



VuFind Status Report

CARLI Resource-Sharing Forum
April 16, 2008



What is VuFind?

- ▼ An experimental alternative to WebVoyage
- ▼ A “discovery” tool or “next generation” OPAC interface
 - ▼ features include faceting and user-added tags
- ▼ An accessible user interface
- ▼ Open source software from Villanova University, being adapted by CARLI programmers for use in the I-Share environment
- ▼ Will be known as “I-Share” (same data, new look)



What is available via VuFind?

- ▼ Bibliographic data extracted from all I-Share local databases then reindexed
 - ▼ Bibs were extracted in late March; eventually to be updated nightly, just as the Voyager UC is
- ▼ Holdings, item status, patron MyAccount data all pulled dynamically from Voyager
- ▼ Book reviews, cover art pulled from external resources
- ▼ Links from VuFind to GoogleBooks, SFX
- ▼ User-added comments



Who will use VuFind, when?

- ▼ “Early adopter” library staff will get access very soon. No date set for when they will show VuFind to their users. Early adopters are:
 - ▼ BRA, COL, EIU, ERK, IIT, ISU, IWU, MIL, NLU, PRK, SAI, SIE, WHE
- ▼ Perhaps by summer 2008, VuFind will be *an option* for any user wanting access to I-Share data.
 - ▼ Libraries may decide to promote VuFind to their users, or not, as they see fit.
 - ▼ Users who require an accessible interface may prefer VuFind to the current version of WebVoyage.

How does VuFind interact with Voyager?



- ▼ VuFind is an alternative to WebVoyage
 - ▼ WebVoyage is not going away.
- ▼ When users place requests, VuFind interacts with Voyager data and policies just as WebVoyage does.
 - ▼ Requests placed in VuFind are visible on the WebVoyage MyAccount page; requests placed in WebVoyage are visible on the VuFind MyResearch page.
- ▼ Bib data extracted from Voyager in batch, and reindexed.
- ▼ Patron and item status data retrieved dynamically from Voyager.
 - ▼ VuFind will eventually allow "better" patron address displays than the current version of WebVoyage.
- ▼ All staff functions still performed in Voyager staff clients.

Future plans for VuFind



- ▼ Early adopter library testing next week?
 - ▼ Performance tuning
 - ▼ Development work continues
- ▼ Rollout to early adopter libraries' users, June 2008?
 - ▼ Performance tuning continues
 - ▼ Possible migration to new hardware
 - ▼ Interface changes based on early adopters' usability tests
- ▼ Expansion beyond early adopter libraries, summer 2008?

VuFind Development To-Do List (for sure)



- ▼ Regular updates to bibliographic record extract
- ▼ CSS into libraries' hands for local control over look-and-feel
- ▼ Links to full text tidied up
- ▼ Multi-volume holdings displays tidied up
- ▼ Format icons tidied up
- ▼ Item availability displays tidied up
- ▼ Requesting function expanded
 - ▼ Phase 1: "Request this" (done)
 - ▼ Phase 2: "Request other"
 - ▼ Phase 3: "Request any"

VuFind Development To-Do List (potential)



- ▼ Too many good ideas to list!