

Library 2011-12

Online User Experience: Integrated Search Tool

Summary:

Replace our current federated search tool to improve students' Library search experience.

Description

Federated search tools are now a standard part of any academic library's online infrastructure. These search tools provide simple, fast access to all (or most) library resources with one search, eliminating the need for separate searches for each resource type. Students discover content they would otherwise miss, using search techniques similar to those they already use in Google.

For the past three years we have used such a search tool, and our usage statistics increased 200% in one year alone. Despite the advantages afforded by federated search tools, there are serious flaws in user perception of search results using our old product. This year we must choose a federated search tool with an improved interface.

Questions and Answers

How is the initiative linked to the Unit Plans most recently submitted?

- 1. How does it continue the achievement of those goals?**
- 2. If this is a continuation of an initiative started last year, make sure that relationship is clear.**

How is this initiative linked to the efficiencies and productivities plans you had last year?

- 1. How does it continue the achievement of these plans?**
- 2. If this is a continuation of an efficiency or productivity plan started last year, make sure that relationship is clear.**

This initiative is tied to previous initiatives in that it is linked to our perennial funding requests for online resources. Integrated search functionality makes it easy to discover our database content.

Describe the resources needed:

EBSCOhost Integrated Search

What specific measurable program outcomes do you expect to achieve with this initiative? The outcomes should be specific enough to be measurable. Also, outline the method that will be used to determine the results.

Usage statistics will demonstrate how many times users click through to view database content after performing and integrated search. We expect that qualitative user feedback will show improvement in understanding search results, which should heighten information literacy.

Department Priority:

4

Unit Resources:

Before purchase, the search tool will be evaluated for three months, during which time library staff will learn the interface, demonstrate it to faculty, and seek input. Instructional materials for the new tool will be incorporated into the Library web page.

Funding Request: Carl Perkins

Funding Request: Curriculum Development

Funding Request: Technology Fee

1. Category of request

- **Maintain existing technology**
- **Increase student access to technology**
- **New technology**

Please type in the category of the request in the field below.

Maintain existing technology

2. Campus location

- **Main Campus**
- **Downtown Center**
- **Florence**
- **Cottage Grove**
- **CLC (list specific locations)**

Please type in the location of the request in the field below.

All locations

3. Names of the person(s) with more information (if needed):

Linda Ackers or Marika Pineda

4a. Budget ORGN

525001

4b. Budget PROG

210000

5. How many students will benefit per year?

All Lane students, faculty, and staff.

6. Describe the benefit?

Seamless search experience for Library resources that allows intuitive discovery during the research process. Facilitating research leads to greater information literacy.

COMPUTER HARDWARE \$

COMPUTER SOFTWARE \$

7,000

STAFFING \$

INSTALLATION \$

LICENSING \$

Can this initiative be partially funded?

Yes

COMPUTER HARDWARE \$

(CH) Explanation of effect of partial funding:

COMPUTER SOFTWARE \$

4000.00

(CS) Explanation of effect of partial funding:

The base cost of EBSCO Integrated Search is \$1,000. Each additional non-EBSCO database costs \$200 to include. With partial funding, we can include fewer databases. However, the point of integrated search is to provide a single search interface for ALL library resources, as publisher license agreement allow. Providing fewer databases in the search tool negates achieving the full effect of seamless access.

STAFFING \$

(S) Explanation of effect of partial funding:

INSTALLATION \$

(I) Explanation of effect of partial funding:

LICENSING \$

(L) Explanation of effect of partial funding: