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I-Share OPAC Team Minutes for December 8, 2009

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I-Share OPAC Team Minutes

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

10 a.m.-11:15a.m.

Present: Amanda Pippitt, Jana Brubaker, Lisa Gonzalez, Paula Dempsey, Peggy Steele, Karen Becker, Edith List, Lisa Wallis, & Paige Weston.

Minutes recorded by Amanda

- Tomcat News from Paige: CARLI has received from ExLibris all the fixes they expect to receive for the Tomcat catalog. CARLI is now testing whether it works and won't re-visit WV7 customization ideas until more confident of the plan to re-launch it parallel to "classic" WV. The plan is to do this soft roll-out in January. Possible issues when Tomcat is re-launched:
 - Naming, description on "Welcome" page. Will there be 3 buttons (currently one for "Classic" and one for VuFind)? What will the description/labeling be so that patrons understand their choices?
 - Now possible to save searches in "classic" WV. Some of these blow up when launched in Tomcat. Should only be a problem for power users. Libraries can contact Paige if this becomes an issue for them.
 - The team previously wanted to modify data elements that display in the search results screen based on type of search done (Tomcat has 3 row display and graphical format icons rather than the column-type display in "classic"). But, if running both versions of the catalog in parallel, we can't do that because display is controlled in SysAdmin, which will affect both versions of the catalog, not just Tomcat.
- Questions?
 - Peggy asked for more details on how CARLI will know when to up the number of servers to handle the growing use of Tomcat in the spring. Paige answered this had to do with various metrics, software and behind the scenes data. Tomcat will be run on a separate machine from classic, so if one goes down, it shouldn't affect the other.
 - Amanda asked whether we could share the soft roll out plans with our libraries. Paige answered we could do that, but that CARLI would not be making an official announcement of these plans until they answer the question "does Tomcat work at all?" (currently being worked on).
 - The team had some discussion of why their institutions do or do not use VuFind as their default catalog option. In some cases there was resistance from faculty. There were also some questions about confusion when patrons transition from searches in the local catalogs to the UC, and duplication of records in the UC being confusing to students. Perhaps the UT process will help us learn more about these trouble spots.
- Index definitions: Analysis of index definitions for consistency across all databases is currently done by Paige on an annual basis. Do we still want this done? The team decided that yes, we still want this done. This means that what an index is called, what fields and subfields are included, what displays, the default sort order, and Z3950 mapping will remain consistent across all databases.
- ISSN-L: Paige reported that the re-indexing wasn't as hard as anticipated, so her colleague Gordon Fellows went ahead and did it. (There are only 3 records affected so far.) The team decided that the display of the ISSN-L would be included in the detail view in WV, and in the staff view in VuFind.
- VuFind adjustments:

- Paige has worked up in the VuFind development instance changes the team decided upon in a previous meeting- 1) staff view is now a link instead of a tab (and will be displayed to the left of any Google Books links/icons), 2) the “description” tab has been relabeled “more details”, 3) the “holdings” tab has been relabeled “location.”
 - The team revisited and reaffirmed some decisions on the VuFind display. 1) The fields that we decided should display in the Tomcat brief view should display on the “more details” tab in VuFind. 2) It is probably ok to repeat fields in the “more details” tab that are shown in the “top” display when there are added subfields (Paige will work up an example to help confirm this.) 3) The fields should be labeled the same thing in VuFind as they are in WV for consistency’s sake, except when a field is repeated from the top of the VuFind display, in which case the label should remain what it has been in VuFind. 4) The 600, 610, 611, & 630 should display in the “top” display in VuFind under the label “topics.” (Also, Lisa G. is wondering if 630 is indexed in VuFind subject searches...it doesn’t seem to be. Paige will look into this.)
- Usability Testing Webinar Planning: 7 schools in the UTVG responded to the survey of interest in a usability testing webinar (out of around 15). 5 were interested, and 2 were not. The team decided to go ahead with planning the webinar for the spring semester and that it would be offered to all CARLI, not just those in the UTVG. Amanda, Paula, and Peggy will start planning. Peggy will contact a few people at UIUC with expertise in this area to see if they are willing to be contacted as a presenter for this webinar. Paige mentioned that Dean Cody at SIUE emailed her about a symposium they are planning on end user behavior and next generation catalogs. Perhaps we would want to plan something in conjunction with this symposium? Paige also mentioned that CARLI’s contract with Wimba will be coming to an end on March 14th, so we may end up using a different product to present the webinar.
- Usability Testing Resources List: The team agreed that the list looked good. After a few minor edits (to be done via email), Paige will post it on the UTVG website. Once she lets Amanda know this is done, Amanda will email the UTVG to inform them of the resource.
- Usability Testing Questions: The team agreed that, since some members of the UTVG are obviously comfortable with usability testing and don’t need to wait for a webinar, Amanda could forward our current list of usability testing questions to that group.
- Next meeting is January 12th, 10-12am.