Transitioning to a New Public Catalog: Lessons Learned

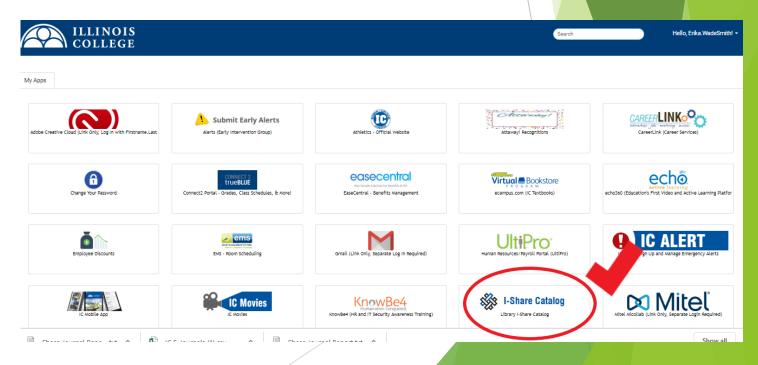
Erika Wade Smith: Digital Services Librarian, Schewe Library, Illinois College

Context: Illinois College

- Founded in 1829
- Undergraduate only
- Located in Jacksonville, IL (Rural!)
- ▶85% of students live on campus
- ▶959 FTE
- Approximately 80 faculty members

Why make a change?

- Streamlining iShare for patrons
- Single Sign Integration
- Making a necessary change during a slower time



Putting together a timetable

- ► Flexible deadline
- ► Aimed for summer
- Requested stakeholder feedback on the timing, and incorporated it into the plan
- (Still ended up fairly spectacularly behind schedule)

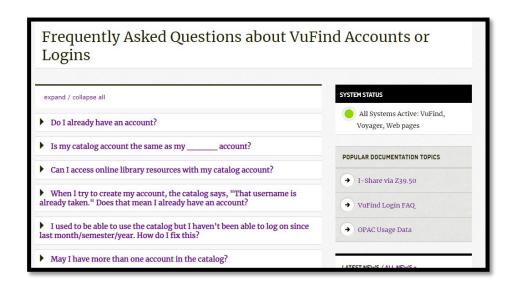
Lesson learned: involve all departments as fully as possible in developing a timetable, but be prepared to be flexible

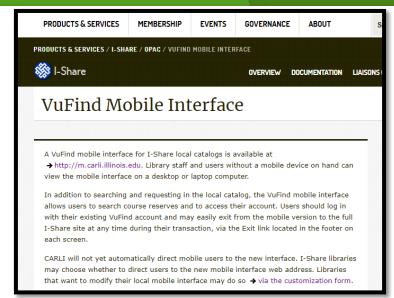
Training staff and student workers

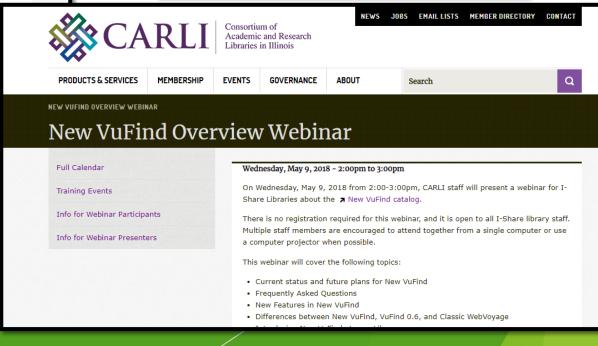
- Small library staff allows for direct communication in productive meetings
- Invited library staff to test out interface before it went live
 - ► (Reminders were key)
- ► Carli documentation is a great resource

Lesson learned: student workers are often the first line of library "defense", and need to be thoroughly trained on any changes.









Encouraging buy in and (finally!) introducing the changes

- Never underestimate the power of word of mouth: especially when working with power-users
- Sent an enthusiastic campus-wide email with screenshots and instructional videos
- Prepared staff to be especially responsive and quick to troubleshoot any problems immediately after the rollout
- Carli worked with us to created customized text on the catalog and iShare homepages that provided both instructions, and points of contact



Schewe Library

@ Wed, Aug 8, 2018, 11:08 AM



Local Catalog Only All Fields Advanced

Try the new VuFind interface to search Schewe Library's catalog and the I-Share catalog.

If you're using VuFind for the first time and want to access your personal Illinois College account to request or renew items, click the Login button on the upper right-hand side of the screen. You'll need to log in through the Single Sign On, then enter your library barcode number from the back of your ID (this is different from your ID number). On return visits, just click Login and sign in through SSO.

If you need assistance, or if you are not an Illinois College student, faculty, or staff member, please contact the circulation desk for assistance.

Library I-Share & Database Update Illinois College Library x Illinois College Library/New VuFind Transition x

Dear Colleagues,

As term is fast approaching, I thought I'd update you on some new developments at Schewe Library:

I-Share Catalog

For those new to IC, I-Share is a shared library catalog which allows members of the IC community (students, faculty, staff) to request books (and other materials) from over 90 academic libraries in Illinois. Once requested, the materials are sent to Schewe Library and you can pick them up at the library's circulation desk. I-Share is free to use, very popular on campus, and can be found on Schewe Library's homepage.

Over the past summer, the I-Share catalog was updated to a new iteration, and amongst other things, logging in to I-Share now uses your campus Single Sign On ID! For those who have forgotten their I-Share passwords over the years, this will doubtlessly be good news. The only downside is that you have to do a one-time input of the barcode on the back of your campus ID for I-Share to verify who you are. The process is simple, however, and I've attached a short video showing you how to do this

Overall, how did the switch effect public services at Schewe Library?

- Minimal disruption to regular library services
- ► Multiple access points to catalog
- ► Users no longer forget their iShare passwords
- ▶ iShare numbers as an indicator that the new interface is working
- Search function is still a bit different than previously, but this is primarily noticed by librarians
- Link resolver visibility and functionality improved
- Interface with other vendors still occasionally a bit off

