

William Allen White Library



KELLOGG ONLINE LIBRARY SYSTEM DESIGN

ANNE HAYDEN, SHANNA SMITH,
& SARAH TENFELDE-DUBOIS
MARCH 26, 2008
LI 804
EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Background



- Named after 1st President of Kansas Normal School
- Current catalog began in 1999; loaded with pre-existing data from previous catalog
- Innovative Interfaces, Inc.
- WebPAC PRO software, Millennium package
- Initial purchase of software, annual maintenance fee for ongoing support and updates

Construction



- ESU responsible for hardware; III responsible for software and web capabilities
- Software hosted on ESU campus, backup tapes of underlying data made daily
- Data is stored in a proprietary database
- Powered by Java
- Catalog is only a small part of the entire integrated library system using III software; contract reviewed annually

Purpose/Use



Catalog Uses

- Accessing information in both print and non-print
- Intellectual endeavors
- ILLs

Who Uses it

- Students
- Faculty
- Staff
- Local Residents

Purpose/Use



How could catalog be used

- Count Statistics
- Find information on certain areas
- Help directors
- Keep track of licenses
- Track outside users

Performance



Strengths

- Access information
- Best way to find physical information

Performance



Weaknesses

- Cannot be accessed from internet
- Seems less relevant
- Not connected to conversion system
- Not up to date with current technology

Impact



“The development of online card catalogs has transformed the primary locating tool in libraries – the card catalog- from a tool with limited means of exploitation to one with a much greater potential to help users find needed information objects” (Thomas 2001, p. 20).

Impact



- The online card catalog has a huge impact on information organization. The most important impact is that it allows all users, whether they are at the physical library or not, to access the library's collection information.

Professional Evaluation



- “We are generally pleased with this integrated library system. It is one of the best on the market, but the market is very small, so that’s not saying a lot. We have lost some data in the past, which did take some time to reconstruct...while that is disturbing, I think the system is relatively stable overall.”

- Dalene Hawthorne
ESU Librarian

Future Development Trends



The current catalogs will not be deleted or erased; instead the current online catalogs will be improved upon to meet the new user's needs (Stevens 1998, p.183). Some improvements may include:

- The linking of web materials to the card catalog. Currently, researchers have two different searches. Providing educational and valid Internet links in the catalog would streamline research for library patrons and refine the search process (Chesbro 1999, p. 33).

Trends Cont.



- In relationship to the more web-linked catalog, the design is going to be more web friendly. Options such as, “did you mean..,” “spell correction,” “headings of interest,” and “most popular” may be present. These design features would allow user to choose other terms that may result in more hits (Antleman 2006, p. 128). In this article it is referred to as intelligent stemming (p.139).

Trends Cont.



- The connection of multiple library's catalogs. This would be a huge benefit for rural libraries that often utilize interlibrary loan (Chesbro 1999, p.33). Chesbro says that with interconnectivity users would be searching other libraries, but with the same interface design as the original library, the database would just change (p. 33).
- More bibliographic data available in the online catalog. Often in the Kellogg Online Catalog there is limited information about the book. Many users are not present in the library, so the addition of book description to the bibliographic data would be immensely helpful.

Other Resources and References



- Antelman, K., Lynema, E., and Pace, K. (2006). Toward a Twenty-First Century Library Catalog. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 25, 128-140.
- Chesbro, M. (1999). The Catalog Takes to the Highway. *School Library Journal*, 45, 33-35.
- Stevens, N. (1998). The Catalogs of the Future: A Speculative Essay. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 17, 183-187.
- Thomas, D. (2001). The effect of interface design on item selection in an online catalog. *Library Resources & Technical Services*, 45, 20-37.