Chapter 2

Moving from Local to Global via the Integrated Library System:
Cost-Savings, ILS Management, Teams, and End-Users

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ABSTRACT

In an era of budget constraints as well as next generation technologies - moving from a consortium based and administrated shared ILS (integrated library system) to one that can be managed in-house allows for substantial cost savings, team oriented opportunities for training and growth, and service improvements for library patrons. This chapter will provide background on one university library’s decision to move from a local consortium based catalog with a shared and centrally administered back-end to a global catalog with the ability to personalize administration for a single library. Background on institutional culture, key stakeholders, benefits for library staff and end-user will be discussed.
INTRODUCTION

The Integrated Library System (ILS) is the beating heart of libraries that allows organization, access, and information about library resources. Without an effective and user-friendly ILS the books, audiovisual materials, and other resources held by libraries would not be findable. It is imperative to keep a keen eye on current trends and developments in the ILS industry so that libraries can continue to be at the forefront of organization and access to materials within and outside of the library’s walls.

The library where the authors are employed joined a consortium in 2002, at a time when the institution was expanding its offerings and was in need of growing its available collections through collaboration. Consortium membership was by yearly fee and meant that member libraries belonged to a shared ILS and catalog with a central office assisting and acting on behalf of the member libraries. In recent years, operating costs continued to increase and adding features and systems meant further expenditures, thus consortium membership costs continued to rise. The library determined that with system and staff permission limitations, slow technological growth, and increasing overall costs we would need to explore other library systems.

In an era of budget constraints, yearly increases to subscribed content, and new programs of study - moving from a shared system to one that was managed in-house allowed for substantial cost savings. This cost savings translated to providing better services for the library staff and for the community of users served by the library. The new ILS streamlines the library systems and processes while providing next generation technology. Some examples include- automated daily updates to patron records, providing users a single sign on, allowing for the addition of patron driven acquisitions, demand driven acquisition records to be discoverable in the library catalog, responsive front-end web design, interlibrary loan hold records and item barcodes that are system generated. The library catalog is no longer limited by local membership, rather it provides the ability to request and access a breath of global materials, so important to the current library patron in higher education.

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1863 as a privately owned commercial college relocated its campus to Smithfield, RI after inventor and innovator Earl Tupper donated his 220-acre estate to the college in 1971. Since this move, Bryant University has steadily expanded its academic offerings to become a full-fledged university, complete with a separate College of Arts and Sciences, while preserving its strength in business education. Stable leadership, vision, and thoughtful strategic planning over the past twenty-
Information Literacy Skills Among the Undergraduate Students at the University of Livingstonia, Malawi
[www.igi-global.com/article/information-literacy-skills-among-the-undergraduate-students-at-the-university-of-livingstonia-malawi/206868?camid=4v1a](www.igi-global.com/article/information-literacy-skills-among-the-undergraduate-students-at-the-university-of-livingstonia-malawi/206868?camid=4v1a)

An Approach to Trie Based Keyword Search for Search Engines
[www.igi-global.com/article/an-approach-to-trie-based-keyword-search-for-search-engines/181684?camid=4v1a](www.igi-global.com/article/an-approach-to-trie-based-keyword-search-for-search-engines/181684?camid=4v1a)