Transforming the online catalog through faceted browsing

Andrea Twiss-Brooks
atbrooks@uchicago.edu

Transformation of Library Services in the Digital Age Symposium
Division of Chemical Information
American Chemical Society National Meeting
New Orleans, LA, April 6-10, 2008
Overview

Background

Faceted browse/guided navigation implementation

Future directions
Why change the catalog?

What do users want from the catalog?

What resources are hidden?

Can we provide better discovery tools?
What did users tell us about the library catalog?

- Library Strategic Planning Taskforce
- LibQUAL+ 2007 Survey
  
  “I am constantly astounded by what is available, electronically, through the Library portal. But I tend to discover these resources by stumbling on them ... as I look for one search service, I discover another. I wish it did not seem so accidental.”

- Wayfinding study

  Participants indicate that search results from library catalog were difficult to interpret or even misleading.
Laying the groundwork

• Faceted browse/guided navigation study

• Faceted Browser Implementation Group

“[G]oal for this interface was to improve search and discovery over HIP, provide a more familiar and pleasant experience for Library users, and to expose additional resources not currently available through the ILS interface.”
The “old” library catalog

Try LENS, a new way to find the Library’s books, journals, e-journals, archives and other materials. Click the icon on the upper right portion of this page.
A kindler, gentler catalog

- More search assistance
- Relevancy ranking
- Enhanced content
- Tag cloud
- Embedded images
Addressing common problems
## Enhancing bibliographic records

The University of Chicago Library offers a variety of resources and tools to enhance bibliographic records. A search interface is provided to find specific bibliographic records. The interface lists options such as:

- Generosity
- Creation and interpretation
- Fighting honesty
- A blueprint for the house
- A place you couldn’t find on your own
- The treaties remain
- The potential for greatness
- The perfect collaboration
- Having the last word
- The solution can come from anywhere
- Discern nativity or pushy waiter?
- Union and harmony
- Everyone tells the story
- Playing
- An actor watches
- Playing both parts
- The art of the second banana
- The other person’s head
- Many gifts put together
- Doorknobs and pocketbooks
- Looking out the window
- Finding paniniho
- The three commandments
- You are so close
- Speaking to the public

These resources can be used to improve the quality and accuracy of bibliographic records.
More bibliographic record enhancements

Author Notes

Modern Alchemy: Occultism and the Emergence of Atomic Theory
by Morrisson, Mark S.

Mark S. Morrisson is Associate Professor and Associate Head of the Department of English at The Pennsylvania State University.

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
Results navigation by facets
New discovery tools
Additional resources/content

- Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
- Special Collections Finding Aids (EAD)
- Library web pages
- Journal metadata from SFX
- Database metadata from MetaLib
- Google Books links and records
Priestley, Joseph (1733–1804), theologian and natural philosopher, was born on 13 March 1733 at Birstall Fieldhead, West Riding of Yorkshire, about 6 miles south-west of Leeds. He was the first of six children of Jonas Priestley (1700–1779), cloth dresser, and his first wife, Mary (d. 1739), daughter of Joseph Swift, farmer and maltster of Shafton near Wakefield. Priestley was a major figure of the British Enlightenment and a notable polymath, and his publications number, in first editions, more than 150 books, pamphlets, and papers in journals. An early nineteenth-century edition of his collected works, minus the science, filled twenty-six octavo volumes and the science would have added at least five more. Remembered today primarily for his isolation and identification of oxygen, he contributed significantly to the development of chemistry and was an influential figure in the Scientific Revolution.
Previously “hidden” collections
CrossFire Beilstein Structure Searching

The University of Chicago - Chemistry Library

Contents of this document:

- About Beilstein and CrossFire
- Login to Commander/CrossFire
- Drawing Chemical Structures
- Searching Structure and Displaying Results
- Printing and Exporting Records
- Logging Off
- Advanced Searching and Where to Get Assistance
Working toward better e-journal linking
Google books links
A TEXT BOOK
OF
ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

BY
WILLIAM A. NOYES
So, what DO the users think?

"I just wanted to let you know that I really like Lens, because it gives [m]e the ability to browse the library's collection."

"LENS is great! I've been thrilled with the power and flexibility of the search engine in the past few weeks."

"... one attraction is that searches can more effectively locate BOOK CHAPTERS in edited collections ... thank you."

"Being able to narrow the search by E, time, source, and all the other facets was wonderful!"

"My love for LENS exceeds the English language's expressive capacity."
Publicity and promotion

- Website banner
- Table tents
- Giveaways
- Posters
- Live demos in library “lobbies”
Website banner
What is Lens?

Use Lens, the Library’s new search engine, to discover connections and find resources on a topic—books, journals, e-journals, archives, and more. Lens features content not found in the Library Catalog and new ways to search for the information you need.

Poster and flyers

New Content

- Archive and manuscript finding aids such as the Guide to the Enrico Fermi Collection
- Electronic reference sources such as the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
- Descriptive content for many items such as tables of contents, cover art, first chapters, summaries, excerpts, and book reviews
- Information from the Library Web site such as Library hours, floor plans, and job information

Notepads

Ongoing Developments

The University of Chicago Library is working with Medialab Solutions (http://medialab.uchicago.edu) to enhance and refine this innovative library search engine.

Using your feedback, we will continually improve Lens to help you discover useful connections, quickly and easily, from an expanding array of sources.

Click the Feedback link at the bottom of any Lens page to give us your comments.

Coming Soon...

Content
- Center for Research Libraries Catalog
- University of Chicago Digital Collections such as:
  - University Archival Photographic Files
  - A Century of Progress: The 1933-34 World’s Fair

Features
- Emailing results
- Creating lists
- Tagging
Table tents
Future directions

- Local digital projects
- Licensed database content
- Other national biographies
- Reference works
- Additional functionality
- FAQ for libraries in preparation
Local Digital Projects

Archival Photofiles

Series II: Buildings and Grounds

Search

"cresal library"  ALL  
Submit

Browse

Creator

Subject

Title

The Archival Photographic Files project comprises more than 1,400 photographs documenting the history of the University of Chicago, its programs, and communities. The Photographic Files Digital Edition is a comprehensive effort to make these images available on the Web. Initiated in February 2001, the project provides digital images from the Photofiles related to campus development and is intended to digitize as much of the entire Photofiles collection as possible. The project is a collaborative effort with the Library's Digital Initiatives group, the University's Office of Planning and Budgeting, and the University of Chicago Press.
Questions?

atbrooks@uchicago.edu
http://lens.lib.uchicago.edu

Reference: Thomas, Jimmy; Ekkel, Taco; Mouw, Jim “AquaBrowser Innovations at the University of Chicago” The Charleston Advisor, Volume 9, Number 3, January 2008, pp. 56-58