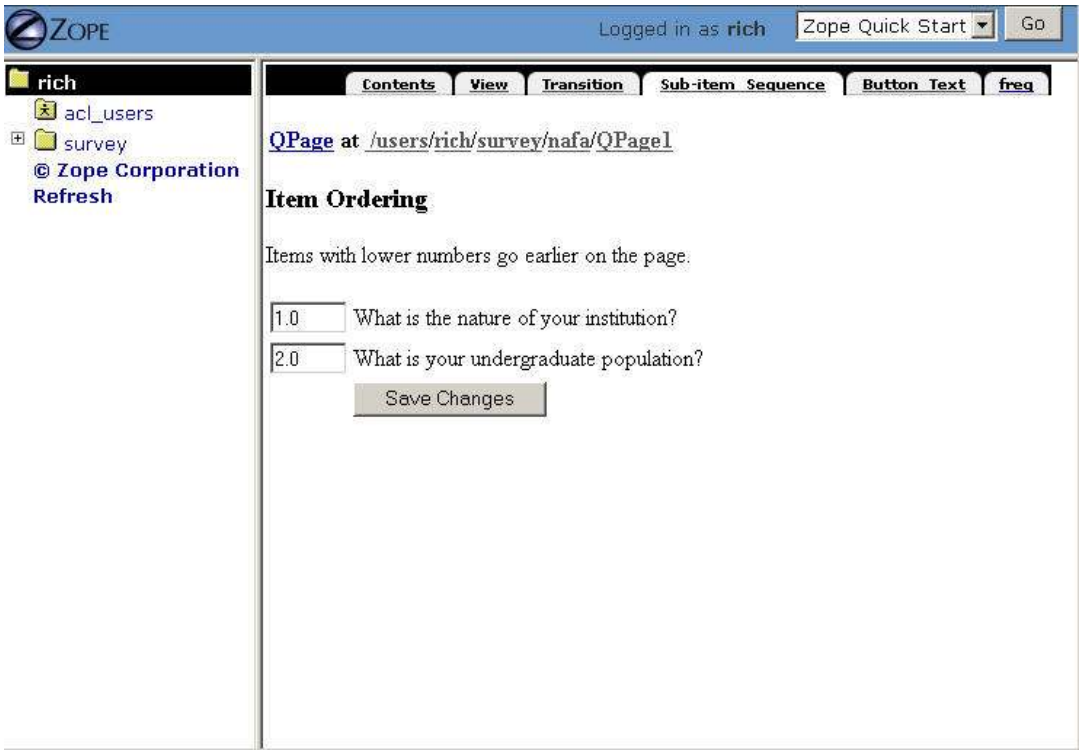


Screen 25



Screen 26

Screen 27



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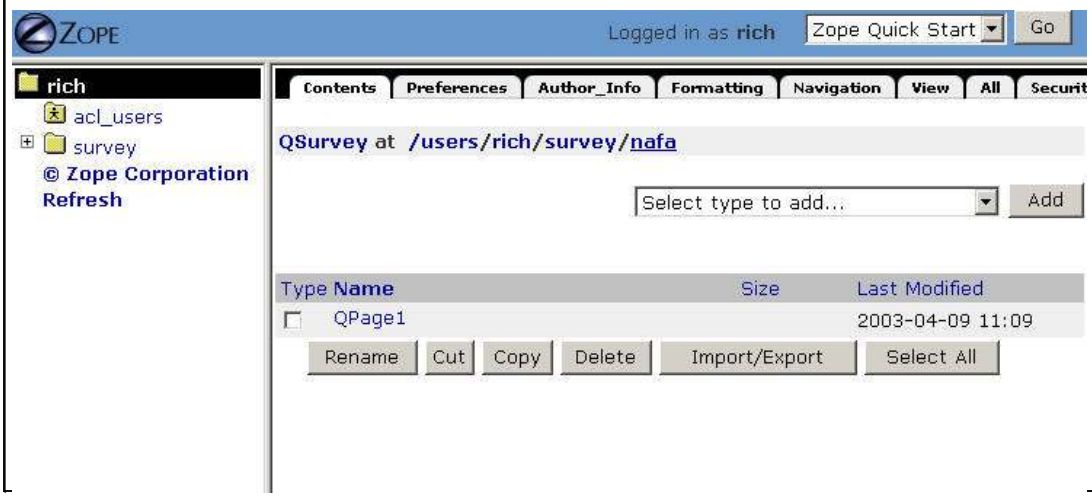

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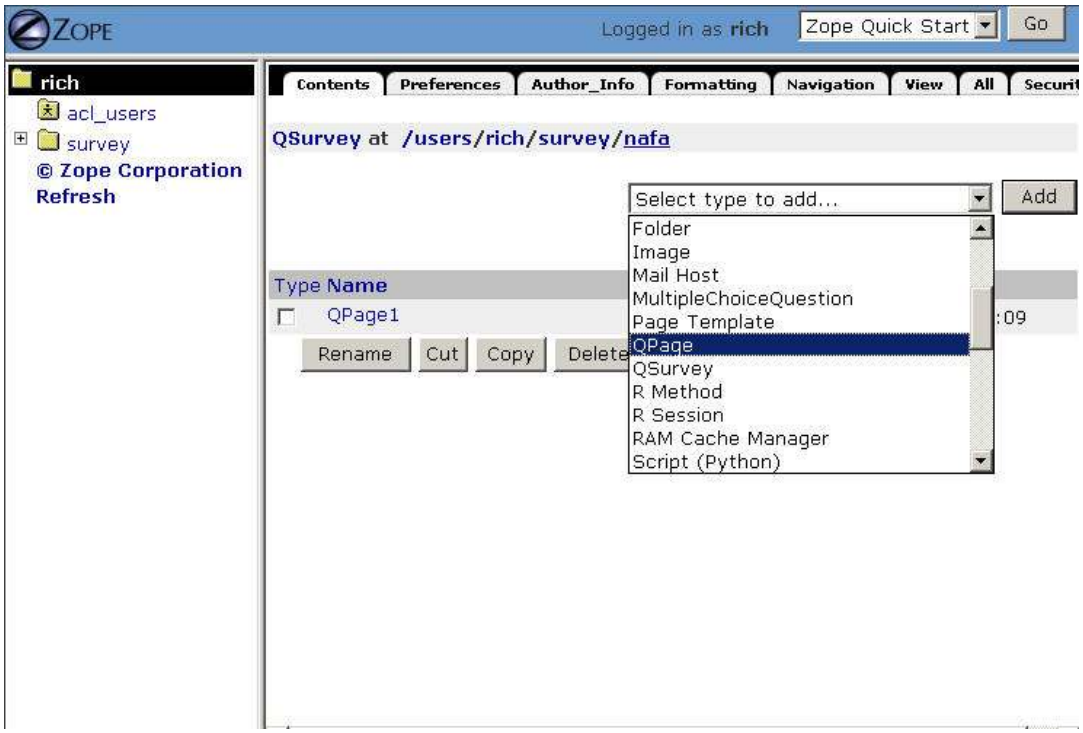
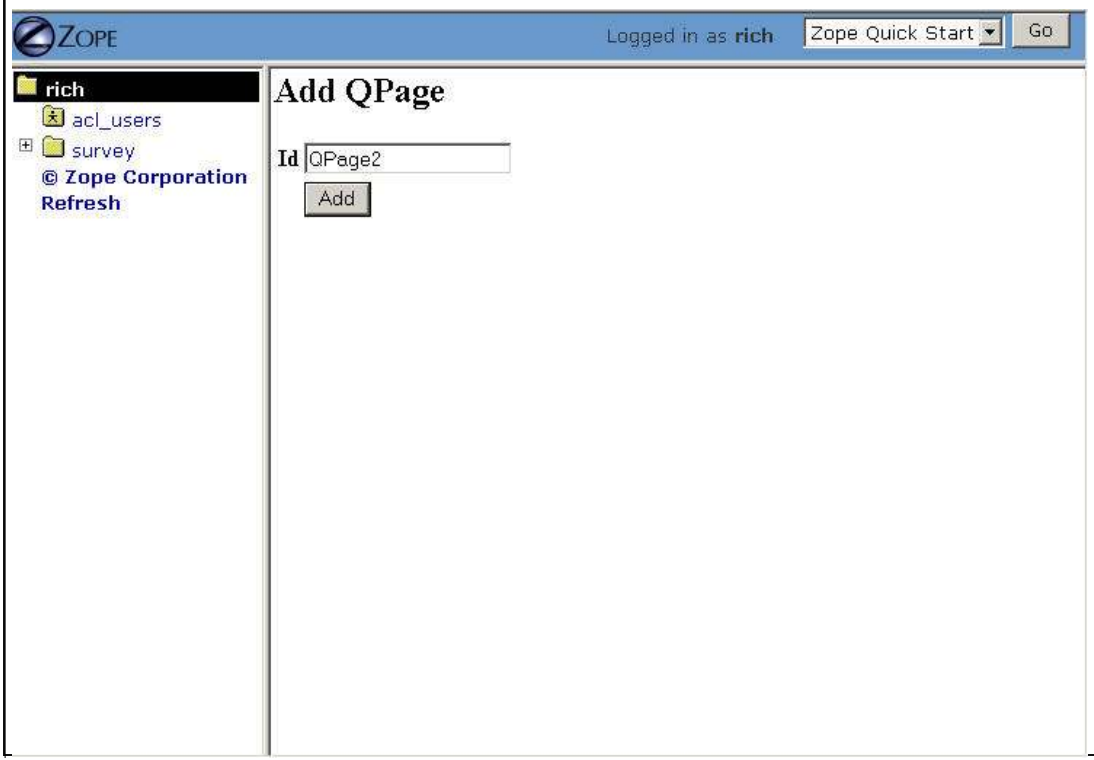


