

IGeLU News in Brief, December 2012

It's a long News-in-Brief from IGeLU this edition as many activities have been taking place since the Zurich conference in September.

We hope you like this edition and read it to the end, as the order of the articles does not necessarily reflect the importance of the news for you.

Thanks for all the contributors who were kind enough to take the time sharing their news and developments in a short and readable format.

Don't forget, you can read the stories (in a more user friendly style) on the IGeLU website at www.igelu.org, and follow us on Twitter for the latest updates <https://twitter.com/igelu>.

Theo Engelman, IGeLU Steering Committee

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* GREAT NEWS ABOUT BERLIN 2013: IT IS STILL FAR AWAY *

The next IGeLU Meeting 2013 in Berlin brings rather enjoyable, but also not so pleasant ;-)
circumstances. The good news is:

This year, local organisers come from the Free University of Berlin, which is also the home institution of our IGeLU Chair (Jirka Kende).

We can be very trustful, that communication between local efforts and the Steering Committee tends to be more or less perfect.

On the other hand, things are more difficult this time. Our long standing chair of the programme planning committee, Michele Newberry, is no longer on the Steering Committee.

That is the reason why there is a lot to learn for the new persons in charge - fortunately, there is still enough time.

Until now, a new programme planning team has been set and first conference calls have been taking place. Latest news:

We are already able to present the opening keynote.

Michael Cotta-Schönberg, who is Head of Copenhagen University Library and Deputy Director General of the Danish Royal Library, will talk about "The strategic perspective for libraries 2013"

Peter Klien, IGeLU SC and Chair of the Berlin Programme Planning Committee

* HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 7TH IGeLU CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER 2012, ZÜRICH SWITZERLAND *

Nearly 400 participants from more than 30 countries gathered in September at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (known as ETH Zürich)

for the 7th IGeLU Annual meeting. Besides the sessions on company's and product development by Ex Libris, IGeLU update and two inspiring keynotes by Paul Ayriss and Sally H. McCallum, business sessions of all Product and Special Interest Working Groups were part of the programme, just as well as nearly 50 sessions and workshops on user developments and experiences with Ex Libris products. During the conference, the newly founded Special Interest Working Group on Open Linked Data had the first face to face meeting with Ex Libris developers and agreed on first steps for future collaboration. In Zurich also the first joined IGeLU Product Working Group with ELUNA was established for the next gen system Alma with early adopters of the system from all around the world.

As usual, a day before the IGeLU conference the meeting of the representatives of the National User Groups took place on Monday September 10th to discuss matters of interest with the Steering Committee and with Ex Libris.

One of the important outcomes of the INUG meeting was the commitment of Ex Libris to improve the Opac via Primo functionalities according to the user needs. Meanwhile, the list of priorities was passed to Ex Libris for evaluation. (see the Primo/Metalib PWG report in this letter)

Besides the official programme a lot of networking took place among the users and with Ex Libris staff, during coffee and lunch breaks and on many other occasions especially during the social event at the Kongresshaus Zurich on Tuesday evening where Mark Dehmlow and Lukas Koster again excited the audience with their new song "Set it free" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUOKC9dhPuo>). The beautiful location on the Lake of Zurich, the honourable building of the ETH and the hospitability and perfect organisation by the colleagues of the ETH library made the conference a great experience for us all.

Jirka Kende, IGeLU Chair

* ZURICH MEETING: GENERAL QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION *

As is now traditional at the annual conference, a General Q&A (Question and Answer) session took place with Ex Libris executives at the Zurich meeting in September.

Again, the company provided a first class panel to comment all the issues that had been raised via web form, mail box or from the audience:

- + Matti Shem Tov, President and Chief Executive Officer
- + Oren Beit-Arie, Chief Strategy Officer
- + David Beychok, Vice President, Discovery and Delivery Solutions
- + Marc Daubach, Corporate Vice President, General Manager Europe
- + Anat Kuper, Corporate Vice President, Global Support
- + Shlomo Sanders, Chief Technology Officer
- + Bar Veinstein, VP Resource Management Solutions

The newly published minutes of the session give IGeLU members the possibility to re-read what has been discussed in Zurich - which is a wonderful access to most valuable information.

Please find the freshly uploaded document on the conference section of the IGeLU website. <http://igelu.org/conferences/2012-zurich/business-meetings-and-product-updates>

Peter Klien, SC and Moderator General Q&A Session

* CHANGES IN THE STEERING COMMITTEE AND IN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUPS *

After the terms of Michele Newberry, Michael Fake and Lucas Koster expired in Zurich, three new members joined the Steering committee:

- + Naomi Greidinger from the University of Haifa, Israel
- + Mark Dehmlow from the University of Notre Dame, USA

+ Theo Engelman from Utrecht University, Netherlands
(the responsibilities of the new SC members see: <http://igelu.org/about/organisation/steering-committee>).

