Alexandria: The Clarkson Open Source Institute's Library

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Why A Library Database?

- The Clarkson Open Source Institute currently has three shelves full of unorganized books.

- There is no inventory of these books currently being kept.

- Nobody has a reliable way of borrowing them! They mostly stay in the lab.

Client Requirements

- Convenience – It should be easier to check out a book

- Organization – There should be some way to determine whether the Labs own a book, and if so, its availability status.

- Maintainability – All resources used should be capable of running on preexisting equipment in the Labs, and use a standard database format for any library admins to change.

Desirable System Features

- Speed – book queries should load quickly (<5sec), and scanning should register on the first try.

- Ease of Identification – Students shouldn't be required to register a separate identity to take out books, when they already have a Clarkson Student ID

- Ease on the Eyes – the web interface should be at least relatively nice to look at.

Work Done/To Be Done

- Corey Richardson:

  - Completed:

    - Completed the scanner interface

    - Linked currently existing pieces of the system together

    - Completed interaction with database to register new books, and check in/out existing ones

  - In progress:

    - Create physical enclosure for scanner

    - Register all books into database

Work Done/To Be Done

- Adam Kimball:

  - Completed:

    - Search interface
    - Fetching of results from the database
    - Organization of results into a user-facing table

  - In Progress:

    - Administration features
    - Streamlining of further searches
    - Generation of individual book webpages

Work Done/To Be Done

- Alex Macri:

  - Completed:

    - Initialization of book, user and history database
    - Interface to serve books and users to front-end
    - Interface to take book input from scanner

  - In Progress:

    - User authentication
    - Display history of books checkin and checkout status
    - Full Text Search

Repository

https://github.com/cmr/alexandria

Work for Next Iteration

- Further testing

  - Patching of any discovered bugs

- Integration into COSI Server Room

- Lots of general polishing and minor feature improvements

Time for a Demonstration