Library IT and LSF Plan for GFA LAS Overhaul

Since the inception of the Library Shelving Facility (LSF), staff have relied on GFA’s Library Archival System (LAS) for inventory and storage management of both local and in transit items.

A planned upgrade and migration of LAS has been tentatively set for the weekend of February 28th, 2015.

The project goals are to upgrade the LAS application and underlying database, as well as migrate the service to ITS infrastructure for hosting. Over the next several weeks staff from both the LSF and the Enterprise Systems and Services group in Library IT will validate and test the new environment to ensure a minimally disruptive transition.
Quicksearch beta Links on Library home page February 5th

Library IT and the Quicksearch Implementation team are preparing to do a code rollout for Quicksearch Beta next week.

After the code rollout staff will test Quicksearch beta. When it is determined that the code rollout was successful, our new web developer Steve Wieda will be putting a link to Quicksearch beta on the YUL homepage http://web.library.yale.edu/ the following Thursday February 5th. This will begin the public beta testing period for Quicksearch!

The link will be under the search box in “Search Orbis Catalog” section on the left side of the page. It will read “Try Quicksearch beta!” Clicking on this link will take you to http://search.library.yale.edu/. Links will also be available in the ‘Research’ box on the home page, and from the ‘Research’ drop-down in the header.

A description of the latest Quicksearch features is available in the Quicksearch blog at http://libraryunifiedsearch.commons.yale.edu/. The major enhancement rolling out next week will be to re-name the ‘Catalogs’ section to ‘Books+’. We are making this change based on undergraduate and graduate student feedback in user studies this fall. A number of other small interface changes will be made as well.

Over the next several weeks, we will be offering brief information / demo sessions. Stay tuned for more information on dates.

Please note that because Quicksearch is still in Beta, it will be supported from Monday - Friday, 8am-5pm only. It will also be subject to outages as we continue to address issues and add new features.
Fedora 4 Committers Announced

Open source software projects typically have two governance structures, one manages the leadership and strategic roadmap and the second manages the source code. Both are critical to the success of a software development initiative but when working with open source software, which allows contributions from virtually anyone, management of the source code is critical to the survival of the product.

In December 2014, Fedora 4 was officially released after two years of planning and development. Yale’s contributions to the creation of Fedora 4 includes financial commitments as well as staffing. From the Digital Library Programming Services group in Library IT, Osman Din and Eric James have made substantial contributions to the development of Fedora 4 since July 2013.

Now that Fedora 4 has moved from a beta platform to a production worthy application, the Fedora Leadership Committee recommended to form the governance structure for maintaining the source code. The nominees included the top contributing programmers from all partner institutions. Osman Din from Yale was nominated and accepted a position in the Fedora Committers group. The full list with roles and responsibilities can be viewed here.
Debra Hanken Kurtz Appointed DuraSpace CEO

From Michele Kimpton, Chief Executive Officer, DuraSpace, and Paul N. Courant, Chair, DuraSpace Board of Directors, University of Michigan, on behalf of the DuraSpace Board of Directors

Winchester, MA: It brings us great pleasure to announce that the DuraSpace Board of Directors has chosen Debra Hanken Kurtz to serve as the new CEO for the Organization. Kurtz is currently the Executive Director of the Texas Digital Library. She will begin in her new role on February 16, 2015 and establish an office in Austin, Texas to manage DuraSpace business operations.

Kurtz brings key relevant experience and skills to DuraSpace. As Executive Director of the Texas Digital Library, she managed and grew membership, operations, and services. She participates in working and planning groups for DPN and SHARE. At both Duke University and UNC Chapel Hill Libraries, Kurtz provided leadership and direction for digital collections, public websites, and early planning efforts for both libraries’ institutional repositories. She was an active partner within the Triangle Research Libraries Network and has been a voice for Kuali OLE, an open-source integrated library system built by and for academic and research libraries. Kurtz’s complete background can be found on linkedin.

The DuraSpace team and Board of Directors is enthusiastic about working with Kurtz and establishing the strategic direction for DuraSpace over the coming years in the rapidly evolving landscape of digital research and scholarship. Leveraging open source technology development to advance our communities’ goals and objectives will continue to be a focus for the DuraSpace organization.

All member organizations will have an opportunity to meet and talk with Kurtz at the upcoming DuraSpace Membership Summit in Washington DC on March 11-12. Meeting invitations and details will be sent out later this week to all member organizations.

