Libraries, Catalogs, and the Strange New Digital Landscape

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Yellowstone Mud Pots

The Way We Worked

Books
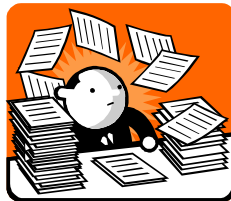Journals
Newspapers
Gov docs
Maps
Scores
AV
Dissertations

Special
collections
Manuscripts
Papers
Univ records

Journal
articles
Conference
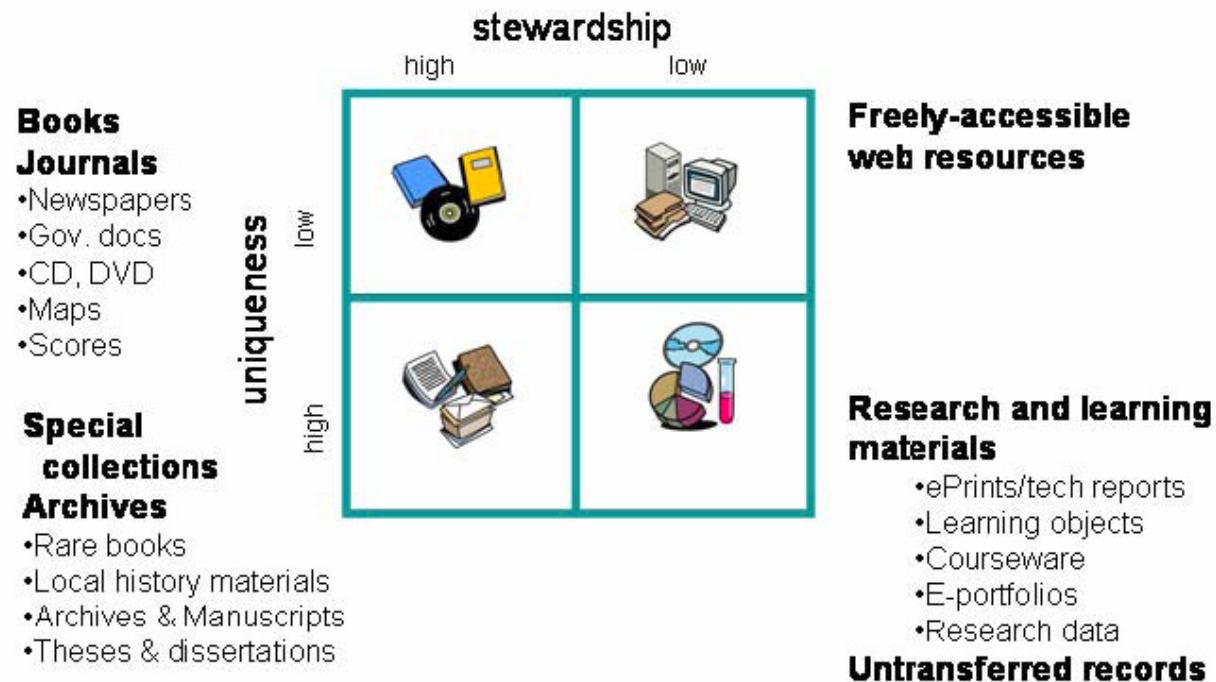proceedings
Etc.

Library catalogs

Archives

Sample print indexes in the Reference Area, 1st floor, Main Library

**Abstracting &
Indexing services**

LIBRARY

stewardship

high   low

Books
Journals
•Newspapers
•Gov. docs
•CD, DVD
•Maps
•Scores

Special
 collections
Archives
•Rare books
•Local history materials
•Archives & Manuscripts
•Theses & dissertations

uniqueness — low / high

Freely-accessible
web resources

Research and learning
materials
•ePrints/tech reports
•Learning objects
•Courseware
•E-portfolios
•Research data
Untransferred records

From Dempsey, Lorcan, Eric Childress et al. 2005.
"Metadata switch." In *E-Scholarship: A LITA Guide*
(Chicago: LITA).

Unanswered Questions

- Who uses the online catalog?
- Who uses library Web pages?
- For what?
- How much?
- Compared to what?
 - Compared to library e-resource discovery systems?
  - Compared to Amazoogle?

Fundamental Shift in Preferences/Landscape for Information Organization?

- Bibliographic tools vs. indexing and full text searching
- Are there generational differences?
- Differences based on discipline or profession?
- What about visual resources?
- What about digital data?