Screen 30



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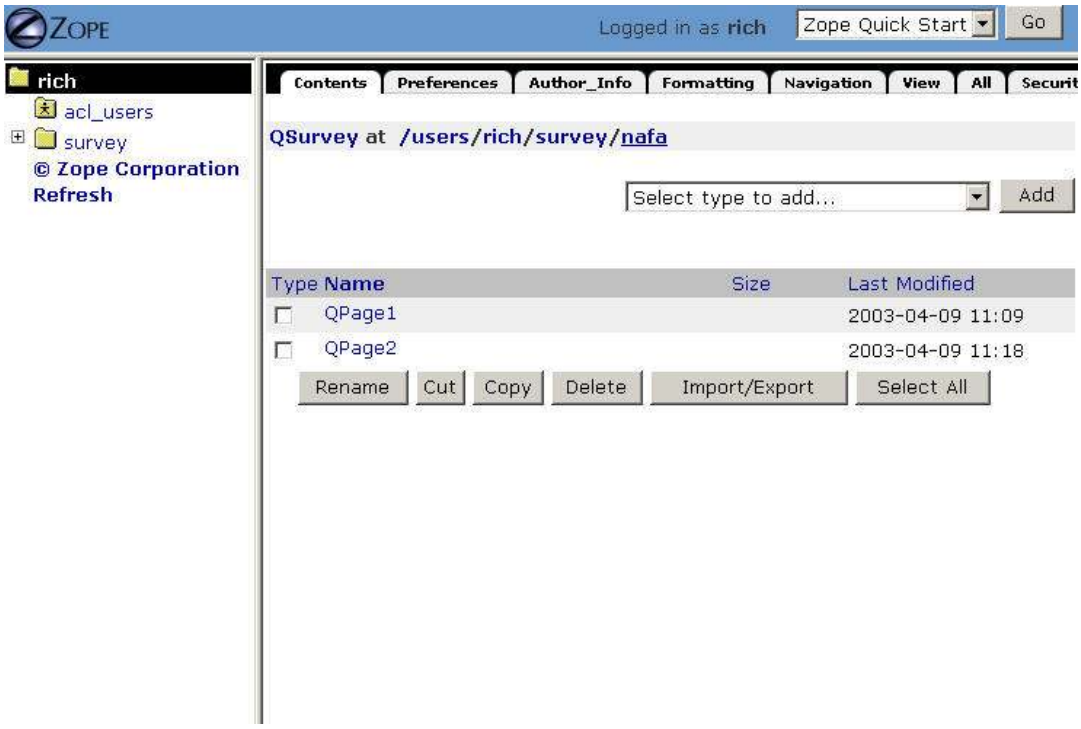
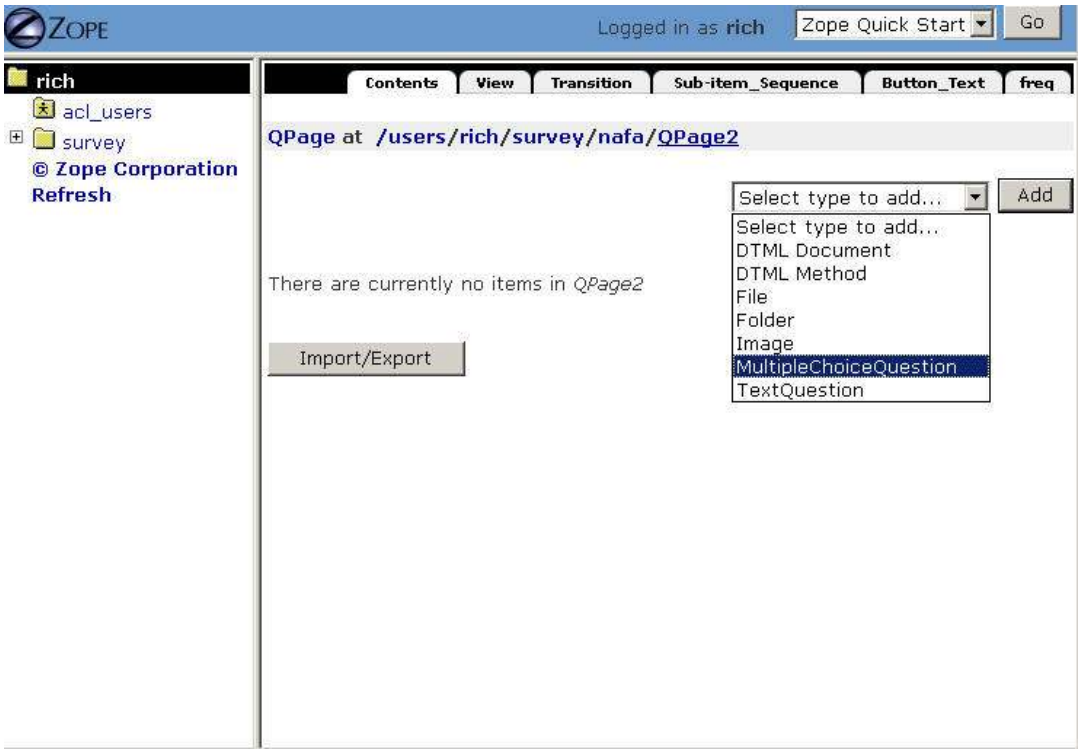


Screen 32



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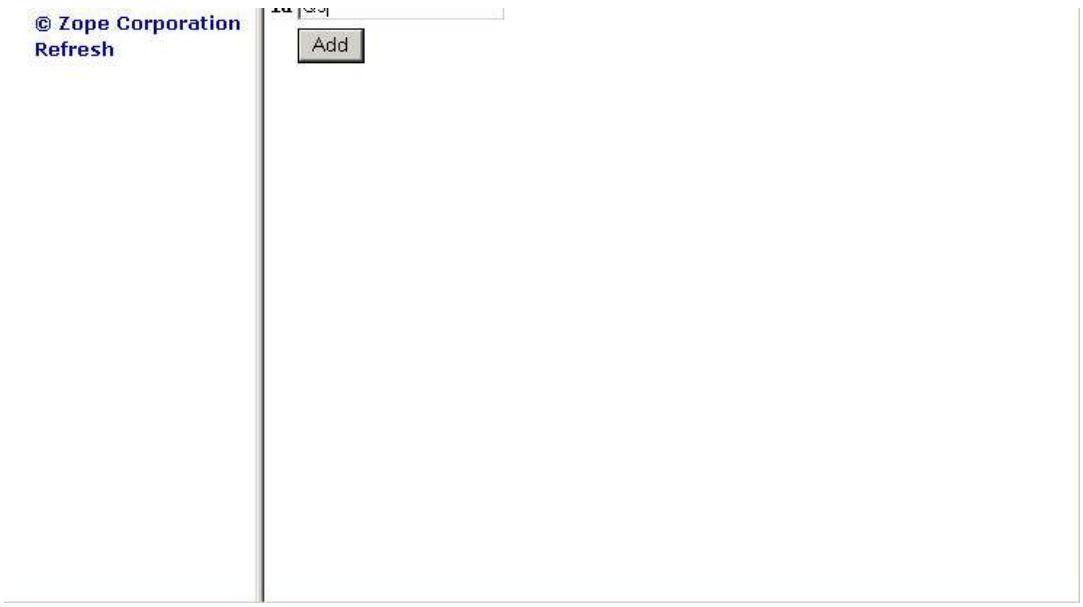

