

Open Forum: The Future of Library Systems

Moderated by: Maria Collins, NCSU

Program Description: Join your NASIG colleagues discussing new options for ILS provision from open source providers, OCLC, and the Open Library Environment (OLE) Project. The discussion will center on options currently available and potential opportunities and challenges they offer. Come and brainstorm some possible serial futures in an open-source or cooperative processing environment. How can we best take serials management into the cloud-computing and distributed networks of the near future?

A Few Open Source ILS Providers:

Avanti: Avanti Library Systems is the producer of [MicroLCS](http://www.avantilibrariansystems.com/), an efficient and easy to use open source OPAC and cataloging system for use in small libraries. URL: <http://www.avantilibrariansystems.com/>

Evergreen: Evergreen is an enterprise-class library automation system that helps library patrons find library materials, and helps libraries manage, catalog, and circulate those materials, no matter how large or complex the libraries. URL: <http://www.open-ils.org/>

Koha: In use worldwide in libraries of all sizes, Koha is a true enterprise-class ILS with comprehensive functionality including basic or advanced options. Koha includes modules for circulation, cataloging, acquisitions, serials, reserves, patron management, branch relationships, and more. URL: <http://koha.org/>

Learning Access Institute: The LearningAccess ILS is a Standards-based, Fully integrated, Flexible and Open library automation system, easy to use, yet powerful and completely Web-based for today's demanding information needs. URL: <http://www.learningaccess.org/>

OCLC Web Scale: OCLC plans to release Web-scale delivery and circulation, print and electronic acquisitions, and license management components to WorldCat Local, continuing the integration of library management services to create the Web-scale, cooperative library service. OCLC will begin piloting the Web-scale management service components this year. URL: <http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/200927.htm>

OLE Project: The goal of the Open Library Environment Project is to define a next-generation technology environment based on a thoroughly re-examined model of library operations and connected to other enterprise technology systems. URL: <http://oleproject.org/>

Definitions:

Cloud Computing: is a style of computing in which dynamically scalable and often virtualized resources are provided as a service over the Internet. The concept incorporates infrastructure as a service (IaaS), platform as a service (PaaS), and software as a service (SaaS) as well as other recent technology trends that have the common theme of reliance on the Internet to satisfying the computing needs of the users.

URL: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_computing

Distributed Networking: is a distributed computer operating system said to be “distributed” when the computer programming and the data to be worked on are spread out over more than one computer, usually over a network.

URL: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distributed_Networking

Open source: is an approach to design, development, and distribution offering practical accessibility to a product’s source (goods and knowledge). Some consider open source as one of the various possible design approaches, while others consider it a critical strategic element of their operations.

URL: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_source

Mark Dahl from Lewis & Clark College: provides a good slide show explaining some of the changes he sees coming: <http://synthesize-specialize-mobilize.blogspot.com/2009/04/gathering-storm.html>