

What Would Be the Future of the Integrated Library Systems

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Developmental History of ILS

- 3rd Century BC: Acquisition & Cataloging
- 1780s – 1930s: Card Cataloging
- 1960s: Advent of MARC
- 1970s: Inception of Automation Systems
- 1990s: OPAC
- Early 21st Century: Globalization of Automation Business
- More Features with OPACs

Current Status Quo & Impacts on ILSs

- Advancement of Web Technology & Web 2.0
- Booming of Digital Contents
- Publishers publish more in digital formats
- Growth of library digital collections
- Library collections no longer print-dominant
- More collection budget toward electronic resources

Current Status Quo & Impacts on ILSs (cont.)

- Stagnation of ILSs
 - Primarily designed for managing print collections
 - Lack of capability of offering more than titles
 - Inadequate compensation of 856 MARC field
 - Unable to manage e-resource subscriptions and licenses

Current Status Quo & Impacts on ILSs (cont.)

- Development of non-ILS related software
 - Electronic Resource Management (ERM)
 - Federated Search
 - Link Resolver
 - Stack of miscellaneous apps

Current Status Quo & Impacts on ILSs (cont.)

- Challenges of lacking Integration
 - To libraries
 - To users
- More Obstacles facing ILSs
 - Social
 - Technological
 - Economical

Current Status Quo & Impacts on ILSs (cont.)

- Library 2.0: user-centered service
 - LibraryThing
 - Google
- Advancement of web technology
 - Drupal (CMS)
- Economic slow-down
 - Budget cut
 - Losing staff position
 - Open Source

Literature Reviews

- Researches and discussions around ILS issues
 - Marshall Breeding
 - Andrew Pace
 - Roy Tennant
 - Kristin Antelman
 - Stephen Abram
- Reactions from ILS vendors
 - Understand the situation
 - Positive attitude toward the challenges

New Developments of ILSs

- Features of “Next-generation” ILS
 - Integration & Interoperability
 - Web-based system
 - Metadata Sharing – API
 - Open Architectures & Scalability
 - Data globalization
 - Open Source vs. Open Architecture
 - Service-Oriented Architecture
 - Flexibility

New Developments of ILSs (cont.)

- User-Centered Design
 - Simplicity: Google-like interface design
 - Powerful functionalities:
 - Suggestions
 - Relevancy ranking
 - Facet filtering
- Cloud computing
 - Alleviate the demand of technological savvy personnel
 - Avoid upfront cost
 - Allow libraries to enjoy the benefit of technology without being limited by short of skillful staff

Summary

- Time to impel ILS vendor to reposition their businesses
- Limitations of current next-gen ILSs
 - Unable to provide seamless interface across all the offered resources
 - Need to have comprehensive resource at one entry point
 - A CMS-like system would give users the leverage to control their data and presentation

Summary

(cont.)

- Promising future of ILSs
- Vendors' responsibilities
 - Forward thinking
 - Push the envelop
 - Think out of the box

“If we continue with the status quo, it(ILS)
has no future.”

- Nelson