METALIB REVIEW – 2 YEARS ON: THE LIBRARIAN'S PERSPECTIVE

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Why Metalib?

- Federated searching facility
- Modern look and approach, unlike this ...

Welcome to Flectronic Resources

From September 2007 all access to E-Resources will be via **MetaLib**.

- Electronic Journals (including A-Z list)
- Electronic Databases
- Electronic Newspapers
- Electronic Books
- Maps and Spatial Data
- Online Reading Lists
- Electronic Resources Trials
- Voyager
- <u>Useful Links</u>: <u>other libraries</u> in the region, <u>online catalogues</u>, and directories and timetables.
- Exam Papers



Why Metalib?

- Greater functionality
- Better promotion
- Good portal to our data
- Branded name:-





From design to implementation

- Project team
- Design and functionality differences of opinion
- Pre-launch pilot and evaluation
- What did our customers want?



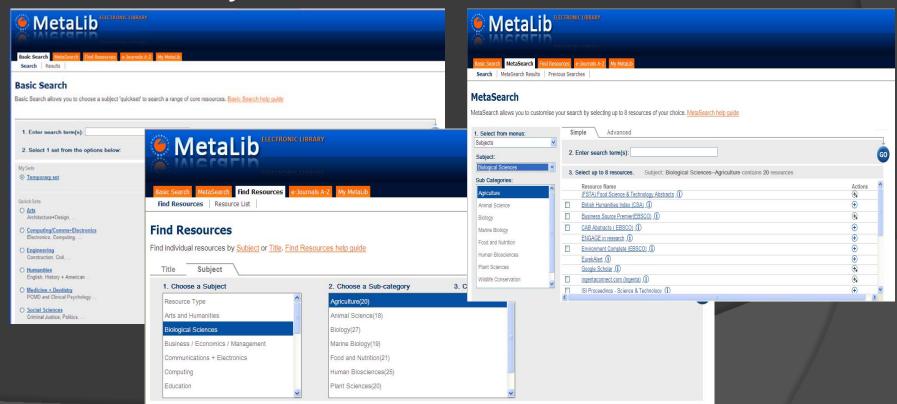
The answer to all our prayers?

- Not quite!
- Managing expectations
- One size does not fit all
- The Metalib 'brand'



The Metalib experience

- Fear of change and the unknown
- Too many choices?



The Metalib experience

- Librarians versus everyone else!
- Limitations:-
 - Poor metadata from publishers/suppliers
 - No standardisation of search strategy across the databases
 - See more but get less



Marketing and promotion

ONE search, MANY resources, ALL the results





Marketing and promotion

Roll up, roll up – have we got a show for

you!





Marketing and promotion

Named and shamed in the University magazine!





Metalib survey

- Method or mayhem?
- Core issues:-
 - Too many logins
 - Time out period too short
 - Difficult to use general misunderstanding
 - Full-text is king
 - Metalib results how it returns and ranks
 - Broken links
 - Training



Two years on

- What has worked well?:-
 - The Metalib brand
 - Good platform for e-resource promotion
 - Flexibility
 - Federated searching
- What hasn't?:-
 - Too many choices too much confusion
 - Customisation
 - Federated searching



So what of the future?

- 'Dumbing down' in a 'good enough' culture
- One interface, one search the new 'URM'?
- No more 'wading through treacle'
- Quality metadata
- Getting the right balance
- Testing, testing ...1,2,3



Thank you!

Any questions?