In the Aleph PWG Augusto Ribeiro from King's College of London, UK took over the leadership of the group,

+ Betsy Friesen, University of Minnesota, USA is the first Coordinator of the Alma PWG,

+ Masud Khokhar, University of Oxford, UK coordinates the Primo / MetaLib PWG and

+ Bas Vat from the Leiden University, Netherlands took over the leadership of the SFX PWG.

Many thanks to all newcomers for their willingness to spend their time and energy for the benefit of the user community!

Jirka Kende, IGeLU Chair

* PIVOTAL SYSTEM REPLACEMENT *

At the IGeLU Conference, Ex Libris announced they would be replacing the Pivotal system with a new system, SalesforceCRM, in 2013 with an anticipated

implementation date of mid-2013. As part of the implementation project, Ex Libris asked the IGeLU and ELUNA User Groups to provide lists of features which we want to see in the new system. The list was compiled from members of the two Steering Committees and members of the Product Working Groups and sent to Ex Libris.

Ex Libris reviewed the list and it is looking like many of the requested features will be available in the new system at the start. Further investigation is being carried out on how other features will be implemented.

In addition further features might be implemented in future stages of the system.

Future stages of this project will include members of the User Groups seeing mockups of the systems, and being involved in testing the new system when it is available.

For further information please contact

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Fiona Burton, IGeLU Steering Committee

* NEWS FROM THE SFX PRODUCT WORKING GROUP *

The SFX Product Working Group met in Zurich during the IGeLU conference to discuss the new line-up of the working group, our ongoing projects, and our goals for the year 2013. With Mark Dehmlow leaving for the Steering Committee and Nikki Crowster continuing towards new challenges, we were

happy to welcome new members to the group: Bas, Holly, Jo, and Michelangelo. We would like to thank both Mark and Nikki for their hard and dedicated work for the group and the whole IGeLU

community. We are grateful to have Mark as our liaison to the Steering Committee, as well.

The new line-up for the SFX PWG is published on the website <http://igelu.org/products/sfx>

The 2012 SFX software enhancement cycle officially kicked off on Monday, September 24. Voting for SFX software enhancements 2012 concluded on Monday,

November 28. Over 8,000 votes were cast by 84 user group members, 61 of which were IGeLU member institutions and 23 were ELUNA member institutions.

It was a nice increase compared to last year, when 63 user group members participated, casting just over 6,000 votes.

We would like to thank everyone for submitting enhancement requests and/or taking part in the voting!

We hope to obtain the list of enhancements to be developed and an approximate timeline from the SFX Product Manager by the end of December.

In order to see the results of the 2012 SFX software enhancement cycle, please go to the ELCommons wiki

<http://www.exlibrisgroup.org/display/CrossProduct/NERS+Results+from+the+SFX+Software+Enhancement+Process+2012>).

Progress continues with the KB resources voting process. Full results of all of the voting cycles can be viewed on the ELCommons wiki

(<http://exlibrisgroup.org/display/CrossProduct/NERS+SFX+voting+results+and+regions>).

We are continuing to look for further ways to assist the SFX community. If you have thoughts, ideas, or concerns, please contact Bas Vat, the SFX PWG coordinator at b.vat@library.leidenuniv.nl.

Anna Pienimäki, IGeLU SFX PWG communications

* NEWS FROM THE VOYAGER PRODUCT WORKING GROUP *

The months since the conference in Zurich have been a quiet time for the PWG, but things will get busy again in the new year with planning for the next round of voting for enhancements. The IGeLU PWG is working much more closely with the ELUNA group, with (so far) the coordinator from IgeLU joining the ELUNA conference calls. Voyager 8.2 was released on schedule in November.

Major new features include a new patron loader, and indexes to support RDA. Support for OCLC number expansion has been included and that support will be extended back to 7.2.5. A service pack 8.2.1 is due near the end of Q1, 2012.

Coding for Voyager 9 is underway, with PWG enhancements agreed for inclusion partly completed. Focus for 9 includes improvements to workflows & standards compliance (including SIP2, MARC 21) and better system monitoring and administration (via the UTIL menu).

