



ELUNA

Ex Libris Users of North America

Newsletter

Summer 2011

This is the summer 2011 edition of the ELUNA Newsletter. We hope that everyone is enjoying their summer, despite the heat that much of North America has experienced. It is nearly three months since our conference in Milwaukee – and a wonderful event it was! (See below for a recap of ELUNA 2011.)

Now we are looking forward to ELUNA 2012 in Salt Lake City. Please hold the dates:

Tech Seminar: **May 7-8, 2012**
ELUNA 2012: **May 8-11, 2012**



UW Milwaukee Provost Johannes Britz, Ewa Barczyk, and Milwaukee's famous "Racing Sausages" welcome ELUNA 2011 attendees

ELUNA Membership Update

Sue Julich, ELUNA Treasurer

ELUNA membership continues to be strong. We currently have 296 paid memberships of which 40 are consortia. This brings our total number of member

libraries to 902. These numbers allow us to keep our membership rates quite stable. If you have colleagues in institutions that use Ex Libris products, but are not members of ELUNA, we urge you to encourage them to join. More members mean lower costs for all members. Membership in ELUNA comes with many benefits – lower annual conference registration fees, access to the ELUNA website and the ELUNA documents repository which contains conference proceedings (ELUNA and its predecessor NAAUG) dating back to 1999, and product specific listservs where you can share expertise with colleagues – just to name a few.

The ELUNA membership year runs from January 1 through December 31st. Invoices for 2012 will be mailed in October. We are very pleased that we will be able to hold membership costs for individual institutions to \$200.00. However, we are restructuring the membership fees for consortia. For consortia with less than 15 member libraries, the annual membership cost will remain the same as this year -- \$300.00. For consortia with 15-30 member libraries, the membership cost will be \$350.00 and for those with more than 30 member libraries it will be \$400.00.



ELUNA Chair, Bob Trotter, welcoming attendees at ELUNA 2011

A Word from the Chair

Laura Morse, ELUNA Steering Committee Chair

Many thanks to all who attended the ELUNA 2011 Meeting in Milwaukee in May! The outstanding efforts made by the [Local Arrangements Committee](#), chaired by Ewa Barczyk; the [Program Committee](#), chaired by Sherrie Kristin; past ELUNA SC chair Bob Trotter; and Liaison to ELUNA 2011 Kristine Hammerstrand

ensured the conference was a success. Thank you as well to Ex Libris for participation in and support of the meeting and for hosting a wonderful opening reception at the Milwaukee Public Museum. The presentations for the ELUNA meeting are available to all ELUNA members in the [ELUNA document repository](#).

I saw many innovative uses of Ex Libris products during presentations at the ELUNA 2011 Meeting and thought that it would be great to be able to share these more often than once a year. The Steering Committee would like to offer ELUNA members an opportunity to share their success stories with other customers using the ELUNA website. We will be adding a new space to the website to highlight projects which can be linked to the ELUNA Document Repository or to live examples of your project. Please share your success stories by sending a brief description to the Steering Committee at eluna-sc@listserv.nd.edu.

Work is well underway for planning for the ELUNA 2012 Meeting in Salt Lake City on May 8th – May 11th, 2012. More information about this meeting will be available soon on the [ELUNA website](#). We are already beginning to plan for the ELUNA 2013 Meeting. If you are interested in hosting this event locally, please see the call sent out to the [ELUNA announce list](#). The deadline for submitting a proposal is September 2, 2011.

The ELUNA Steering Committee expects to work on several projects in the coming months, including:

- Coordinating Ex Libris developer library visits
- Providing Alma feedback to Ex Libris
- Continuing collaboration with IGELU on NERS (New Enhancement Request System)
- Continuing coordination of feedback regarding documentation from PWG members for Ex Libris
- Increasing communication with members
- Providing virtual collaboration tools for PWGs, RUGs, & SIGs (websites, wikis, etc.)
- Creating a marketing campaign for ELUNA membership and the 2012 meeting
- Formalizing ELUNA procedures

More information about ELUNA activities will appear in this column in upcoming issues of the newsletter. I look forward to working with the ELUNA community throughout the coming year.

