Electronic Catalogue of the University Library: more than just a catalogue (an example from National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy Library)

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Work experience of each library is as unique as personal one. It concerns all fields of the library activity: collection development, library management and services etc. The main library mission is to support all needs of the university community or every other community for which library works.

Here we would like to tell about the one Library's experience of creating and maintaining of the library online catalogue. The catalogue that not only fits for the searching in all traditional library resources but the catalogue that helps to communicate with the library patrons, the catalogue that could even deliver the information to every member of the library community.

Libraries in Ukraine

Ukraine has quite diverse library network. It consists of 37 466 libraries, among them 18 000 are public libraries, the rest are academic, medical, school, special etc. We have 9 national libraries. The major challenges that faced our libraries are: postcomunistic factor (for more than 70 years libraries had been working as ideological centers), the bad state funding and support, the absence of many very important standards for some processes, the lack of personnel. Because of some reasons the amount of libraries is shortening, especially in the countryside. The level of libraries development differs from library to library. The most developed are national libraries, state level libraries, regional libraries, and academic libraries. They have their own information resources: websites, catalogues, electronic libraries and other resources. On the other hand, only 12% of public libraries have Internet access and only 2% of them have their own e-catalogues.

There are no corporate projects in cataloguing in the country and there is no intention to do it. There are no coordinated cataloguing standards (in use MARC 21 and UniMARC at the same time), there are no attempts to even discuss on the cataloguing problems of electronic resources or RDA implementation. Federative search and discovery systems are used only in some lonely libraries in the country. There is no Bibliographic Records Creation and Dissemination Center at the national level. The same situation is with authority data. In spite of all these problems we are developing and trying to support main progressive initiatives in the contemporary library and information science.

Library of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA)

NaUKMA Library is a library of one of the oldest universities in Ukraine (was founded in 1615 and revived in 1992.
Library main patrons' categories are:
- More than 3500 BA and MA students from 6 faculties of the University;
- University professors and staff;
- Patrons who do not belong to NaUKMA community (for example, patrons of the public library – Viktor Kytasty American Library).

By the Jan. the 1st 2014 the number of our patrons has reached 7 269.

Web OPAC at the NaUKMA Library

The automation project at the Library has been started in 1996 with implementing the Integrated Library System (ILS) ALEPH 500 (Ex Libris Ltd, Israel).

The MARC format for Bibliographic and Authority data representation is MARC 21.

Now the library catalogue[1] counts more than 300 000 bibliographic records, more than 600 000 items, 700+ authority records, 13 virtual collections including American Library which is public one and has got 2 separate virtual collections.

The library uses many options that were provided by the developer of our ILS and the library uses options that were created by other users of our ILS (the same ILS). As an example we can name the lists of the related editions in the full view of the bibliographic record and several possibilities for the new acquisitions virtual collection[2].

General principles of the catalogue structure we are trying to follow:

- User-friendly intuitive interface;
- Simple, natural, understandable language;
- Broad possibilities for searching – the ability to browse, to make the simple search and the advanced search. Patrons can search in many fields of the bibliographic record that consist the important information for the searching.
- Broad tools for search results processing - the ability to rank, refine, filter search results. There is the capacity to add the selected records from the search results to My e-shelf to safe them for the further work. Also it exists the possibility to e-mail results or safe them on the local computer.
- For more comfortable search - the library catalogue is divided into 13 virtual collections. The virtual collection is a logical base that separated conventionally from the general library catalogue. It helps to find materials by some attributes. For example, virtual collection Periodicals joins all periodicals that exist at the library regardless of physical location of items; virtual collection of Multimedia includes all direct access electronic resources (CD, DVD) and audiovisual materials etc.
  Each virtual collection gives just the same possibilities to search and refine search in.

So, we can say that we use the basic principles that fit the requirements of usability and some Web 2.0 recommendations - we are trying to organize the simplest way to find and understand the information for our patrons.

The catalogue interface is designed in 2 languages: Ukrainian and English (English is the second official work language at the University).

Main features of the library e-catalogue:

It is generally known that the process of the searching and obtaining of information is inseparable from the educational process.

And it is very important thing for the educational and researching process to make the way of delivering information to the end user simpler. This is one of the main tasks and challenges of the University library catalogue. How could library catalogue to fulfill all this demands? The Library seeks different ways to improve the online catalogue quality:

- Because our library is an academic one, the catalogue has special virtual collection for Course Reserves[3]. Collection consists of course-related materials that recommended by the University professors for a course of studies. Collection gives access to the different

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[1] Web address of the library online catalogue : http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F
[2] Web address of the "New acquisition" virtual collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=find-b-0&local_base=new&CON_LNG=ENG
[3] Web address of the "Course Reserves" virtual collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=find-b-0&local_base=courses&CON_LNG=ENG

types of documents: as traditional paper books that need to be requested through the e-catalogue as full text electronic documents provided by University professors.

- Catalogue provides simple work with new acquisitions. Because of big importance of new documents for the University community we are trying to make information about new acquisitions as broad and opened as possible to every member of the community. The precondition of this: information on new arrivals appears first of all in the electronic catalogue.
  There are special facilities in the electronic catalogue to inform about new acquisitions. First of all: there is virtual collection of new acquisitions[4] where patrons may find all new arrivals added in the last 180 days.
  In addition there is possibility to have got the delivery of information on new acquisitions via e-mail and RSS feeds. Patrons may use two ways to choose the subject on which they would like to receive the information on new acquisitions. The first one is accessible for any user of the library catalogue. Each of them is able to do the subscription for information on new acquisition on the subjects that are determined by the library. The list of accessible subjects is quite broad and focused on the departments of the University. The second way exists only for registered library patrons. This is the SDI request (Selective Dissemination of Information) (Fig. 1). Any SDI request could be created through the current search results list or through the list of previous searches. It means that SDI request hasn't any boundaries in determining of the topic of interest. The patrons could receive notification about new publications on a specific field as well as new journal issues that arrive at the library.
  So through the SDI request patrons may also set up a frequency with which to receive necessary information, the way in which information may be sent (by e-mail or RSS), expiry date for the SDI request, the suspend period, the format of the records.