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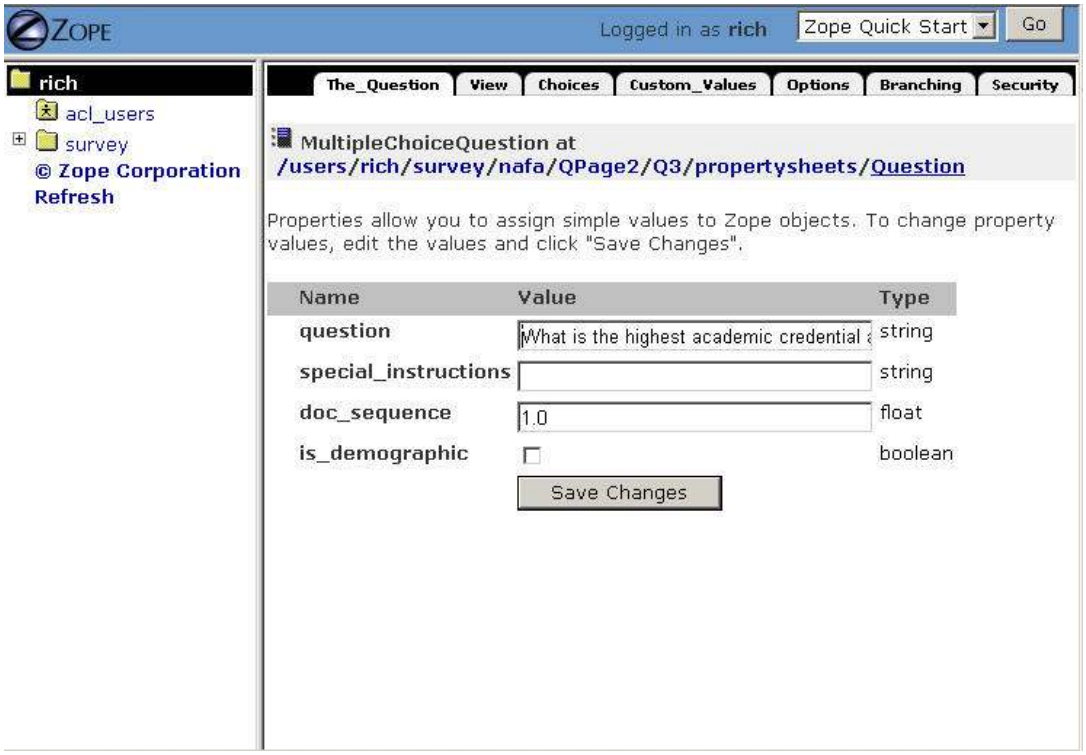
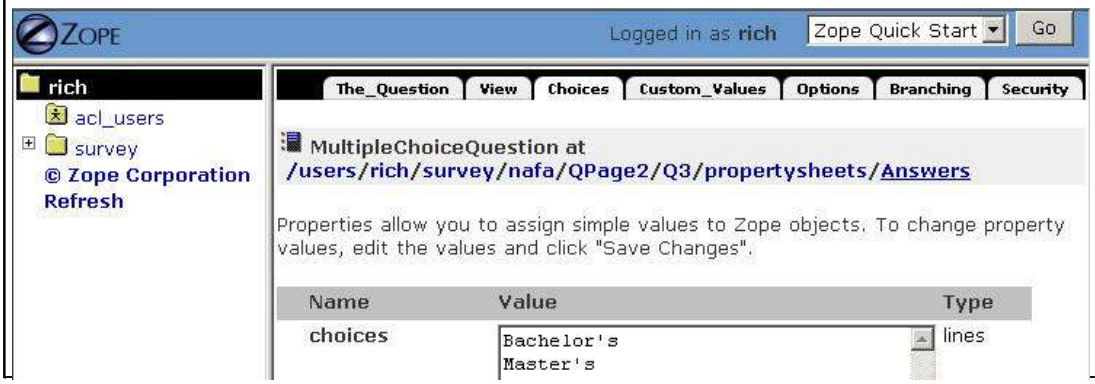
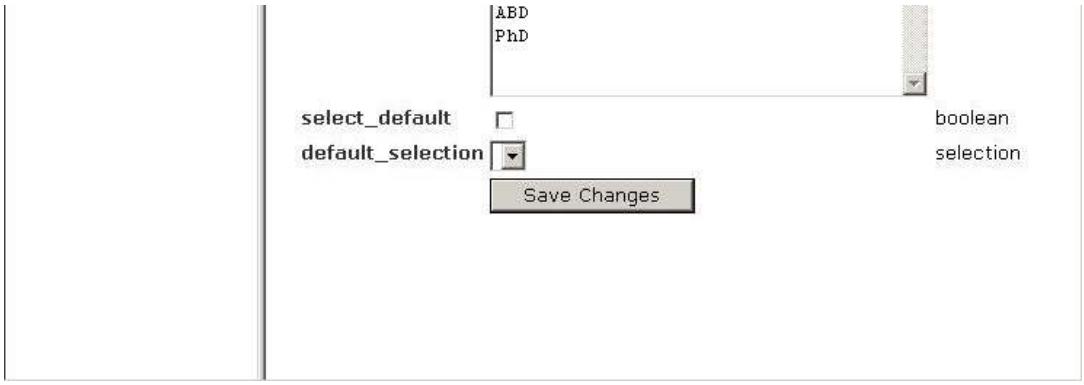
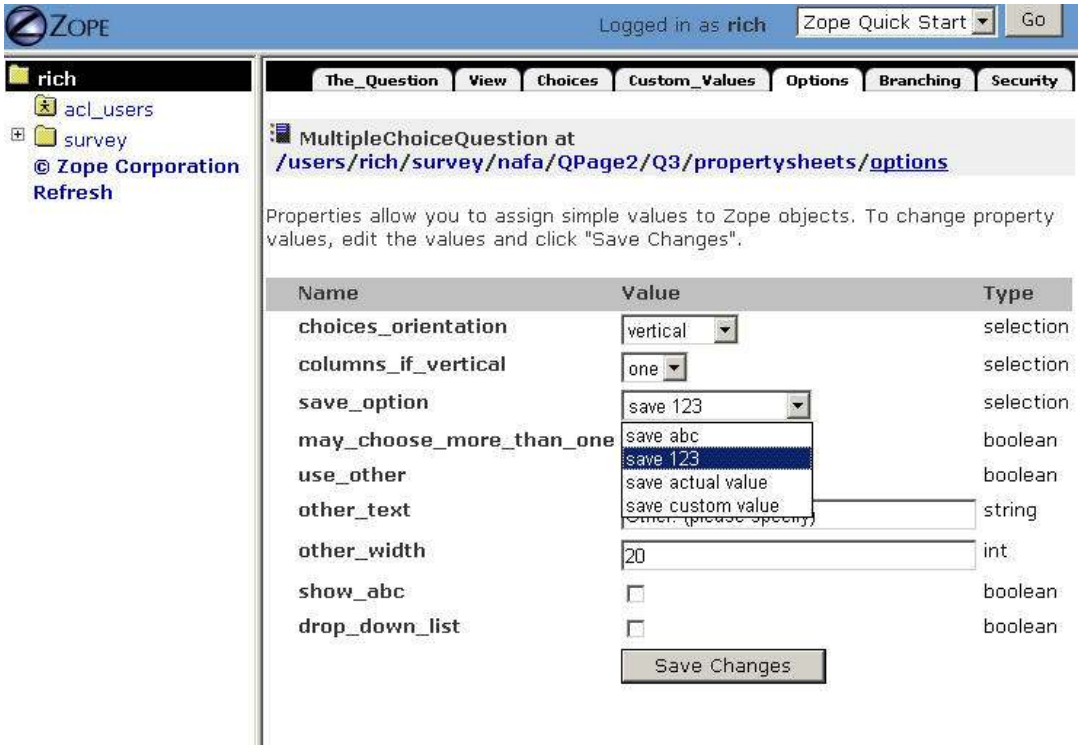


Screen 35





Screen 36



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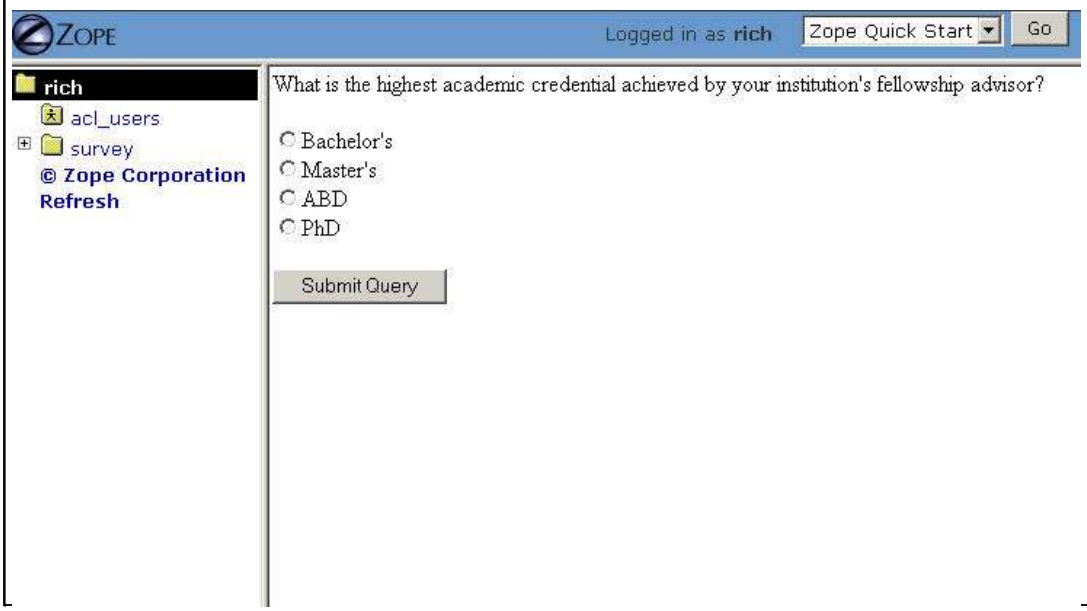