Upcoming Events:

September 11-13, 2011

IGeLU Conference, Haifa Israel

IGeLU 2011



The 2011 IGeLU Conference will be held in Haifa Israel on September 11-13, 2011. The University of Haifa will be the host for the meeting. The ExLibris System Seminar will be held on the days immediately following the Conference: September 14-16, 2011.

<http://www.reg.co.il/exlibris-igelu2011/>

September 14-16, 2011

Ex Libris Technical Seminar, Haifa Israel

October 17-18, 2011

Upper Midwest User Group Conference; Fargo ND

<http://umwug.odin.nodak.edu>

October 24-25, 2011

Ex Libris South-Central Users Group; Russellville AR

<http://library.atu.edu/elsug2011>

October 27-28, 2011

Ex Libris Northeast Users Group, Bridgeport CT

<http://emausers.org/index.html>

January 10, 2012

DC ExLibris Users Group, Takoma Park MD

ELUNA 2011

Kristine Hammerstrand, ELUNA Steering Committee
Conference Planning Committee

Over 400 of your ELUNA colleagues attended the annual conference in Milwaukee in May. The conference was launched with inspiring introductory remarks from Johannes Britz, the interim Provost of host institution, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. Dr. Britz' message reminded us of the value of education in society and the key role that academic libraries can and should play in today's world. While we've all heard those themes before, the message

was eloquently delivered and particularly relevant as the changes occurring in Wisconsin state institutions were making national news in the same timeframe.

Themes of change, and changes to come, continued as conference attendees were presented with a plenary session update on Alma, and later given the opportunity to attend one of six Alma demonstrations. Ex Libris management also provided their annual corporate update, answered questions from the audience at the ever-popular Q&A session, and presented the individual product update sessions. Ex Libris will be making their corporate and product update session slides available in the Document Center of the Ex Libris Customer Center under Presentations/ELUNA/2011



The Milwaukee Ale House welcomes ELUNA attendees for a fun evening

One of the main roles of the ELUNA Conference is to give Ex Libris customers a chance to present their innovations and to learn from each other. This year's

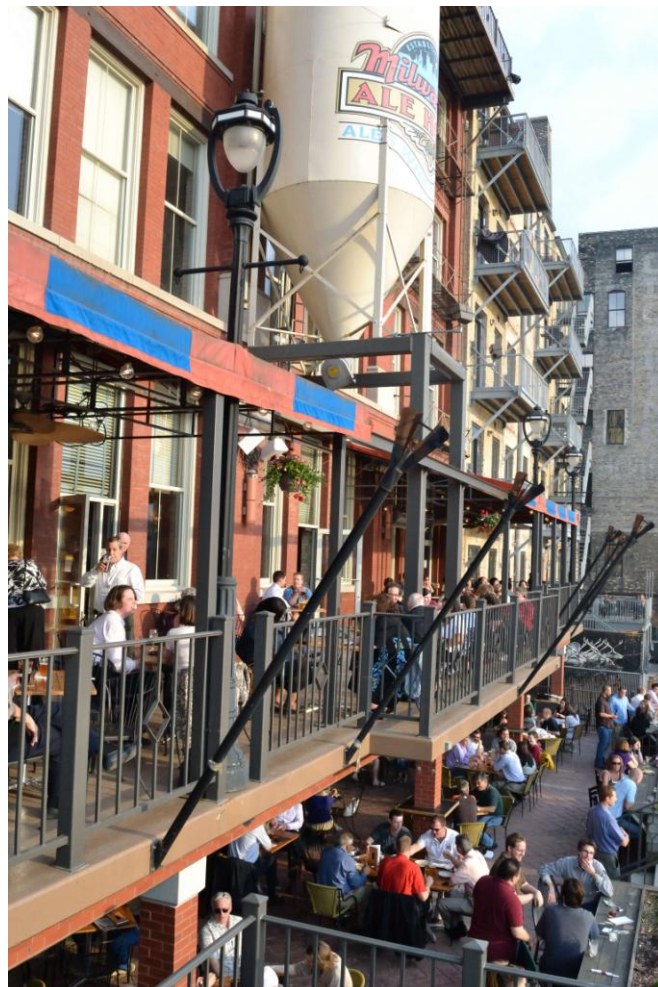
conference included over 100 sessions led by customers, including 21 on Voyager, 18 on Aleph, and a representative mix covering all other products and including an informative session by and about the Alma Development Partner experience. If you missed ELUNA, or missed a session you wanted to attend, you can find the ELUNA 2011 presentations in the ELUNA Document Repository, under the ELUNA Conference Proceedings/ 2011 division headings (<http://documents.el-una.org/view/divisions/eluna=5Fconf/2011.html>).