Other activities Voyager PWG members from both ELUNA and IGeLU have been involved in includes;

- + ODBC (proving to be quite an issue on Voyager-L!)
- + Publishing Analyzer resources
- + Reviewing desired functionality in the new CRM
- + Reviewing customer produced enhancements for possible inclusion in core Voyager functionality.

Ray Delahunty, Voyager IGeLU PWG coordinator

* NEWS FROM THE PRIMO/METALIB PRODUCT WORKING GROUP *

OvP functionality:

In the Zurich conference the National User Groups complained about the lack of functionality in the Opac via Primo (OvP) setup.

Because of this, libraries have to maintain their Opac or develop the needed functionality themselves. That does not comply with the claim from Ex Libris that Primo would lower the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) for Primo customers. Ex Libris responded by asking a list of the most needed functionality. The Primo/Metalib PWG organised a special enhancements ballot for this reason.

The joint IGeLU and ELUNA Primo/Metalib(+) working groups would like to thank the Primo community for participating in the OvP additional functionality enhancements ballot.

A total of 7627 votes were cast, which shows a very significant interest in the OvP functionality in general. The final compiled list is now with Ex Libris who will be coming back to us shortly with their feedback. We will keep you updated throughout the process.

Local language dictionary:

The Israeli Primo PWG has lately initiated a discussion with Ex Libris regarding the implementation of a local language dictionary (Hebrew and Arabic in Israel).

This includes a morphological component. The need for a local dictionary was evident from the first implementation of Primo in Israel.

Primo allows to enrich the lingual component using 3 local files: stop words, misspelling, and

synonyms.

The synonyms file, however, allows to insert only one word terms, hence it is very limited in its ability to enrich the vocabulary.

Ex Libris replied that they are looking for a 3rd party that can provide a linguistic component solution for various languages. Currently, their primary concern is CJK. A local dictionary is essential to improve the user experience with Primo, in getting better search results. This is vital to any country which main language is not English.

Masud Khokhar, Primo/Metalib PWG coordinator

* NEWS FROM THE ALMA PRODUCT WORKING GROUP *

The Alma Product Working Group (PWG) was established in August as a joint ELUNA/IGeLU PWG, since the Alma community is still relatively small.

The working body of this group has thirteen! members and can be viewed at: <http://igelu.org/products/alma>

A web page has been established (<http://igelu.org/products/alma>). We are working to populate the page with content. An Alma listserv has been established. It already has over 400 subscribers. If you haven't already subscribed to the list, you are invited to do so by going to the subscription page at: (<https://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=ALMA-L>).

The Alma PWG will have its first group conference call on Dec. 20. We will be working on establishing our group guidelines and Alma sub-groups.

Betsy Friesen, Alma PWG Coordinator

* GOLDEN GATE CAPITAL NEW OWNER OF EX LIBRIS *

Short after the 2012 conference the user community was informed by Ex Libris that the company was acquired by another private equity company Golden Gate Capital.

In discussions with Ex Libris management we understand that Golden Gate Capital is interested in further growth of the company with its current management on board and further following the current roadmap.

With this change in the company ownership Ex Libris management expects positive impact on the company development.

Jirka Kende, IGeLU Chair

* MARC DAUBACH LEAVING EX LIBRIS *

Especially for the European customers it wasn't a good news that Marc Daubach is leaving the company at the end of the year after 17 years working for Ex Libris. For many of us Marc was the "Ex Libris face" from the very beginning. In discussions about our needs we did very much appreciate his deep knowledge of the systems the company is developing and at the same time his opened-minded attitude towards the needs of the users represented by the user groups on national and international level. In his position as Vice president for Europe he also made sure that the interests of the European customers were well heard in the company's headquarters.

Marc Daubach stays as a consultant for Ex Libris throughout 2013 to smoothen the transition to his successor Ex Libris is currently selecting.

His decision has private reasons and has nothing to do with the change of ownership of Ex Libris or the company development - as Marc puts it - after 17 years it is time to start something new.

With many thanks for the trustful collaboration over the past many years we wish Marc all the best for the future!

Jirka Kende, IGeLU Chair

* EX LIBRIS CLOUD SECURITY AND PRIVACY STATEMENT PUBLISHED *

As many of us are thinking of moving our systems to the cloud we asked Ex Libris to make their data security policy in the cloud environment more transparent.

On the documentation portal (section Cross-Product/Security/Security Updates) you will find now the document "Ex Libris Cloud Security and Privacy Statement" describing Ex Libris's security policy.

If you have any comments on the document or if you miss specific issues please contact us know so that we can ask Ex Libris to enhance the statement.

Jirka Kende, IGeLU Chair