Familiarity with Search Engines vs. Online Libraries
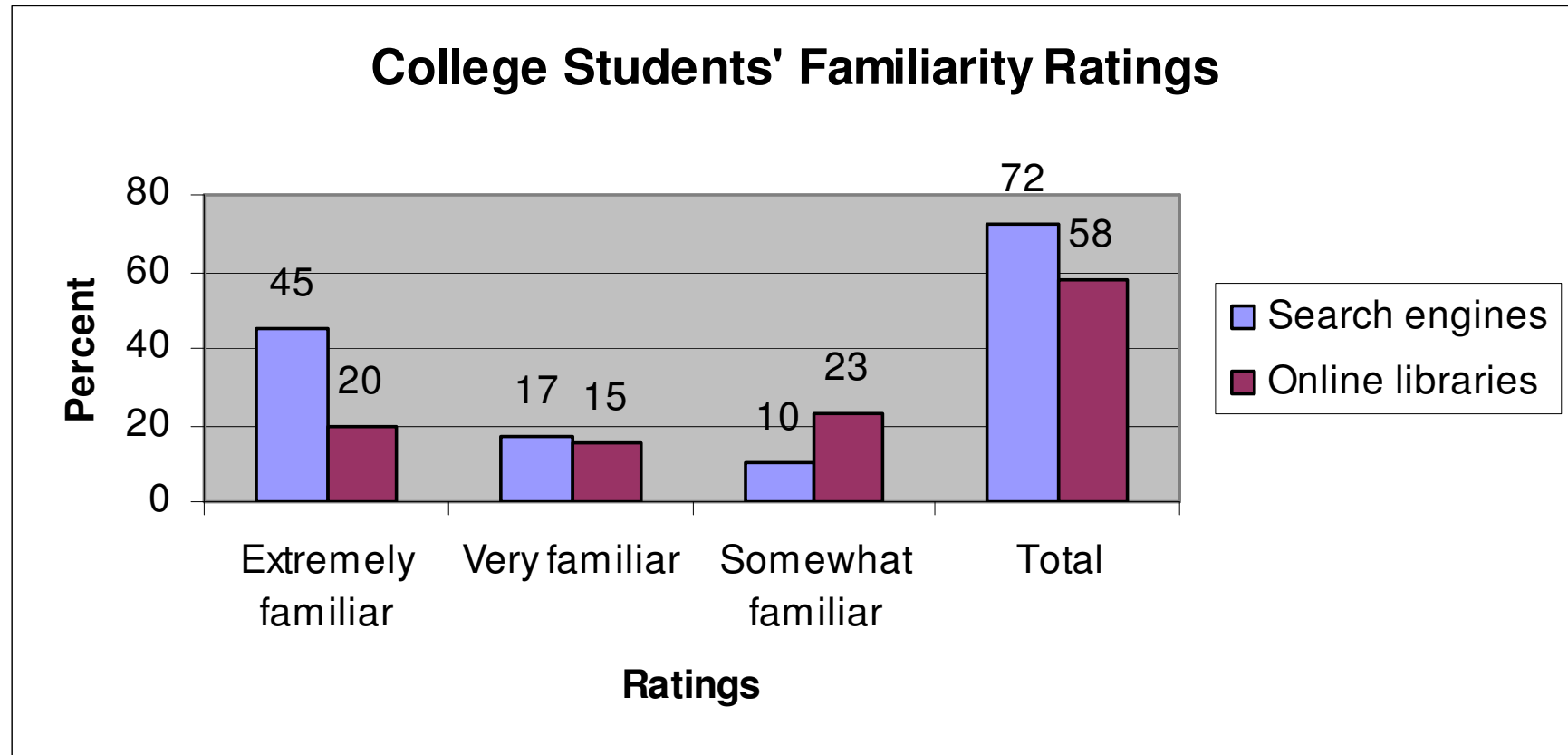
College Students' Familiarity Ratings

College Students' Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources: a Report to the OCLC Membership: http://www.oclc.org/reports/perceptionscollege.htm

Where Do You Begin a Search for Information on a Topic?
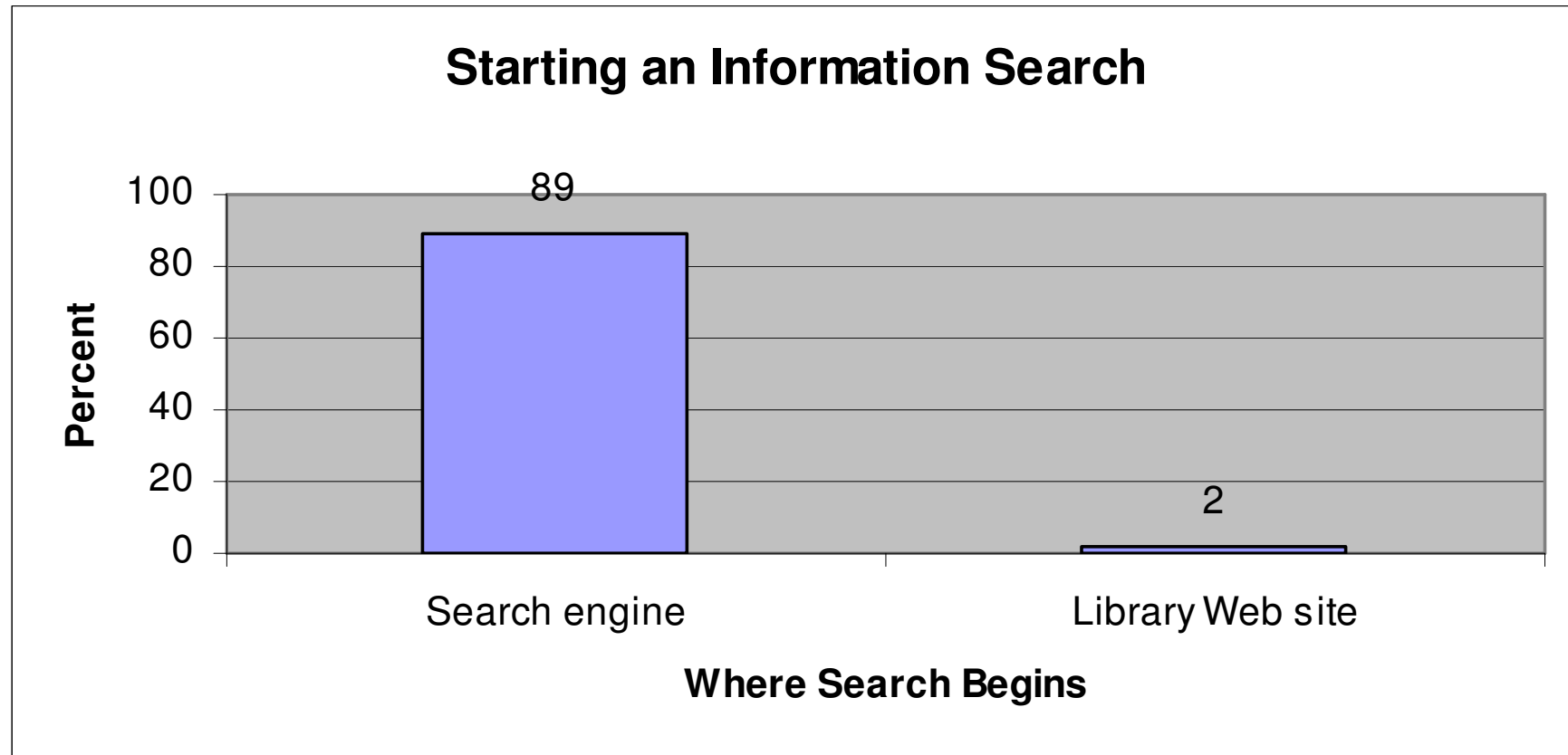
Starting an Information Search

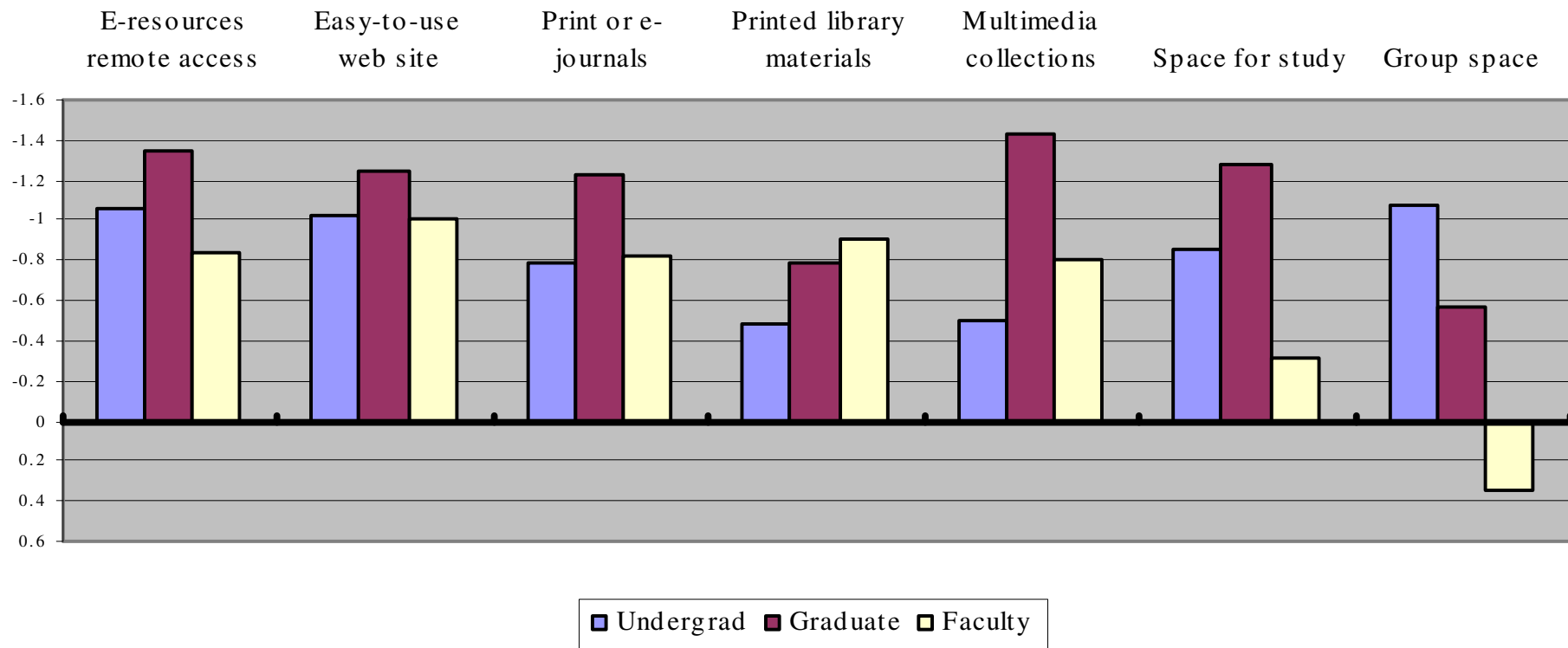*College Students' Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources: a Report to the OCLC Membership*: http://www.oclc.org/reports/perceptionscollege.htm