New to ELUNA this year was the onsite participation of invited corporate sponsors. The conference planners were pleased to see that many attendees took this opportunity to converse with representatives of firms they already work with and to learn more about others. We also appreciate the funding provided for the conference by these organizations, and we will be inviting these and other sponsors to take part in ELUNA 2012.

While change was definitely in the air at ELUNA 2011, some things remain constant, such as the pleasant results that occur when one combines food, beverages, and ELUNA attendees with some time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. ELUNA 2011 offered several opportunities for social networking including the opening night reception sponsored by Ex Libris at the Milwaukee Public Museum and the ELUNA networking evening at the Milwaukee Ale House. The unseasonably cool and blustery weather we had during most of the conference even took a night off to let the Ale House's outdoor patio (see photo below) overlooking the Milwaukee River be put to good use by some of the nearly 300 people who bought a ticket to that event.

Thanks go out to all of you who helped put on the 2011 Conference including the Local Arrangements team led by Ewa Barczyk and Susan Foran of UW Milwaukee, and the Conference Program Planning Committee led by Sherrie Kristin of Purdue-Calumet. And obviously the dozens of ELUNA members who put the effort into making a presentation or a poster session deserve a round of applause.

Whether you attended or missed ELUNA 2011, we hope to see you in Salt Lake City next May for ELUNA 2012!



ELUNA guests on the outdoor balcony of the Milwaukee Ale House

ALMA

A conversation between Ex Libris and Alma Development Partners

Janet Lute, Princeton University



This Q&A is based on one presented at ALA in New Orleans, June 2011.

Asking the questions for Ex Libris:

- Susan Stearns, Vice President of Strategic Partnerships

Representing the Alma partners:

- Diane Braden, Head of Monographic Services, Boston College
- Patricia Kantner, Head, Resource Services, Purdue University
- Janet Lute, ILS Coordinator, Princeton University

Susan: What have been the challenges as you've begun actually testing Alma via the Partner Releases?

Pat: Finding the time to do it has been the main challenge. Beyond that, the development process is different from anything most of us have done before, so it's a constant challenge to explain to staff why pieces of the system are missing.

Diane: Keeping an open mind and fresh eye to new ways of doing things without comparing to current workflows requires constant "reminders to self".

Janet: Remembering that this is Development, not beta testing.

Susan: What has changed as we've moved from Partner Release 1 to 2 to 3?

Diane: Each release expands the functionality into a greater whole, making the system feel more "real", and workflows are developing based on user roles and tasks.

Janet: The General configuration (back back office/systems administration) is much more complete in PR3.

Pat: Each release gains intuitive points for me, as functions are being streamlined. Fewer clicks, more productive actions with each click.

Susan: How would you characterize how Ex Libris has responded to the Partner input and feedback, particularly during the PR testing?

Pat: Very responsive. I have not yet heard anyone say no, we can't do that, it is always we'll make a note of this and investigate.

