

Koha: A Cooperative View

MJ Ray

The logo for Software.coop is displayed on a dark blue rectangular background. The word "software" is written in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. Below it, the word ".coop" is represented by four light blue circles followed by the letters "co" and "op" in the same white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

software
●●●●co
●●●●op

Overview

- What are co-ops?
- Our cooperative landscape
- Structure and history of Koha as seen from a co-op
- The future

What is a Co-op?

"A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise."

(International Co-operative Alliance)

1493 Aberdeen: The Shore Porters Society



1844: Rochdale Pioneers



Why Co-operate?

Rochdale Pioneers

"for the pecuniary benefit, and the improvement of the social and domestic condition of its members";

by retailing, housing, employment and agriculture, social change, temperance;

28 pounds raised, spent on butter, sugar, flour, oatmeal and candles

Flour+Butter+Sugar+Oats=



Oat Shortbreads!

1 cup vegetable margarine, 1/2 cup brown sugar, 1 teaspoon vanilla, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 2 cups rolled oats, 1 cup flour

Cream margarine and sugar, add vanilla and beat until fluffy.

Blend flour, baking soda, and rolled oats and then add to “butter” mixture. Mix well.

Chill for 1 hour, roll into balls and flatten with a fork.

Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 350 degrees C for 14 minutes until lightly browned.

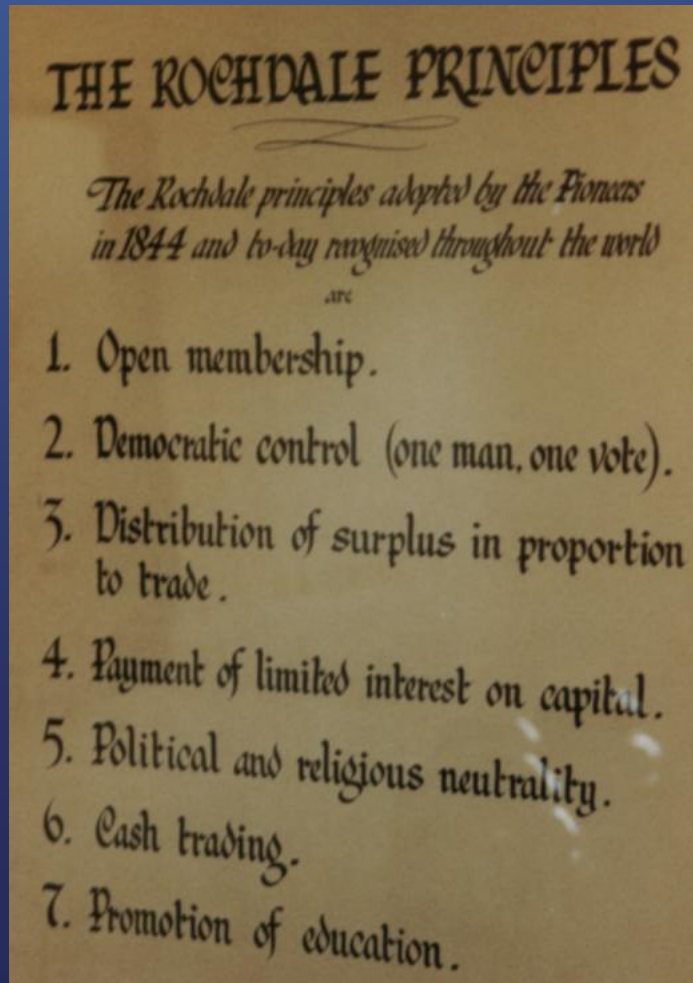
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/veganfeast/4289988198/>

How Does a Co-op Work? Values:

Co-operatives are based on the values of **self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity**. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of **honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others**.

How Does a Co-op Work?

Principles:



1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

Who Works Like This?

About 1 billion members under the ICA.

Securing the livelihood of 3 billion.

Where are the Co-ops?

Where are the Co-ops?



Where are the Co-ops?

1871 - Otago Co-op
Cheese

...

2007 - 21% GDP
(\$27bn)

Foodstuffs

Plumbing World

Interflora

Best Western



Library Cooperatives



Skyriver/OCLC

"OCLC started out 40 years ago as a library cooperative, but it has become a corporate monopoly. In the process OCLC has punished its own members who have tried to seek out lower cost alternatives"

(SkyRiver's President

"We at OCLC believe the lawsuit is without merit, and we will vigorously defend the policies and practices of the cooperative."
Case "will likely take months or even years, not days"
(OCLC Board)

Strong Co-op Promoters

"Library cooperation creates strong libraries, which in turn sustain strong societies, an informed citizenry, economic development, scholarship, and the creation of new knowledge. We can be connected. The means to cooperate more fully and effectively exist. What is needed is the collective will and commitment to do so."

