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1-20-2015

Yale Library IT News, 20 January 2015

Yale Library IT Staff

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Recommended Citation

Yale Library IT Staff, "Yale Library IT News, 20 January 2015" (2015). *Yale Library IT News*. 5.
http://elischolar.library.yale.edu/yul_litnews/5

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Yale Library IT Newsletter

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Welcome back!

It is a new semester already, and Library IT would like to welcome you all to the first LIT Newsletter of 2015!

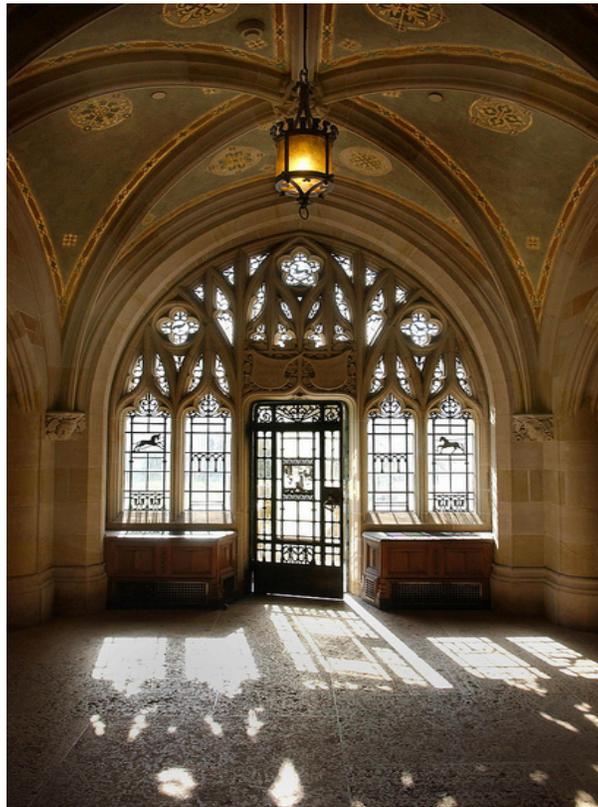


image via Yale University's [Flickr account](#)

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The Library prepares for Workday Testing with University ITS Duoc UC, Chile, becomes the 27th Hydra Partner

Yale University is planning a migration to a new tool called Workday. Workday is platform to manage enterprise level data and services, including payroll, Human Resources and Talent Management/Recruitment. The first phase of the University's transition to Workday will focus on the "people" data within Human Resources. As a downstream user of "people" data, specifically for populating the Voyager patron database, the library has been coordinating with University ITS since early September to ensure all critical operations that depend on this data continue to work seamlessly.

Despite the significant changes that the Workday platform will bring to staff workflow and interfaces in Human Resources, not much will change for the library. This is good news. The data the library extracts from University data sources, including Banner and Datawarehouse, will remain unchanged. From our technical end, the procedure to query and extract data will also remain unchanged. The Workday platform is providing a new data input interface for University staff, however, that same data will continue to be fed to Banner and Datawarehouse sources.

All change is worth examining though, and so the library will be coordinating with Sterling Library Access Services staff to test the patron data extract process during the first three weeks of February 2015. If any issues arise during this window, University ITS staff are available to address them with us. Once this testing period is complete, the next step will be waiting for a cut over to Workday. University ITS is anticipating early April 2015 for this production cut over.

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(taken from the Hydra Partner List-serv, English version below)

“Estamos encantados de anunciar que Duoc UC (<http://www.duoc.cl>), en Santiago de Chile, se ha convertido en el más reciente Hydra Socio formales, y nuestro primer socio en América Latina. Duoc ha estado trabajando con Hydra para construir la “Biblioteca Digital Patrimonial” (<http://loncofilu.cl>), un repositorio digital de planos arquitectónicos, fotografías, planes de restauración y documentos históricos relacionados con los edificios históricos más preciados de Chile, y que representa el trabajo producido por los estudiantes de la Escuela de Construcción Duoc UC. Para el 2015 están planeando el desarrollo de dos repositorios adicionales basados Hydra que se centrarán en la recogida de proyectos de títulos de estudiantes y de audio y producciones visuales de la Escuela de Comunicación.

En su carta de intención, Duoc dice que se han comprometido no sólo a la construcción de más proyectos con Hydra, sino también para la construcción de una comunidad de Hydra en América Latina mediante la traducción de la documentación en talleres españoles y explicaciones por otras instituciones de América Latina interesados en la construcción de repositorios de Hydra.

Bienvenidos, Duoc UC!”