Diane: It is rewarding to see the results of our feedback made real in the sequence of PRs. Our comments are taken seriously and often lead to extended correspondence or phone calls to clarify.

Janet: Ex Libris staff are willing to have their minds changed – even if an issue is closed and we don't like the answer they will reopen the incident and do further investigation.

Susan: Overall, how would you characterize your experience as and the benefits you have gained by being a Development Partner for Alma?

Janet: It can be intellectually challenging but enormously rewarding experience to think that we are helping to influence a future product.

Pat: Helping to create a system that is needed for the evolving library workspace, print to electronic to digital.

Diane: It's an excellent exercise to try to think fresh about processes and workflows and consider entirely new ways to look at our work. It's also satisfying to be able to share frustrations in our current environment and see a system develop that attempts to solve those problems.

Ex Libris has a number of webinars on Alma planned. See <http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/Webinars> for more information.

Product Working Group Reports:

Aleph:

Steve Thomas, Chair Aleph PWG

Let me begin by introducing myself. I am Steve Thomas, a systems librarian at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK). UTK has been an Aleph site since the fall of 2003. I assisted with the migration to Aleph from our previous automated library system and I have continue to work with system on a daily basis, in tasks ranging from the batch loading of records for electronic resources to producing various reports needed for collection development activities. I am beginning my second year with Aleph PWG and now have the privilege of serving as the group's chair for 2011-2012. I am looking forward to working with the other PWG members and each of you as together we strive to improve the overall Aleph product. If you wish to contact me directly, I may be reached at stevethomas@utk.edu.

Although the current PWG membership is listed on EL Commons, I want to mention them here as well. The other members from the class 2012 are: Michael Edwards, Hampshire College, maedwards@hampshire.edu; and Christine Moulen, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, orbitee@mit.edu. Michael is now serving as our enhancements coordinator, a role held by Christine for several years. The members of the class of 2013 are: Bill Jones, New York University Libraries, william.jones@nyu.edu; Allison Powers, Harvard University Library, allison_powers@harvard.edu; and Bill Slauenwhite, The Consortium of Nova Scotia Academic Libraries, bill.slauenwhite@novanet.ns.ca. Bill Jones, who had served in the class of 2011, is

beginning another two-year term with the PWG. Allison and Bill Slauenwhite are the PWG's true freshmen members. Our ex-officio members are Jean Phillips, Florida Center for Library Automation, jeanp@ufl.edu (who served as last year chair) and Sue Julich, University of Iowa, suzanne-julich@uiowa.edu (who continues as liaison between the PWG and the ELUNA Steering Committee). I have gone to this much detail because I think it is important that you have this information about the Aleph PWG available to you from multiple sources. During our most recent conference call, one of the issues the PWG considered was how we could improve communications between members of the Aleph user group and the PWG. Any of the PWG would welcome hearing from you if you have issues, concerns, or questions that the group could address or represent to the ELUNA Steering Committee on your behalf.

Per the PWG's published guidelines, one of our two major tasks is "Organizing and shepherding the Aleph enhancement process each year." Towards that end, we have a new group of module coordinators helping us prepare for this enhancement request review. Here is their contact information. Please make use of these individuals if you have concerns about the enhancement requests for any particular Aleph module.

ACQ:	Kevin Collins	Stony Brook University
CAT	Shelley Neville	LDS Church History Department
CIRC	Cassandra Fox	MIT Libraries
ILL	Linda Allbee	ODIN
OPAC	Meiling Jiao	University at Albany, SUNY
SYS	Steve Bischof	Five Colleges, Inc.

It should come as no surprise that the enhancement process has consumed the lion's share of the PWG's attention this year. What you might not know is that we have been working (and continue to work) with our counterparts in IGeLU and Carmit Marcus from Ex Libris in attempts to streamline the process. We are seeking ways to approve the exchange of information, particularly during the "pointing" process by Ex Libris between the initial and final rounds of voting by the ELUNA members.

