



## Collaborative testing

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IGeLU Steering Committee  
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## Collaborative testing

- **Guidelines agreed by IGeLU/ELUNA/Ex Libris on collaborative testing (see: <http://igelu.org/about-us/development-cooperations/collaborative-testing> )**
- **Aims: - test the quality of a release and provide feedback**
- **Test the quality of the Ex Libris testing process**

## Collaborative testing

- **Assess collaborative testing and whether this works or not for new releases**
- **Suggest improvements to the collaborative testing process**

## Voyager collaborative testing

- **Version: Voyager 7**
- **Location/date: ExLibris, Des Plaines, IL January 21-25, 2008**
- **Call for volunteers – went out in December 2007.**
- **Difficult to get non-American volunteers with lots of experience in acquisitions/serials/cataloguing**

## Voyager collaborative testing

- **Expertise required in acquisitions/serials/cat (2 people) and OPAC (2 people)**
- **Nominations done through the VWGs but difficult co-ordinating across 2 user groups and coming up with appropriate people (IGeLU group had just been formed in Dec 2007)**

## Voyager collaborative testing - representatives

- **ELUNA representatives:**
  - Tari Keller, University of Kentucky - Systems
  - Carol Fagundus, Princeton University - Acquisitions
- **IGeLU representatives:**
  - Betsy Earl, State Library of Victoria, Australia - Systems
  - Julia McGinnis, California University of Pennsylvania - Technical Services
- **ExLibris staff involved in the testing included Grazyna, Connie and Kim from Professional Services and Meredith from Customer Support.**
- **VARIETY of experience/size/institution VERY important**

## Voyager collaborative testing - outcomes

- **Very good process and product**
- **Ex Libris had done their home work**
- **Daily meetings and information about the testing were very good**
- **All testers used same scripts (wasteful, repetitive, inappropriate?)**
- **Back end batch jobs and back-end functionality not available for testing**

## Voyager collaborative testing - SUGGESTIONS

- **Begin the process earlier (before arrival) even if this is to just distribute scripts to see what they do**
- **Need separate login so the work can be tracked.**
- **The testers need background on how the test bed database is configured. They need to know settings, so they know if they've run into a bug or a choice of settings.**
- **Testers need to have very broad experience with entire Voyager system. Although the testers were requested to have expertise with Acquisitions and WebVoyage, the testing really covered all aspects of the release.**
- **The database was too small and undeveloped, in the testers' opinion. e.g. testing of merged records was occurring with records with just four fields.**

## Suggestions

- **Give testers time to implement sysadmin-side settings so they understand what they are testing**
- **Solicit problem records in advance and load them, so known issues can be addressed.**
- **Have the previous release available for comparison.**
- **Provide at least a draft of the documentation.**