Refactoring JavaScript in OpenLibrary

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Abstract

Open Library relies on a web framework called web.py, a Python package which enables developers to construct web applications. OpenLibrary used web.py to incorporate JavaScript into their web pages, and because of this, their JavaScript code had to become incorporated into the web.py Templator language used in HTML templates representing these web pages.

One of the lead developers of Open Library invited the community to help migrate the JavaScript out of these templates and into their own files. This would be helpful to developers in the future who are attempting to avoid embedding JavaScript into Templator's Python-like syntax.

Our group refactored several of these templates, preventing them from breaking JavaScript code as well as providing a better means to incorporate logic from the server into the logic of JavaScript programs of the user's browser.