At the May 2011 ELUNA conference, the main source of announcements concerning Aleph came during the

product update presentation by Carmit Marcus. Perhaps the two most important of these were (1) the numerous enhancements slated for version 21, which has an expected release date of December 2011 and (2) that, rather than issuing any minor releases, another major release is being planned: version 22 has an anticipated release date of December 2012. Additionally, although preparing clients to migrate from Aleph to Alma is a clearly a priority for Ex Libris, the company understands that not everyone will be willing or able to make sure a move right away. Carmit noted more than once that Aleph would continue to be supported for the foreseeable future and that the company will provide an easy migration route from current Aleph releases to Alma.

Much of Carmit's presentation was, quite literally, a listing of the many, many enhancements planned for version 21. There were over 30 significant changes planned for version 21 that I was able to catch in my notes. I considered enumerating those changes here, but simply listing the items as bullet points would require nearly a page. Instead, let me remind you here on the six changes that are slated to be a part of this release because of your voting in the 2010 enhancement review cycle.

- SYS-04: need one AVA per location not per sub-library;
- CAT-03: cataloging edit menu enhancement;
- ACQ-03: encumbrances renewed may be on based on last paid amount;
- CIRC-03: multi-item display in Course Reserves;
- CIRC-04: log changes to patron records;
- ILL-03: patron status display in ILL request

Because that review cycle had taken so long, the group decided to use all our carry-over points and all of our 2011 points for two big-ticket items that placed seventh and eighth in the most recent round of voting (CIRC-02: changing the name field in fast patron registration back to two fields; SYS-03: expanding the Z308_REC_KEY for PDS/Shibboleth authentication). Because of the number of database changes involved in these requests, they are too late to be included in version 21, but are now slated for version 22.

In closing, recall that a little earlier I mentioned the enhancement process was one of two major tasks of the PWG. The second task is shepherding the Aleph product track during the ELUNA annual conference. It is not too early to be planning for May 2012! Please let us know if you have ideas or suggestions

concerning the types of programs you would like to see. The PWG will do our best to meet your needs.

Voyager:

Ted Schwitzner, Chair Voyager PWG

Coming Plans for 2011-2012

The next year looks to be as active for the Voyager Product Working Group as the last was. In 2010, we collaborated with our peers in IGeLU to ballot enhancements for Voyager 8.2. Already this year we have verified the enhancement specifications to Ex Libris. We expect that Ex Libris will request our assistance again as plans develop for Voyager version 9.0. Moreover, the last round of balloting alerted us again to the difficulty in balloting enhancements for Voyager “extension modules” such as ILL and Media Scheduling. Our team is investigating how we might provide Ex Libris with information as to how extensions might get into the enhancement queue.

The VPWG will also be working to improve our visibility and relevance to what you do daily. We will be working on providing more documentation on the ELUNA Web Site, <http://el-una.org/product-groups/voyager/>, where you may currently find our roster and our organizational documents. We hope to communicate to you more frequently via Voyager-L, and of course, we would like to hear feedback from you, on activities, enhancements, product needs. We are here to help advocate for Voyager users. Thanks to VPWG Alumni and Welcome New Members

At the end of the ELUNA 2011 Conference, several Voyager Product Working Group members completed their terms of service. Each contributed in unique and substantial ways, and we recognize and thank them here:

Emily Batista, University of Pennsylvania—served as Chair and past-Chair

Merritt Lennox, Syracuse University—served as enhancements co-coordinator

Jean Vik, University of Texas at Dallas—served as conference liaison

Melissa Wisner, Yale University—served as documentation coordinator

Best wishes in your post-VPWG activities.

Meanwhile, we have welcomed Birong Ho and Beth Williams to the VPWG. Our roster, as posted on the ELUNA web site, is:

Scott Gillies, Georgia Gwinnett College

Birong Ho, Western Michigan University

Sherrie Kristin, Purdue University Calumet
Lesli Moore, Texas Health Science Libraries Consortium

Beth Williams, Mansfield University

Ted Schwitzner (Chair), Illinois State University

John Greer (ELUNA Steering Committee Liaison to VPWG), University of Montana

Habib Tabatabai (IGeLU VPWG Chair—ex officio), University of Central Oklahoma.