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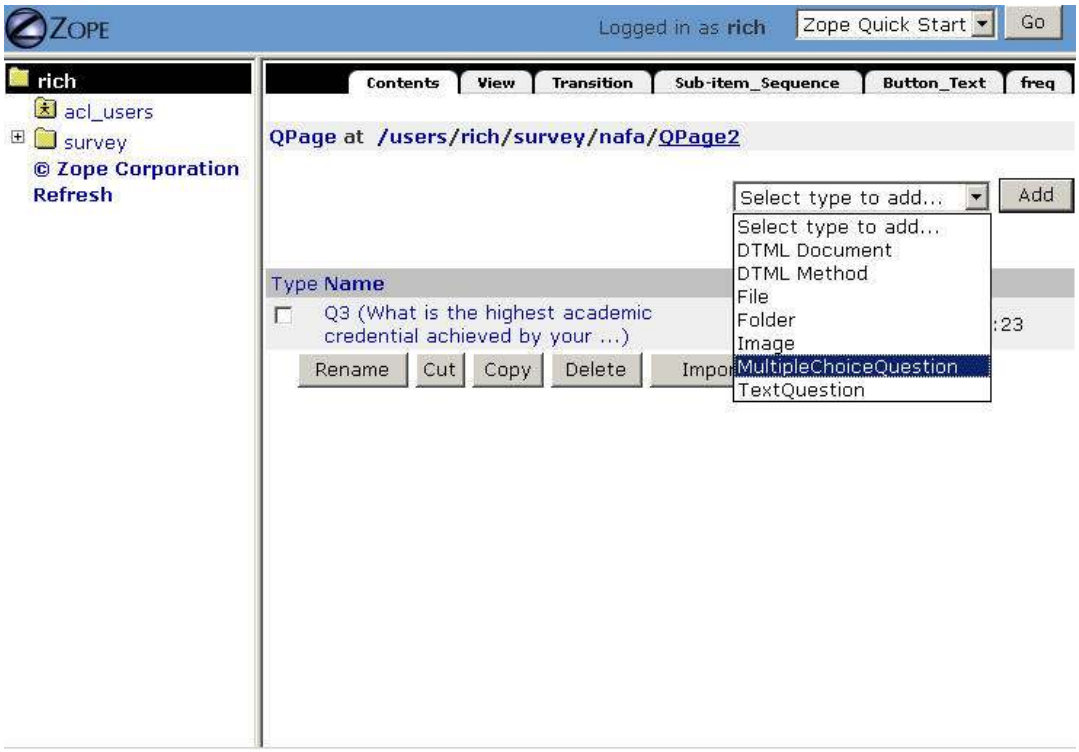
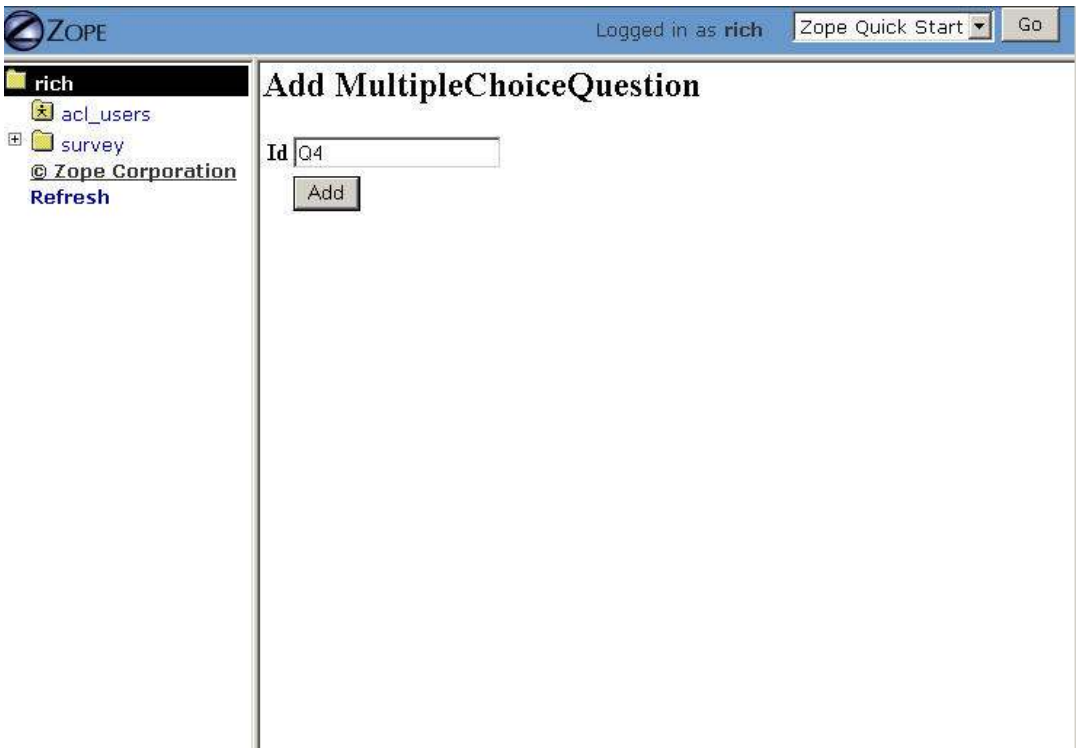
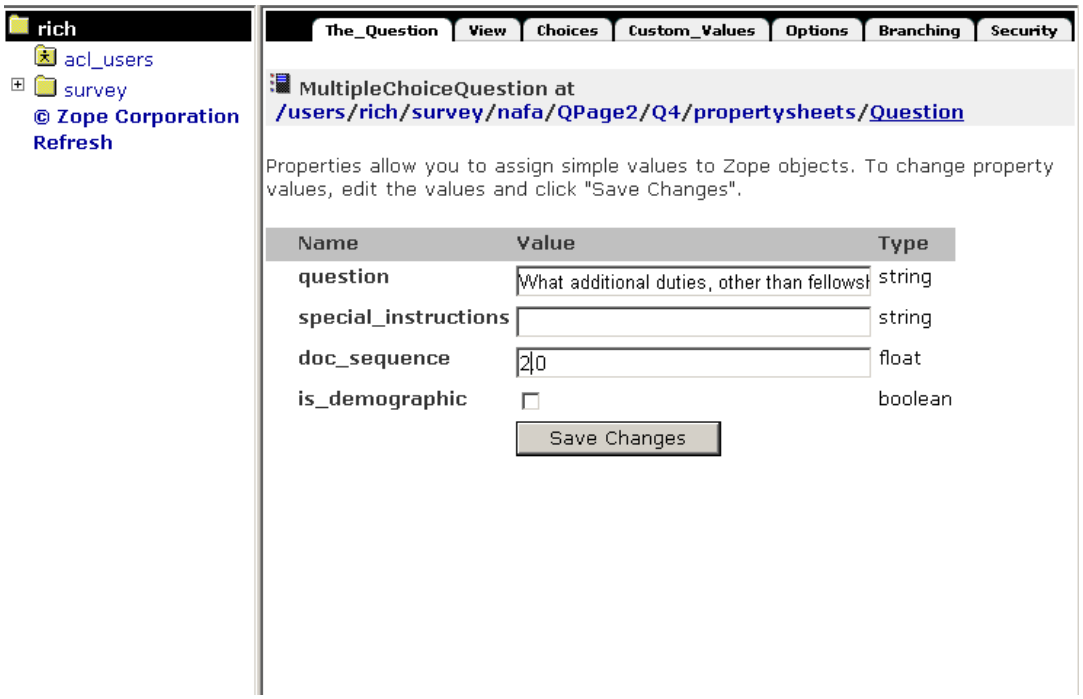


