



Winter 2010-2011

News from the ELUNA Steering Committee

A Word from the Chair

Bob Trotter

As you have heard, planning is progressing for our ELUNA 2011 Conference. The Local Arrangements team is coordinating the meeting room, AV and catering plans for the site, and the Program Planning Committee has sent out their Calls for Proposals. I strongly encourage everyone to think about submitting a proposal. Without a large collection of user-presented sessions, it doesn't matter how much planning we put into the conference, it will be mediocre at best. You, the Ex Libris product users, are what will make this a great conference. Please help us make it so.

Site selection for the 2012 conference is almost completed. We hope to have an announcement in the near future.

The NERS enhancement request system has had several more rounds of both SFX and MetaLib enhancement voting. And on November 19, the first round of Voyager enhancement voting done in NERS, ended. Over all, I think it went pretty well. The NERS developers will be working to make further improvements, especially in the balloting process.

On November 22 and 23, representatives of the IGeLU and ELUNA Steering Committees met with Ex Libris management in Hamburg, Germany to discuss URM issues. I think we all learned much, and had quite a few of our misconceptions corrected (mostly for the better). We also discussed the pricing URM model Ex Libris is developing, and were able to make significant input into how their calculations will be made. More

details about all of this will be coming out during the first quarter of 2011.

Also discussed at the Hamburg meeting, was Ex Libris' need for the User Groups' help in gaining access to metadata from various content providers. This metadata is needed to extend the coverage of Primo Central. The Steering Committees are working with Ex Libris on a letter that will go to companies that have not yet granted this access. We have also jointly prepared with Ex Libris sample text that you may include in your contracts with content providers (see below). The text will also be sent out in a future email to our membership and made available on the ELUNA document repository.

I hope everybody survived the end of semester rush and had a wonderful holiday!

Suggested Contract Text on Metadata

"The License should permit [library] to integrate the metadata into the local system infrastructure and information services. This includes the ability for the library to choose to search the data via an Aggregated Index service, such as Primo Central from Ex Libris. The License should enable the provider of the aggregated index to harvest relevant information into such aggregated index, and to provide timely data updates. Data to be harvested and indexed in Primo Central will be as comprehensive as possible to facilitate optimal discovery. For example for journals, the data provided should be citation metadata, abstract and full text, with a minimum of citation metadata and abstract. Note that full text, when indexed by Primo Central, will be delivered from the Licensor's service."

“Ideally, the data should comply with appropriate standards as used by libraries and library vendors (e.g., XML, SGML, PDF, MARC) and should be available from the Publisher site via standard transfer methods such as OAI-PMH or ftp.”

ELUNA Membership Renewal

Sue Julich, ELUNA Treasurer

Early in October, ELUNA membership renewal applications and invoices for 2011 were mailed to 320 members. I'm very pleased to report that by the end of October, about a third of our member institutions already renewed. Membership in ELUNA follows the calendar year (Jan 1 through Dec 31). We request that membership dues be paid by December 31, 2010, however we will not lapse an unpaid membership until March 1, 2011.

ELUNA works with Ex Libris to advocate for our member libraries on product enhancements, development, and support. We organize and hold a three-day continuing education meeting each year that attracts about 500 professionals from across North America, Europe and Australasia. In addition, we organize and support Regional User Groups that serve local user communities and offer additional professional development opportunities. Membership is available for individual institutions as well as for consortia.

If you are a current member but haven't received a renewal invoice for 2011, contact Sue Julich, ELUNA Treasurer (suzanne-julich@uiowa.edu). Or if your organization is not currently a member of ELUNA and you'd like to join, contact Sue or visit our web site at: <http://el-una.org/>

ELUNA 2011 Conference in Milwaukee

Kristine Hammerstrand

Milwaukee, Wisconsin will be the site for the ELUNA 2011 Conference, Wednesday through Friday, May 11-13, 2011. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee will be our hosts for 3 days of informative, innovative and inspiring sessions presented by your ELUNA

colleagues, and maybe even you!

Your accepted program proposal will save you \$100 on your conference registration, so send your presentation ideas to the Program Planning Committee by January 11, 2011.



Milwaukee Wisconsin will host ELUNA 2011

Program and poster session proposals should be submitted via the web form at: <http://webs.calumet.purdue.edu/ada/eluna-2011-presentation-proposal-submission-form/> Program proposers will be informed by the January 25, 2011 as to whether their proposal was accepted.