- 24 September 2010, Sofia, Karen Calhoun, OCLC Libraries and Cooperative Systems

Formula for Cooperation

$$Sc * (Ci + Mt) = Co$$

uk.coop

Other Library Cooperatives



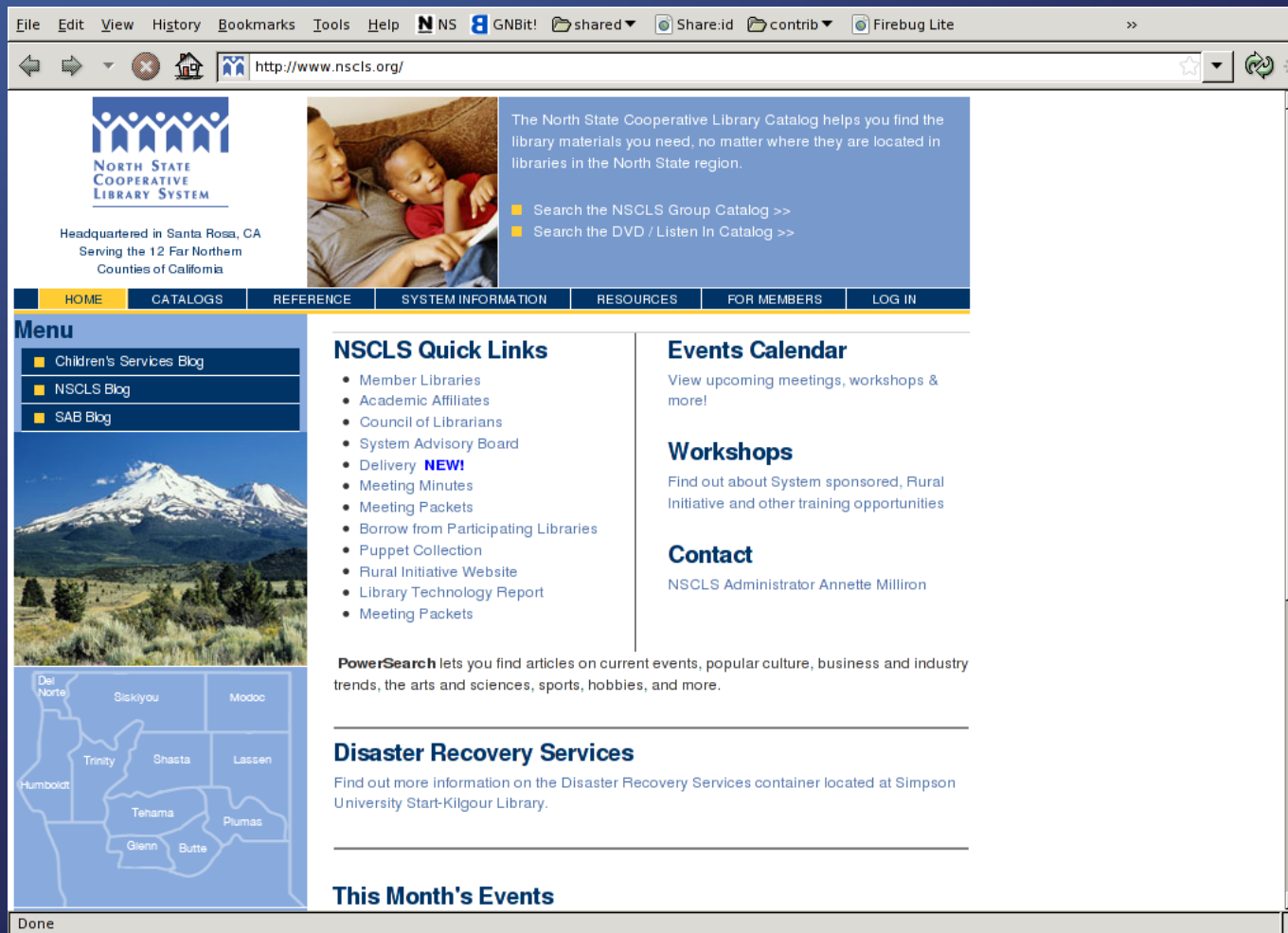
Other Library Cooperatives



Other Library Cooperatives



Reasons for Library Cooperatives?



