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Yale Library IT News

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Yale Library IT Staff

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Yale University Library IT News

May 8, 2014

Library IT News:

- Michael Dula's office hours in May will be on **Wednesday, May 14th from 2:00-3:00** and **Wednesday, May 28th from 11:00-12:00**. All staff are welcome.
- The Workstation & Technology Services unit is working with the Endpoint Engineering group in Yale ITS to automatically deploy critical software updates to library workstations. We have successfully updated applications for a test group of workstations, which contain many of the systems used throughout the YUL. The new update system will provide a consistent user experience for both security updates and application upgrades and will reduce the need for hands-on technical support to perform manual software upgrades.
- A new version of Identity Finder will be deployed to all Library Windows workstations this week. Also, over the next few weeks we will upgrade Symantec Endpoint Protection, an application that offers comprehensive antivirus and malware protection for Windows computers. This update will require a system restart, and detailed instructions will be distributed via the YULIB mailing list ahead of this and all future software deployments. Soon, Macintosh systems will be included in these updates as well.

IT Project Updates:

- **Articles+ (Summon 2.0)**
The update to Articles+ (also referred to as Summon 2.0) rolled out on Wednesday, May 7th.

Articles+ is a resource discovery layer searching electronic journals, electronic databases, and other licensed online resources that are part of the library's collection. Articles+ can also help find citations that lead to other resources apart from the library's collection.

The update to Articles+ unveils several new features and improvements:

- Topic Explorer feature (using encyclopedia content)
- Content Spotlight feature (groups newspaper articles and images into distinct sections of the search results)
- Suggested Librarian feature (using the power of our own LibGuides)

- Recommended Research Guides (using the power of own LibGuides)
- Better user experience, including responsive design and discipline facets to further help with search refinement

Please send feedback to jennifer.nolte@yale.edu if you have any questions or comments about Articles+.

- **Usability Testing for Summon 2.0**

Summon usability testing was conducted throughout the library system April 28-May 2, including tests at Arts, CSSSI, and Bass. Staff from all areas of the library volunteered to run the tests and worked in three person teams to recruit participants, facilitate a test, or observe. Tests were designed to be quick (less than thirty minutes) interactions with users, consisting of three multi-part task-based questions followed by a debriefing session. In the fall we will run two more sets of similar testing, again using volunteers, for the new Orbis/Morris search and the larger unified search interface for Orbis/Morris, Summon 2.0 and digitized material.

For Summon 2.0 testing we are getting good feedback and will share the findings with library staff early in May.

Summon Test Script <http://guides.library.yale.edu/loader.php?type=d&id=1102120>

- **Omeka: Presenting Digital Exhibits**

Late in 2013 the Web Strategy Group created a task force consisting of Francesca Livermore, Andrew Berger, Melissa Grafe, Peter Leonard, Roberta Dougherty, Andrew Predmore, and Kerri Sancomb to investigate how the library might provide digital exhibits of its collections. The group's goal was to identify a candidate for adoption at Yale which would:

- Be easy for collection managers to use
- Support complex objects
- Integrate with the library's digital repository
- Allow text and image adjacency

The group looked at a number of options, including a Drupal module for exhibits built for the Beinecke Library, a project called Spotlight, which is part of Hydra/Blacklight development but not yet publically released, the Google Cultural Institute Project, and Omeka, an open-source software product. On the recommendation of the task force the library will start a six month Omeka pilot in May. Library IT has set up a server for

Omeka, and the staff at the Medical Library have agreed to run the Omeka software. Initial tests will be done to load existing digital exhibits to the Omeka service. The task force will stay together for the pilot, and during that time they will document best practices for the creation of exhibits and for support of collection managers. They will also work early in the pilot to identify a set of metrics to be used to judge the pilot and help inform the decision of whether Omeka should be continued in the library after the pilot ends in October. For more information and examples see:

- Omeka <http://omeka.org>
 - Florida Memory <http://www.floridamemory.com/>
 - The Story of the Beautiful <http://peacockroom.wayne.edu/>
- **AV Upgrade in Sterling Lecture Hall**
With assistance from Yale ITS AV Systems Design (AVSD), the Sterling Memorial Library Lecture Hall received substantial audiovisual upgrades last month. The podium AV system in the Lecture Hall has been upgraded to current AV standards including an Echo360 lecture capture and web streaming solution.

The upgrade took advantage of the existing podium, screen, and projector in the Lecture Hall, but the AV system has been upgraded to include a lecture capture camera, inputs for HDMI, and the connections necessary for Echo360. The touch screen controls on the podium have been upgraded and an Apple TV has been included to enable wireless display capability via AirPlay on Macbooks/iPads and [AirParrot](#) on Windows laptops. Staff from Library Administrative Services and Library IT will be trained on managing and scheduling the Echo360 system by AVSD in the coming weeks.

- **Blacklight Unified Search**
The Unified Search interface, which allows users to search for Orbis, Morris, Summon, and Library website materials, was released for limited internal library evaluation on May 1. The new test version contains approximately 47,000 sample records from the Orbis and Morris catalogs. The Yale Unified Search interface is a modified version of the Blacklight-based CLIO catalog search interface. The interface was implemented in collaboration with our colleagues at the Columbia University Libraries. Upcoming features we will implement over the summer include CAS login, the addition of bookmarks, saved searches, citation export, and other related services. We expect to have a version of Unified Search available for Library-wide review in the fall.
- **Ares**
Progress continues on the migration of the Ares server from vendor hosting to University ITS hosting this month. The anticipated cutover date is May 15. The hosting services of Yale ITS are cost competitive and provide several advantages unavailable through Atlas, including write access to the database, improved response time, and the

establishment of a test instance of Ares to facilitate development, troubleshooting and upgrades. Library IT's Enterprise Systems & Programming Services group has been coordinating with the Database and Network groups at Yale ITS and the Information Security Office at Yale to manage the project.

Enterprise Systems & Programming Services is also preparing for an upgrade to the Ares software. The current version YUL runs in production is 4.1, which places us outside of vendor compliance. After the cutover to the new local server, we will install versions 4.2-4.4 for testing. The local Ares development cycle has all final product enhancement requests due Friday May 2. During the month of May, we will be prioritizing the requests and starting implementation.

- **Aeon**

This May there will be an Aeon upgrade. YUL is currently running release 3.4 in production. There are two releases of Aeon each year and the upgrade will keep YUL in software compliance with the vendor. Testing is underway with the staff of Beinecke and MSSA, as the Enterprise Systems & Programming Services group prepares the server for the new release and the related enhancements elicited this spring from the Aeon User Group.