Shout Out to Non-United States ELUNA Members

The VPWG wants to ensure that we represent all North American Voyager sites, since we know that business, university, and library practices outside the United States can experience some different challenges. If you are an ELUNA Member outside of the USA, please let us know if there are concerns that we should be considering and sharing with Ex Libris and the ELUNA Steering Committee. We would also like to invite you to consider membership in the VPWG in the future. Help us keep sight of the bigger picture of library needs.

Voyager List for Hosted Customers

Voyager-Hosted is an unmoderated discussion list for users of Ex Libris' RITS platform. It's a way for users to share alerts and information specifically about that service, such as questions about connectivity or response problems. It's an extremely low-traffic list. The only messages are generally the rare “Our catalog seems to be off line, is anyone else having that issue” posting. (Discussions of Voyager and other Ex Libris products should be posted to the regular lists like Voyager-L or the Voyager Administrators list.)

VOYAGER-HOSTED subscription and access to archives are at the following address: <https://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=VOYAGER-HOSTED> Please note that you must be a current list subscriber to access these archives.

Please be aware that for your subscription request to be approved, you *must* be either a current staff member at an institution that has signed a contract for Ex Libris software, or a current employee of Ex Libris, Ltd., or one of its affiliates. If one of these relationships is not clear from your request – for example, if you submit your subscription from a domain other than that of your employer (e.g., barney_rubble@yahoo.com) – you may be asked to provide evidence of your eligibility to subscribe.



Plenary session on Next Generation system at ELUNA 2011

MetaLib:

Mark Needleman, Chair MetaLib PWG

This short report is to update Folks about the activities of the MetaLib Product Working Group. Probably the major event that has happened recently was ELUNA in Milwaukee in May of 2011. The MetaLib Product Working Group had an active presence at the conference, putting on several sessions including:

- Metalib product Update
- Metalib X Server SIG
- Meta-Searching in MetaLib: the Primo Central pilot at the University of Auckland Library
- MetaLib Product Working Group Session
- Experiences with the Primo Central Index

One of the most interesting events at the conference was Ex Libris' announcement of and presentation on a new product called MetaLib Plus. MetaLib Plus is a version of MetaLib that combines searching the centralized Primo Central index for fast retrieval times, with the ability to also do federated searching against remote resources that are not included in the primo Central Index (such as locally created resources or resources that may not yet be included in Primo Central for some reason)

Most of the presentations given at the MetaLib (and other) sessions at ELUNA 2011 can be found online at [http:// http://documents.el-una.org/view/divisions/eluna=5Fconf/2011.html](http://http://documents.el-una.org/view/divisions/eluna=5Fconf/2011.html)

The IGELU/ELUNA NERS voting process for adding MetaLib continues to progress. We recently completed the 5th round of voting and submitted the winning resources to Ex Libris for consideration. Voting on requests for additions to the MetaLib CKB is an ongoing process. I would encourage all ELUNA members to submit their desired resources and to cast their votes which can be done at <https://ners.igelu.org>

Finally let me take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new chair of the ELUNA MetaLib Product Working Group. My name is Mark Needleman and I am from the Florida Center for Library Automation. One of our goals is to be as useful to the ELUNA membership as possible, to reflect your needs and to help out in any way that we can. If there is anything the MetaLib Product Working Group can do for you please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at: mneedlem@ufl.edu (352) 392-9020 x265



Breakout session at ELUNA 2011

Primo:

Michael North, Chair PRIMO PWG

The Primo PWG is back to work following a very successful ELUNA conference in Milwaukee. The interest level, and the corresponding number of Primo sessions provided, continues to rise. The increased presence of Primo sessions in the Technical

Seminars was also considered by many to be an enhancement to the general ELUNA conference schedule. The Primo PWG is already thinking of ways to improve the ELUNA Primo program and to facilitate more Primo community involvement.