The search was conducted by a committee of the Board, augmented by MacKenzie Smith, University Librarian at UC Davis, and Julia Trimmer, Manager Faculty Data Systems, Duke University.
We are grateful to everyone for their continued support throughout this process. As a result of your ongoing interest, engagement and participation DuraSpace is well-positioned to continue to serve our communities by providing leadership and innovation in the development and deployment of open source technologies and managed services that promote durable, persistent access to digital data.

The DuraSpace Board of Directors:

Dan Cohen, Executive Director, Digital Public Library of America

Mike Conlon, Co-Director, University of Florida Clinical and Translational Science Institute, and Director of Biomedical Informatics, UF College of Medicine

Paul N. Courant, Harold T. Shapiro Professor of Public Policy, Professor of Economics, and Professor of Information, the University of Michigan

Tom Cramer, Chief Technology Strategist and Associate Director of Digital Library Systems & Services, Stanford University

Charles J. Henry, President, Council on Library and Information Resources

Anne Jarvis, University Librarian, University of Cambridge

Heather Joseph, Executive Director, Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition

Tyler Walters, Dean of University Libraries, Virginia Tech University

Laura C. Wood, Director of Tisch Library, Tufts University

Report a Problem
Use this form to report a Library IT-related problem

Service Request
Use this form to submit a service request to Library IT
Henry Kissinger Project – Ingest Statistics

This is just a brief update to offer some ingest statistics related to the Henry Kissinger project. The digitized project will contain approximately 1,700,000 digital objects from approximately 12,800 folders.

The process of ingest includes both manual and automated processes. The Digital Library Programming group is responsible for the automated steps which basically include the creation of a Ladybird object and then publishing that object to Hydra. At this time, all objects are being ingested in a manner that prevents them from being exposed in the public Hydra interface (findit.library.yale.edu). The plan is to “turn on” the collection all at once, which is a better approach when a collection is very large and very complex. Otherwise, researchers may have a difficult time using the collection if materials were made available a little at a time, in sometimes what would seem like a random order.

As of Feb 16:
339,041 - the number of objects ingested into Hydra
4,266 - the number of folders ingested out of the approximate 12,800
7 - the number of digital files that make up an object in Hydra
2,377,553 - the actual number of files ingested into Hydra
792,655 - total objects ingested into Hydra
5,548,585 - total number files currently in Hydra
10.856 - the average time (in seconds) it takes an object to ingest into Hydra

Something to consider with the last statistic, which is actually the one we focus on the most. At the current rate, time to ingest the entire collection is approximately 213 days. For each 1/10th of a second that this rate fluctuates, the completion time increases/decreases by roughly 31 hours. If ingest was to suddenly start taking 11.8 seconds, it would push the approximate completion time to 232 days.
Library IT to update SML 315 with New Hardware

Library IT's Workstation & Technology Services group has upgraded the hardware in conference room 315 in Sterling Memorial Library.

Web and Workstation staff give the new SML 315 monitor a thumbs up before installing.

LIT staff installed an 80 inch monitor and will install a Logitech HD Pro C920 webcam with speakers, similar to what is already in use in SML 511.

After the camera upgrade, SML 315 will be better equipped for video conferencing. The upgrade replaced the projector in the room and will be completely finished by March 1st.

The upgrade to the new monitor and computer is in the room and available for use via Jason Helms.

For questions about the upgrades to SML 315 or other conference rooms in Sterling, please contact Frederick Rodriguez (frederick.rodriguez@yale.edu) or Reon Keller (reon.keller@yale.edu).
Library IT Staff attends Code4Lib 2015

Report from Eric James (eric.james@yale.edu): 450 people from around the world gathered in Portland Oregon last week for the 10th annual code4lib library technology conference.

On Monday, approximately 18 pre-conferences were held in half and full day sessions mostly comprised of demos, tutorials and discussion groups. I attended a morning session on linked data lead by Tom Johnson of DPLA and Karen Estlund of the University of Oregon. As a developer, the demonstration of the ruby gem ActiveTriples was particularly interesting in its ability to quickly model content into RDF classes and properties that can seamlessly connect to fedora 4 persistence or any extensible back end.

In the afternoon I attended a GeoBlacklight demo lead by Jack Reed and Darren Hardy of Stanford. The Stanford GeoBlacklight is a leading map collection interface that allows for spatial search, presentation, and discovery based on the development of metadata schemas, conversion workflows, and interface presentation components. The workshop focused on using the VirtualBox virtual machine and Vagrant setup environment to bring up an instance of GeoBlacklight in minutes.
On Tuesday the conference proper started with a keynote by Selena Deckelman. Her talk focused on the importance of leading the coding community based on principles of inclusion of beginners and marginal groups. The presentations on Tuesday expanded on that theme with talks focused on users, teams, developers and experiences in dealing with library technology challenges.

The presentations of Wednesday were more technically focused. Thursday morning a closing keynote was given by Andromeda Yelton who encouraged building systems with tools designed to best satisfy the “wanderlust” behind user’s and patrons’s drive to discovery. In between the 20 minute presentations were 2 hour long lighting talk session comprised of 5 minutes talks by 12 people. I thought the keynotes nicely framed the conference, the lightning talks were a great way to digest and get a pulse on what people were working on.

As a developer I was particularly interested the the presentation of tools providing facility, such as Kevin Clarke’s presentation of Packer, a dev-opts tool for deploying to virtual machines, and Stanford’s OEmbed service for offering embeddable links to their digital collections, and a presentation by Stanford’s Rob Sanderson and Naomi Dushay describing the experience attempting to integrate their ILS, digital collections, and discovery indexes.

On Thursday afternoon and Friday, I attended working groups focused on fedora 4, hydra’s support of fedora 4, content modeling, and the linked data platform. The discussions were vigorous, and it was a beneficial mental exercise to spin out the various content model concepts of collection/work/file, the distinction between the “aggregates” and “members” predicate, and how to use the LDP Direct and Indirect Containers to deal with assets, rights, and ordering proxies, although I’m afraid not much was resolved. But DPLA (Digital Public Library of America) appears very interested in furthering these concepts into usable models that may promise to be a great step forward in furthering metadata discovery and interoperability.

All in all worthwhile, keeping an eye on next year’s conference, venue TBD.
Job Opportunity: Manager, IT Infrastructure and Client Services

Title: Manager, IT Infrastructure and Client Services

STARS Requisition number: 29062BR

Position Focus:
Under the supervision of the Library Chief Technology Officer, manages and monitors the design, development, implementation, and communication of policies and practices for a sub-unit within the Library Information Technology department that supports the Yale University Library.

Responsible for maintaining a reliable and secure computing infrastructure for library staff and patrons, including network architecture, as well as identity and access management, which are strategic initiatives at both the University and Library levels. Coordinates with Yale ITS on computing infrastructure issues as needed, including serving on relevant architecture committees.

Manages Library IT Support staff. Recruits, trains, and manages a team of support technicians responsible for delivering expert, efficient, and cordial computing support to the Library’s staff, as well as some specialized patron systems.

Designs and maintains the desktop, laptop, and mobile computing environment for the Library, including hardware, OS, and productivity software suites that will be supported. Designs and supports Library audiovisual infrastructure and architecture; enhancing this infrastructure is one of the Library’s current strategic objectives. Manages a $375K+ equipment budget including a bi-annual equipment request cycle. Works on special projects as assigned by the CTO.

Library IT Client Services is a tier 1, 2, & 3 support organization focused on interacting with Library customers on a daily basis. We are the first point of contact for many IT services and our emphasis is on enhancing the productivity of our customers by providing service as reliably and efficiently as possible. Our primary objectives include providing great customer service and improving customer satisfaction.
Required Education and Experience:

- Bachelor’s Degree in related field and 5 years of experience or an equivalent combination of education and related experience.
- Demonstrated ability to manage, mentor and develop staff, including technical areas. Demonstrated exceptional customer service skills. Demonstrated ability to motivate and mobilize a team around shared goals. Demonstrated project management skills.
- Advanced skills with contemporary desktop computing technology, including Mac, Windows, and Mobile OS, hardware, and software applications.
- In-depth ability with Active Directory and its components: implementing group policy, managing computers, organizational units, users, groups, profiles, software management and deployment.
- Comprehensive, expert-level ability with desktop operating environments.
- Demonstrated ability with SQL databases and administering SQL databases.

Preferred Education, Experience and Skills:

1. Management experience in a higher education environment.
2. Demonstrated knowledge of BigFix Relevance.
4. Experience with Unix operating system.

Preferred Licenses or Certifications:

ITIL Foundations, Service Now, Microsoft Certifications.
Quicksearch beta Information Sessions Begun

To support front line/public services and troubleshooting staff after the debut of Quicksearch beta on the Library Front Door, Library IT has created an FAQ document, in case any problems are reported through these typical channels.

Additionally, Library IT has held five informational/demo sessions staff on Quicksearch beta to date, in both Bass and Hillhouse. We've gotten really great feedback from these sessions, and we encourage all staff to let us know if you have questions, comments, or other feedback on the Quicksearch beta project.