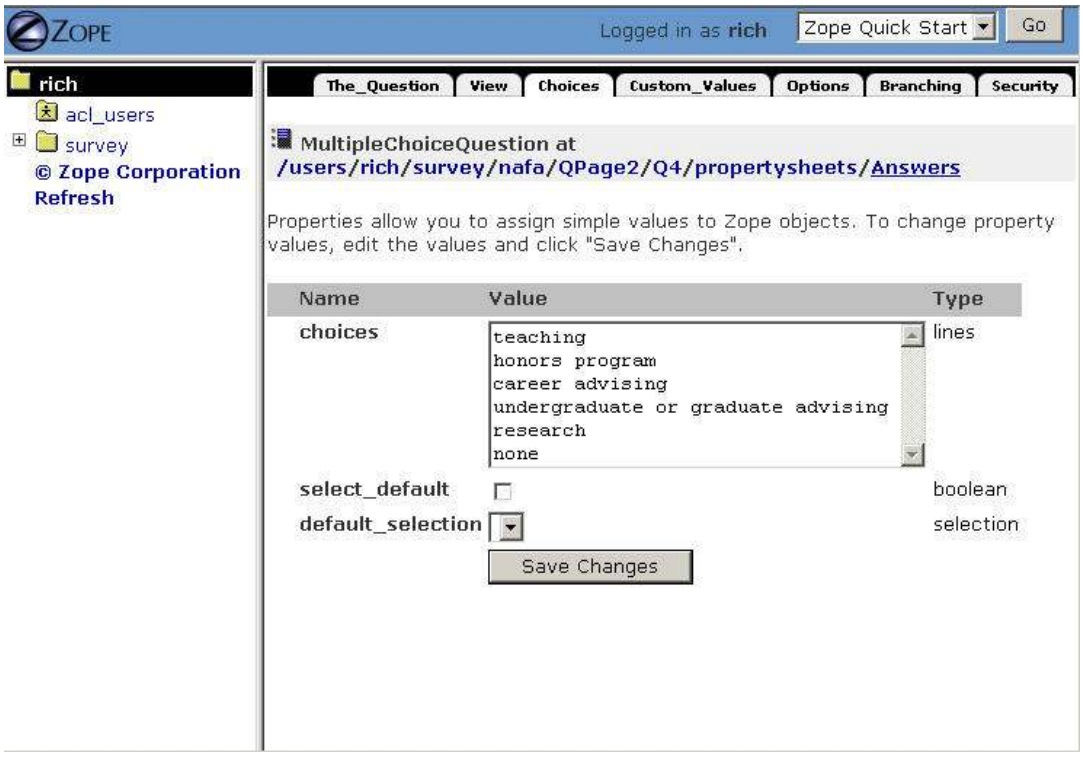
Screen 39



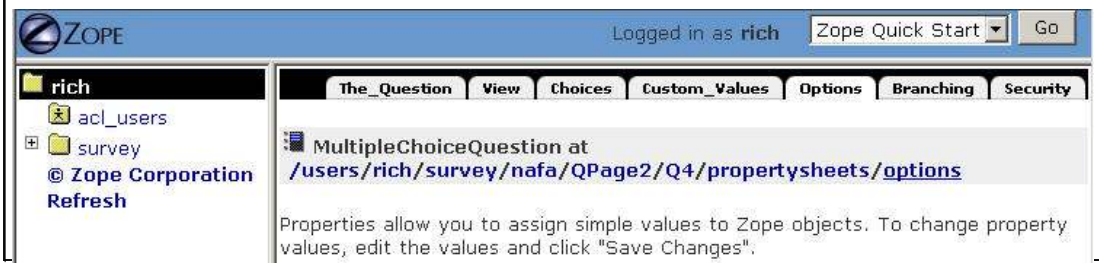
Screen 40

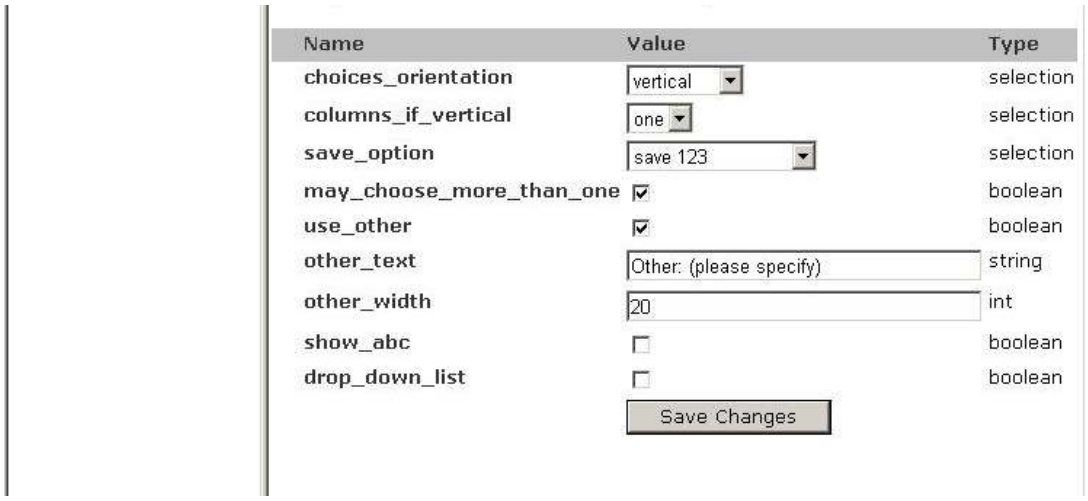


Screen 41

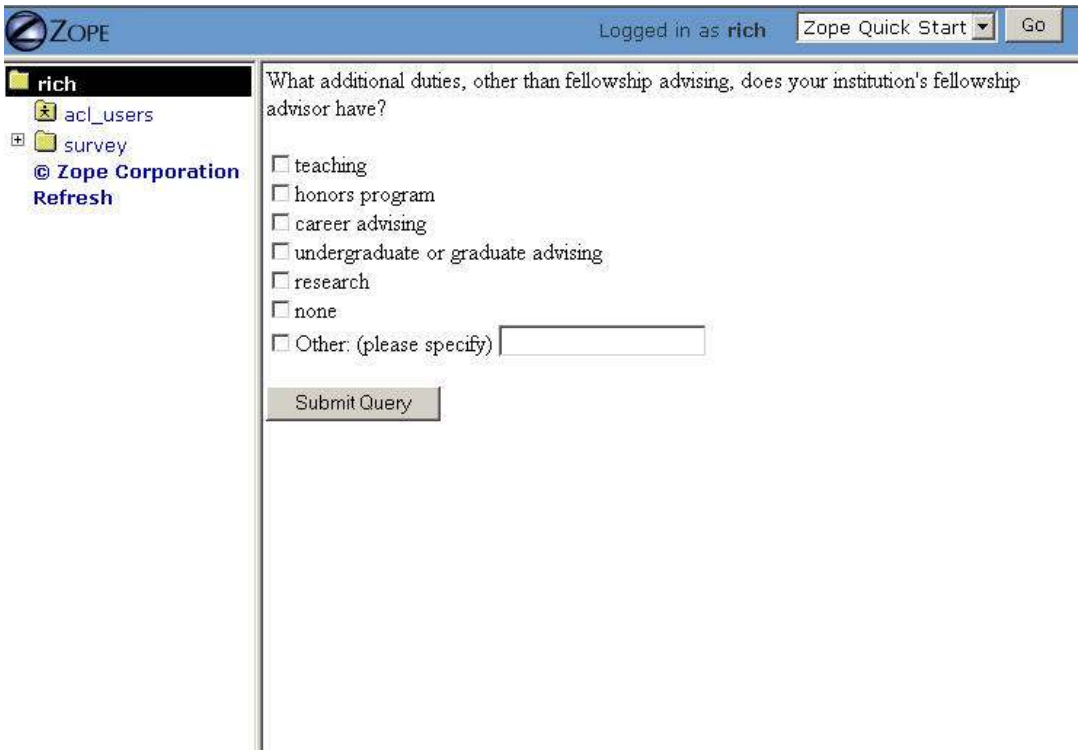


Screen 42

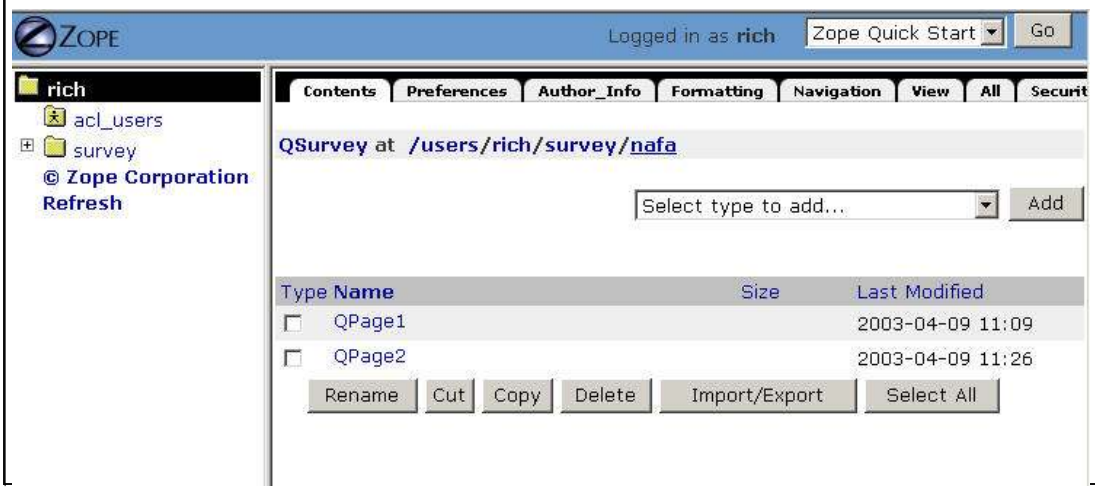