Conference registration will open about March 1, 2011. Individuals from ELUNA or IGeLU member institutions will be able to register for \$350. A speaker will receive a \$100 discount off this fee. A maximum of 2 speakers per group presentation can receive the discount. Individuals from non-member institutions may register at \$500 and are also eligible for the \$100 speaker discount. This year, speakers will not be required to stay at the conference hotel to receive the speaker discount.

The conference hotel is the lovely historic Hilton Milwaukee City Center which will offer a conference rate of \$129 (plus tax) per night.

The hotel reservation website is open now at: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/MKEMHHF-ELS-20110508/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

A link to the hotel reservation site is also on the ELUNA webpage under the meetings tab at <http://el-una.org/meetings/next-meeting/>

Once again this year, an Ex Libris Technical Seminar will precede the conference on Monday and Tuesday, May 9-10, 2011, which will also be held at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center. Registration for the Tech Seminar will be at an additional fee; watch for more announcements from Ex Libris about the 2011 Tech Seminar.

Milwaukee's Mitchell Airport (code=MKE) is served by several major airlines, and Milwaukee is on Amtrak's Empire Builder and Hiawatha lines. Amtrak tops at the airport and at the downtown Milwaukee Intermodal station (Amtrak and Greyhound) which is less than a half-mile from the Hilton. A variety of airport shuttle services are also available. For those who may drive to Milwaukee, the Hilton is offering those staying there during the conference a reduced daily parking fee.

Milwaukee is famous for beer, sausage, and Harley-Davidsons, but it also has a stunning Art Museum, awesome Lake Michigan views, and the Milwaukee Brewers baseball team with their unique racing sausage mascots. (And the Brewers are scheduled to be at home at Miller Park during our visit!)



Milwaukee Public Museum will be the location of the ELUNA 2011 reception



Empire Ballroom, Hilton Milwaukee



Monarch Ballroom, Hilton Milwaukee

On the evening of Tuesday, May 10, between the Tech Seminar and ELUNA, a conference reception will be held at the Milwaukee Public Museum. The reception is open to all Conference and Tech Seminar attendees. Please plan to arrive in time for that opportunity for fun and networking.

If you've never attended an ELUNA or are thinking about submitting a program proposal and wondering what has been offered in previous years, don't forget that ELUNA conference presentations are archived on the ELUNA document repository at <http://documents.el-una.org/view/divisions/eluna=5Fconf/> (login required).



Old Milwaukee sausage shop, Milwaukee Public Museum

While the ELUNA conference does include product update and strategy sessions presented by Ex Libris staff, the conference is primarily a user-organized event. Please help us to make the 2011 conference one of the best yet by submitting a proposal and planning to attend.

Progress on the URM

From a URM Development Partner Perspective

Bob Gerrity, Boston College

The URM Development Partners (Princeton University, Purdue University, K.U. Leuven, and Boston College) are gearing up for testing of Partner Release 2 starting in mid-December. PR2 includes much more functionality than PR1 (or "drop 1"), particularly in metadata management, fulfillment, acquisitions, and e-resource management. The partners are participating in a series of orientation and training sessions prior to beginning testing, which will run through early March. In addition to new functionality in PR2, each partner will be reviewing and testing a full data migration from their Aleph or Voyager system to URM.

Ex Libris' Directors' Seminars

Report from Rosemont

Kristine Hammerstrand

Are you, or do you report to, a library director who wants to learn more about Ex Libris' strategic direction? Does your director want to have an opportunity to speak with Ex Libris' management team in a quieter setting than the ALA exhibit hall? Is your library sending fewer people to conferences as your travel funds shrink or disappear? Is your director concerned that she may not know enough about URM, cloud computing and the future of Aleph, Voyager and SFX to plan for the coming years?

If so, you are definitely not alone. Ex Libris is aware of these needs and is exploring new methods for communicating with the senior management staff of their library customers. This fall and winter, Ex Libris hosted 16 regional "Directors' Meetings" as one step in reaching that audience. (One more meeting is planned for San Diego in January.) Ex Libris' new North American President, Mark Triest, attended the Regional Directors meeting in Rosemont, Illinois on

October 26, and I had the opportunity to meet him there. He said that Ex Libris will be exploring more options for reaching directors and other library administrators. Mark commented that administrators may not attend ELUNA as they do not want or need the multi-day, in-depth experience that the annual users conference provides. October 26 was also the first day on the job for Tony Zanders, who will report to Mark Triest and whose work will focus on customer communications.