Many staff have found it useful to use Quicksearch beta as they do their daily work. Again, please be encouraged to click here and share your thoughts with the implementation team.

We are beginning to focus more now on information sessions targeted at different groups. Representatives from the Quicksearch beta implementation team will be visiting a Tech Services department meeting next month, and hope to do more information sessions for other departments and groups.

Look for more documentation, tips and other information on Quicksearch beta in the coming weeks!

Please email Kalee Sprague (kalee.sprague@yale.edu) or Jenn Nolte (jennifer.nolte@yale.edu) for questions about the info sessions, or to request a visit to your group or department.
Library IT Spotlight on: User Experience Group

The User Experience Group in Library IT is the newest unit of the LIT department. It was formed with the express purpose of keeping our patrons’ needs at the forefront of all library digital projects. The work of the group is focused on major library digital interfaces, including:

- The library’s web site, web.library.yale.edu. The web site is maintained in a Drupal content management system. We use a Yale wide Drupal instance called YaleSites.
- Major vendor-provided services such as Springshare’s products Libguides (Library subject guides), and Libcal (room scheduling and hours).
- Search interfaces such as Orbis and Articles+. A large amount of the group’s work has recently involved Quicksearch, a Blacklight search combining records from the Orbis and Morris catalogs, along with records from Articles+.
- In support of these interfaces the group does usability testing and tracks metrics.

Within this new group we have a very new position of an Emerging Digital Analyst. With this new addition we are adding communication and staff support to our portfolio of work.

The UX Group recently had time to do some strategic planning, and we reflected on the purpose of our group, our priorities and also feedback we received through the LIT Satisfaction Survey. From those reflections we’ve formed some guiding principles. In our efforts we will

- work collegially with all library staff
- communicate in multiple ways, and give staff opportunities to give us feedback
- strive to meet deadlines, and acknowledge honestly when we cannot
- focus on a service model as opposed to a project model, and include planning for ongoing support when work is completed
- use metrics to guide decisions
- work to be trusted experts in user experience

We invite you to contact any of the staff listed here with your questions and comments. We would like to hear from you.
User Experience Staff

Katie Bauer (kathleen.bauer@yale.edu)
User Experience Librarian

I'm the manager of the UX group, and also focus on usability, Google Analytics and metrics for digital interfaces. Originally from upstate New York, I grew up in a very rural area in a pretty large family with three brothers and a sister. I went to college at Mount Holyoke and studied mathematics, which I continued in a master's program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where I earned an M.S in Applied Mathematics. I taught math for several years before going into a librarianship program at SUNY Albany. I've been at Yale for 17 years in various positions in the library system.

I'm married and have two grown children in college. I live in Hamden with my husband and two dogs, and spend much of my free time enjoying the outdoors taking hikes with them (when it isn't freezing cold).

My office is in SML 510, and my phone number is 203 432 2491

Jenn Nolte (jennifer.nolte@yale.edu)
Emerging Digital Services Analyst

I grew up on the Connecticut coastline and have lived in CT my whole life. I earned a BA in English and Women's Studies from Fairfield University in 2003, and my MLIS (Master of Library and Information Science) from Southern Connecticut State University in 2013.

I've worked in SML for 11 years now, 10 of those in the Library IT office. I came to Yale in 2004 as a Catalog Assistant in the Catalog Management Team, working on the massive OCLC Reconciliation project. A year later I moved to Library IT, where I became responsible for MARC record loads to the Orbis catalog, among other duties.

Today I am responsible for supporting Articles+, the library's discovery interface for licensed e-resources. I co-chair the E-resource Access Group with our Electronic Resource Librarian, Angela Sidman.
I am involved in implementation of the Quicksearch beta service, a unified discovery service powered by Blacklight and meant to provide a single search across several library resources at one time. I run a monthly Emerging Technologies + Libraries discussion, open to all library staff and Yale community members, and I also do a good deal of communication about LIT work, including running the departmental social media accounts and compiling and sending the LIT newsletter and the Digital Initiatives newsletter. I am on the L-SARC committee, and I am also a Personal Librarian!

My office is in SML 609 and my phone is 203 432 4878. Please feel free to stop by or call and say hello! I am happy to answer any questions or refer you to someone who can.

Kalee Sprague (kalee.sprague@yale.edu)
Senior Systems Librarian for Integrated Access

I am originally from Bozeman, Montana, although I lived and attended school for many years in Billings, Montana. I earned a BA in Spanish Literature from the University of Minnesota, and my M.L.I.S. from the University of California, Berkeley.