This summer, Primo 3.1 was released and we should see the roll out of Primo 4 at the end of the year. Future releases of Primo service packs will see a rollout of enhancements that had been voted upon by the Primo community as part of our NERS Enhancement Process. We continue to work with Ex Libris to assist in the prioritizing and scheduling of the "top ten" enhancement requests resulting from our last round of enhancement voting.

We continue to work on improving the ELUNA Primo PWG website (<http://www.el-una.org/product-groups/primo-group/>). We have added a listing of Primo sites that have gone "production." By following the institutional links, one can see for themselves how those sites have implemented Primo. We consider this a great resource, to both developing and existing Primo sites, to help them see what others have done with Primo. It is amazing how many different and useful ways the Primo user interface has been implemented.

As another way to share general customizations of Primo, the Primo PWG (thank you Alison Hitchens) created a Primo Wiki page (<http://www.exlibrisgroup.org/display/Primo/Local+Examples+of+UI+Customization>) that can be used by users to share printscreens of their customized user interfaces.

Representatives of the MetaLib and Primo PWG's met at ELUNA to continue discussions on how best to coordinate our work, initially focusing on the Primo Central index. We are looking at ways to work more closely together going forward as areas of Primo and MetaLib overlap.

At ELUNA, Primo PWG leadership officers were elected. Kent Holaday, from Eli Lilly, will be the Vice-Chair/Chair Elect. Please take a look at the Primo PWG website for a full listing of this year's leadership officers.

SFX:

Marina Oliver, Chair SFX PWG

It was good to see so many SFX users in Milwaukee for ELUNA 2011. We had a great set of presentations again this year. The SFX Product Working Group holds a meeting each year at the conference which is open to all SFX ELUNA members. The PWG is responsible for organizing the enhancement process for SFX, developing SFX sessions for the annual conference in conjunction with the ELUNA Program Planning Committee and representing SFX users to Ex Libris. Each year at the meeting we elect officers (we also welcome volunteers). I'm pleased to introduce the 2011-2012 SFX Product Working Group:

- Chair, Marina Oliver (marina.oliver@ttu.edu)
- Past Chair, Mark Needleman (mneedlem@ufl.edu)
- Chair Elect, open
- CKB Enhancements Coordinator, Kathy Varjabedian (kv@lanl.gov)
- Software Enhancements Coordinator, Janet Arth (arth@umn.edu)
- SFX ELUNA Program Chair, Sunshine Carter (scarter@d.umn.edu)
- Director at large, Kate Montgomery (kmontgom@tulane.edu)
- Communications Coordinator, open

We are still in the process of accepting nominations for the positions of Chair Elect and Communications Coordinator; please contact me if you are interested in serving in either of these positions.

After the meeting we began working with the IGeLU SFX PWG on the software enhancement process. Janet Arth (ELUNA) and Inga Overkamp (IGeLU) will be coordinating the process for all of us. More information on the schedule, voting and results will be posted to the SFX list in the coming weeks. This will be your opportunity to request and vote for software changes that will continue to improve SFX for all users. In addition, don't forget to participate in the CKB enhancements process. Check the list for announcements from Kathy Varjabedian regarding the CKB voting schedule.

The SFX Product Working Group is here to help SFX users. We monitor the SFX List and are involved w/many of the issues discussed. Please feel free to contact us on any on these issues or other problems you may be having.

Verde:

Betsy Friesen, Chair Verde PWG

Three Verde user-focused programs were offered at ELUNA in May. Sessions on UStats, the gap analysis for the Electronic Resource Management Initiative (ERMI), Alma and electronic resource management (presented by Ex Libris) were offered. Presentation proceedings are available online at <http://documents.el-una.org/>. The ELUNA Verde Product Working Group (PWG) also held its annual meeting and Carmit Marcus, interim Ex Libris Verde product manager, provided a Verde Product update. (Nettie Legace, former Verde product manager left Ex Libris shortly before the conference.) Discussion at both the product update and the PWG meeting centered around three topics: the SFX4.1/Verde upgrade, the Verde to Alma-E upgrade, and UStats enhancements.

