5-7-2008

I-Share OPAC Team Minutes for May 7, 2008

Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois

I-Share OPAC Team Minutes

Wednesday, May 7, 12:30-2pm

Present: Nancy Bohm, Kathy Chang, Paula Dempsey (minute taker), Tom Goetz, Jonathan Gorman, Hilary Kraus, Greg Morrison, Amanda Pippitt, Kathy Roegge, Jan Sung, Paige Weston

Absent: Susan Prokopeak

Voyager Testing Script

- Report from Nancy, Tom, & Kathy on how they suggest we proceed: Agreement that a Word document would be most useful because it is more convenient to print out the document for testing than to flip back and forth from a wiki to the OPAC.
- Greg volunteered to translate the wiki information into a Word document using consistent style. He will give it a once-over setting up similar headings and format for the committee to review.
- The testing script does not include a test of the CARLI directory because it was not working at the time. This needs to be added.
- **Timeline:** Goal is to complete the script before this team's term ends June 30. It should be ready to distribute to I-Share libraries before the upgrade to Voyager 6.5.4 (probably not this summer). Greg will try to pull together the Word document by May 9 and send it to Paula. Paula will turn it around in 2 working days and send it to Hilary to insert an introductory paragraph. Hilary will send it to the team and ask for comments within one week.

Record export formats in WV

- Volunteers experienced with bibliographic software (EndNote, RefWorks, ProCite) are needed to investigate options used by other Voyager implementations. Jonathan volunteered to post a note to Voyager-L asking for sample save config files and inquiring whether other institutions are using EndNote filters. Tom asked about Zotero, and the group agreed that it was not necessary to have an export mechanism because Zotero is an easy way to grab records in Firefox.

Integrating Google Books API

- Costs (financial or opportunity): Requires time and effort by developers but no direct financial commitment.
- Priority level: Paige asked whether it should be an opt-in or be done for everyone at once. The group agreed that it should be done for all I-Share libraries.
- How to distinguish from link to Syndetics: Paige asked whether the two need to be distinguished. Jonathan finds the Google images to be better than Syndetics. Kathy pointed the group to the options at http://develop.carli.illinois.edu/eiu_stage/ (e.g., a title search for "Very first things to know about monkeys"). Hilary would prefer to see a Syndetics icon rather than the line of text. ("Click for more

information from Syndetics on this title.") It is possible to have the Google search list whether full text, sample text, or no view is available. Jonathan pointed the group to another option at http://develop.carli.illinois.edu/uiu_dev/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=First (compare with same title). It may be useful for the links to open in a new tab or window so patrons do not lose their catalog session. Hilary asked the group to review sample implementations this week and report to the group on how the links should be adjusted for libraries that have both GoogleBooks and Syndetics. Other useful links:

- http://code.google.com/apis/books/getting-started.html
- http://www.thorpe.com.au/products/logo-syndetics-250w.gif

VuFind "formats"

- Nancy has been contacting creators of icon sets for permissions and foresees needing to create some beyond what they give us. She has reduced the list to the essentials. Paige notes that different code formats need to be adjusted. The icons are more specific than can be done with existing combinations of record type and bib level but may be available in the future. We would want additional icons such as a CD with a speech bubble for spoken word recordings. There is not an icon for microform – it should be identified as both a serial and a microform in the data set.
- Paige says her goal is that in the next 3 weeks VuFind will be able to identify formats at least as well as the current OPAC (WebVoyage). This team needs to identify other material types for which icons would be desirable – there is no timeline for this.
- Nancy will send a list to the group. Paige said the first phase will be to select icons for that list. Phase 2 will happen whenever the group is ready to submit a new list of more sophisticated needs.
- http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/library/bridge_icons/
- http://www.nova.edu/library/mayz/iug_icons.html

Simple Search

- Hilary said that libraries need instructions for how to add simple search to their library web site and more straightforward documentation of what kinds of searches are available in this mode: http://develop.carli.illinois.edu/ilcso/cgi-bin/pw.cgi (Tom asked whether this could also be done in VuFind, and Paige agreed this is a possibility.)
- Library staff are having some difficulty following the instructions at http://www.carli.illinois.edu/mem-prod/I-Share/opac/webvoy_url_builder.html -- this is the technique Paige used to build the Very Simple Search form. Paige suggested that a new page could be built to explain how to build the simple search form, but it would be a longer set of instructions.
- Hilary suggested that a simple application similar to the Rochester approach (http://www.lib.rochester.edu/index.cfm?page=425) that would strip out the pieces of the URL would be helpful in addition to a link to a simpler step-by-step approach for less sophisticated users. Jonathan is willing to try but does not have time in May or June. Paige suggested starting with an email that promotes the idea, points out the steps under "Method" and leads back to the page of complete directions. Amanda agreed to try to create a new page that is much simpler description of how to generate canned searches: why libraries would want to do it, simple steps for doing it, and many cool examples.

Next meetings:

- Wed. May 21, 3:00-4:30pm
- Mon. June 16, 1:30-2:30pm

Submitted 5/7/2008 PRD