Expania Report to INUG – St. Petersbourg, 10th Sept 2017

Organization

Expania (Spanish EL Users Group) is a formal association that currently has 11 members paying an annual fee of 150 euros, but many EL users whose institutions are not Expania members attend normally the Expania activities, which are mostly free (most of them are sponsored by EL). We have been trying to increase the number of formal members, but without much success. During the annual meeting we had a discussion about it and about the model of the association and there were proposal to switch to an informal association without fee. We postponed a decision about it.

During 2017 a big Consortium (CSUC – Catalunya University Services Consortium) moved from EL to another vendor and it was a big loss for the Spanish Group because some of the members of the Consortium were very active in the group.

Activities

The main activity is Expania Annual Meeting. This year it was held in Madrid, hosted by Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), on May 12th. It was attended by 72 people (57 clients and 15 PQ/EL staff). Twenty five Summon clients attended the meeting, so, it was a good representation. Most of them were very interested in the key content of the meeting that was a feedback session with the three first Spanish Alma adopters. There were also sessions by EL about Summon and Primo and participation of users in EL product development and a session by the only Spanish institution using CampusM (Modragon University).

A one day workshop on Customization of the new Primo UI taught by EL was organized as a satellite activity of the annual meeting on May 11th. I was attended by 31 people.

Both activities (meeting and workshop) were sponsored by EL and they were free.

Expania is paying for the registration of their members to IGeLU Conference to promote the presence of Spanish institutions.

Expania is member of IGeLU and coordinates the use of his votes in NERS according to the interest of the whole group.

Alma in Spain

During 2017 the three first Spanish Alma installations entered production (Deusto, Alfonso X El Sabio and Valencia Polytechnic Universities) and a contract was signed by Spanish National Research Council Library Network, the most important research institution of the country, to implement Alma in early 2018. The Spanish market seems to be taking off slowly.

Ex Libris support

In 2016 EL took over the business directly in Spain from Greendata (former Spanish distributor) and it hired the Greendata staff directly involved in support, who continues
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giving support to Spanish clients from Barcelona. We were a little worried with the change, but we have to say that the quality of support did not suffer with it. Support staff now has direct access to EL systems and it is an advantage also for clients. Support continues to be received in Spanish and we did not have to deal with language issues.

Steering Committee

Chair: Gaspar Olmedo (Spanish Research Council Library Network)
Deputy Chair: Marta Rodriguez (Alfonso X El Sabio University Library)
Treasurer: Carmen Rodriguez (Galicia Regional Health Care System Libraries)
Secretary: Anna Campos (Valencia Polytechnic University Library)

More information at Expania website: http://www.expania.es