Reinventing the University of California Library Bibliographic Services

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Task Force

Appointed by University Librarians, April 2005

Five members: John Reimer (Chair, UCLA), Luc Declerck (UCSD), Amy Kautzman (UCB), Patti Martin (CDL), Terry Ryan (UCLA)

Charge: Rethink how to provide bibliographic services

Why now?

- Amazon, Google, iTunes are the standards against which we are judged

- User expect simplicity and immediate reward

Why now?

- Bibliographic systems are proliferating

- Bibliographic data is siloed

- Metadata is underutilized

- Shared services are difficult to develop

- Duplication of effort

Increased recognition that:

- Bibliographic systems are the foundation of library services

- Metadata is valuable and strategic

- Libraries are filled with undiscoverable yet extremely valuable material

- It can be done, e.g. OCLC WorldCat, RedLightGreen, NCSU's catalog

Task Force Process

- Literature survey (61 items)
- Interviews (15)
- Review of emerging systems (30 sites)
- Inventory of potential actions (110)
- Recommendations (15 major, 34 detailed)
- Key design principles

The Report

Was released in December 2005

http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/sopag

The Report Strikes a Chord

- Strong interest within the University of California

- Immediate community reaction
  - Blogs
  - Task Force members are interviewed
  - Invitations to present at conferences
  - Guest lectures at library schools

Gives voice to popular opinion

- Services must be user driven
- Services must be delivered where the users are
- Libraries need to act boldly to reclaim role in the information space
- Libraries have unique added value

Consensus:
Next Generation Discovery Tools

- Take user directly to item

- Bring library to the user

- Faceted browsing

- Metadata important (topical subject, too)

- Single discovery interface:
  - all of UC
  - across the full information space
  - scope views

Consensus:
Workflow Redesign

- Coordinate cataloging among campuses
- Redesign entire workflow, not just cataloging
- Adopt a single bibliographic system to support shared workflows

Consensus:
Process

- Act now
- Involve wide range of library experts in implementation planning
- Involve users in planning

Next Steps: From vision to action

At the University of California

- Articulate consensus (in process)
- Identify options (in process)
- Next steps - to be decided by University Librarians in Sept 2006

In the meantime

- Library of Congress commissioned report by Karen Calhoun – issued January 2006

- Indiana University released white paper on the Future of Cataloging - January 2006

Next Steps: From vision to action

At the Library of Congress
- External Advisory Committee on the Future of Cataloging (being constituted and charged)
- Will analyze reports: BSTF, LC, IU, etc.
- Include all major stakeholders: ALA, ARL, etc.
- Include representatives from Google, Yahoo, and Microsoft

Questions?