10-9-2015

Yale Library IT News, 09 October 2015

Yale Library IT Staff

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 HydraConnect 2015

By Eric James on Sep 29, 2015 11:34 am

The HydraConnect 2015 conference took place September 21-25 in Minneapolis[1] totaling 200 people from 60 institutions including 2 representatives from Yale, total. The conference was structured with Monday Workshops, a Tuesday morning plenary, a Tuesday afternoon poster session, and sessions, lighting talks, and breakout groups. The project “Hydra” has come to represent an aggregation of components serving the needs of the digital community. Core applications include Blacklight[2] – a discovery index and interface, Sufia[3] – an institutional repository supporting self-upload, Avalon[4] – an application for audio/video materials, Spotlight[5] – an exhibit creation tool, Stanford Earthworks[6] – supporting spatial discovery, and Hydra in a Box[7] – a new project to create a turnkey Hydra application. The main themes of the conference were linked data and interoperability, the approach of defining a content model by fleshing out metadata concerns driven by end user requirements. To this end several initiatives are currently under development centered around The Portland Common Data Model PCDM[8], a construct built on the resource/description/containment spec of the Linked Data Platform[9], providing a generic framework for resource properties and association. A key component of this work is the championing of the approach of using dereferenceable URIs[10] in metadata description and tackling the challenges this entails such as enriching current literal description, resolving caching fragments of this linked data, and achieving all of this in a platform agnostic way. Complementing this work are several interest and working groups, addressing the specific areas such as descriptive/rights/structural metadata, service management, UX design, and archival interests. HydraConnect 2015 is the third conference of its kind and has expectations of much development to continue.

[7] https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/hydra/Hydra+in+a+Box

SearchFest! sessions for October and November

By Jenn Nolte on Sep 25, 2015 11:37 am

There will be two more SearchFest! sessions scheduled for the fall semester.

The goals of SearchFest!

- test out existing Orbis or Morris search strategies in our new unified discovery interface, Quicksearch.
- demonstrate the features and functionality that are unique to Quicksearch
- review the timeline for Quicksearch’s transition to production in January 2016
- answer any questions from staff about how to use Quicksearch in either instruction or daily work

As with the first SearchFest!, there will also be pizza served at the beginning of each session.

To register for the October 8th session, click here.
To register for the November 17th session, click here.

See you at SearchFest!
YUL gets an updated interface for digital collections search and discovery

By Jenn Nolte on Sep 18, 2015 02:51 pm

On Monday 9/21/2015, YUL’s digital collection discovery interface ([findit.library.yale.edu](http://findit.library.yale.edu)) will go live with a new design modeled on the [Quicksearch](https://quicksearch.library.yale.edu) interface design. These coordinating designs let our users know that they are in the same Yale University Library web space and should expect similar functionality.

The new look and feel of digital collections search at YUL– main page (click the image to get a larger view):

![Digital Collections main page](image1)

Search results in the new design:

![Search results](image2)

There will also be a few new features in the digital collections search added on Monday. These include:

- an Access Restrictions facet, to limit by either open or restricted access
- a Repository facet, to limit to and search within a specific repository at YUL
- a Call Number facet, to limit to and search within call numbers assigned to items
Another feature coming soon (but not on Monday) is a **date slider** with a histogram visualization, which gives users the ability to limit by date range and see the frequency of hits in a given year. To see an example of a feature like this used elsewhere, click on [this search of Articles+](#) and look to the lower left to see the date range and histogram.

As always, your feedback is welcomed and appreciated. Please use the feedback link on the bottom center of the digital collections search page (or just [click here](#)).

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**HathiTrust Enhanced Access for Yale Users with Print Disabilities**
*By Raymond Frohlich on Sep 11, 2015 03:24 pm*

Students with print disabilities now have enhanced access to an additional selection of digitized books through the HathiTrust. Yale University Library in partnership with the Disabilities are both pleased to announce the availability of this new service. Through its partnership with HathiTrust, Yale has access to millions of items through the materials that are in-copyright or restricted are not available to our community by default. Access to this restricted content has been made available through [a recent legal ruling](#). Details about the service can be found here – [http://web.library.yale.edu/hathitrust-access-yale-users-print-disabilities](http://web.library.yale.edu/hathitrust-access-yale-users-print-disabilities).

Thanks to Judy York, Carolyn Barrett, Anthony Kulikowski, and Rob Rocke from the Resource Office on Disabilities, and to John Gallagher, Katie Bauer, Cindy Greenspun, and Steve Wieda from the Yale University Library.

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**MORRIS HOLDINGS NOW AVAILABLE IN QUICKSEARCH!**
*By Kalee Sprague on Sep 01, 2015 10:03 am*

Morris holdings now appear in Quicksearch!

The best way to view this new feature is to search for a law-related topic like ‘Human Rights Law’ in Quicksearch, [http://search.library.yale.edu](http://search.library.yale.edu).

In the Search Results list you will now see real-time availability information. A red ‘x’ appears if the title is checked out, and a green check mark displays if the title is available.
In the individual holdings screen, you can see the location, call number, and status of the title pulled directly in real time from Morris.
This is an important milestone in the Quicksearch project; the two Yale Library catalogs, Orbis and Morris, are both now fully represented in Quicksearch.