We're jamun... and we hope you like jamun too...

code4lib North, May 6th 2011
Mita Williams, Leddy Library

Many libraries are now investing in commercial Discovery Layers

What are the problems we are trying to solve with discovery layers?

- "siloed" content

- desire to surface more content and content types

- single "google-like" search

What problems come bundled with discovery layers?

- how to handle relevancy across very different content types (full-text of a book vs. a title of a book vs. a title of an article)

- local content gets buried

- proprietary content

- users must go to the library website to start process

- discipline specific approaches are lost

- we are outsourcing the development of the digital library

An aside: more titles do not help our undergraduate students*

2008: "looking at use of one of the market leaders at 14 largely undergraduate institutions, **4% of titles accounted for half of downloads**, and these were largely popular titles; **articles in 40% of full text journals** were **not downloaded even once** at all 14 institutions.

Chasing Our Long Tails
http://acrlog.org/2008/07/18/chasing-our-long-tails/

Aggregated interdisciplinary databases and the needs of undergraduate researchers
Portal : Libraries and the Academy [1531-2542] Fister yr:2008 vol:8 iss:3 pg:273
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v008/8.3.fister.html

* so please stop saying that you are doing it for the children

Alright already, what does jamun do?

It is a **presentation scheme** that makes use of **some novel indexing** to bring forward **local** library content and **customized** coverage

It is based on the great usability work done by the library team at NCSU Libraries

jamun
https://github.com/artunit/jamun

What is jamun made of?

- apache tomcat (for java servlets)
- apache solr (for indexing)

- shortly (perhaps this Saturday) we will link this to drupal7,
  [which should be possible since it could be done with drupal6](#)

- we need to make it purdy

Google Book Shelf Shelver

Art Rhyno added 100K of our 200K of library ISBNs into Google Book Shelf to enable a search "within the Leddy Library's books" feature of over 60K items (could also add LCCNs)

We are still waiting to hear from Google whether such an application is "ok"

We already see at the reference desk how the Google-powered "search within the book" makes print more attractive to students

https://github.com/artunit/gbook

Google Custom Search Engine

- costs $100 annually for no ads, otherwise free

- API allows for customization, such as automatically adding ezproxy links when needed

- also brings web content from publishers such as Nature, which might be more valuable than the articles

- allows us to ask the question, what do *we* want to index?

Ewwww, not Google...

Fine then, roll your own:

http://developer.yahoo.com/search/boss/

http://boardreader.com/fp/Microsoft_Forums_1736468/
Microsoft_Academic_Search_10789682.html
(API forthcoming?)

http://zooie.wordpress.com/2009/07/06/a-comparison-of-open-source-search-engines-and-indexing-twitter

Discovery layers need space for innovation. We tend to lock in too early

- Dspace

- Overdrive

- your example here

Other development space

- imagine a search option that would allow students to search readings from a body of course reading assignments and syllabi from their institution over many years

- imagine a search option that would allow students to search readings from the corpus of course readings and syllabi from all higher education institutions over time

- in other words, what if we all started dipping into Syrup?

Is discovery limited to a web interface?

DAAP server code could mean library collections accessible through zeroconf service discovery

https://github.com/rkapsi/daap

Browsing via coverflow available to webdav

Annual budget cuts are upon us

I would rather invest in people than to licence use of software

Thank you