“We are delighted to announce that Duoc UC (<http://www.duoc.cl>), in Santiago, Chile, has become the latest formal Hydra partner, and our first partner institution in Latin America. Duoc has been working with Hydra to build the “Heritage Digital Library” (<http://loncofilu.cl>), a digital repository of architectural drawings, photographs, restoration plans and historical documents related to the most precious historic buildings in Chile, and representing work produced by the students of Duoc’s Faculty of Construction. In 2015 they are planning to develop two additional repositories based on Hydra that will focus on the collection of student thesis projects and audio and visual productions from their Faculty of Communication.

In their letter of intent, Duoc says they are committed not only to building more projects with Hydra, but also to building a Hydra community in Latin America through the translation of documentation into Spanish and offering workshops to other Latin American institutions interested in building Hydra repositories.

Welcome, Duoc UC!”

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Results of the 2014 Library IT Satisfaction Survey

In Fall 2014 162 library staff members took the time to complete a survey asking them to rate the Library IT group and how it has performed on some of our major projects and services during the year.

You can see all the results (except comments) [here](#).

The survey looks at overall perception of how Library IT performed over the year, and how well it did in specific areas such as communication, which we've tried to make a priority (hence this blog for example). We've already made some decisions based on survey results about communication. Because the LIT newsletter was judged the most popular form of communication, we are committing to repurposing blog posts in the newsletter and publishing it every two weeks via YULIB.

We also definitely saw a desire for more chances to communicate with or to LIT as well and we are working on ways to do that. We will start to hold annual Tech Talks for all major projects and services. Talks will be a half hour of background, developments and plans for changes, and then a second half hour for questions, ideas and discussion from all staff. This idea came from Enterprise Systems staff, but it seems to be such a good idea that the rest of LIT is adopting it.

There was also feedback on specific projects in the survey, and LIT staff are taking a very close look at these and thinking about places where we should make adjustments in our work. As LIT staff continue to meet and discuss the survey findings we'll post ideas and action items with the survey results. You'll see the first example of this with the results for the Web Migration, where we've started to list what we think about the results of the survey and how we want to use the results to improve our work.

Please take some time to look at the results, but also, and more importantly, continue to send us ideas and feedback so that we can make LIT work well for the library and its patrons.

[LIT 2014 Satisfaction Survey](#)

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Library Participates in UMBRA: Search African American History

The Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, with technical assistance and support from Library IT, will participate in the [UMBRA: Search African American History](#) project hosted by the [University of Minnesota Libraries](#). Metadata and digitized content from the [Yale Collection of American Literature](#) that documents African American history and culture have been made available for aggregation. In partnership with [Penumbra Theatre Company](#), the [Givens Collection of African American Literature and Performing Arts Archives](#) at the University of Minnesota Libraries is developing a shareable online search tool that brings together archival content documenting over 400 years of African American cultural history from across the country, with a focus on African American theater and performing arts.

Yale University is one of many organizations committed to this project which includes over 50 theaters across the country, as well as the Digital Public Library of America, Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institute, National Museum of African American History and Culture, New York Public Library Schomburg Research Center and Library for the Performing Arts, Columbia University, Tulane University, Dance Heritage Coalition, Theatre Communications Group, and Theatre Library Association, among others.

For further information please contact [Melissa Barton](#) (melissa.barton@yale.edu) and [Nancy Kuhl](#) (nancy.kuhl@yale.edu), curators of the Yale Collection of American Literature at the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

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Library IT in Dublin

Every year the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) hosts and funds attendance to the [Developer House](#), an intensive week-long dive into OCLC services and APIs. This year's December event was centered on discovery, in particular, the new [discovery API](#) and [software library](#).

Yale's Steelsen Smith, from the Enterprise Systems and Services group, was selected by OCLC to attend, and had the opportunity to work [alongside 11 technologists](#) from libraries across the country as well as OCLC staff and developers. As a specialist in the library's various fulfillment systems Steelsen brought with him to the event questions about the applications of discovery in requesting and delivery and how to more fully use member services available to the Yale University Library.

Besides learning about available web services, as well as new programming techniques and languages, the event served as an opportunity to speak directly to product managers in Dublin. Of particular value was the ability to speak about Yale's fulfillment workflows and areas where current services work less than optimally.

The week was primarily aimed at producing usable projects in discovery in a short period of time. Open source and available to the community, some of these applications are ready to use and are [downloadable from GitHub](#).

By taking advantage of training opportunities and development events outside of Yale, Library IT is working to build relationships and knowledge that can help to improve services to staff and patrons without incurring new costs. This is in addition to the library's commitment to contributing to various open source projects and communities, keeping Library IT active in the larger field of library and academic technology.

