

## **ALA Annual Conference 2009**

Sunday, 7/12/2009

### **3:30 pm - 5:30 pm: Evaluating next-gen catalogs**

>>Ross Shanley-Roberts, U. Miami

Miami Solr catalog: \*\*\*Get slides!\*\*\*

Separate discovery layer alongside OPAC (which will remain available). Alternative, not replacement.

Open-source tools. PHP too slow, so used Perl on data loaded & updated to mysql db.

[code.google.com/p/multifacet-indexer](http://code.google.com/p/multifacet-indexer)

ILS > Expect > circ > mysql < Perl < Google Books, LCSH, Hathi Trust

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UM digital > Apache Solr engine

collections

Feedback form to collect input on a continuing basis during beta.

Usability study: Seven questions from Yale VUFind report. Task-based study.

Function to send results to phone no. user enters -- via SMS??

Pop-up window for tagging. Tagging by professor name at academic school for class-based collections.

Users wanted linked author names.

Stuff on the right was ignored; moved faceted search links to the left.

Links to send text in selected cite formats or submit to Refworks (EndNote?)

Users ignored tabs for 'material type' or other subcollections.

'Browse' link was supposed to take users to collection of headings. Was ignored/misunderstood.

>> Eli Nieburger, AADL.o.org, Ann Arbor, MI

Evaluating aadl's Next Gen Catalog.

SOPAC: social OPAC -- tagging, reviews, etc.

Save card catalog (if it had ever been made; allows comments)

Limited reviews, even more limited ratings of reviews & comments on reviews (duh)

90-9-1 Rule: 1% contribute, 9% edit existing stuff, 90% silent.

Tags caught on and the growth rate surged in Jan. 2008. Comments grew at stable rate.

Top pages: Search results, card catalog images, home page, catalog start page, etc.

RSs relatively popular. My account not that popular.

Placed enhanced features to right, past 800px to avoid further overloading user attention.

No promotion/explanation of tagging to see whether it would be adopted on its own; it was.

Set up usability site: usability.aadl.org using Infomachy (?). Not scientific & full of selection bias, but cheap & useful. Uses RubyOnRails to collect user input.

Includes heat maps that collect user click spots; multiple choice with answers defined at config.