Information Discovery/Literacy with ABCD

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Overview

- Challenging the concepts

- The ABCD Site as an exploration tool

- Local scholarly databases in ABCD

- ABCD Digital Library for personal information management

- ABCD for resource-databases on literacy and discovery tools

Challenging the concepts

- If 'information discovery' means leaving the challenge of finding information (the needles in the haystack ??) to the users themselves, are then librarians not abdicating their real mission ?

  => information exploration rather than discovery ?

- If information literacy includes the concept of (personal) information management, it becomes a fully different story

  => information management skills are needed

The ABCD Site

- ABCD Site = Virtual Health Library Site

http://www.bireme.br

- ABCD Site as a portal : guiding users to a multitude of field-specific resources, e.g. health

- 3 types of resources (columns) :
  - External links, e.g. EBSCO Search
  - Direct links to databases, e.g. local and remote catalogs
  - Other HTML-based links, e.g. social media, Google Scholar, RSS etc.

  => **ABCD was *conceived* as a discovery-tool more than a 'library automation system'**

The BVS Site

ABCD Site local databases

- See also : the e-Granary project for relevance of local resources

- Library catalog in MARC21 format

- Documentation Centre / Archive / Museum catalogs

- Local scholarly databases converted from (freely) available data-sets, e.g.

  – DOAJ (demo conversion)

  – TEEAL, ASFA, AGRIS...

  – Factual information (experts, projects, meetings...)

- Local repositories with Full Text (-links)
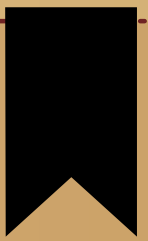
ABCD Site external databases

- Databases in ISIS, e.g.
  - DIREVE : events directory
  - SciELO : health publications
  - MEDLine : medical abstracts
- Databases of non-ISIS origin which can be accessed through a URL for 1) linking 2) getting a search result and 3) displaying a search result, to be configured in the ABCD Site Admin module (data to be given by the actual database-managers)

ABCD Digital Library features

- New in v2.0 (in test-phase)

- Uses expanded version of ISIS ($cisis_ver)

- Tool for personal information management, e.g.

  - 'dark archives' (example of Cuban scholars, document stores of researchers...)

  - Personal repository of publications

  - Institutional repositories

- Batch import or interactive adding to collection (demo)

- DL databases can be managed from ABCD Central and searched from the OPAC like any database

ABCD databases on discovery/literacy resources

- ABCD allows creation of local databases with ANY structure, e.g.
  - DC.metadata
  - URL for original document
  - DocText field for full-text indexing (using TIKA)
- An 'HTML-area' text field can contain most if not all HTML-formatted information about a resource
- Databases for discovery tools can be created - demo
- Databases for literacy training can be created
- These databases can be included into the Site meta-search

  - demo

Making your ISIS-database indexable for crawlers

- The ISIS Print Formatting Language allows adding the necessary '<head> … </head>' statements, e.g. <meta http-equiv="keywords" name="keywords" content="descriptor1, descriptor 2, ..." />

- A report of (a range or all) records in the database can be produced using that PFT using HTML tags as a HTML file.

- Put that file on your server in an indexable directory

Conclusions

- ABCD, as a free tool, can facilitate libraries to :
  - Pre-select resources (exploration vs. discovery) in the Site
  - Act as a portal to external resources
  - Offer searching (meta-search) in a multitude of local and external databases
- ABCD can also facilitate local management of document stores
- ABCD can facilitate the management of discovery and literacy training tools