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January New Features in Quicksearch beta

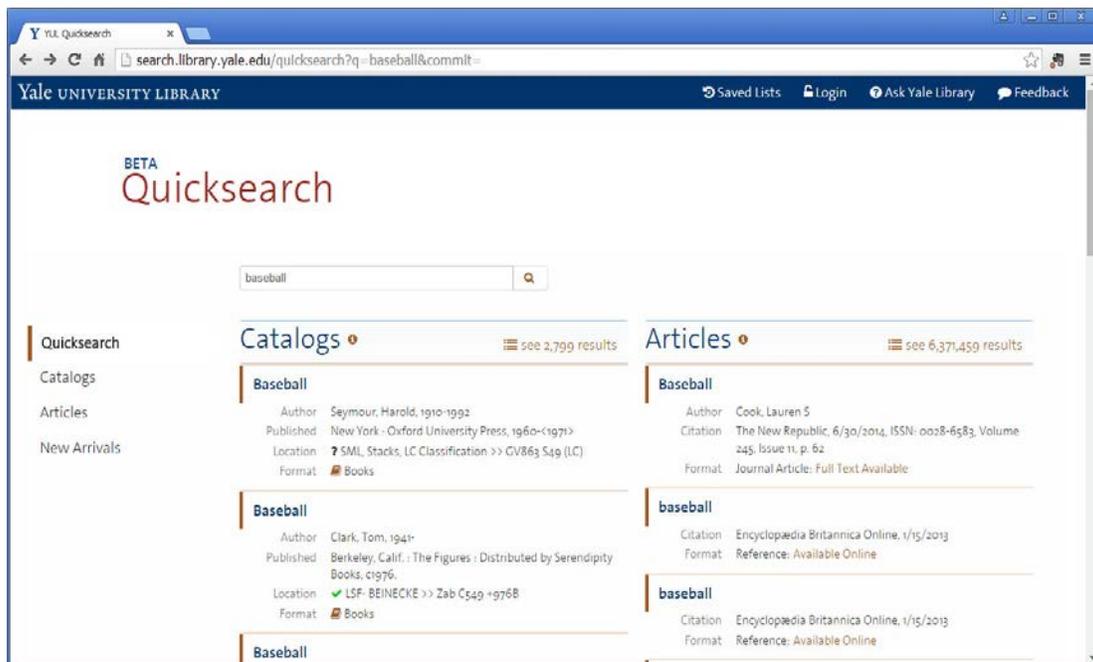
The following new features and bug fixes for Quicksearch beta have been rolled out in January:

- We have greatly improved relevancy ranking for known phrase searches like Journal titles. A typical example of this is a search for the Journal title 'Nature' which has long been a source of frustration in Orbis because so many titles in the Library catalog contain that word. A search for 'Nature' in Quicksearch beta now brings the Online version of the Journal up as the first hit in the Catalogs result list!

Give it a try:

<http://search.library.yale.edu/quicksearch?q=nature&commit=>

- Another great new feature: you can now access Full Text materials like the online version of 'Nature' directly from the Quicksearch results list:



- Quicksearch beta response time has also been greatly improved! Thanks again to everyone who reported and/or pitched in to help out with this issue.
- All fields that display in Orbis now display in Quicksearch beta
- Several small layout and style issues have been addressed
via [January New Features in Quicksearch | Quicksearch Project](#).

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Emerging Technologies + Libraries this week!

The second Emerging Technologies + Libraries discussion, sponsored by Yale Library IT, is scheduled for **Friday January 23rd 2015** in the Bass L01 classroom from **3-5pm**.

This month's discussion will center on virtual reality technology, including Google's [Cardboard](#) software and peripherals! The [Center for Engineering Innovation and Design](#) at Yale has kindly lent us their [Oculus Rift device](#) for trial as well. Finally for comparison, we have the [Bass Glass](#), which is not VR but offers a sort of [augmented reality](#). We will be trying out some of this technology ourselves for the first hour, and then having an open discussion during the second.

Get in on the action: [download](#) one of the Cardboard apps to your smartphone and bring it to the discussion.

You can also make one of your own viewers by following instructions [here](#).

A separate, **pre-discussion session** will be held Friday morning, **9am-11am** in the Library Instruction classroom at 17 Hillhouse. Use this time to bring [DIY materials](#) to make a Cardboard viewer all on your own!

No expertise/experience required, just bring your brain!

Hope to see you this Friday!

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