

Introducing the New VuFind at Your I-Share Library



This is an early version of documentation that will be made available on the CARLI website.

CARLI has been using VuFind, the open source library catalog interface, with I-Share since 2007. For most of that time and up to the present, we have been using VuFind version 0.6 which we have extensively customized to work with our Voyager implementation. Over the past year, we have turned our attention back to working on the current standard versions of VuFind (version 3, and now version 4), which are used by other libraries and consortia. This work has two intended outcomes: 1) it will position us to be able to more quickly deploy VuFind with whatever product is selected to ultimately replace Voyager in the next couple years; and 2) it will allow us to take better advantage of work done by the broader community of VuFind developers.

VuFind version 3 is already available for I-Share libraries to use, and we anticipate being ready to have libraries use VuFind version 4 by the end of calendar 2017. I-Share libraries may now present the New VuFind to their users either alongside the current VuFind 0.6 interface or instead of the VuFind 0.6 interface. Please note that as VuFind 0.6 is Voyager-specific, all I-Share libraries will eventually need to cease using it and move to the New VuFind before or at the time of Voyager's replacement.

Also note that while we are referring to the New VuFind as "VuFind 3" or "VuFind 4" in our documentation for clarity for I-Share library staff, we will be discontinuing using the version number in its URL's and will be returning to URL's using the name "I-Share" instead of "VuFind" by the end of 2017. CARLI will announce this change broadly on our email lists and website.

Learning about and staying up to date on New VuFind

- Review the differences in features and functionality between VuFind 0.6 and New VuFind:
 - FAQ - <https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/i-share/opac/vufind3-faq>
 - Change Log - <https://github.com/CARLI/vufind/wiki/CARLI-VuFind-3-Change-Log>
 - Known Issues List - <https://github.com/CARLI/vufind/issues>
- Updates and announcements will be posted to the CARLI website <https://www.carli.illinois.edu/news> and will be shared on the CARLI email lists for I-Share liaisons and I-Share announcements. You may subscribe to the I-Share announcements list at: <https://carli.illinois.edu/mailman/listinfo/i-share>

The New VuFind has many features that are not present in version 0.6 including:

- Call number searching and browsing
- Integration with Shibboleth systems for user authentication
- Improved record deduplication in the I-Share union catalog
- Responsive web design that allows the site to be used on screens of any size with full functionality
- New browsing features for subjects and authors that utilize authority record data
- Improved custom CARLI format definitions
- Chicago Style citation option in addition to APA and MLA
- Options for exporting bibliographic data to RefWorks, EndNote, and EndNoteWeb; as well as in RDF and BibTeX formats
- Compatible with Zotero or any other COInS-based application for saving and tagging records
- A "Similar Items" feature that offers suggestions for other, similar resources
- New features in Your Account to save searches and lists of items
- New set of HathiTrust public domain bib records that are updated weekly

BEFORE you implement New VuFind for your library:

- Let CARLI know at support@carli.illinois.edu when you plan to start presenting New VuFind to your users.
- Submit a New VuFind customization form (<https://www.carli.illinois.edu/vufind3-customization>) to update the banner, colors, and other help text.
- Review the differences in features and functionality between VuFind 0.6 and New VuFind:
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 - Known Issues List - <https://github.com/CARLI/vufind/issues>
- Update or add links to the New VuFind catalog URL's on:
 - Library web pages
 - Institution's web pages
 - Library guide pages
 - Written documentation and instruction materials
 - Learning/course management systems
 - Instructions for how to log in, access Your Account, searching, requesting items, etc.
- Libraries that have links to chat widgets, stack maps, finding tools, etc., from VuFind 0.6 should test those tools with New VuFind.

When you are READY TO ROLLOUT New VuFind as an alternative or replacement for VuFind 0.6:

- Publicize the changes and what they mean for your users:
 - New features - <https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/i-share/opac/vufind3-faq#new>
 - New login: Users log in with Last Name and Barcode. There are no longer VuFind logins that must be synced with a Voyager borrower ID and email. Patrons from institutions that have implemented single sign-on (MIL, NIU, NPU, SIC, UIC, UIS, UIU) will login with campus credentials. Libraries that want to implement single sign-on should discuss their options with CARLI staff.
 - Links to be able to place requests for items will only appear after a user has logged into New VuFind.
 - Tags/Favorites created in VuFind 0.6 will not be transferred to New VuFind accounts.
- Optional: submit a VuFind 0.6 customization form to add text directing users to New VuFind for your library.

The future of VuFind 0.6, New VuFind, and "I-Share Next"

Your library's VuFind 0.6 catalog will continue to exist at its current URL even after you rollout the New VuFind. Library users will continue to be able to use VuFind 0.6 if they have bookmarks or links to it.

While we are not requiring I-Share libraries to move to the New VuFind at this time, we strongly encourage you to start planning as soon as possible. VuFind 0.6 will not be adapted to work with "I-Share Next", the software that replaces Voyager. All I-Share libraries must be using the New VuFind by the time Voyager's replacement goes live in the next two years or so.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact CARLI Support at support@carli.illinois.edu.