

## IGeLU News in Brief, August 2012

Welcome to the 12<sup>th</sup> news-in-brief update from IGeLU - our round up of the latest activity from the International Group of Ex Libris Users. In this letter you'll see all the recent activity from the different product groups on enhancements, the latest on the new Alma Product Working Group, and some last minute reminders about the upcoming conference in Zurich.

As always you can read the stories on our website at [www.igelu.org](http://www.igelu.org), and follow us on Twitter for the latest updates <https://twitter.com/igelu>.

Michael Fake, IGeLU Steering Committee.

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++++Registration reminder

We don't want to miss seeing you this Summer, so please do remember to register for the conference in Zurich, 11-13<sup>th</sup> September!

The conference programme is packed, with many of your colleagues sharing their expertise and experiences, which I know you all value. Ex Libris will be well represented with product updates and insightful presentations on how to get the most out of the products and services we use.

<http://www.library.ethz.ch/igelu12/programme.html>

Registration is easy and very inexpensive given the calibre of conference content and attendance, just 150 Euros for IGeLU members. Conference registration will officially close on **31 August** so don't delay.

<http://www.library.ethz.ch/igelu12/registration.html>

The IGeLU Steering Committee, the Program Planning Committee, and our hosts, ETH-Bibliothek, are all looking forward to seeing you in Zurich this September.

Michele Newberry, Program Planning Committee

++++Call for candidates

A reminder that there are four positions on the Steering Committee which will be open for candidacy at the Zurich meeting. The current terms of Steering Committee members Lukas Koster, Michele Newberry, and Fiona Burton, as well as that of the Chair Jirka Kende will expire.

IGeLU is a volunteer organisation, and we rely on active participation from our members, so if you're interested in contributing to the work of the group, and are considering standing then please contact the IGeLU Treasurer, Guido Badalamenti - [guido.badalamenti@asb.unisi.it](mailto:guido.badalamenti@asb.unisi.it)

#### +++++Ex Libris Q&A

As is now traditional at the annual conference, several Q&A (Question and Answer) sessions will be taking place with Ex Libris product managers and executives at the Zurich meeting in September.

General questions intended for the Ex Libris Board of Management will be presented in the General Q&A plenary on Thursday, September 13, while product-specific questions will form part of the Ex Libris Product Update sessions given by individual Ex Libris product managers.

You are invited to submit any question that you would like to see answered. To submit a question, please just fill in the form on the IGeLU website at <http://igelu.org/conferences/ex-libris-qa>

We will collect your questions and deliver them (anonymised) to Ex Libris beforehand, in order to give them some time to prepare their answers.

So please, overcome your shyness. Do not miss this wonderful opportunity to ask everything you always wanted to know about the company and its products but were afraid to ask - until today!

Thank you in advance for your contributions,  
Peter Klien, IGeLU Steering Committee

#### +++++Booking a hotel for Zurich

If you haven't booked a hotel yet here's a tip to help with hotel selection: go to the conference website page and click on the color-coded icon for the lists in each price range (number of asterisks \*\*\*): <http://www.library.ethz.ch/igelu12/hotels.html> Then go to Kayak.com (other travel sites may be just as useful if you have a preference) using this link with the conference location and dates embedded: <https://www.kayak.com/hotels#/Zurich,Switzerland-c16623/2012-09-08/2012-09-14>

You can adjust the search filters by price and view options on a map. By comparing the hotels on Kayak's list with the conference site, pick a few to contact. When you find likely options be sure to ask about the ETH discount to compare.

Michele Newberry, Program Planning Committee

#### +++++ Joint IGeLU / ELUNA Alma Product Working Group

With Alma now in live use IGeLU and our partners in ELUNA felt that this next generation system now needs an active user community and voice.

A call for participation in a joint IGeLU/ELUNA Alma Product Working Group went out earlier in the year, and was answered by 15 enthusiastic colleagues, mainly from institutions engaged as Alma development partners or early adopters.

The new PWG will start with 12 members, 1 from Canada, 2 from the UK, 3 from Australia, and 6 from the USA. For the development of consortial functionality we regard it as very important that there will be representatives of consortia within the group.

IGeLU and ELUNA will support the first face-to-face meetings of the Alma PWG at the IGeLU conference in September. In May 2013 the group will meet again in Athens, Georgia (USA).

The main task of the group will be a regular exchange of information with the product managers of Alma; coordination of, and participation in, future focus or advisory subgroups; preparing Alma sessions at the user conferences; and presenting the group and its activities on the IGeLU and ELUNA websites.

One regular task for PWGs – the conduct of an enhancement process – will be initiated as part of a later phase of the Alma development.

