Update from the Executive Director

May 2021

Hello Everyone,

Even though we’re still in the month of May, July 13 is a date that looms large for all of us at FALSC. Everything continues to be on track for a full “go live” of Alma and Primo on that date! This ILS migration project has been a huge lift for everyone involved – both staff at FALSC and FLVC as well as our colleagues in all of our member libraries – and we’re very much looking forward to improvements in the ways that the ILS serves students, faculty, and staff.

As we get closer to the July 13 go-live date, there will be rapid changes related to the ILS, so please review the information in the rest of this issue of the Update, as well as the information on the ILS Implementation LibGuide at https://falsc.libguides.com/ILS-Implementation, to review important steps on the pathway to Alma and Primo.

All the best,

Elijah

Governance and Advisory Processes

To download materials from past MCLS and Executive Committee meetings, go to FALSC.org. The next MCLS Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2021. The next MCLS meeting is scheduled for June 3 - 4, 2021, and September 16-17. Both meetings will be held virtually.

Library Support and Training

Brian Erb: Director of Library Support and Training

OpenAthens

As we approach the Alma/Primo GoLive date, we are still observing a hiatus on new OpenAthens implementations until July 13. Next up will be FIU, which has completed vendor outreach and link testing and can select a GoLive date at its earliest convenience. The extended period that FIU has spent between the
Completion of vendor outreach and GoLive has given us a window of time to observe some interesting user behavior. Since no library-based access points contain any OpenAthens mediated links, we can look at their OpenAthens usage data and get a picture of how much usage is originating from Google searches and vendor websites rather than from a library access point. FIU has had an impressive 36,000 platform accessions via OpenAthens since January 1 and apart from the small portion from our link testing all those accessions had to have taken place from vendor websites, not from any OpenAthens links on their webpage/discovery/catalog. Those took place from 9,900 individual users and 26,391 OpenAthens sessions. And these accessions were accomplished with no user instruction, just users seeing that “login with your institution” at the vendor website and thinking “Hmm, I wonder what this does?” Every one of those accessions had to have taken place when a user was looking at an article on the vendor platform and made their way to the “log in with your institution” button and navigated to the SSO that way rather than a library-based access point. I am always surprised how many users appear to be Googling for articles rather than using the library webpage and apparently have always tried the “find your institution” button to no success in the past before OpenAthens. OpenAthens can connect these resources back to the library so users searching in this way get the access they are entitled to.

Note the top 7 vendors accessed in this way – almost entirely journal packages. After GoLive they will see a larger proportion of database vendors like EBSCO, Gale, and Proquest:

Also, note the top user groups accessing resources in this way. These are the top 9 Aleph Borrower statuses in usage.
**Integrated Library Services**

Ellen Bishop: Director of Integrated Library Services

**Alma and Primo VE Implementation**

*We remain on target for the July 13 go live!*  The Implementation Project is now in the fourth and final phase, the Go Live Phase.

*Technical Services Freeze begins May 28!* Changing all records and data, except for circulation, will cease. Restricting functionality in Aleph will be done by the use of special user accounts. See your ILS Coordinator for your institution’s special Aleph Staff User logins. FALSC and the Ex Libris implementation team created a detailed [Switch to Go Live Timeline](#) to outline various stages of the transition to Alma/Primo VE. Both the [recording](#) and the [slides](#) of the [Open Session on Aleph Freeze/Alma Go-Lives](#) are posted on the Implementation LibGuide.

FALSC continues to work on Alma configurations, including UBorrow, Acquisitions, Fulfillment and Cataloging. We are also working with IT departments at the forty institutions to setup the current [third party integrations between Aleph and other systems](#). Additional integrations include, Cash Exports, APFeed, SMS, EDI, SIP2, and others.

**UBorrow was suspended on May 1, 2021.** UBorrow requests in AlephILL will not be migrated to Alma, so time is needed for requests to be finalized in Aleph. UBorrow will resume in Alma/Primo on July 13, 2021.

FALSC has completed the initial [customization of the Primo VE interfaces](#), while some institutions have chosen to do their own customization.