Online library

Collections

Space

Gaps in Satisfaction

| E-resources remote access | Easy-to-use web site | Print or e-journals | Printed library materials | Multimedia collections | Space for study | Group space |

Chart vertical axis: -1.6, -1.4, -1.2, -1, -0.8, -0.6, -0.4, -0.2, 0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6

Legend: ☐ Undergrad ■ Graduate ☐ Faculty

LibQUAL+ 2005 Survey: Cornell University Library. Association of Research Libraries. http://www.libqual.org

Cornell Catalog and E-Resource Searching, First Quarter 2005

Number of Searches/Sessions (y-axis: 0 to 70000)

Weeks 1 to 13 (x-axis)

Students return

E-resource system problems

Spring break

Legend:
- Catalog Sessions
- E-Resource Searches
- Total (Library Resources)
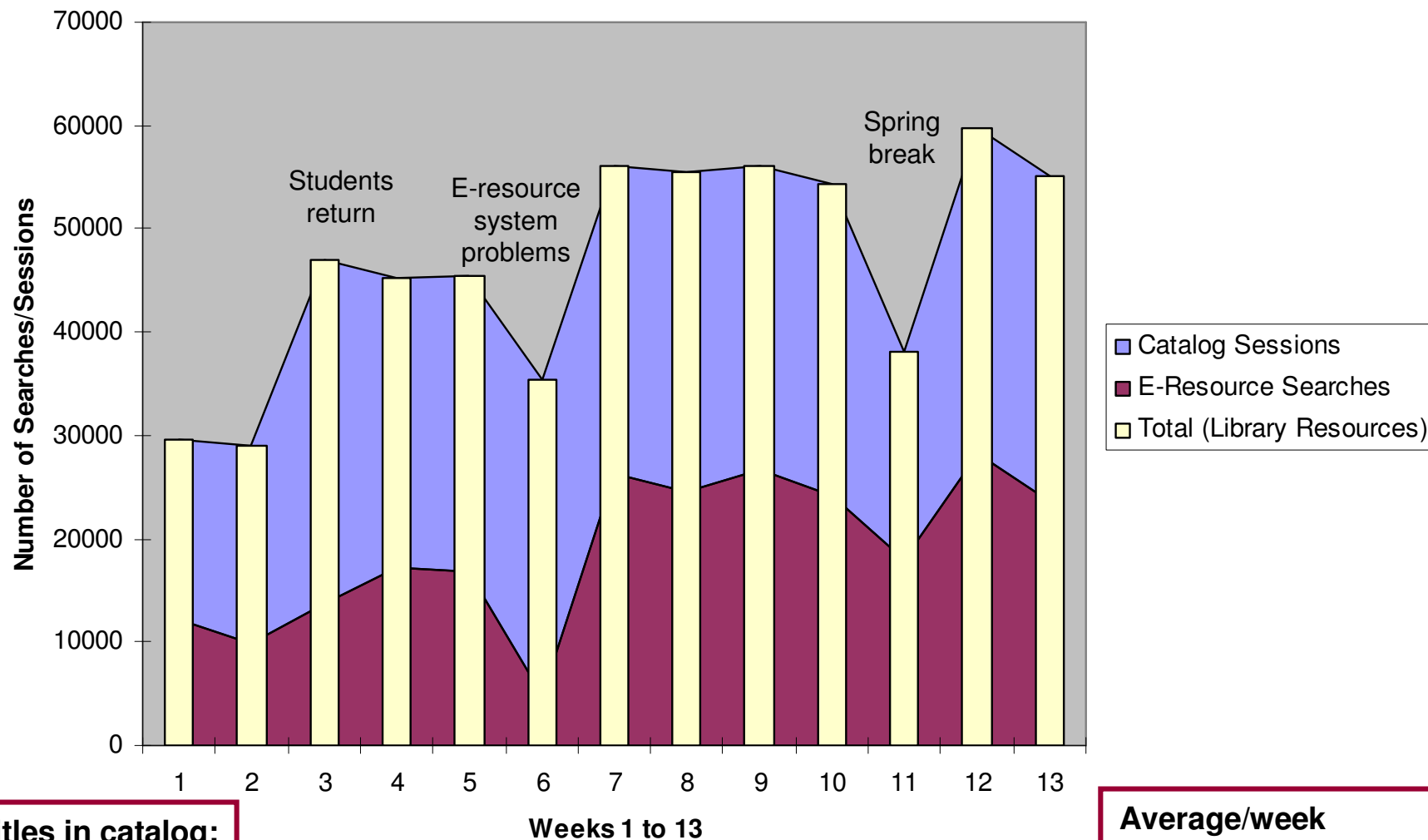
**Titles in catalog:
> 4 million
E-resources:
379 thousand**

**Average/week
(Q1 2005):
Google: 441 million
Library: 47 thousand**

Networked E-Resources at Cornell

- Less than 10% of the collection
- More than 25% of the materials budget
- About 50% of the use
- All searches from library pages = a tiny fraction of the use of search engines

University of Minnesota Libraries: Research Needs of Humanists and Social Scientists

Library's Most Important Roles

Bar chart titled "Library's Most Important Roles", Y-axis labeled "Percent" (0 to 100):