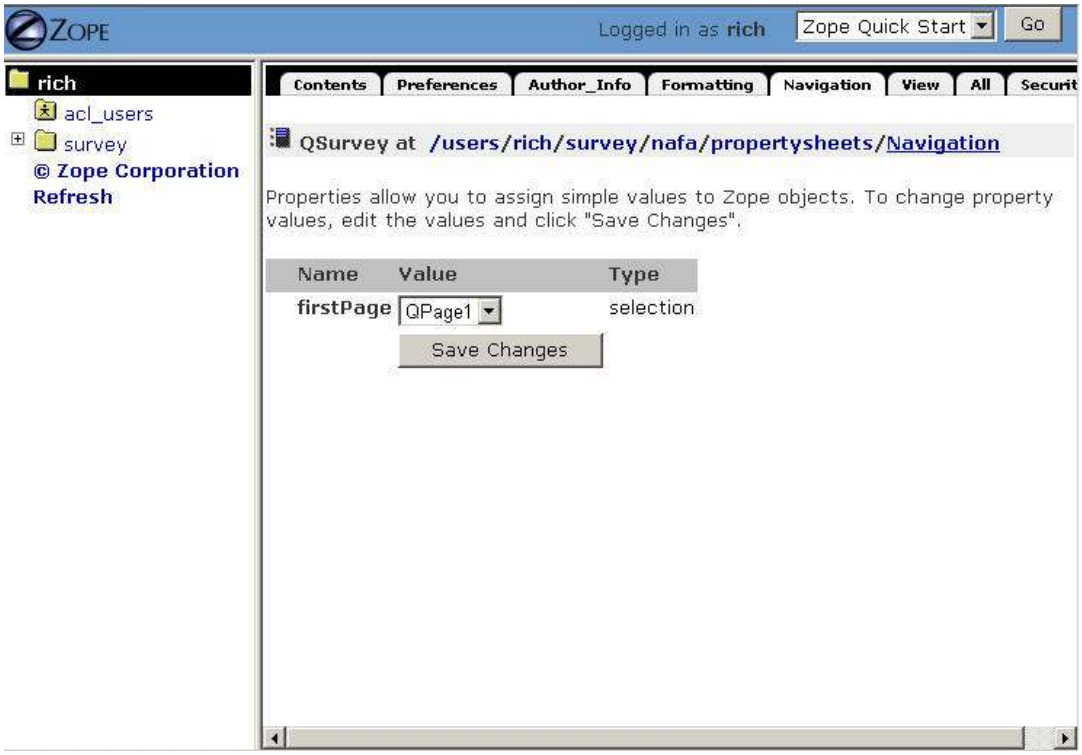
Screen 43



Screen 44

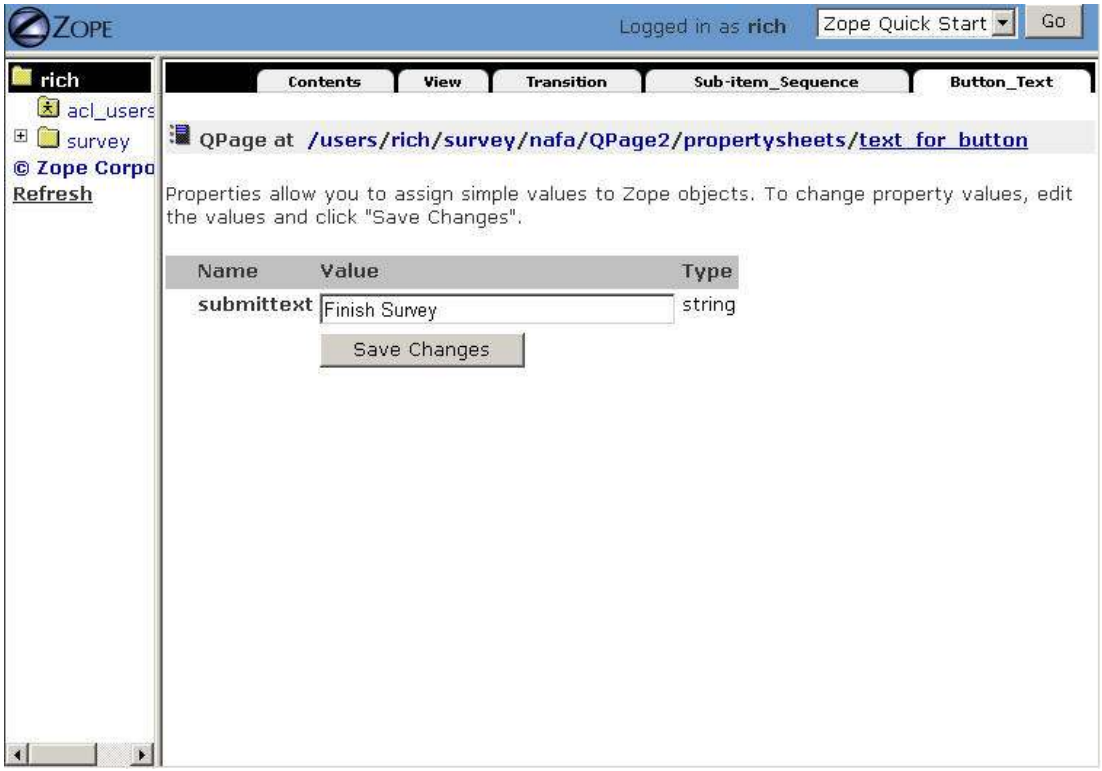


Screen 45

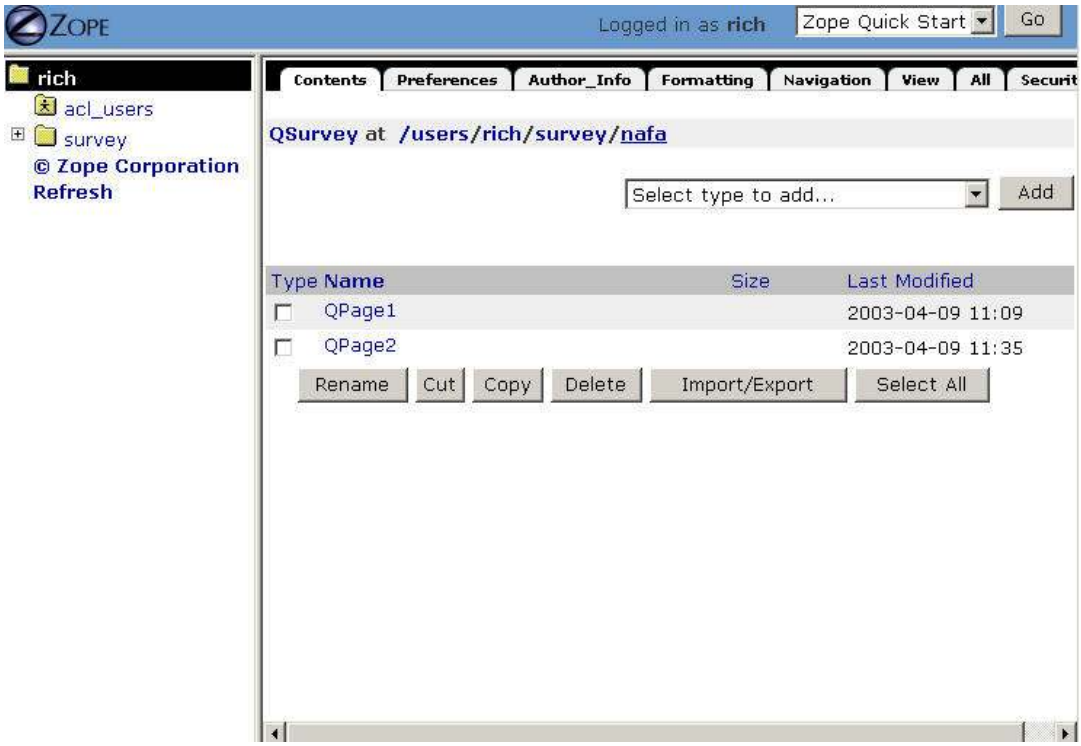


Screen 46

Screen 47

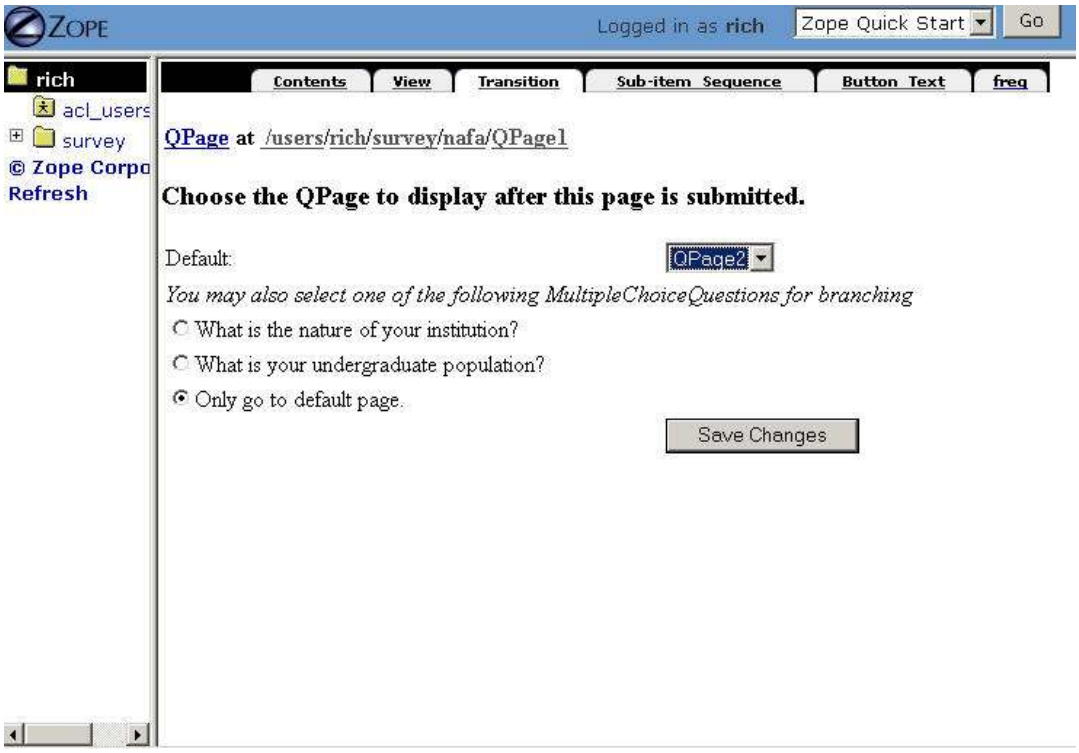


Screen 48



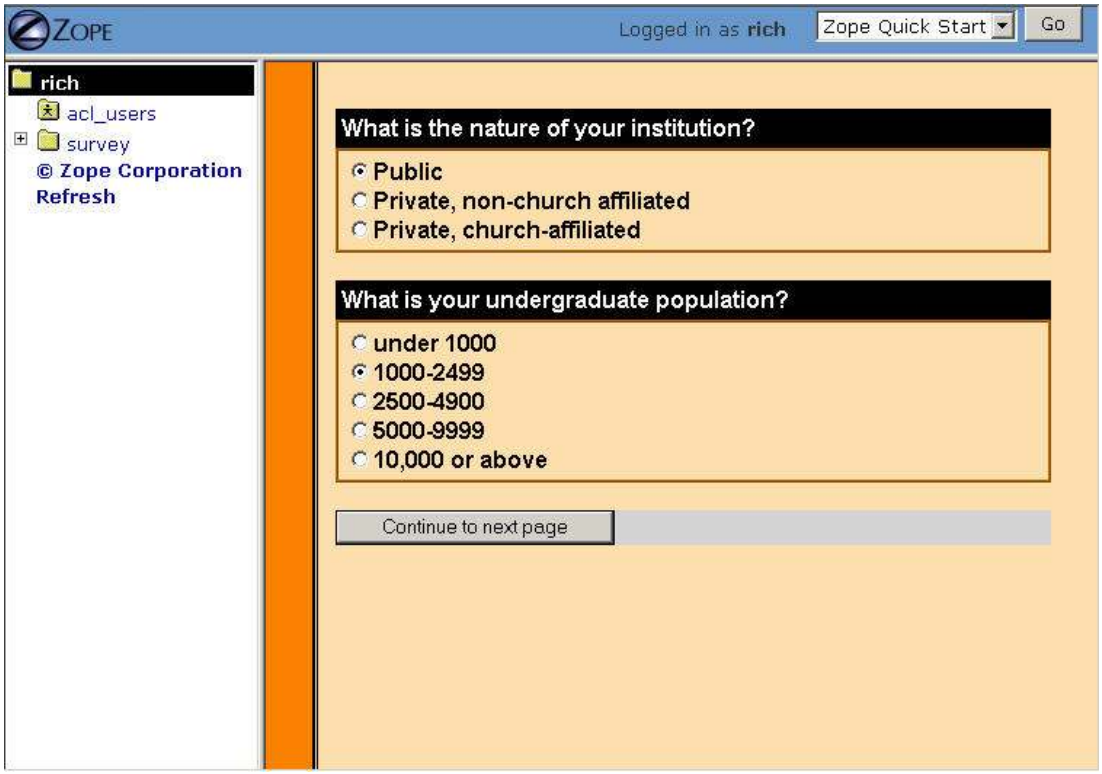