SFX4.1/Verde update

According to Carmit Marcus, there had not yet been many Verde users that had entirely upgraded to SFX4.1/Verde. Many sites had upgraded SFX, but were not using the publish/harvest mechanism. Sites that had made the switch were reporting few problems. There were questions from the audience regarding Verde users' participation in the SFX CKB enhancement process. The Verde PWG desires a role in the SFX CKB enhancement process. Concerns were also expressed from ASP users that documentation did not note differences for ASP customers, particularly in regard to upgrades. The Verde PWG will follow-up on this.

Alma-E

When Verde development ceased, Ex Libris stated that the next upgrade for Verde customers would be Alma (then called the Unified Resource Management). As the release of Alma approaches, Verde users are increasingly interested in what features will be included in Verde-E. Marcus answered that trail, licensing and evaluation will be in Alma-E. Users want to make sure that all fields are reportable in the new system, that 'local resources', particularly A&I databases can be maintained in

Alma-E and that SFX analytic tools will be available in Alma. Ex Libris estimates migration for Verde customers would begin after the Early Adopters have gone live, perhaps in Q4/2013 or Q1/2014. No 'end-of-life' has been announced for Verde.

UStat

Additions to SUSHI compliant vendors in UStat were delayed due to work on the SFX4.1/Verde upgrade. Ex Libris added several more SUSHI vendors to UStat in April and July. Verde and SFX customers are encouraged to work with their publishers to add their names to the SUSHI registry. Ex Libris also formed a Cost Usage Focus group in March to work on cost-per-use-analysis in Verde.

Current Verde Product Working Group members are:

- Betsy Friesen, Chair, 2009-2013
- Abigail Bordeaux, Past Chair, 2009-2012
- Allison Ehrhardt, 2010-2012
- Julie Loder, 2010-2012
- Elizabeth Winter, 2009-2011
- Laura Morse, ex officio, ELUNA Steering Committee liaison

The Verde PWG is looking for new members. If users are interested in joining the group, they may contact Betsy Friesen at b-frie@umn.edu. Our new Verde product manager is Sharona Sagi.

DigiTool:

Pascal Calarco

At the DigiTool PWG meeting at ELUNA, Pascal Calarco, University of Notre Dame, Naomi Stienberger, Jewish Theological Seminary and Sarit Kozokin, Alma & DigiTool Product Manager, discussed the state of the PWG, and agreed that the best way forward was to have one consolidated PWG globally, with IGeLU as the administrative hub. Naomi Stienberger agreed to take responsibility for ELUNA program planning for DigiTool starting with ELUNA 2012. The ELUNA Bylaws state that if there is no ELUNA PWG Chair, the liaison for that PWG will act in that capacity. We agreed this was not necessary, but that it would be very good to have Edward Corrado attend monthly DigiTool PWG calls with the Product Manager and IGeLU colleagues.

Pascal Calarco also discussed a possible unified PWG between DigiTool and Rosetta for ELUNA with Sarit, Rosetta Product Manager, Ido Peled, and Edward Corrado, Binghamton University. All agreed this was not a useful approach since DigiTool will become Alma Digital in about 18 months, with all DigiTool customers migrating to that platform, whereas Rosetta will stand on its own as a separate product.



ELUNA Steering Committee has a working lunch with Ex Libris executives at ELUNA 2011



One of the "streets" in the Milwaukee Public Museum

Join **ELUNA** now!

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

Laura Morse
Chair, ELUNA Steering Committee

ELUNA is an independent not for profit organization; we are not funded by 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/>.



ELUNA Visitors are greeted at the Milwaukee Public Museum