Crowdsourcing National Libraries



Why not the UK?

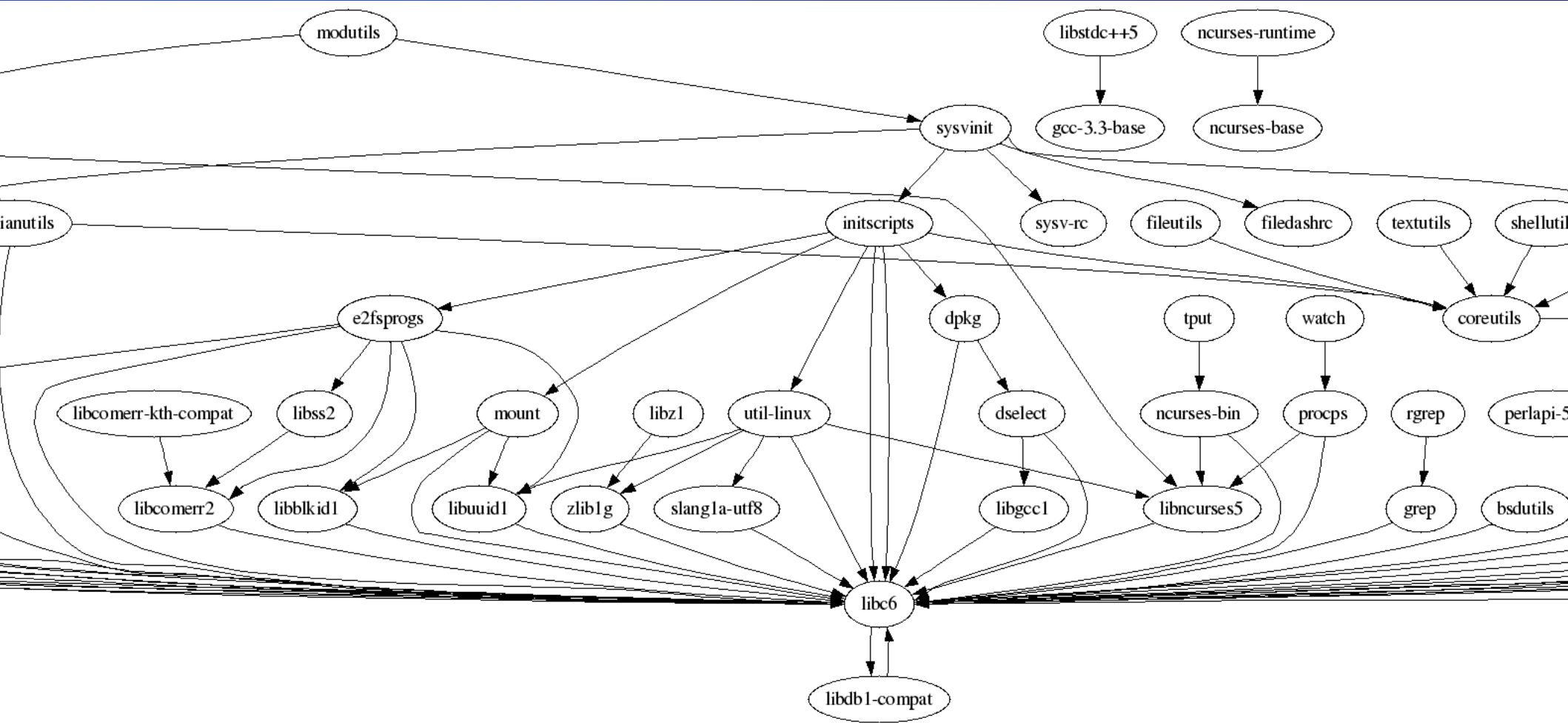


Koha: Current Structure: Management

