Demystifying Library Technologies

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Presentation Overview

- The themes behind the presentation
- Current search tools
- Keeping track of your library content
- Using library content in teaching and learning
- Next steps for you . . .
Themes

• Only librarians like searching. Everyone else likes finding.
• The merger of print and electronic resources is accelerating.
• Managing the content you find in the library isn’t as easy anymore as keeping track of the books you have checked out.
• Taking library content into the classroom is easier than ever.
Current search tools and strategies for using them

- Database tips
- Federated searching
- Wayfinder (shared catalogs)
- Google resources
- Deep web tools
- 24/7
Current Search Tools: Database Trends

- Trend is toward “google-type” search box
- Keyword searching -vs- interactive subject lists
- Library catalog as catch-all for bibliographic content AND records for other types of content, such as web sites, local electronic content, e-books
- Google integration, in catalogs, journal databases and other resources
- Personalized tools (more later on this)
Current Search Tools: Federated Searching

- Federated searching provides ability to search multiple databases at once and view aggregated results
  - Demo: Serials Solutions 360 Search
  - Demo: Serials Solutions 360 Link (going from a citation to full content in another database)
- More powerful versions integrate more kinds of resources and generate results such as tag clouds
  - Demo: AquaBrowser (University of Chicago Lens)
Current Search Tools: Shared Catalogs

- **OCLC Tools** (*union catalogs*)
  - **Wayfinder**:
    - Combines the catalogs of libraries across Washington State; allows you to enter your zip code to find an item in a library near you.
    - Also serves as a backup to your local catalog, should it be unavailable
  - Example: University of Washington Libraries
Current Search Tools: Google Resources

- **Status** of Google Books
- **About** Google Scholar
- Google magazines (see books)
- [Directory.google.com](http://directory.google.com)
- [The Open Directory Project](http://directory.google.com)
Current Search Tools: Deep Web

- Many pages don’t exist until you ask for them and thus can’t be searched by google

Strategies:
- use specialty search engines (http://searchenginewatch.com/2156351)
- Add “database” to your search
- Use directories of invisible web engines (http://lii.org/pub/subtopic/2734)
Current Search Tools: 24/7 Support

- When all else fails: use 24/7 service to get help from a librarian
  - A national co-op run by OCLC that gives patrons chat or e-mail based support from librarians.
  - Local librarians provide a few hours each week online in exchange for giving their patrons 24/7 access to a librarians around the country.
  - May be known as “Ask WA,” “QuestionPoint,” “Ask a Librarian” or some variation
Keeping Track of Your Library Content

- Link managers
- Persistent links
- Printing, e-mailing, copying, downloading
- Rights / copyright issues
Keeping Track of Your Library Content: Bookmark Managers

- Allow you to keep your bookmarks on the web so you can get to them wherever you have internet access.
- Organize by your own tags
- Provide other people access to your bookmarks - create folksonomies!
- Demo: delicious.com (library site, link rolls, personal site)
- Create your own tag clouds (settings / blogging / tag rolls)
Keeping Track of Your Library Content: Persistent Links

Persistent links - or permanent links - allow you to get back to articles, pages in e-books and other content without having to do a new search.

Not all links persist! Check the database you’re using.

Examples: Voyager book links, e-book links, articles
Keeping Track of Your Library Content: Sending/Saving

**Proquest** “My Research” tab is a good example of what you can do:

Save documents - print - create link - create bibliography - email - export citations - create a web page with links to articles - view recent searches - create web page with links to searches - view recently visited publications
Keeping Track of Your Library Content: Rights Issues

- Where are you - are you using a resource licensed by the library (a “legally acquired copy?”) or are you on the public web?
- How will you use it - for research? In the classroom? On the web? How will you control access to the material?
- When possible, give your students a link and let them be authenticated when they follow it!
- When asking for permission to use intellectual property, be clear and open about how you will use it.
- Does your campus have a contract with the Copyright Clearance Center?
Using Library Content in Teaching & Learning

- E-books
- Content Repositories & Electronic Reserves Systems
- Course Management Systems
- Elluminate
Using Library Content in Teaching & Learning: E-Books

- E-books provide the full content of the book online.
- May be found via individual databases, links in the library catalog or a federated search.
- Some are presented as onscreen books (Ebrary, NetLibrary); some are treated as databases. Credo Reference offers both.
- Students can generally create free accounts that act as “bookshelves.”
- Both search results and individual books can be linked.
- Most offer only limited printing.
- Some may have limits on simultaneous users.
Using Library Content in Teaching & Learning: Content Repositories

Electronic Reserves Systems
- Library tool that allows faculty to provide content that they provide directly through the catalog - limited by reserves policies
- Rights will be verified by library; putting some content behind a password may put you in compliance with copyright
- Demo: google “electronic reserves” or “e-reserves”

Content Repositories
- Allow faculty and students to provide electronic access to papers, presentations, images, audio, animations and other materials they create
- Usually provided by the library; content owners can restrict access however they want. Example: CONTENTdm
Using Library Content in Teaching & Learning: Course Management Systems

Ideas and tips:

- Be sure you know how the library authenticates remote users - it may not happen automatically through the CMS
- Ask your CMS director to add library resources to the basic course template
- Ask a librarian to join the course as an “embedded librarian”
- Linking to resources rather than downloading and embedding gets the student to the interface . . . And may send them astray
- Ask for annotated bibliographies to counter the ease with which students can copy and paste content
- Use the CMS’s content repository - place library content in the repository, then link to it from all of your courses
- Ask the library to create a web page for your course
Using Library Content in Teaching & Learning: Elluminate

Ideas and Tips
- Elluminate is “personal webinar” software, useful for online office hours, live discussions amongst geographically dispersed participants. Sessions are either live or recorded.
- It’s not intended to hold content, though it can.
- Upload content ahead of the live session to reduce upload / download times
- Sessions can be recorded, thereby giving people access to embedded library content - do you have the rights for that?
- Ask a librarian to hold an Elluminate session for your online class, and record it for use later.
Themes & Conclusion

• Only librarians like searching. Everyone else likes finding.
• The merger of print and electronic resources is accelerating.
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Trend Toward “Google-Type” Search Boxes

Limit by subject, keyword or entire document

“More options” extends screen to include full text, peer-reviewed, images, date, publication title and publication subject.

Switch to subject guide, publication search or advanced search

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