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I-Share OPAC Team

CARLI Committees

4-13-2010

I-Share OPAC Team Minutes for April 13, 2010

Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois

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I-Share OPAC Meeting

April 13, 2010 10:00am

CARLI News: Reported by Paige

- CARLI staff are preparing for the possibility of a 25% budget cut for next year. One option is to reduce the number of in-person meetings and conference calls. They are discussing using Adobe Connect if team members have computers with microphones and speakers for voiceover Internet rather than conference call.
- In May, the OPAC team needs to select a chair for next year.
- **Tomcat output formats:** Paige will move forward with her emailed proposal to make the brief format as brief as possible with everything in the full format.
- **Classic WebVoyage:** Development is frozen except for changes needed for the Universal Catalog. XC is the main development priority, but new servers will be added to accommodate libraries that want to migrate to Tomcat. Classic WebVoyage goes away when Voyager 8 comes out, so libraries will need to make a choice of a different version. Tomcat is more accessible to people with disabilities. Processing requests in Classic WebVoyage is impossible if there are too many holdings attached to a record.
- VU-Find: 12 libraries are using VuFind as the primary version of the catalog, so development needs to happen to correct bugs (e.g., only the first MFHD 856 field appears) and to permit searching of a deduplicated union catalog, scheduled to happen June 1. Team members may discuss the idea but should not yet release the development URL. The UC for WebVoyage Classic will be taken down when the VuFind UC is launched. Need a readily understood name for the UC before releasing the link, e.g.: vufind.carli.illinois.edu/i-share The option of logging in with a user-created login ID and password will remain.

IUG Update: reported by Keith

• The group last met for a short phone conference on 3/13. They are working on planning a liaison forum for June. Kris Hammerstrand has asked them to consider planning it as a Webinar instead of in person for budgetary reasons.

Usability Testing Webinar: reported by Amanda

• Amanda invited people to attend the usability webinar; no need to sign up in advance.

WebVoyage field weighting

• Discussion of whether to work on field weighting to improve ranking of results lists. It might not be worth the effort to work on this in WebVoyage at this point, but it would be the easiest to experiment with weighting in the WebVoyage experiment. There is no documentation of how weighting works in VuFind. Paige will send the group an example of how the search works behind the scenes. The answers derived from experimenting in WebVoyage would not plug into VuFind. The team agreed to hold off on this work.

Mobile version of the catalog

• The UIUC version is based on VuFind but is not technically a production version because of the lack of

human resources to support it. Expressions of interest from other CARLI libraries might help support the allocation of resources; email Peggy Steele if your library is interested. Committee discussed which version of the OPAC is most appropriate for conversion to mobile devices.

Reducing number of search tabs in tomcat WebVoyage

• Peggy will contact Wichita State to inquire about their justification for customizations and post the question on Voyager-L, even though the committee is not convinced customization efforts in tomcat will be a priority in the coming months.

Next meeting re-scheduled for Thurs., May 6, at 2:00pm.