Jirka Kende, Chair of IGeLU

++++Aleph PWG

The Aleph PWG leaders met recently with our ELUNA counterparts and Carmit Marcus, Aleph Product Manager, to begin discussions regarding the 2013 enhancement cycle. In an attempt to avoid some of the confusion that members experienced last year, we have decided that IGeLU and ELUNA - while continuing to jointly use NERS - will run separate voting cycles in 2013. The cycles will be tied to our annual conferences, with ELUNA's beginning this summer and IGeLU's beginning in September, after Zurich.

Regarding the conference, we have an exciting slate of programs: You will learn about different tools and approaches that experienced users employ to produce valuable reports and statistics. You will be shown how to increase customer satisfaction by enhancing traditional Aleph functionalities with local scripts and services. This is just a sampling of offerings, we hope to see as many of you as possible in Zurich!

The terms of office of several PWG members will expire this year and replacements will be confirmed at the conference. The positions of PWG Coordinator and one Deputy Coordinator are open. Fortunately, Augusto Ribeiro, Deputy Coordinator for Enhancements, has agreed to stand for the vacant Coordinator position and Marcus Zerbst has agreed to continue in his role as Deputy Coordinator. Fay Harrison, Ellen Jones, Maya Amichal and Jenny Clarke have all agreed to continue in their Module Coordinator roles. We are still looking for a volunteer to fill the position of Module Coordinator for ILL. If you are interested in standing for this position, the PWG Coordinator or the PWG Deputy Coordinator or would like more information regarding these positions, please contact Mike Ryan, PWG Coordinator, at [mryan@flvc.org](mailto:mryan@flvc.org)

Mike Ryan, Aleph PWG

++++Primo and MetaLib PWG

Two rounds of voting on the Primo enhancements were held in April and May, and were managed jointly by the IGeLU and ELUNA PWGs. Members of both groups again put in a lot of work to clarify and de-dup the list of enhancements before the voting began. Following the first round of voting the results were reviewed by Ido Peled, Ex Libris Primo Product Manager, who provided comments on the complexity of the top enhancements on the list, in order that Primo customers could take this into account in the second round. The final list has been sent to Ido and the top items are expected to be included in Primo version 4.1, due for release at the end of this year.

The 4th voting snapshot of MetaLib CKB resource addition requests entered into NERS was carried out in May, with a 5th snapshot due during August. The addition of local and regional resource requests to the CKB underlines the importance of NERS especially in this role; and you are once again

urged to review your NERS requests, add any you think are missing, and vote for your favourites. The signs are that Ex Libris are also using NERS voting results to influence priorities for adding content to Primo Central. A round of NERS functionality voting on Primo Central during 2012/13 has started to be considered.

Finally, many of you will know Gary Johnson, who was a founder member of the IGeLU PWG and has provided invaluable help to the group in the planning of conferences and management of the enhancement process. He has now retired from CCLA and we would all like to send him our thanks and best wishes for the future. Thank you Gary!

Jeremy Acland and Mandy Stewart, Coordinators Primo & MetaLib PWG

+++++Voyager PWG

Voyager 8.1.2 was released in July, and Voyager 8.2 is on schedule for release in Q4 2012, with field testing starting in August. Ex Libris has begun development work for Voyager 9, which is scheduled for release in late 2013.

The Enhancement Review process for Voyager 9's core modules is complete, and the 20 most popular enhancements are with Mike Dicus and Voyager Development staff. Enhancements for the Media Scheduling module are under discussion – though as no members from the IGeLU PWG have experience with this module our colleagues in the ELUNA group are taking the lead on this section.

Vacancies are also coming up within the PWG. Peter Price (of Plymouth University) is leaving, and on behalf of IGeLU we would like to thank him for his input to the PWG and wish him well for the future. With spaces on the group we're appealing for IGeLU members in the Voyager user community who might be interested in contributing to the work of the PWG. If you'd like to know what's involved then please contact Ray Delahunty at [r.delahunty@arts.ac.uk](mailto:r.delahunty@arts.ac.uk)

+++++Ex Libris Cloud Service Packages

During the INUG meeting in Haifa last year it became evident that there is no clear picture within the user community of the various cloud services Ex Libris is offering. We have asked Ex Libris to make these services more transparent, and as a result the company have added a comparison matrix to the Documentation portal, which describes the principal differences between the hosting packages (Direct, TotalCare, and Plus) which Ex Libris offers for its various products.

See the document in the Documentation portal > Cross-Product > Cloud Infrastructure > Ex Libris Cloud Service Packages.

<http://www.customercenter.exlibrisgroup.com>

Jirka Kende, Chair