- Collector and purchaser of collections: 93
- Resource for finding and retrieving information: 80
- Repository for preservation: 65
- Developer of technology and tools: 39
- Place for research and study: 25
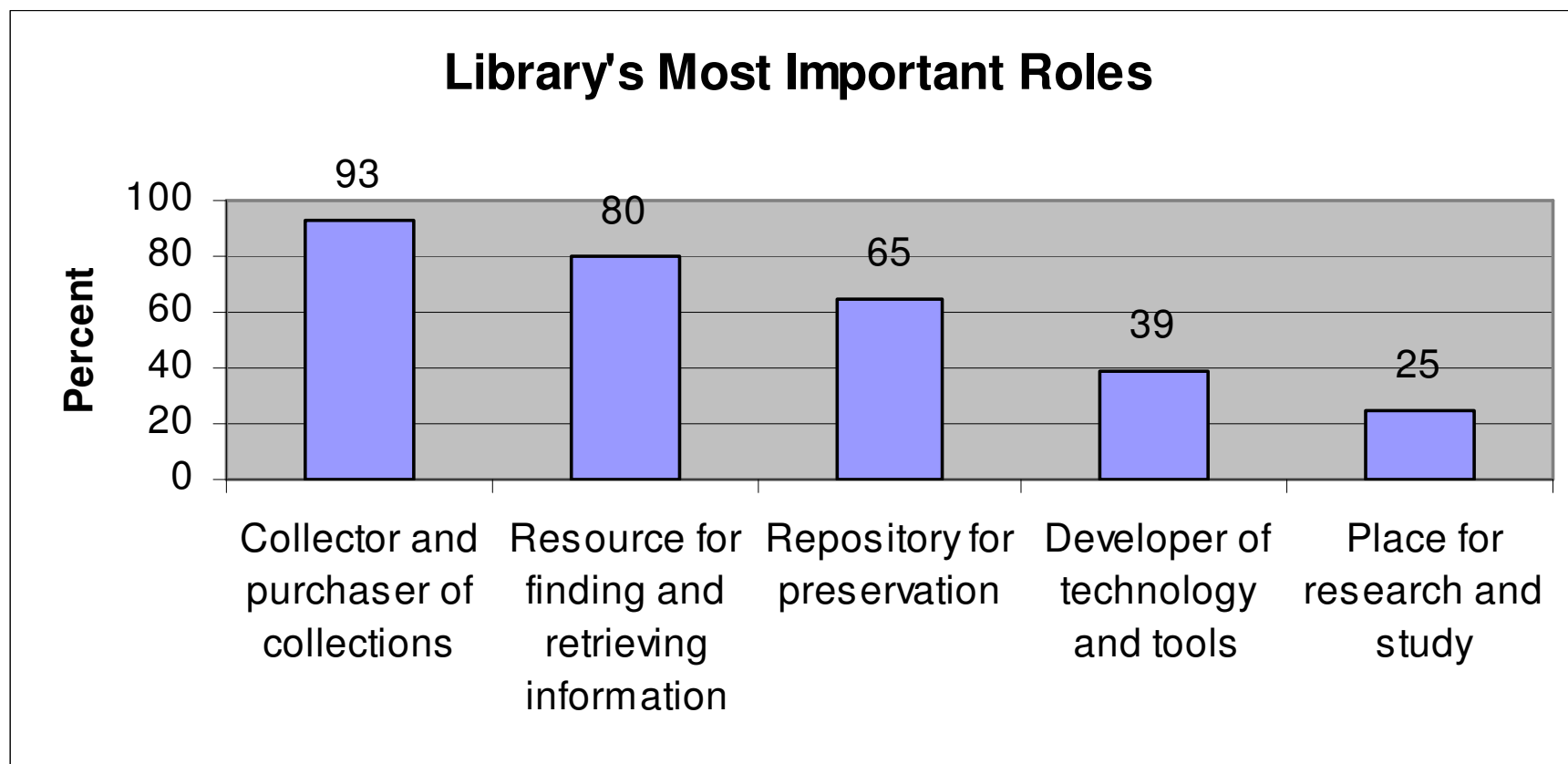
Available from http://www.lib.umn.edu/about/mellon/docs.phtml
Full report and a variety of presentations, e.g.,
Karen Williams, Charleston Conference. "Lively Lunch: The Same…
But Different: Varying User Behavior in the Humanities and Social Sciences"

University of Minnesota Libraries Study: More Findings

- Humanities and social sciences faculty and grad students work primarily from home
- Library space remains more important to grad students than faculty members
- Employ a wide variety of research materials, esp. *primary source materials*, also including *data* and *multimedia*
- Faculty and grad students need help organizing and managing their research materials
- Library has the opportunity to play a more proactive role

Review of Unanswered Questions

- Who uses the online catalog?
  - Faculty and graduate students (comparatively more)
  - Undergraduates (comparatively less)
- Who uses library Web pages? How much?
  - Strong preference for search engines
- For what?
  - Published materials (mostly monographs?)
  - Keen interest in primary source materials, data, images, multimedia—all outside the catalog

Review of Unanswered Questions, 2

- Compared to what?
  - Strong use of e-resource discovery systems outside the catalog
  - Strong preference for search engines
  - Some are familiar with bibliographic data/tools, many are not (and find what they want anyway?)
  - Graduate students may be the least satisfied with how libraries are serving them

The Way We Worked

Books
Journals
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Etc.