Some 40 library administrators braved a record setting windstorm to attend the Rosemont session. The group was welcomed by Carl Grant and then allowed networking time over a buffet lunch. Following lunch, Carl and Mike Tartaglione presented sessions on corporate strategy, including the “Three T’s” paradigm (tradition, transition, transformation) that Oren Beit-Arie has articulated at recent ELUNA and IGeLU programs. The group was provided a demo of URM and Primo as well. Following the Ex Libris presentations, attendees could choose a topical discussion table for small group conversations. Topics included the issues and benefits of moving to cloud computing, marketing your library, and organizational transformation in libraries. I participated in a very interesting discussion at the “Cloud” table. Groups reported their summaries to the room.

The Regional Directors’ meetings continue through January 10, 2011, with the last one scheduled to coincide with ALA Midwinter in San Diego.

Product Working Group Reports

Aleph

Jean Phillips, Chair Aleph PWG

Enhancement Process

2010: We continue to make progress in our 2010 ELUNA Aleph enhancement process. Ex Libris sent back responses to the 30 enhancement requests with preliminary pointing and a few questions. Christine Moulen, the Aleph Product Group’s Enhancement Coordinator, worked with the PWG, Module Coordinators and original submitters to help clarify

some of the requests. Those clarifications have been submitted to Ex Libris and we have recently received their responses. The PWG is now working on organizing a vote on the enhancements for early next year. All of the information about the process and the list of 30 requests can be seen here:

<http://www.exlibrisgroup.org/display/Aleph/Enhancement+Process+2010>

2009: The top 5 ELUNA Aleph enhancements voted in 2009 were released as part of V.20.2. One enhancement (Circ-03) required changes that can only be done in a major release (V.21).

Upcoming Aleph Versions

Aleph V. 20.2 was released in August 2010. Ex Libris has decided to not have another minor version, but to focus on V.21, which is scheduled for release at the end of 2011. The PWG will be coordinating collaborative testing for this next major release.

ELUNA 2011

Ellen Jones of University of Iowa was appointed as the Aleph Track Chair for the next ELUNA meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 11-13, 2011. Thanks to Ellen for agreeing to take on this role. A call has gone out for presentations and poster sessions. Please consider submitting a proposal, your colleagues working with Aleph would appreciate hearing from you.

PWG Activities

Steve Thomas (University of Tennessee) is now the Vice Chair of the PWG and will become the Chair at the next ELUNA meeting. Michael Edwards is now the Vice Enhancements Coordinator; he will become the Coordinator at the same time. The PWG group has been meeting on a monthly schedule. The notes from our meetings are available on EL Commons:

<http://www.exlibrisgroup.org/display/Aleph/Meeting+Notes>

If you have any comments or questions you can send them to any of the PWG members:

<http://www.exlibrisgroup.org/display/Aleph/Member+ship>

Voyager

Ted Schwitzner, Chair Voyager PWG

Between October 27 and November 19, the Voyager Product Working Groups for ELUNA and IGeLU presented an enhancements election for a future minor release of Voyager, version 8.2. The election took place on the New Enhancement Request System (NERS), which is hosted by IGeLU at <https://ners.igelu.org/> NERS was developed as a means by which both member organizations could submit, compile, and vote on enhancements for any of Ex Libris' products.

The enhancement ballot contained 150 items covering each Voyager client and most of the extension products. During the election period, representatives from 83 member institutions of either organization logged in and cast their votes. Votes for items were signified by assigning points, from 1 to 10, to a given item. A total of 7,878 votes were cast. ELUNA and IGeLU members may use their NERS credentials to view the final ballot results.

Following the conclusion of the election, both Voyager Product Working Groups met jointly to review the results and to recommend moving forward those items that received 100 or more votes. Twenty-one items will be presented to Ex Libris for evaluation and development; items that did not receive 100 votes will remain active for future balloting.

Questions about the enhancements process may be directed to the Product Working Group Chairs, Ted Schwitzner (ELUNA) and Habib Tabatabai (IGeLU).

Primo

Dale Poulter, Chair PRIMO PWG

The Primo PWG has been busy reviewing several hundred enhancement suggestions that have been submitted to ExLibris. Together with the IGeLU Primo PWG, the goal is to eliminate duplicates and other suggestions that are no longer relevant, and schedule

a vote on the New Enhancement Request System (NERS).

This would be an initial election to establish the top ten or twenty suggestions. These will be submitted for a second vote, the results of which will be submitted to ExLibris for inclusion in a future release. The likely dates for the two polls via NERS will be February and April.

Regional User Groups

What RUG Leaders Should Know

Janet Lute, ELUNA Steering Committee
RUG liaison

Are you the leader of a Regional User Group (RUG)? If so this important reminder is for you! The ELUNA website at <http://el-una.org/> has a special section on RUGs. This includes a RUG policy page and a separate entry for each RUG group including some that may not be "active" at the moment. From time to time make sure that the leadership details, meeting information, etc. is current. If any changes need to be made, contact the RUG liaison, Janet Lute at jelute@princeton.edu and we will update the web pages.

The RUG policy at <http://el-una.org/rugs/rug-policy/> contains everything that any RUG leader probably needs to know. It includes information on financial support from ELUNA and Ex Libris and a link to the Funding Request Form for ELUNA. The Steering Committee is making an effort to send one of its members to each RUG meeting. Usually this will be a Steering Committee member who lives in that region or an adjacent one. We ask that you make time in your program for this individual to present an ELUNA update and of course they are available to answer any questions related to ELUNA activities that your audience may have.

ENUG User Group Report

Kristy Lee, SUNY New Paltz

The Ex Libris Northeast User Group (ENUG) conference was held on October 21-22, 2010 in the Cheng Library at William Paterson University. 54 participants from academic colleges and universities in the northeastern states attended the two-day conference with informative seminars, user group discussions and technical workshops on Aleph & Voyager systems. Presentations also included emerging trends in academic search tools (discovery tools), e-book management, data mining and mobile web design. A complete list of presentations is available on <http://www.emausers.org/presentations-2010.html> ELUNA Steering Committee members Edward Corrado and Janet Lute presented ELUNA group updates on new website and document depository features.

Attendees had the first glimpse of the URM (Unified Resources Management) prototype. The URM is Ex Libris' next-generation system that is being designed to streamline library back-office workflow with an integrated interface for the management of print, electronic and digital materials. Janet Lute & Trevor Dawes of Princeton University Library presented the first round experience as one of the four URM alpha-testing sites. With further scheduled second round testing and training to start late this year, the results from the first round data import are very promising.

Christine Moulen of MIT gave an overview and update on the activities of the Aleph Product Working Group (PWG). The Group coordinates collaborative testing, recommendation and enhancement processes between Ex Libris user focus groups and Ex Libris development teams. The Aleph product road map includes versions through version 22. The Group welcomes users to join the PWG and to get involved.

Libraries are adopting mobile web to reach out to patrons. Yongming Wang of The College of New Jersey shared some practical tips and good examples of academic library mobile web designs. Discovering and evaluating better search tools for the web OPAC

are some of the new challenges presented to academic libraries. Kevin Collins and Darren Chase of SUNY Stony Brook libraries showed an outline of their search process and evaluation criteria. The use of an assessment tool was helpful to measure user experience, functionality and result relevance in the search of web OPAC 2.0.

As a first time attendee, I found the Conference a great venue for networking with system librarians, technical expertise and Ex Libris staff. ENUG 2010 Planning Committee and conference presenters should be commended for their time and effort in their contributions. The same token of appreciation should go to the hospitable staff of Cheng Library. The ELUNA 2011 conference is scheduled May 11-13 at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

Upcoming Events

May 2011

- May 9-10, Ex Libris Tech Seminar, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 - May 11-13, ELUNA 2011, Milwaukee Wisconsin
- For more information see:
<http://el-una.org/meetings/next-meeting/>

September 2011

- September 11-13, IGeLU, Haifa, Israel
 - September 14-16, Ex Libris System Seminar, Haifa, Israel
- For more information, see:
<http://igelu.org/conferences/haifa-2011>

Join ELUNA now!

Become a new member or renew your existing membership to take advantage of everything that ELUNA has to offer.

ELUNA is an independent not for profit organization; we do not receive funds from the Ex Libris corporation. We exist to educate, support, and advocate for the Ex Libris user community. There are many opportunities to participate in ELUNA. For more information about ELUNA membership and activities, visit our website at <http://el-una.org/>.