Screen 49

Screen 50

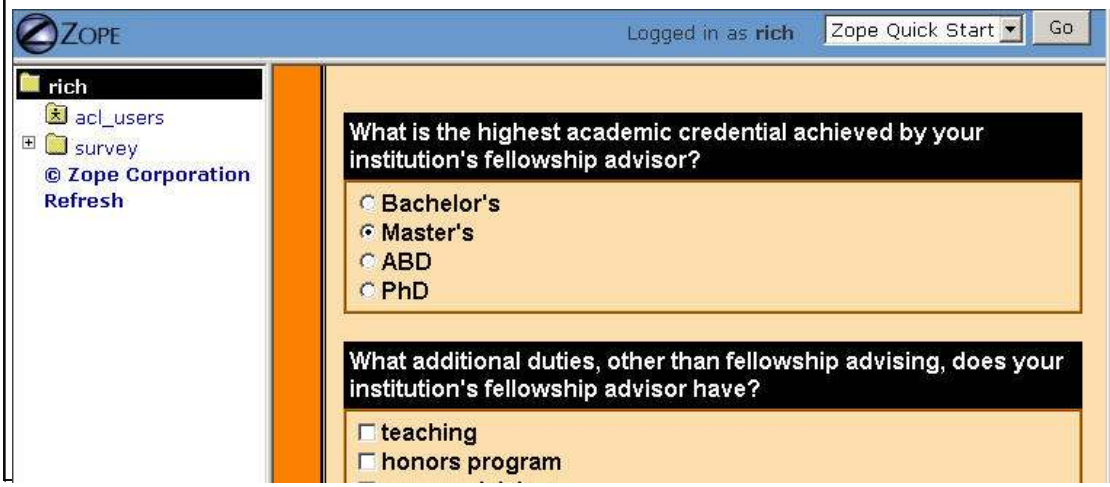


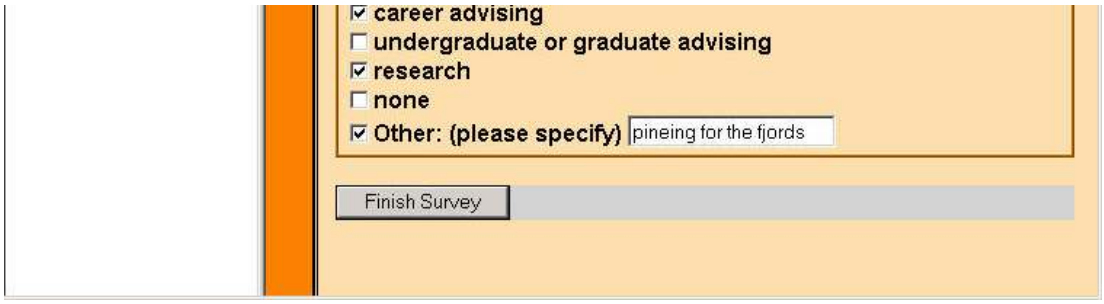
Screen 51

Screen 52

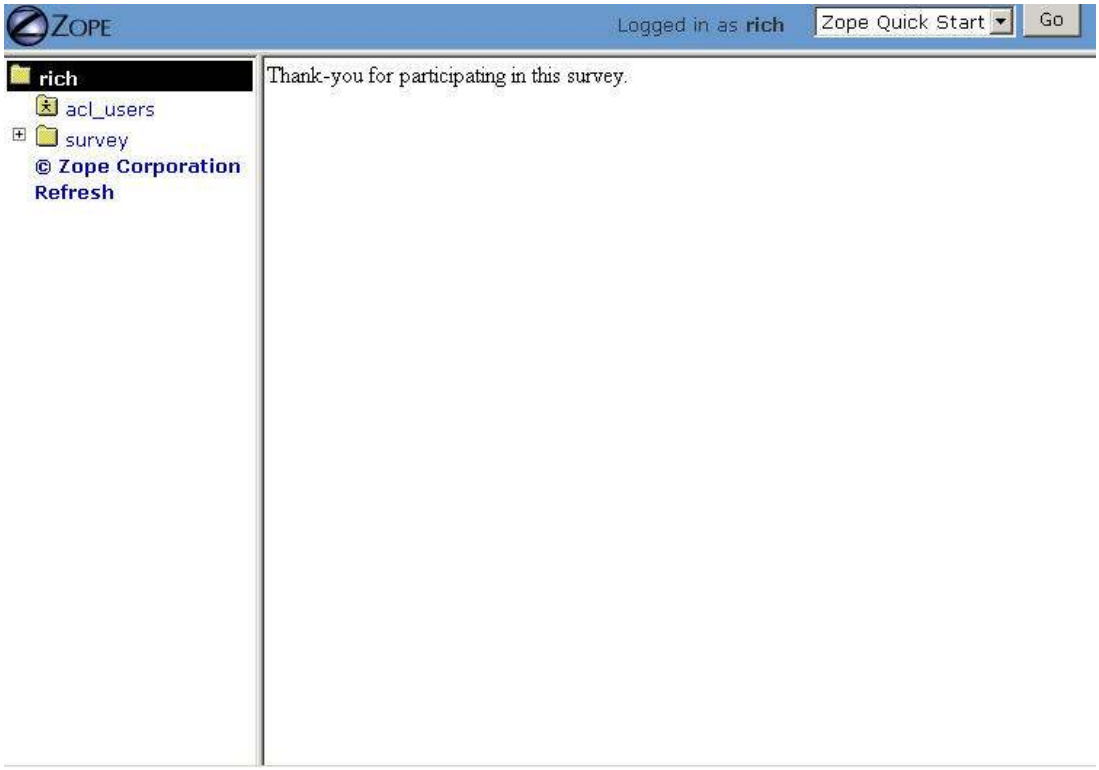


Screen 53

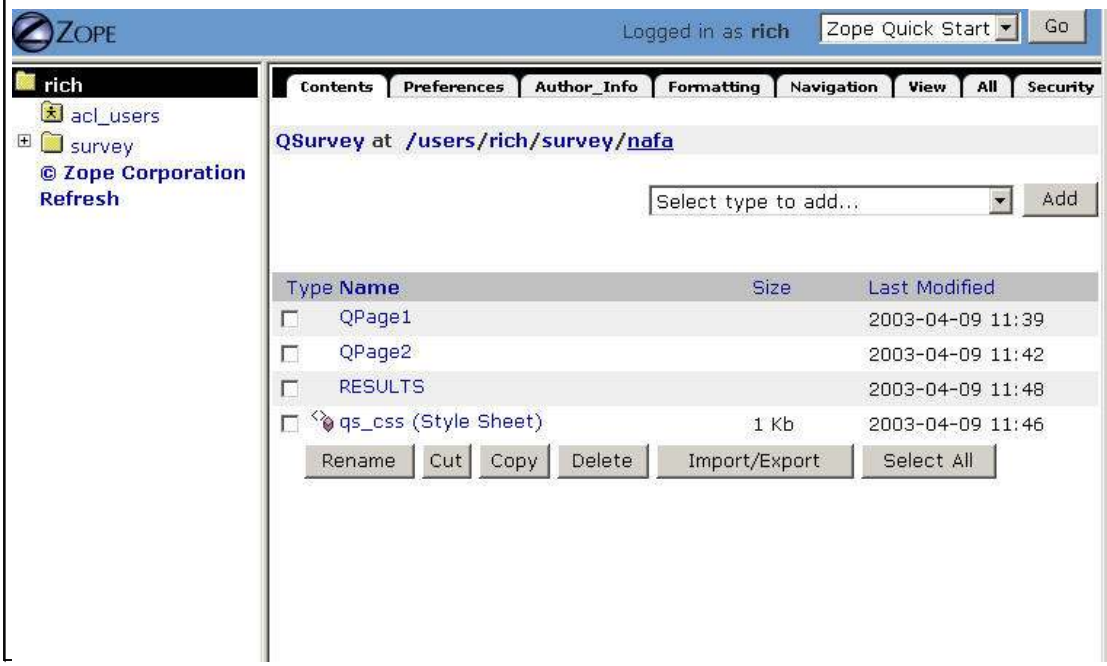