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**Abstracting &
Indexing services**

LIBRARY

The Decline of the Catalog

- ○ Users bypassing the catalog
  - 89% of college students say they begin with search engines vs 2% with library Web pages
- ○ One piece of a fragmented library information landscape (and hard to use!)
  - Principle of Least Effort
  - Metasearch in trouble
- ○ Cataloging tradition unsustainable
  - "Just how much do we need to continue to spend on carefully constructed catalogs?"—Deanna Marcum, LC Associate Librarian

Calhoun, Karen. *The Changing Nature of the Catalog and Its Integration with Other Discovery Tools.* Washington, DC: Library of Congress, 17 March 2006. http://www.loc.gov/catdir/calhoun-report-final.pdf

A New Kind of Library

- Build a vision of a new kind of library
- Be more involved with research and learning materials and systems
- Be more engaged with campus communities
- Make library collections and librarians more visible
- Move to next generation systems and services
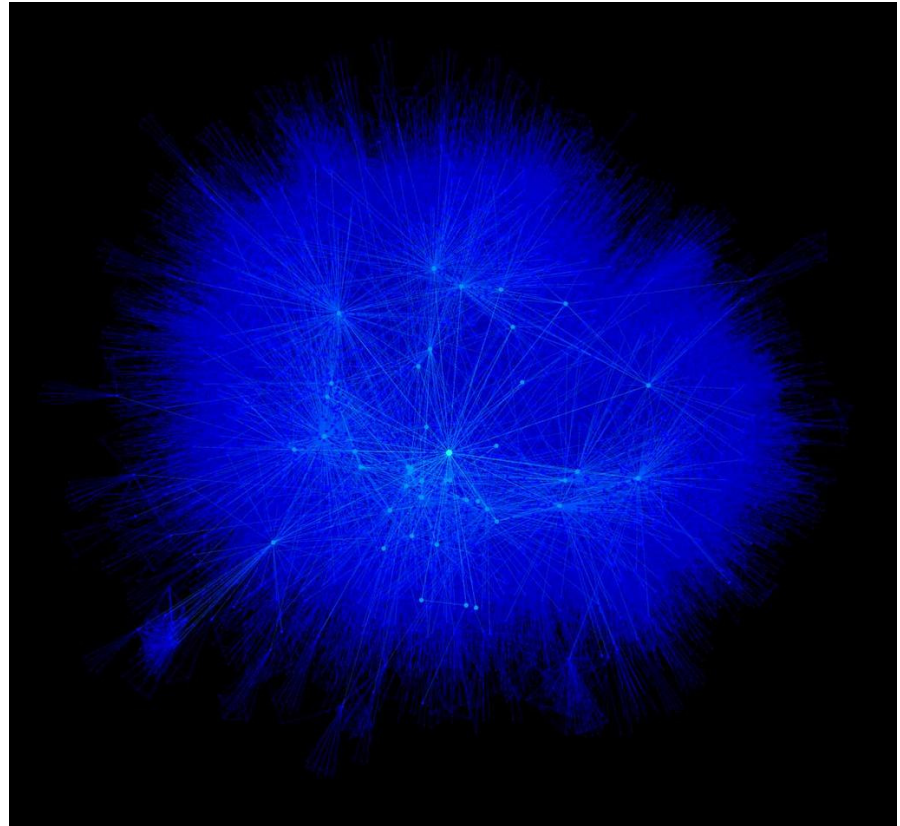
An online social network

