

Info Bits

Nylink Settles Into Our New Location in Albany

New location – same phones, email and mailing address! The only thing that has changed is our physical location, so if you are coming to visit check out our new directions < <http://nylink.org/albdir.htm> >.

Nylink has moved from downtown Albany to the third floor of 22 Corporate Woods Blvd., just west of downtown Albany [Exit 5A, marked Corporate Woods, off of I-90].

Located just minutes from stores, restaurants and hotels, the new space provides ample convenient and free visitor parking and is surrounded by trees and greenery. It also provides more space for member meetings and programs. We look forward to welcoming you here for future Nylink events.

Changes to MARC Records in WorldCat as Seen in FirstSearch and WorldCat Resource Sharing

On Sunday May 21, OCLC made changes to MARC records that will affect how some records are retrieved and displayed in WorldCat on FirstSearch and WorldCat Resource Sharing. These changes include:

- A new language code “zxx” will be used when there is No Linguistic Content. This code tends to be used for sound recordings. These records will display the language information as “No Linguistic Content”. All records which currently have no language code will be changed to the zxx code.

- When using the Expert search, the language index can now be searched with two character ISO codes as well as three character MARC codes and the English values for those codes. For example, the language search “French”, “fre” and “fr” all retrieve the same results.

- A new document type has been added. This document type is called “Integrated Resources” in the cataloging service and called “Continually Updated Resources” in FirstSearch and WorldCat Resource Sharing. This document type is used for resources that are expected to change over time, when information is added or deleting to keep the item up-to-date. These materials include loose-leaf notebooks, databases, and websites. The new document type has been added to the list of available document type limits in the Advanced and Expert search screens.

- The indexing of apostrophes has been improved, which affects the searching of terms with articles and apostrophe, such as the French words “l’information” or “l’apprenti.” Previously these terms were only indexed as “linformation” and “lapprenti.” The terms will now also be indexed with a space at the apostrophe (eg “information” and “apprenti”). This allows the user to find all instances of this term in records both with and without an article.

Please note: Only records updated or added to WorldCat since May 21, 2006 are indexed both ways. Until the entire WorldCat database is re-indexed, the majority of records will only have the terms indexed with the apostrophe deleted and the space concatenated. Therefore, to execute a complete search for “apprenti,” you will still need to also include the search “lapprenti”. When WorldCat’s re-indexing is completed, OCLC will inform users of the change.

- The subject indexes will include two new subject fields which now may be added to records in WorldCat. They are the “Chronological Term” (MARC field 648) and the “Faceted Topical Term” (MARC field 654). Because the the “Chronological Term” is a new field in WorldCat, all incidences will be indexed as part of the Subject indexes and display in FirstSearch under Subjects with the label “Time:”. However, because the “Faceted Topical Term” was an existing field, only newly added or updated records with this field will be indexed until WorldCat is completely re-indexed.

IOCLC - edited by J. Penn, Resource Sharing Librarian, Nylink

New WorldCat Selection Service to Streamline Selection Process

OCLC is working with Nylink member Cornell University Library to develop a new WorldCat Selection service that will help libraries save time and money by streamlining the selection and ordering process for new library materials and delivering the corresponding WorldCat records. Initially developed as an internal tool for Cornell University libraries, Cornell has partnered with OCLC to expand the scope of the software and its integration with WorldCat for the benefit of all OCLC member libraries.

The WorldCat Selection service will allow selectors of new library materials to view records from multiple materials vendors in one central, comprehensive system. Libraries will be able to get WorldCat records for newly purchased materials into their integrated library system early in the technical services process. And the library’s holding symbol will be automatically set on the WorldCat records for the materials.

WorldCat Selection is based on software known as the Integrated Tool for Selection and Ordering at Cornell University Library (ITSO CUL). The service is scheduled to launch in the second half of 2006.

“ITSO CUL software has enabled Cornell’s acquisitions operation to increase productivity and reduce costs associated with selection and ordering,” said Scott Wicks, Head, Acquisitions and Information Organization, Library Technical Services, Cornell University Library. Cornell estimates that the software tool accounts for 40 percent of its firm orders and is saving approximately \$100,000 per year in staff costs.

According to Nylink’s Executive Director, Mary-Alice Lynch, “When I first saw a demonstration of ITSO CUL at Cornell, I was struck by the efficiencies and potential for coordinated collection development that it provides. I am extremely pleased that this functionality will soon be available to our member institutions.”

The WorldCat Selection service automates the middle part of the acquisition workflow – the selection process. Librarians still “select” materials, but the need for sending items via paper slips or selecting items in multiple vendor systems is eliminated with WorldCat Selection. Acquisitions staff automatically load WorldCat MARC records into the integrated library system, eliminating the need to rekey data or import data from multiple sources.

OCLC is in negotiations with materials vendors Aux Amateurs de Livres International, Blackwell’s Book Services, Casalini Libri, and Harrassowitz to participate in the initial release of WorldCat Selection. OCLC will add more vendors as the service moves forward.

“We believe that this collaboration between Cornell, OCLC and materials vendors has the potential to help institutions further streamline their technical services processes as well as reduce costs,” said David Whitehair, OCLC WorldCat Selection Product Manager. “Ultimately, the WorldCat Selection service will benefit all library users who depend on new materials to advance their work and enhance their library experience.”

