



Exploring Discovery: The front door to your library's licensed and digitized content

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Description

In the context of libraries, "discovery" is the process of finding appropriate resources to meet an information need. We are in a new age of discovery where technology has enabled today's researchers to explore increasingly vaster realms of information more efficiently than ever before. What cutting-edge tools and services are emerging from the growing suite of discovery interfaces and indexes? Where is "discovery" going, and what tools and techniques are emerging as standard elements in the library technology toolbox? Exploring Discovery examines the range of discovery-focused tools and technologies being deployed by libraries and provides a series of case studies illustrating the interfaces and technologies that can be used by libraries today. The key topics covered include: • vendor-provided web scale discovery platforms • using discovery vendors in small and mid-sized libraries • libraries, archives and museums sharing a single discovery tool • custom discovery systems built with open-source software including Blacklight • discovery on a shoestring • integrating discovery to improve user experience • different discovery interfaces • metadata challenges in discovery services • Open Access and discovery tools • regional aggregation and discovery of digital collections. The book will be essential reading for library managers, systems librarians, metadata librarians, digital services librarians and anyone working in libraries, archives and museums looking to evaluate, implement, develop or improve discovery services.

Contents

PART 1: VENDED DISCOVERY SYSTEMS 1. Collaborative Growth Towards Discovery: Becoming Stronger Through Change - Margaret Heller and Hong Ma 2. Approaching Discovery as Part of a Library Service Platform: Lessons Learned - Nathan Hosburgh 3. When You Rent Your Front Door: A Mid-Size Library's Experiences Relying on Discovery Vendors - Stephen Bollinger and Kate Silton 4. Exploring Discovery @ Rosenberg Library: What Happens when a Library, a Museum, and an Archives Get Together to Share a

Single Discovery Tool? - T. Louise M. Kidder PART 2: CUSTOM DISCOVERY SYTEMS 5. Geospatial Resource Discovery - Darren Hardy, Jack Reed, and Bess Sadler 6. Discovery on a Shoestring: Implementing a Full-Functioned Discovery Tool with Free Software and No-Extra-Charge Metadata Sources - Julia Bauder 7. Agile Open-Source Discovery: Blacklight with EBSCO Discovery Service - Sam Popowich 8. Using Blacklight for Archival Discovery - Adam Wead and Jennie Thomas 9. Creating a "Magical" Request and Delivery Experience for Patrons using a Blacklight-Based Catalog - Matthew Connolly, Jennifer Colt, Joanne Leary, and Melissa Wallace PART 3: INTERFACES 10. The Bento Box Design Pattern - Jason Thomale, William Hicks, and Mark Phillips 11. One-to-Many: Building a Single-Search Interface for Disparate Resources - Cole Hudson and Graham Hukill 12. Integrating Discovery to Improve the User Experience - Sonya Betz and Ian Robertson 13. Fixing Facets - Sean Hannan, Steven Heslip, and Kristen Johannes 14. One Size Doesn't Fit All: Tailoring Discovery through User Testing - Joseph Deodata, Khalilah Gambrell, and Eric Frierson PART 4: CONTENT AND METADATA 15. From User Stories to Working Code: A Case Study from NYU's Digital Collections Discovery Initiative - Daniel Lovins 16. Regional Aggregation and Discovery of Digital Collections: The Mountain West Digital Library - Anna Neatrou, Rebekah Cummings, and Sandra McIntyre 17. Open Access and Discovery Tools: How Do Primo Libraries Manage Green Open Access Collections? - François Renaville 18. Discovery Platforms and the Database of Record - Alan Manifold 19. Know Thy Metadata: Metadata Challenges in Discovery Services - Myung-Ja K. Han and William Fletcher Weathers

Author

Kenneth J. Varnum is the Web Systems Manager at the University of Michigan Library, where he manages the library web site and development of new features and functionality. An active member of the library technology world for 18 years, Ken's research and professional interests range from Drupal and site redesign to user-generated content.