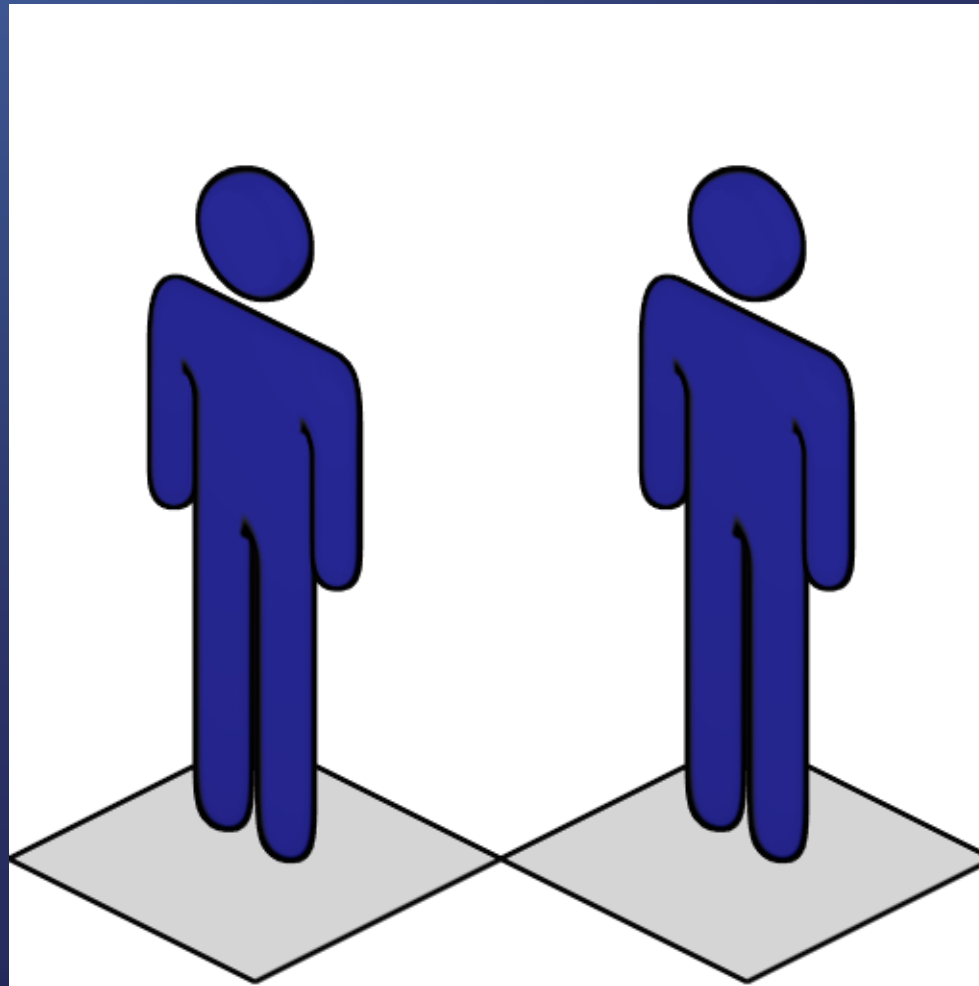


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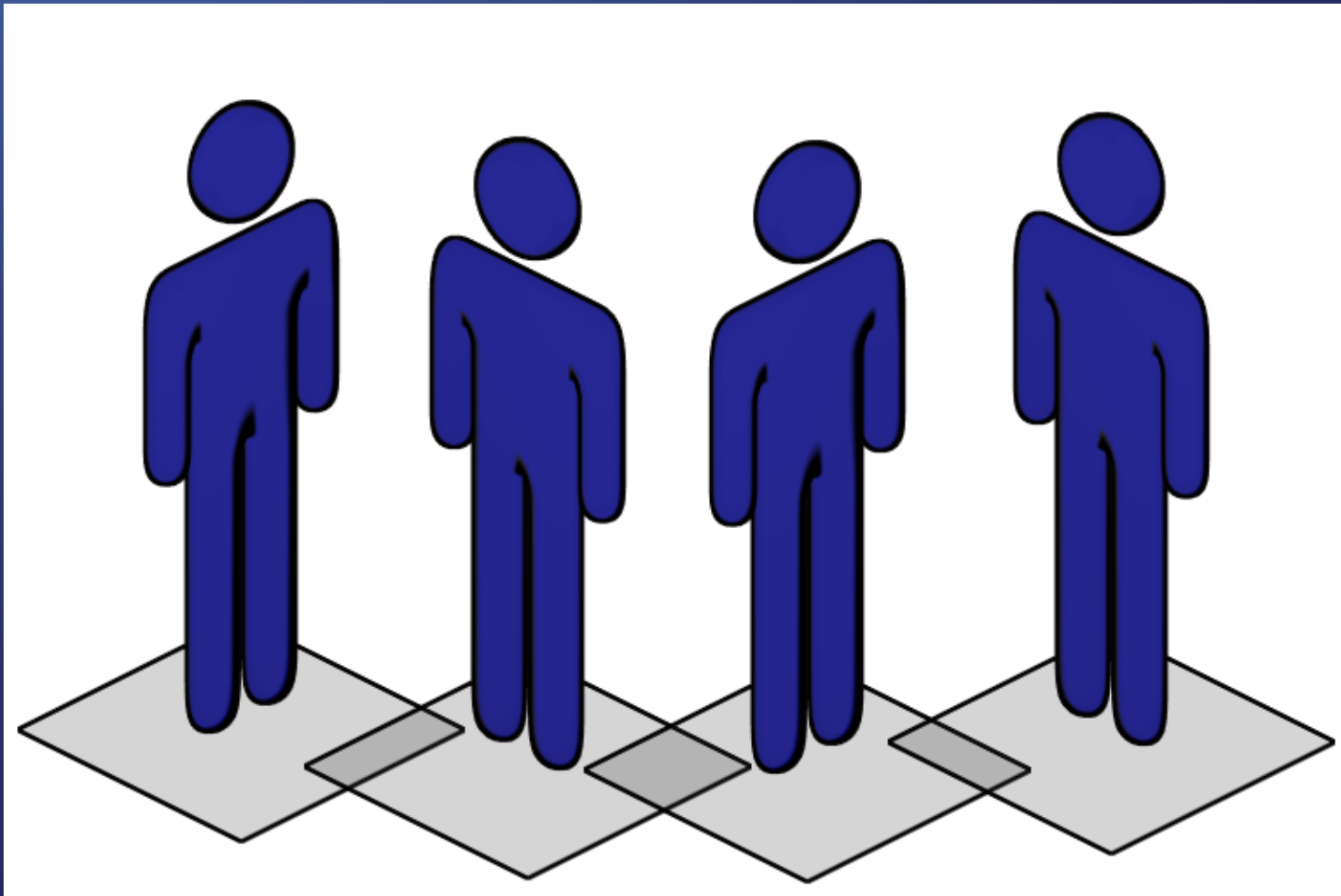
Koha: Current Structure Software