More information on the WorldCat Selection service can be found at < <http://www.oclc.org/selection> >.

About Cornell University Library

Cornell University Library (CUL) is a leader in digital library, systems, and software development and has a strong history of partnering with other institutions to leverage its expertise. With its 20 university libraries, CUL has holdings approaching 8 million volumes and 7 million microforms, and subscribes to nearly 65,000 journals and serial publications. For more information, visit <http://www.library.cornell.edu>.

Open WorldCat Expands Support To Dutch, French, German And Spanish Speakers

The “Find in a Library” interface at the heart of the Open WorldCat program is now available in Dutch, French, German and Spanish, in addition to English. People who use a web browser set to one of these languages will automatically see the interface in that language. And any web user can select one of these languages manually once they reach Find in a Library from an Open WorldCat partner such as Google or Yahoo! Search.

These interface changes reflect the growing number of holdings in the WorldCat database contributed by libraries outside the United States. Many of the recent “gold,” or millionth, records in WorldCat were added by non-U.S. libraries.

International coverage added for postal-code library lookup

Postal code information has been added for Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to help web users better identify local and regional libraries that own items of interest to them. These postal codes are in addition to the U.S. and Canadian coverage available in Open WorldCat since its inception.

Amazon.com links also available to international users

Web searchers in Canada, Latin America, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands who access “Find in a Library” also now have the option to link to Amazon.com to purchase an item they have researched. People in Canada and the United Kingdom link to regional versions of Amazon (amazon.ca and amazon.co.uk, respectively), and those in the Caribbean, Latin American and the Netherlands see a “Buy It” link to amazon.com.

Purchase links not only provide Web searchers an additional option for obtaining materials they need – they also deliver a financial benefit to libraries. Each time a web searcher makes an Amazon purchase that originated from an Open WorldCat link, a portion of the total purchase supports the ongoing development of Open WorldCat to the benefit of all participating libraries.

For more information about the Open WorldCat program, visit < <http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/open/> >.

[OCLC edited by L. Pinsley, OCLC Services Manager, Nylink]

What's Up on the Web?

Summer is upon us – a time of year that offers much to please the senses: the sounds of birds singing and children playing outside, the tantalizing smells and delicious tastes of outdoor cooking, and the embracing warmth of sun against our skin. And for the eyes, summer offers beautiful sunsets and visual delights from the many places we explore on our summer vacations. To remind us of the precious gift of sight, this month's column is devoted to vision-related resources on the Web that can help us and our library users learn about vision health – so that we can all continue to enjoy the sights of summer.

June is Vision Research Month, an observance sponsored by **Prevent Blindness America** < <http://www.preventblindness.org/> >, a national nonprofit organization founded in 1908 devoted to promoting eye health and eye safety. Also known as the National Society to Prevent Blindness, Prevent Blindness America sponsors grant-funded research, engages in national advocacy efforts to influence public health policy, coordinates vision-screening programs, and serves as an educational resource for the general public and healthcare providers.

The “Vision Learning Center” section of the PBA web site < <http://www.preventblindness.org/vlc/> > offers an abundance of basic, useful information:

- “The Eye and How We See” page < http://www.preventblindness.org/vlc/how_we_see.htm > includes a diagram of the eye, an explanation of how the eye allows us to see, and a glossary.

- The “Taking Care of Your Sight” page < http://www.preventblindness.org/vlc/your_sight.htm > provides links to information on such topics as UV rays and choosing appropriate sunglasses (particularly relevant for the summer!), and how to locate eyecare professionals including a checklist for an eye doctor appointment and resources available for those needing financial assistance.

- The “Eye Problems” page < http://www.preventblindness.org/vlc/eye_problems.htm > links to numerous fact sheets addressing adult vision, children's vision, home safety, sports safety, and workplace safety. (More details regarding UV rays and sunglasses are also included in these fact sheets.) A sampling of Spanish-language fact sheets is also provided.

The Prevent Blindness America web site is only one of numerous vision-related resources online and this is illustrated by the Kohn Vision Science Library at the SUNY State College of Optometry, a Nylink-member institution. From the library's home page < <http://www.sunyopt.edu/library/libhome.shtml> >, under the headings “Eyesites” and “Health & Medical Sites,” links are provided to reputable resources for the general public and for healthcare professionals addressing eye disorders, vision-related issues for special populations, eye clinics and hospitals, health information “gateway” sites, and more.

Two sites highlighted by the Kohn Library that are worth noting for their extensive coverage of vision topics are the **National Eye Institute** < <http://www.nei.nih.gov/index.asp> >, part of the National Institutes of Health, and **NOAH: New York Online Access to Health** < <http://www.noah-health.org/> >, a health resources portal launched in 1994 by the City University of New York Office of Library Services, the Metropolitan New York Library Council, The New York Academy of Medicine Library, and The New York Public Library. Elaine Wells, library director at the Kohn Library, is a NOAH contributing editor responsible for the NOAH “Eye” page, located at < <http://www.noah-health.org/en/eye/> >, covering a wide variety of topics from basic eye anatomy to specific eye disorders. The NOAH site is searchable in Spanish and includes many Spanish-language resources.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy summer filled with memorable sights!

[Ann Gunning, Member Services Librarian, Nylink]