- Library catalogue gives access to the electronic resources: digitized items provided by University professors and lecturers for course learning; uploaded bibliographic records from subscribed databases give access to the electronic journals and books. There is a separate virtual collection of electronic resources[5]. Major portion of these items are accessible only in the local network of the University.

- The catalogue contains some virtual collections related to the University materials: Scholars' works[6], Publications about the University[7], materials from University Institutional Repository (eKMAir)[8], full text articles from "Scientific papers of NaUKMA" serials[9].

- The part of the catalogue – the American library catalogue[10]. Viktor Kytasty American Library is a public library. This library is the one of the University library departments. The catalogue of this library contains 2 separated virtual collections that are more interesting for public library patrons. There are the Video (DVD) Collection[11] and New Acquisitions Collection of the American Library[12].

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[4] Web address of the "New acquisitions" virtual collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=find-b-0&local_base=new&CON_LNG=ENG
[5] "e-Resources" virtual collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=find-b-0&local_base=ecol&CON_LNG=ENG
[6] "NaUKMA Scholars works" virtual collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=ir&CON_LNG=ENG
[7] "Publications about the NaUKMA": http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=naukma&CON_LNG=ENG
[8] "EKMAIR" virtual collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=ekmair&CON_LNG=ENG
[9] "Scientific papers of NaUKMA" collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=nz&CON_LNG=ENG
[10] American library catalogue: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=acl01&CON_LNG=ENG
[11] Video (DVD) Collection: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=find-b-0&local_base=video&CON_LNG=ENG
[12] New Acq Collection of the American Library http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=find-b-0&local_base=acl_new&CON_LNG=ENG

- Web-OPAC is a source for extended communication with patrons. Library patrons could receive the email letters when theirs hold request is fulfilled; hold request is cancelled, courtesy notices (reminders to patrons about the end of the loan period) or overdue letters (when the term of the loan is ended).

- Catalogue has the elements of interactivity. Each library patron can became the member of library collection development team. The acquisition request via the OPAC allows the patrons to request materials for purchasing that are absent in library at the moment (Fig. 2). Special checks prevent to request items that library has in multiple copies. Patrons could check the stage of theirs acquisition requests through the Web OPAC library card. When acquisition request is fulfilled patron receives the e-mail notification.

- Authority data – Name Authority Files: Authority file of personal names University scholars[13] and Authority file of personal names[14]. Authority Files give the help in authors' names identification (as university professors as all authors in general).

- Link to Google Books Service which is displayed from record's full view. Link is available after the search query and displays from the full bibliographic record's view[15].

- As a searching aid on different topics, catalogue shows related books from the record's full view[16]. There are established such types of relationship: books frequently read by people who have borrowed this particular item, books with equal or the same subject headings, or other editions of the same published work. This option is an example of the implementing of the best practice of other libraries that work whit the same ILS[17].

Web OPAC management
The most important thing in the library online catalogue management is creation of strong relationship between technical specialists and all library departments.
It requires different work groups to maintain different functions of the ILS. There are such work groups that are related to the different system modules:
- Work group on acquisition/serials module;
- Work group on cataloguing module;
- Work group on circulation module;
- Work group on WEB-OPAC.
It is possible to maintain temporary work groups to implement the special function of the system or improve different library workflows.
All work group actions help to meet the challenges and work together with a good result.
Because all processes at the library are interrelated and aimed at a single result – creating and maintaining services that satisfy the needs of our patrons.

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[13] http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=pvs&CON_LNG=ENG
[14] http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=kma10&CON_LNG=ENG
[15] The example: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=full-set-set&set_number=651668&set_entry=000002&format=999
[16] The example: http://aleph.ukma.kiev.ua/F/?func=full-set-set&set_number=651682&set_entry=000010&format=999
17 The extension is from the University of Dundee Library (Scotland).

SDI Record (new/update)

* Mandatory fields

SDI Name :	* new acq
Print Format :	Card format ▼
Interval Count :	* 10 Days ▼
SDI Sublibrary :	* All ▼
SDI Message :	
SDI Request :	Words-all= ebsco
SDI Base List :	*

☑ Full Catalog (KMA01)   ☐ Reserves (KMA01)
☐ Periodicals (KMA01)   ☐ e-Resources (KMA01)

Alternative Email :	
Email Subject :	new acq
Expiry Date :	20141231 (yyyymmdd) ⋯
Suspend SDI from :	20140630 (yyyymmdd) ⋯ to: 20140825 (yyyymmdd) ⋯
Encoding :	

◉ Unicode / UTF-8 (recommended / default)

Delivery Mode :	○ EMail ○ RSS
	◉ Both
No Result Message :	○ Yes ◉ No

Go

Figure1. The SDI request example

Acqusition Request

You may wish to request an item that was not found in the online catalog or is missing from the shelf. To do
provide as much information as possible, including the item's title and the reason for requesting this materia

* Mandatory Fields

Author	Gann, Ernest Kellogg
Additional Author	
Title	* Soldier of fortune
Edition	
Place of Publication	New York
Publisher	
Year of Publication	
ISBN	
Series	
Information Source		if you wish to provide a URL or an address where the requested material can be found.
Reason for requesting this material	* Research

Go   Clear

Figure2. The Acquisition request example