Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI)
digitalcommons@carli

8-21-2006

I-Share OPAC Team Minutes for August 21, 2006

Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois

I-Share Opac Team Meeting Minutes

Monday August 21, 2006.
2:00 - 3:30 pm.

Present: Nancy Bohm, Kathy Chang, Kathleen Conley, Jonathan Gorman, Hilary Kraus, Amanda Pippit, Stephen Wright, Paige Weston

Absent: Skip Burhans, Jan Sung

Approving the minutes from last time can wait till next meeting.

1) No hits issue

Nancy brought our attention to complaints from Lake College that their "no hits" page has issues. One is that people have to scroll down, the other the fonts are difficult to read. The try again/repeat search in I-Share catalog have same font color.

These seem to be issues related with some of the individual customizers.
Not an issue for Iopac.

2) Problem with hyperlinking on the Titles page

On certain searches columns and multiple matching are not properly hyperlinked

The multiple matching appears to be a bug. The columns are not hyperlinked because WebVoyage associates linking with columns, not the data within that column.

This is a problem when the search doesn't always return data. In author searches a field in a record could match but the field that the "author" column gets the data from is empty. So the column is blank, hence not giving a link except for the easily missed row number.

Example: Advanced title search, search for carl bach in author words

Paige mentioned several possible solutions to this problem

   a.   can change order of column so full title would always be first
   b.   make 1st and 2nd columns clickable
   c.   add text to say "click on row number"
   d.   multiple holdings be clickable

Jon Gorman suggested making all columns link and using javascript/css to make full title look clickable, but nothing else.

Another suggestion was to make all column links (Who's idea was this? missing from my notes)

The issue with making author and similar columns clickable is the implication that an author search would be done if it the author field is clicked. Instead, it will simply point to the single-record View of the record that

matched.

It was decided to use the two column approach. In most searches this will make the publication date a hyperlink to the record as well. Since few people click on this, it should hopefully not cause too much confusion to our patrons.

Also noticed during this time was that the call number wrapping is frequently a problem for patrons who only copy down the first line.

3) Hilary invited any corrections on her paragraph on initial article, but no one had any at that time.

4) RSS Feeds (brought to our attention by Tom on behalf of IUG)

CARLI staff is currently working on implementing the New Titles list as developed by Michael Doran. Some work was delayed due to time pressures on other projects such as the recent upgrade. This team recommends the CARLI team concentrates on the "New Titles" tab but adding RSS as an additional output option once the tab is implemented.

In the meantime, the team will work on a page that covers some of the current implementation of RSS/new titles. (Not yet assigned who would do this)

There are issues of what is a "new book" that still need to be determined.

Another consideration is that RSS still does not have a wide user base.

5) Tagging (brought to our attention by Tom on behalf of IUG)

Beyond the scope of this committee. It would require radical measures and is more appropriate for consideration by the New Products committee when WebVoyage is replaced.

Task List:

Task list was revised to use words rather than symbols. Symbols were decided as confusing..

new scales:

> Difficulty - easy, medium, hard, impossible. Notice this is a broad measurement, including things such as research time, software time, and resource expenditures. A project that is a matter of changing one line of code but requires significant amount of research time in usability studies will be classified as difficult; likewise a highly demanded and straightforward change that will take significant developer time could be difficult as well.

> Priority: low, medium, high.

> States: no action, In planning, In development, Testing, Demoing, Production No action means at this time we're not devoting any resources.

Task list (by #)

	difficulty	priority	status
1	hard	high	planning
2	medium	medium	no action
	(need to change docs)		
3	hard	high	planning
4	easy to do badly		
	impossible to do right	low	no further action
5	medium	medium	no action
6	easy	low	in development
7	easy	low	in planning
8	hard	medium	no action
9	hard	high	in planning
10	easy	low	no action
11	hard	low	no action
12	medium	low	no action
13	hard	low	no action
14	medium	low	no action
15	hard	high	no action
16	hard	low	no action

(in one part I have the phrase "no action" and another part I have "no current action"given one of the notes says "no further action" I'm thinking that we must have talked about having "no current action" and "no further action".)

Templates:

Paige will create mockups of some of the possible template approaches.

Spell Check:

People on the committee should look and evaluate options from a variety of sources, including commercial.

Next meeting:
Sept. Tuesday 19th at 1:00pm