Chapter 34
KOHA Open Source Intergrated Library System (ILS): Isometrics in Primary Education Centers

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Abstract

The emergence of technology in information industry have influenced on how information centers like academic library to operate differently compare to 20 years ago. Integrated library system (ILS) such as KOHA has made a great impact on reviving the information flows in processing bibliographic materials for retrieval and storing purposes, what was once done in manual are ease with the new approach of systematic method provided by the ILS. KOHA is open source software that has made positive effect on navigating primary education centers onto empowering knowledge as a whole. The primary education centers are evaluated on the how it practiced, hence the isometrics of ILS are being measured for evaluating the ILS performance and relevancy in education centers.

Introduction

Information centers especially the one that hold a profuse collections for academic, research and leisure purpose around the world; using the technology in best possible ways to satisfy their users through efficient and effective library services. Integrated library systems (ILS) are multifunction, adaptable software applications that allow libraries to manage, catalog and circulate their materials to patrons. In choosing ILS software, libraries must make their decision not only on the performance and efficiency of the system, but also on its fundamental flexibility to readily adapt to the future demands and needs of their patrons (Miller, T. 2011).

There are a lot of intergrated library system in the markets, among the most reliable is KOHA library system. Koha is web-based ILS, with a SQL database (MySQL preferred) backend with cataloguing data stored in MARC and accessible via Z39.50 or SRU. The user interface is very configurable and adaptable and has been translated into many languages (Koha-community, 2011).

Fig. 1: Interface of KOHA ILS web browser
Referring to the figure 1 above, among the many features of KOHA ILS are:

- Various Web 2.0 facilities like tagging, comment, Social sharing and RSS feeds
- Union catalog facility
- Circulation and borrower management
- Full acquisitions system including budgets and pricing information
- Ability to cope with any number of branches, patrons, patron categories, item categories, items, currencies and other data
- Serials system for magazines or newspapers
- Reporting
- Reading lists for members

Compelling from the resource part, print material and physical items are no longer dominant collections; electronic resources are fast overtaking physical materials to become the leading library resources, especially in the academic and special libraries (Yongming, W. 2012). Many of the information centers taking a shorter option in relating to the business activities and current economic downturn. Numerous ILs cost highly in installation and separate maintenance fee. Koha have the advantage for being open source software; offers free installation. In addition, many other digital format resources, such as digital collections, institutional repositories, and e-books have taken root. On the service front, library users accustomed to immediate and instant searching, finding, and accessing information in the Google age-demand more and more instant and easy access to library resources and services (Yongming, W. 2012).

Isometrics in Education Centers

The formal study of isometrics often used in sport sciences, and frequently misinterpret by an action of exercises. The isometrics in education centers is the practices of procedure in using integrated library system. The library operations are divided by 5 units;

- Circulation
- Acquisition
- Cataloguing
- Reference
- Information Technology/ Information system

Current ILSs are built around the traditional library isometrics of print collections and services designed around these collections, but the last ten to fifteen years have seen great changes in both library collections and services. Print and physical materials are no longer the dominant resources. Actually, in many libraries, especially in academic and research libraries, the building of electronic and digital collections have taken a larger role in library collection development. The traditional ILS has not been able to handle ever-growing electronic and digital resources-either in terms of their acquisition or management. An integrated library system such as Koha can highten the isometrics (practice of the usage) in any education centers because of the reliability of the system, and it features all the necessary needs for storing and retrieving ease of educational purposes.
According to Fig. 2, the distribution of procedures are done to the 5 operational units that contribute to the enhanced the knowledge storing, knowledge sharing, knowledge transfer among librarians, academicians, researchers and students into benifiting the education centers as a whole.

Conclusion

This paper conceptually grasp the importance to highten the education centers that store and retrieve knowledge. The isometric of education centers on evaluating the library system are usually done without overall consideration of integrated library system, seeing that the decision makers often not from academic/ education centers background. ILS usage in support the informational needs that can give positive outcome for productivity and intelligent upbringing. With this paper, it is hope that it can give a different perception on

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