

I-Share Systems Committee Annual Report 2013-2014

Annual report submitted by TJ Lusher, I-Share Systems Committee Chair, 2013-2014

I-Share Systems Committee Membership

Kirk Hess (2013-2015) University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Colin Koteles (2013-2016) College of DuPage

James LeFager (2013-2015) DePaul University

April Levy (2013-2016) Columbia College

Rong Li (2013-2014) Illinois State University

Edith List (2013-2014) Principia College

TJ Lusher (2013-2015) Northern Illinois University

Heather Parisi (2013-2016) Dominican University

Karl Pettitt (2013-2014) Northern Illinois University

ACTIVITIES

During the 2013-2014 committee cycle, the I-Share Systems Committee met via conference call seven times with two in person meetings. The group spent its August and September meetings brainstorming on ideas such as collaboration with the Technical Services Committee doing a session on RDA at its Spring Forum, and doing a database cleanup project. The committee also considered XC project ideas such as collaborating with the Technical Services Committee to discuss how catalog records would look in XC and being more active in monitoring and updating CARLI members on the progress on XC. The committee also discussed doing a project to study how aggregation in VuFind/XC would appear. As discussion progressed on these ideas, the committee realized that either new information was not available, or that CARLI staff would be doing the work, or in the case of XC, the project had not developed to a point where the committee could provide meaningful feedback. However, one discussion topic on polling I-Share libraries to find out the various methods of authentication did gain traction and as conversation continued, the survey scope broadened to gathering data on the types of platforms and software applications I-Share members use in conjunction with the CARLI consortium's library management system (LMS), Ex Libris' Voyager. The development and preliminary testing of a prototype survey became the committee's focus for the year.

Work on the survey began in September with committee members, E. List, K. Pettitt, C. Koteles, J. LeFager, and K. Hess volunteering to work on the survey draft. While this work started, the committee began deliberating about the purpose of the survey, what the deliverable would be to the CARLI Board of Directors, the purpose and goals of the survey, and the types of data to collect that would help the CARLI staff and the CARLI Board's future decision-making processes. The committee agreed to a twofold purpose for the survey – 1) gather information on the types of platforms/software I-Share member libraries are utilizing with Ex Libris Voyager; 2) identification of future enhancements and new capabilities that I-Share members might want in the next generation of LMS. After talking with the CARLI staff, the committee decided on the areas the survey would cover. Those areas include:

Authentication

Campus Accounts Payable Systems

Campus Billing Systems

Campus Registrar Systems

Digital Collections

Discovery Layers

ERMS

ILL

Link resolvers

Reserves/E-Reserves

In March, a paper version of the survey was piloted within the committee. The purpose of the pilot was to solicit comments from the committee's members and staff at their libraries on the quality and usefulness of the questions in the surveys. Review of the comments took place during an April in-person committee meeting at the CARLI Office. Changes to wording and layout were incorporated into the prototype survey, moving it into beta mode for next year's I-Share Systems Committee to continue the development and deployment of the survey. The I-Share Systems Committee Annual white paper submission to the CARLI Board of Directors provides detail on the survey.

The 2013-2014 I-Share Systems Committee recommends that the 2014-2015 I-Share Systems Committee continue the development of the I-Share member survey. Specifically, next year's committee will need to formulate a workable timetable to conduct a beta survey pilot and establish the administrative mechanics of the survey and proper handling of the gathered data. This year's committee encourages next year's committee to re-assess the progress XC for other project opportunities.