Information Silos
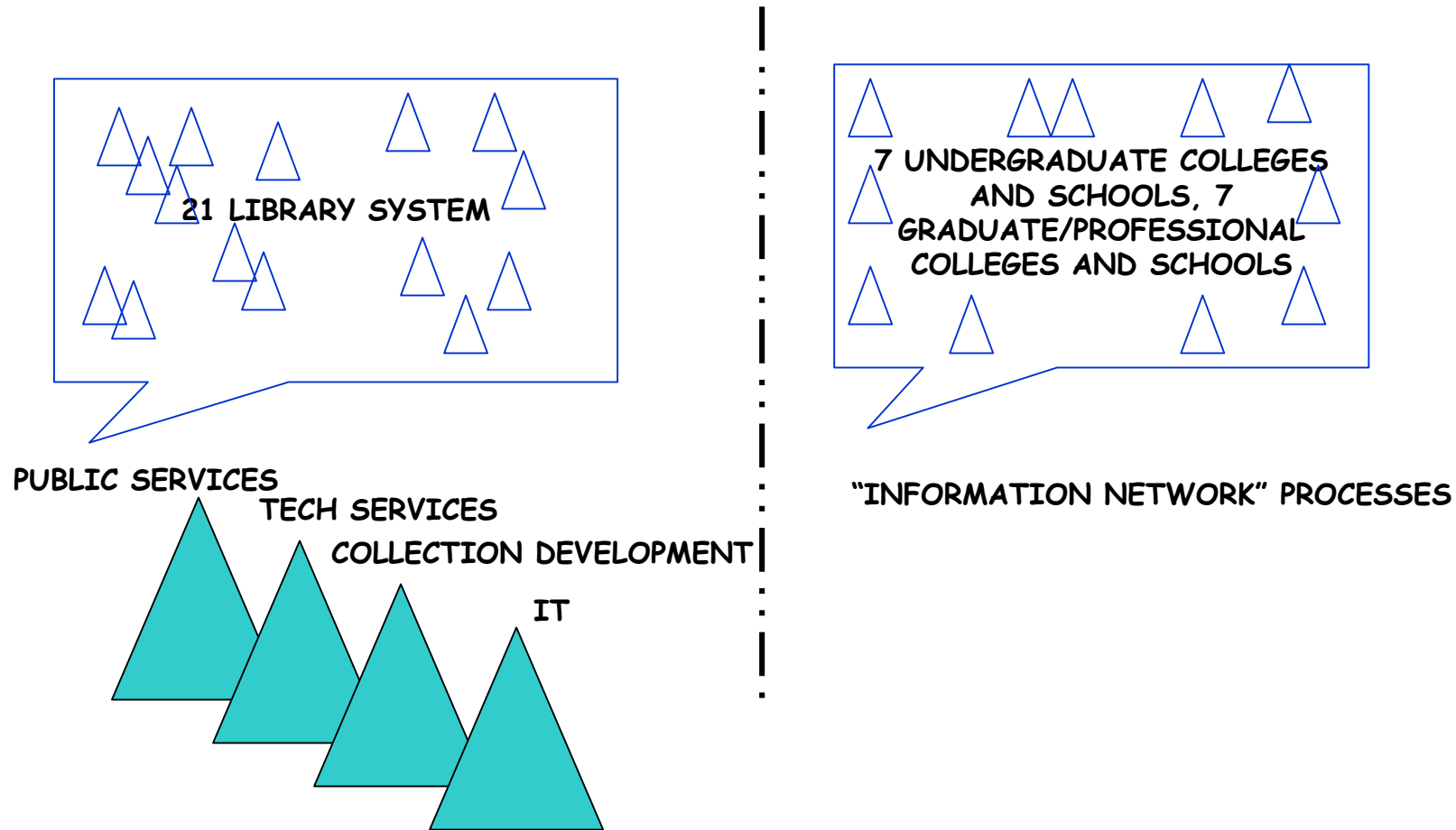
Outreach: A BOTH/AND World

DATA
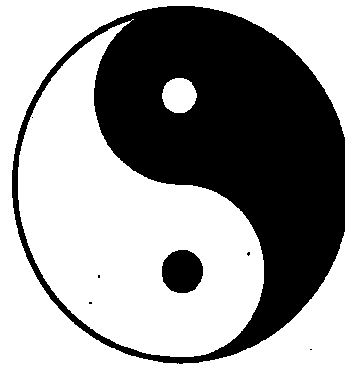
PEOPLE

Next Generation Integrated Library System? --Modularity

- "ILSes should think in terms of linking rather than building"
- Decoupling discovery and inventory management functions
- Standards

Toward a New Library Information Space

○ **Emerging Objectives**

- Integrate access to *all* library resources (print, archives, digital, e-)
- Simplify digital and e-resource management (lower costs AND improve service)
- Become visible in the user's environment (i.e., **_on open Web, on course pages, etc._**)

○ **Today's Methods and Tools**

- Web-accessible lists + catalogs
- Federated searching
- Reference linking (OpenURL)
- Portals
- E-resource management systems
- Digital asset management systems

The Portal Dream, Version 1: A Unifying Local System

Unified Web Interface ("Google-like")

Authentication layer

Federated searching (metasearch)

Other Libraries Catalogs

Local Library Catalog

Digital Collections

Licensed Databases

Other (e.g.,DSpace)