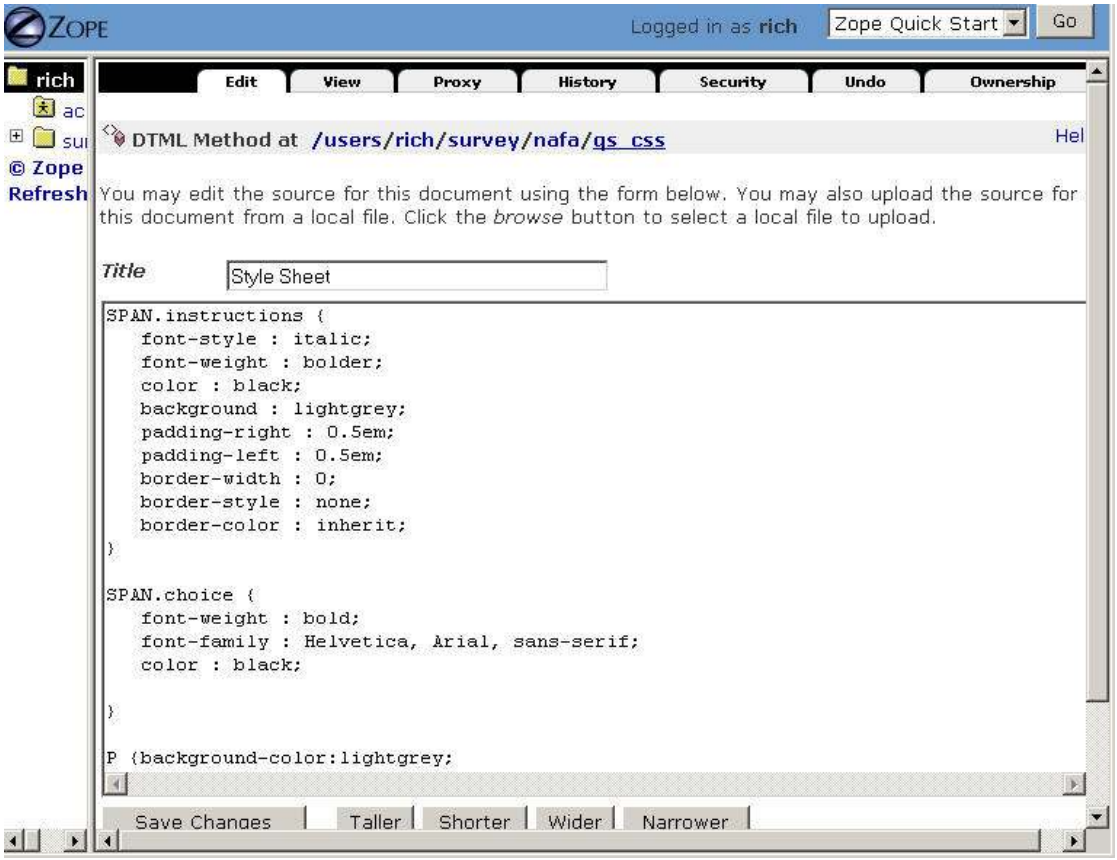
Screen 54



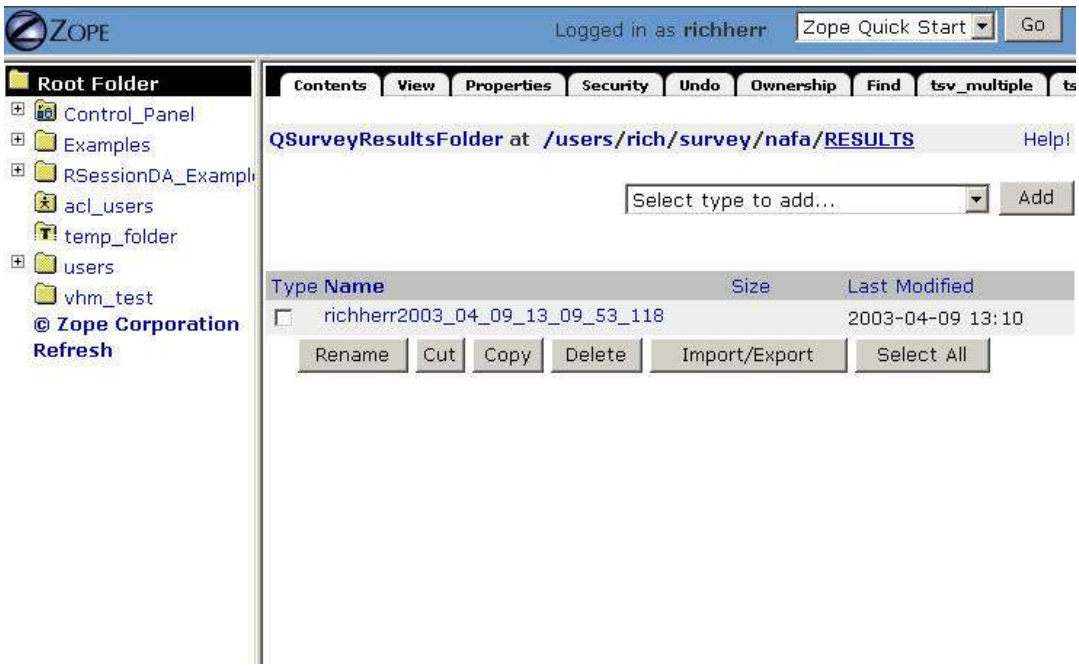
Screen 55



Screen 56

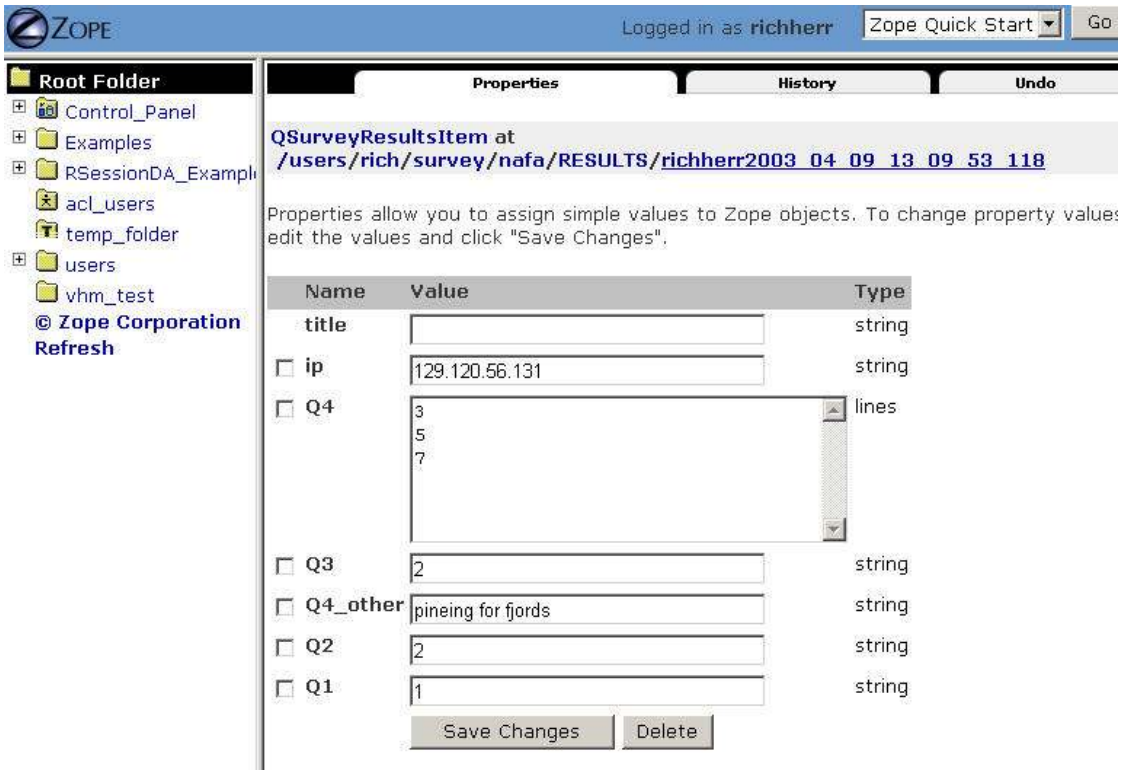


Screen 57



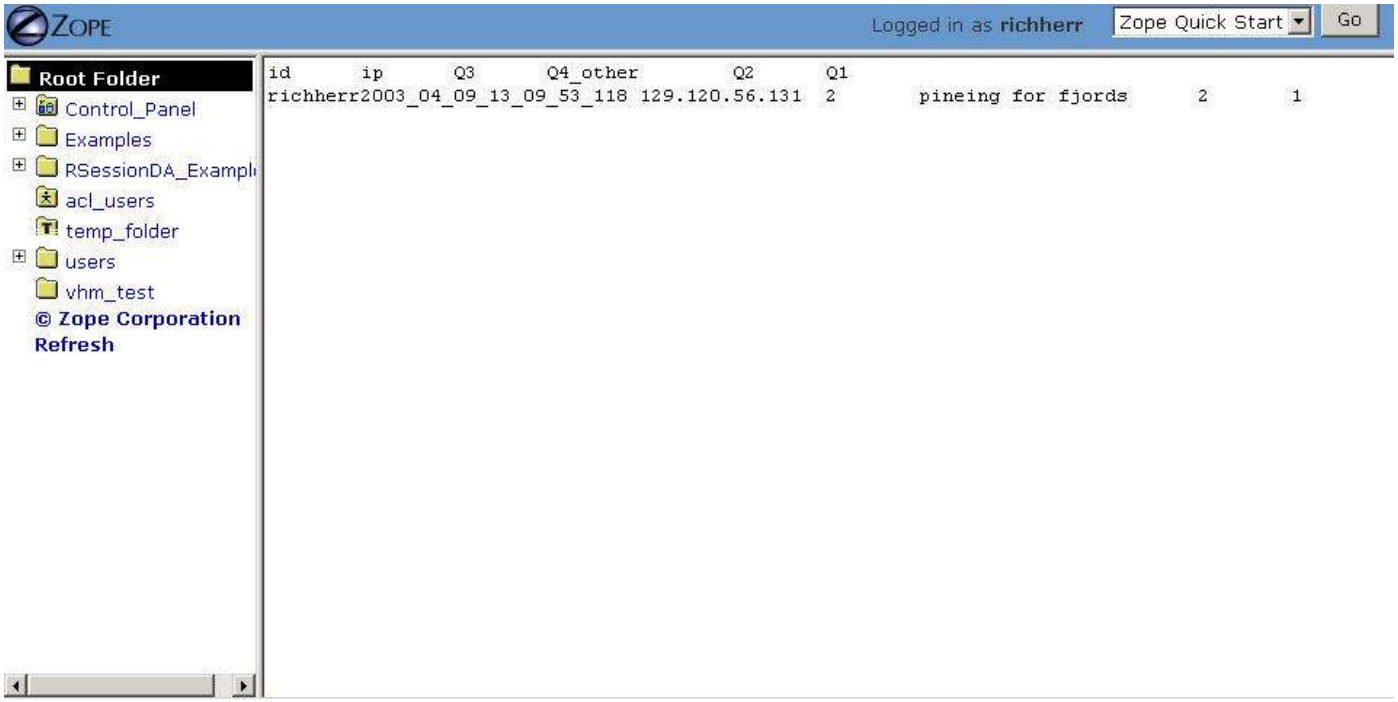
Screen 58

Screen 59



Screen 60

Screen 61



Screen 62