

## Email to VuFind Early Adopters List from Paige Weston, CARLI Office, July 24, 2008

Hello, VuFind Early Adopters,

We're thrilled to be hearing more feedback from end users of VuFind. Please keep those usability reports coming! You can expect to see modest changes to the interface as a result of what we've heard so far in the coming weeks. (That "remove facet" icon, for instance, clearly has to change.)

Those of you using VuFind this afternoon may have noticed some significant changes:

- 1) the holdings data on the Results page (the hit list) are now much improved:
  - the presence of a "Get it online" link does not suppress the display of the call number if there is one
  - the item availability message now accurately represents the situation; titles will say "available," "not available," or "some items available" as appropriate
  - ejournals and other titles without attached item records will no longer display as "not available"
- 2) the item status data on the Record page (the single-title view) has been suppressed temporarily, so that users will no longer see misleading information. Correcting the display of item status information on the Record page is our next highest priority.

All these changes are being made in accordance with the specification for the display of holdings data in VuFind, which is posted for your reference at [http://www.carli.illinois.edu/mem-prod/I-Share/opac/vf\\_holdings\\_display\\_spec\\_rfc.pdf](http://www.carli.illinois.edu/mem-prod/I-Share/opac/vf_holdings_display_spec_rfc.pdf). If you find examples of holdings data (call numbers, locations or item status summaries) that display incorrectly on the Results page, please send them to [support@carli.illinois.edu](mailto:support@carli.illinois.edu). Please do not yet report problems with holdings data on the Record page, since we are still working on that.

Attached is a chart that describes "where we are now" with VuFind. Much is done and much remains to be done. Again, correcting the display of holdings data is our highest development priority right now. We have not assigned target dates to any particular development task, as the nature of open source development is "opportunistic." We do want to acknowledge to you, though, the many good enhancement suggestions we have heard from you that are "on the list."

Tomorrow Susan Singleton will distribute a memo to all I-Share libraries, inviting them to take a look at the VuFind beta site. This does not signal the end of the early adoption phase of the VuFind project. We look forward to continuing to work with you early adopters as you proceed with usability testing and with local implementation planning. It does signal the beginning of a new phase for VuFind, however, as we broaden its user base. In the coming weeks we will be adding a link to the I-Share welcome page at <https://i-share.carli.illinois.edu/ilcso/cgi-bin/welcome> that invites users to try out VuFind as an alternative catalog interface. We will activate VuFind as a Target in CARLI's shared instance of SFX, so that wherever the I-Share (WebVoyage) Target appears, the new I-Share (VuFind) Target will also appear as an option. We will work with WebFeat to make VuFind WebFeat-accessible. And so on. Each of these steps moves us closer to the end of the beta period and the beginning of "production" VuFind.

Thank you, as always, for your participation and help in this exciting project. If you have questions or comments you may post them to this discussion list, or to [support@carli.illinois.edu](mailto:support@carli.illinois.edu) as appropriate.