Moving and Merging Libraries with Koha

KohaCon 2011 : Vidya Prasarak Mandal, Thane, India
Marijana Glavica, mglavica@ffzg.hr
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Zagreb, Croatia
Old libraries

- 19 department libraries

- humanities
  - philosophy, history, art history, archaeology, anthropology, ethnology, languages, literature, linguistics

- social sciences
  - psychology, pedagogy, sociology, information sciences
Old libraries (cont.)

- everything in one room: materials, librarians, users
- 1300 m² - 600,000 items - ?? librarians
  average: 65 m² - 30,000 items - 1 librarian
  ○ with differences among libraries
- usually no open access to shelves for users
Old libraries (cont.)

- libraries working primarily for faculty and students of the particular department they belong to

- opened to students and faculty from other departments, (but they could feel less comfortable than in "their" library)

- different libraries holding the same title
Old libraries for users

• students could find materials needed for their studies
• not enough items available, using photocopies
• no strict circulation rules for faculty
• 3 reading rooms for students
• 100 seats for students, 20 computers
• short opening hours
• friendly atmosphere
Library automation?

- year 2002. - project Scientific Information System for Humanities
- CDS/ISIS for cataloging
- separate databases - for every library and material type
- separate (paper) records for patron contact info
- manual circulation
- almost UNIMARC
- manually entering subfield codes
Union catalog - WebPAC

• the goal: make library collections more available by making library records visible and searchable on the Web

• first try in integration of library services

• first project utilizing free software
WebPAC

- library bibliographic data (books, journals, articles, ...)
- lists of e-journals with journal-level links
- more than 40 separate data sets, different formats
  - CDS/ISIS mst/xrf file, MARC ISO-2709, MS Excel, ...
- 350.000 records

all in one interface
• very fast

• search options
  - words from title
  - title phrase
  - begging of the title

• browsing through indexes

• limit search to material type and/or library
New library building - fast forward
Three in One

• **moving** libraries to new location
  ○ how to find your items after you move them to another location?

• **merging** old libraries collections
  ○ new library will have open access to shelves with self-check
  ○ simple and functional call number scheme is needed

• integrated library **software implementation**
  ○ librarians have never been using ILS before
National university libraries system

- National and University Library signed contract with Endeavor for Voyager (end of 2005)
- Voyager implementation for National and University Library (during 2006), production at the beginning of 2007.
- Change from UNIMARC to MARC21
- UTF-8 support problems
Preparing for Voyager

- actively involved in the project, attending education and meetings, cooperating with National and University Library (beginning of the year 2007)

- started to develop software tools for data conversion and cleaning data from errors (middle of 2007)
Data mangling - WebPAC2

- data conversion between various input and output formats (CDS/ISIS mst, MARC ISO-2709, Excel, csv,..)
- normalize differences in data structures
- combine data from two or more sources to single output (lookups)
- detect and correct (systematic) errors in source data
- generate reports for manual cleaning of errors (when necessary), calculate frequencies
- validate MARC (marclint)
- completely configurable - yaml, perl
Construction continues

- beginning of the year 2008
- public tender for RFID - ILS has to be specified in documentation
panic!

- Voyager sold to Ex Libris
- Ex Libris offered Aleph
- national project stalled

something like this:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ME7alle6Vtg
Searching for alternative solution

important stuff:

● integrated

● standards and interoperability

● ease of use for librarians, users and administrators

● direct access to the database preferred
Koha 3.0.0 Beta Released

23 March 2008

Release Notes

Koha 3 is the next-generation release of the award-winning Koha open-source integrated library system.

You can obtain Koha 3.0 Beta from the following URL:

http://download.koha.org/koha-3.00.00-beta2.tar.gz

These Release Notes cover What's New in Koha 3, information about the new Revision control system (Git), and Version-release process, pointers to Download, Installation, and Upgrade documentation, a brief introduction to the new Templates, a call to Translation and Documentation writers, and finally, Known Issues with this version.
(unusual) steps in implementation

April 3, 2008:
● Koha installation
● test migration (data was prepared before)

April 4, 2008:
● quick meeting with library manager and informatics department manager, quick agreement, no formal decision (declared later in RFP for RFID)

April 10, 2008:
● forming the working group (5 people)
● starting to work on Koha implementation (and everything else)

October 15, 2008.
● first library starts to work with Koha

don't follow if you have any other solution!
New call number system

classification part:
- first letter - floor designation (A, B, C, D, E, F)
- second letter - collection (ex library)
- two digit number - subject division

item part:
- first tree letters of author's name
- first letter of title
Subject divisions and mappings

- subject divisions made by subject librarians
- based on
  - old call number
  - classification (UDC)
  - experience and understanding of the subject
- relevant data from old databases exported in Excel table
- librarians have done mappings from old system to the new one
Why not UDC based call numbers?

- UDC was freely applied - from the perspective of particular subject collections (pedagogy books classified as sociology and similar)

- Call number system based on UDC would be very wrong for some collections, because it would not follow the user needs

- UDC is complicated to read - problem if you have open access to shelves and want to enable self-service
Data migration to Koha

- library by library
- library starts working on items immediately after migration
Items management - search for items

- Firefox plugin

screenshot
Items management - call numbers

- Suggested data filled in fields 942$h and $i with conversion scripts
- 942$h came from mappings table made by librarians
- 942$i was generated based on author and title
Items management - RFID tags

- writing data (barcodes) to RFID tags
- barcodes generated in Koha
- reading data from Koha - through window title
- RFID tag position images in items editor - random
Items for Cognitive psychology / by Sternberg, Robert J. (Record #214199)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Otpis</th>
<th>Izgubljeno</th>
<th>Oštećeno</th>
<th>Nije za posudbu</th>
<th>Zbirka</th>
<th>Location (home branch)</th>
<th>Sublocation or collection (holding branch)</th>
<th>Smještaj</th>
<th>Date acquired</th>
<th>Barkod</th>
<th>Koha date last seen</th>
<th>Inv. broj</th>
<th>Price effective from</th>
<th>Vrsta građe</th>
<th>Napomena o primjerku (javna)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Edit Item #265469

0 - Otpis
1 - Izgubljeno
4 - Oštećeno
7 - Nije za posudbu
8 - Zbirka
c - Smještaj
o - Signatura (cijela)
p - Barkod
t - Inv. broj
y - Vrsta građe
z - Napomena o primjerku (javna)

Pozicija RFID naljeplnice

suggested call number

RFID tag position

Save Changes
Writing data to RFID tags

screenshot
Reports

● help with controlling data - important!
  ○ lists of call numbers by collection
  ○ list of duplicate call numbers
  ○ list of items by collection, item type, statuses..
  ○ ...

● SQL2XLS for reporting
  ○ create directory and file with SQL query
  ○ enter URL (using the name of the directory with SQL file)
Printing labels

screenshot
Patron data

- LDAP integration
Circulation

screenshot

self-check (Dobrica)
Call numbers for closed stocks

screenshot