Working Groups and library staff continue to work on [functional and workflow testing of their institution's Alma instance](#).

**The 10 weeks of Spring Workshops open to all library staff were completed on May 6th.** Each of the 40 ILS Coordinators received a list of attendees from their institution that participated in the Spring Workshop sessions. Information about the workshops and how to register can be found in the [Spring Workshops](#) section.

Please visit the [Implementation LibGuide](#) for a detailed Timeline and dates for the Go Live Phase. You can view the Working Group members and meeting agendas, get instructions to join the Discussion Groups' listservs and more!

**SUS HaithiTrust ETAS Deactivation**

The HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access Service (ETAS) was deactivated for the participating SUS libraries at the end of Spring Semester on May 7, 2021, and for New College of Florida on May 22, 2021. All items had the special ETAS Item Process Status removed and restored as appropriate. Mango ETAS behavior was also deactivated and local circulation of resources allowed.

ETAS provided temporary access to digitized in-copyright material at HathiTrust based on the collective holdings of the SUS libraries as a benefit of our group membership in HathiTrust. It was an important component for providing immediate access for users to library resources during the unprecedented time of restricted on-campus access.

**Centralized Data Loads, Extracts, and Reports**

Ad hoc reports for various institutions were prepared on:
Electronic Resources

Rachel Erb: Director of E-Resources

Statewide Collection 2021

Most of the invoices for the statewide collection have been paid. As of Cinco De Mayo, the Springer Nature master agreement for the state universities is fully executed. We’ve reviewed the addendum, and as of May 17th, it is with FSU’s procurement for their review.

ProQuest EBooks:

Due to the Springer Nature subscription price being lower than projected, we had some extra distributed funds. The CMESC selected six additional titles from Rowan and Littlefield to add to the collection. The final order for 288 Packt titles and 281 Rowman and Littlefield titles was submitted to ProQuest on May 3. As of May 15th, the order form is with FSU’s procurement for their review.
We anticipate acquiring these titles in the same window of time as the Aleph freeze and Alma "go-live." This means we will not have access to the records in time for Aleph loading. FALSC will load these in Alma for all members since this is a statewide purchase. We will provide updates on access in the upcoming weeks.

**Statewide Collection 2022**

We began requesting quotes from our content providers in early March. We have some quotes finalized and we will continue to do our best to obtain favorable pricing. We are in the process of negotiating some pricing and the CMESC are in the process of reviewing a few multi-year offers. Some providers will not be able to provide us quote until later this summer.

**EZ Proxy and OpenAthens Update**

As part of your OpenAthens implementation, one of the next steps involved is that your institution should be "Athenizing" any remaining links on the Library's website or in Canvas (or your specific LMS). Any links that have not been updated yet will still be accessible via EZproxy which will be running simultaneously through June 2022.

However, if you are using any sort of LTI or script that calls any linccweb/ccla sso authentication, that will cause your access to EZproxy to break. We cannot fix the Canvas LTI, and Instructure cannot make adjustments due to the fact that linccweb is frozen, we want you to start making the link changes as soon as possible during and after OpenAthens implementation. Canvas administrators can contact us if LTI links start breaking and we can advise.

Your library may not have direct access to Canvas and must communicate through your faculty and/or Canvas administrators, so your library's liaisons should reach out to the appropriate department with OpenAthens access information for them. Here are some additional suggestions to communicate to them:

- URLs or links that appear in the address bar of your web browser when you search the library's databases may be session-based or search-based and will not work when copied and used at a later time.
- Check the LibGuide A-Z Database pages for up-to-date OpenAthens links without session-based or search-based URLs.
- Linking to licensed library resources in Canvas, syllabi, and course reading lists is a copyright complaint. Linking is recommended over posting digital copies of the full text of an article, a book chapter, or an image.
- Each time a library resource is accessed, a use for that resource is counted. The librarians gather usage statistics and consider usage when making decisions about journal or database cancellations.

