

EXPANIA – Spanish Ex Libris Users Group Report to INUG 2013

<http://www.expania.es>

Membership

The Spanish Users Group has 15 full members (paying quota and having voting rights) but there are other institutions not formally registered as group members that normally cooperate with Expania. The annual meeting was attended by representatives of 20 institutions and the Expania mailing list include emails from 40 institutions. Most EL clients in Spain are Metalib/SFX clients, there are a few Aleph clients and Primo is just beginning to be introduced in Spanish libraries. During the last year some institutions left the group because the competitors of EL in discovery tools have a very aggressive commercial policy in Spain and libraries are looking for low priced products to replace the old fashioned Metalib. Some libraries have moved to Metalib+, some of them have opted for competitor products and some of them are migrating to Primo, but users group basis as a whole decreased. Budgetary cuts are currently the main factor in the evolution of library software in Spain.

Annual Meeting

Expania Annual Meeting was held in Barcelona, on May, 9th. Length of meeting was reduced from two days to one for easier attendance. The meeting program was:

- An introductory speech about Alma and its implementation in Plymouth University , by Elena Menendez-Alonso , Information Designer at Plymouth Univ. Library
- A discussion panel on implementation experiences of Primo in Spain, with users group members
- EL products roadmap and Questions & Answer session with Greendata, EL Spanish distributor
- Expania Assembly: election of a new Steering Committee and working groups reports (There was very little activity of working groups during 2013)

Support

Metalib, SFX and Primo support is given by Greendata (Spanish distributor) and it is also correct but when an incident is escalated from Greendata to EL, response is slower. Aleph support for some institutions is provided by Greendata, but for other institutions is provided directly by Ex Libris. Direct Aleph support has changed from Israel to EL Germany during last year and quality of EL German. In all cases (Greendata and EL Germany) support is correct.

New SC:

- Chair: Gaspar Olmedo (Spanish Research Council Library Network)
- Deputy chair: Marina Losada (Pompeu Fabra University Library)
- Treasurer: Carmen Rodriguez (Galicia Regional Health Care System Libraries)
- Secretary: Inmaculada Ribes (Valencia Polytechnic University Library)