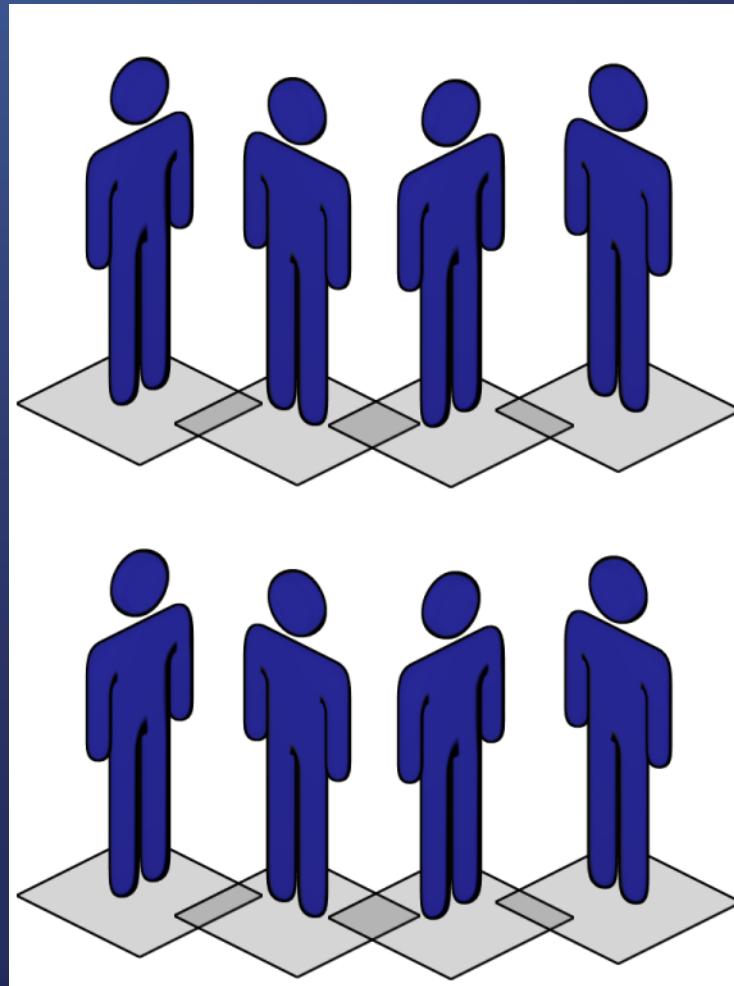
Koha: Historical Structure: 1999



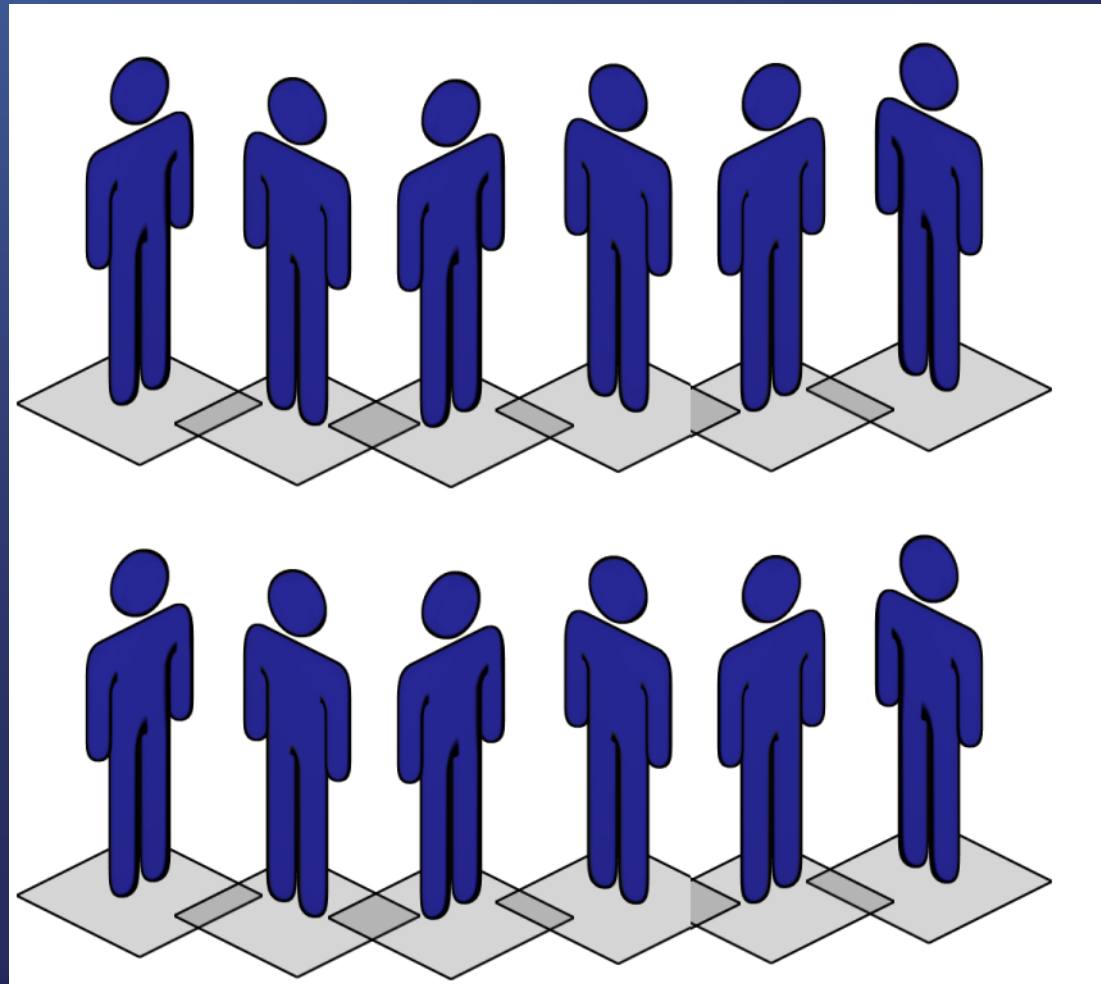
Koha: Historical Structure: 2000



Koha: Historical Structure: 2001



Koha: Historical Structure: 2002Q2



Koha: 2005-2010: Companies



Koha: Structure: Reboot?



Koha: Future: Construction



Koha: Future: Construction

Rebuild like before?

Host organisation?

Tweak the structure?

Association?

Membership?

Activities?

Foundation?

Special status for
founders?

Funding?

Cooperative?

Economic participation?

Education?

Questions? Answers?

With Thanks To:

software.coop

ICA.coop and NZ.coop

www.flickr.com users veganfeast, natlibnz,
tobias7, guano

commons.wikimedia.org and Libraries and
Archives Canada, Penny B Dreadful, Padraic
Ryan, Nikola Gruev

OCLC, Daniel.Benoy.name

...and Banksy