Many diverse, separate interfaces
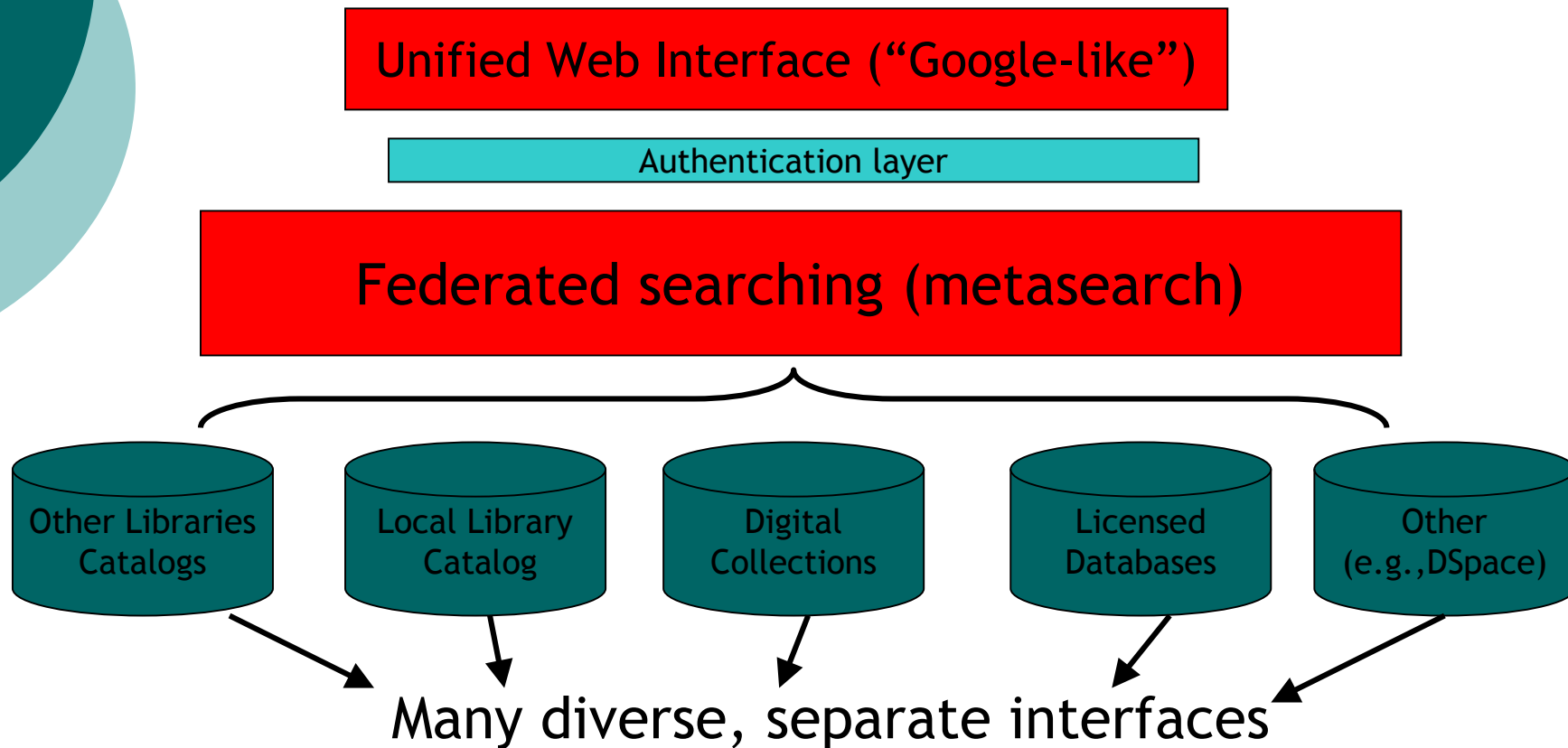
Extending the Local Portal Dream

Find It At Cornell

Handbook of Usability Testing
Linking from Google Scholar to the Cornell online catalog.

Meetup

Find a Meetup near you

Start a local Meetup Group

Home Sign In Register Help

Enter an interest or city   SEARCH

All Skeptics Meetups worldwide   Know any Skeptics? Tell them about Meetup!

Join The Ithaca Skeptics Meetup Group

Skeptics Meetup Group No. 9 Ithaca, NY 33 Skeptics Rating: ★★★★☆ Next Meetup: Sat, May 27, 4:00 PM

Welcome
About
Events
Members
Photos
Message Board
Polls
Files
Invite Friends
Promote!

Reincarnation, Past Lives
Have You Lived More Lives? University Of Metaphysical Sciences UMSonline.org/CourseD

Sonya Fitzpatrick
America's premier pet

Our next Meetup is in 8 days. Get an invitation and future updates

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Skeptics require evidence to support their beliefs. Meet other skeptics and discuss any events or phenomena which could benefit from the skeptical viewpoint.

Organizer:
Pamela Cawley

Your name: Your email: Create a password:

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Featured Comments

"No fist fights broke out so that is always cool!"

— Lee Ann

"It's a privilege to spend quality time with quality people."

— arcticpenquin

See more photos

Other Meetup topics popular with Skeptics
?

- Atheists
- Humanism
- Agnostic
- Brights
- Separation of Church and State
- Philosophy

Done

Outward Integration

"Integration should be outward rather than inward, with libraries seeking to use their components in new ways"

--Interviewee for LC report on future of the catalog

From a Distance!

Longer Term Vision

- Switch users from where they find things to library-managed collections of all kinds
- Local catalog one link in a chain of services, one repository managed by the library
- More coherent and comprehensive scholarly information systems, perhaps by discipline
- Infrastructure to permit global discovery and delivery of information among open, loosely-coupled systems
- Critical mass of digitized publications and special collections online
- Many starting points on the Web leading to many types of scholarly information objects

Find It on Google,* Get It from My Library

- Open WorldCat
- RedLight Green
- Google Scholar
- Google Book Search
- Google Library Project
- Million Book Project
- Open Content Alliance
- E-books
- Print on demand

*The word "google" was first used in the 1927 Little Rascals silent film "Dog Heaven", used to refer to a having a drink of water. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_(verb)

Intermediate Vision

- Better library interface > better user experience "fun, fast, and focused" (e.g., Primo)
- Draw on the local catalog's strongest suit: support for inventory control and delivery
- Shared online catalogs: begin to aggregate discovery function for books, serials, and their e-counterparts
- Larger scale collaboration on collection development/resource sharing, storage, preservation

Intermediate Vision, 2

- Start to build bigger scholarly information environments—with libraries playing a role—to aggregate more of the expanding universe of scholarly digital assets
- Metadata and outreach skills = strategic assets

Intermediate Vision, 3

- Beginning of the era of special collections
- Aggregate discovery of digital collections
- More emphasis on visual resources

Teaching, Learning, and Research, the Next Generation

Thank You!
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