I have worked for the Library for 18 years, first as a Database Analyst working primarily with Orbis, then as a Systems Librarian in the Programming group working with a variety of systems like Yufind, the Finding Aids database, the Orbis public interface, the new Findit digital collections system, and Quicksearch, the new Blacklight-based discovery system.

Currently I am in the User Experience group. As part of that group, I am the project manager for the Quicksearch project (http://search.library.yale.edu), coordinating the work of the Quicksearch Implementation team. In addition, I am currently the Technical Lead on the project, using technologies like Ruby on Rails, HAML, and Javascript / CSS to mold Quicksearch to meet the needs of YUL users. Occasionally I also work on the Findit digital collections interface. In support of both of these projects, I chair the Discovery and Systems Metadata group, coordinating the work of metadata specialists to identify correct metadata mappings for these two projects and create guidelines like the Discovery Metadata for Digital Materials manual. Finally, I support the production Orbis interface, the Finding Aids interface, and am a Personal Librarian. I sit in room 609 and can be reached at 203 432 7845.
Meng Tang (meng.tang@yale.edu)
CIS Support Specialist

I came to Yale as an Acquisition Assistant, and later became a Cataloging Assistant. From being a member of the Workstation Support Group to my current position in Library IT, I have had the chance to visit all the libraries, meet many people, and do many hardware and software support tasks. I love having the chance to learn new technology and the challenge of solving problems. I started learning the Drupal platform for the library’s website when I joined the UX group in late 2013 and am looking for any possible future benefits that this system can bring to us.

Steve Wieda (steven.wieda@yale.edu)
Senior Web Developer

I have worked with academic research libraries since 1998, serving both IT and administrative leadership roles centered on web communications and technologies. During that time it has been my pleasure to work with amazing people on fascinating projects that have positively impacted the institutions I have served and beyond.

At the Yale University Library, I will be leading the LibGuides 2 implementation, managing the continuing migration to YaleSites, and providing consulting services for website construction, content management, usability, and accessibility. I will also administer the YUL YaleSites/Drupal site, the Library’s various webservers, and the mailman list-servs. In the coming months I’m looking very forward to meeting as many of you as possible. Together we will build and maintain a fabulous web presence for the Yale University Library.
Quicksearch beta QuickTips, Round 1!

**Format Facets**

Often searches in the catalogs bring back a lot of material, and you might only want certain types, for example only online material (or books, or only journals). In Quicksearch beta these are both examples of format facets.

It only takes a few seconds to limit a search to a type of format. For example, limit a large number of results for the search 'diabetes' to only find digital or online material.

- Do your search, and then go into only Books+. Do that using the Books+ link on the left side or the link for 'see all 3,558 results.'
- In the resulting display, look on the left under the Format facet for the value 'Online.'

![Image of Quicksearch interface]

- Select Online, and only digital material will be displayed. You can also select Journals & Newspapers, and only online journals will be displayed. The final screenshot shows how a large search has been limited to far few items. To remove the limits, just click on the X next to the format.

**Limit to a Library Location**

Quicksearch exposes library content with facets. They make it easier than ever to explore library metadata about authors, book locations, formats, and subjects. For example, it is easy to find items in a specific library, for example the Music Library.

Do a search in Books+ and look on the left under Location:
To see all the locations for this search, click on the + to expand the list. Music Library is one of the options displayed.
Select Music Library, and only those items held in the Yale Music Library will be listed.

See all of Morris and Orbis in just 2 clicks!

Another nice feature of Quicksearch beta is the ability to see the entire Orbis, Morris, or combined catalogs at a glance. The Quicksearch beta Books+ search uses what's called a SOLR index, which allows for wider and faster keyword and indexed searches. This is what enables us to see all of our catalog quickly.

In the screencast below, watch as I call back all of Orbis and Morris together in under 3 seconds (after hitting the search button):

http://www.screencast.com/t/2xamiNvb4Iw

Using Subject Facets

The Subject facet is a great way to explore search results in various topics. Now you can also combine subjects in different ways using the facet connectors 'Any of' and 'All of.'

To see Subject facets you need to either be in Books+ or Articles+.
• In Books+ do a search for 'measles.'

• Find the Subject facet on the left. Open the facet and select some subject headings for: Vaccination, Communicable Disease Control and Prevention.

• Once these are selected you'll see the subjects listed at the top of the page. With these three subjects your search is now very narrow, with only 2 results.

You can change this to a wider search by flipping the Change the All Of indicator to Any of. This will make the search broader, picking up more records.