**Digital Services and OER**

**Rebel Cummings-Sauls: Director of Digital Services and Open Education Resources (OER)**

**Digital Initiatives Standing Committee (DISC)**

**Digital Collections Platform Preference Survey**

This survey was recently sent to the Digital Services or MCLS representative for each institution. Please let me know if you or someone from your institution did not receive this survey. DISC is asking all intuitions to complete the survey, even if you currently do not have digital collections.

Overview:
The Members Council on Library Services (MCLS) Digital Initiatives Standing Committee (DISC) has spent the last several months researching and discussing options for an updated digital collections platform. The current digital collections platform, FL-Islandora, is provided by FALSC via Islandora version 7, which will no longer be supported for enhancements and security updates by the Islandora community as of November 2022.

DISC is providing a survey to assist in its work to identify a platform to succeed Islandora 7. This survey should take approximately ten minutes or less to complete. Institution’s input and feedback will be essential to DISC. Thank you in advance for you time to complete.

Considerations:

The major criteria DISC considered for a new platform included a system that can provide functionality for both institutional repository content and cultural heritage content in one system. DISC also gave preference to open-source products with an active development community. To view the full list of minimum criteria, please see this spreadsheet: https://docs.google.com/document/d/12kRd1Bgr9S-7Q17fupPuYw-5PM3Irz8V6zLSRuqio/edit?usp=sharing.

**Florida Online Journals**

- **Journal of Veterinary Forensic Sciences**
  - The Journal of Veterinary Forensic Sciences (JVFS) was incorporated by a group of internationally recognized forensic scientists to publish peer-reviewed articles in the field of veterinary forensic sciences to a global audience in an online, open-access format.
  - [View Journal](#)
  - [Current Issue](#)

Launch your journal next, contact help@flvc.org or see https://falsc.libguides.com/FloridaOnlineJournals for more information on setting up a new journal.

**System Upgrade**

We are working to upgrade the development server now and hope to roll out these changes to the test server soon. Please watch or subscribe to the listserv to see notifications to know when the test side is available for user testing. We thank you in advance for your time and assistance in the testing phase.

**OPEN FL**

**FL OER Summit 2021**
Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC) would like to sincerely thank you for attending the 2021 FL Open Educational Resources (OER) Summit.

Over 350 people from the higher education community registered for the event, including individuals from Florida, across the U.S., and internationally as far as Lebanon. We hope you built or nourished collaborations, learned new information, and were able to discover some additional tools that will help you incorporate OER into your institution or organization courses and programs.

Over the two days of the summit, we were exposed to great examples from faculty, students, and staff OER leaders. We heard about building collaborative partnerships, bringing in marginalized and student voices, faculty developing OER, state and national support efforts, library and librarian integrations, and students taking actionable steps to grow OER in FL institutions. Hopefully you have already begun to use these two days to strengthen and grow your collaborations and networks across the state. We welcome you to continue these collaborations, build upon the ideas and inspirations, and take steps to implement your goals locally. If you missed any of our speakers or were unable to attend the Summit, presentations and Summit materials are currently being reviewed and processed for public display.

If you left wanting to create a connection or campus partnership and have not yet taken the chance to reach out, I encourage you to do so this week. Let us know what blossoms on your campus this spring and summer by sharing with the OPEN FL community. Anyone interested in open and affordable learning in the state of Florida is welcome to join OPEN FL. To join the community, please visit http://listserv.flvc.org/scripts/wa.exe?A0=FLVC-OPEN-AFFORDABLE and https://falsc.libguides.com/openfl.

Thank you for your participation and we look forward to seeing you next year!

https://www.flvc.org/oersummit

Textbook Cost Indicators Workgroup

Through Florida Statute §1006.73 (2)(c), Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC) is required to "Promote and provide recommendations concerning the use and distribution of open-access textbooks and education resources as a method for reducing costs and work with public postsecondary education institutions in developing a standardized process for the review and approval of open-access textbooks and education resources." Building on previous FLVC textbook affordability efforts, a 2021 workgroup was convened with representatives from Florida’s colleges and universities to brainstorm, define and provide the best recommendations to implement textbook cost indicator(s) in the FloridaShines Course Catalog used across the state by the institutions who desire to highlight their efforts with reducing the cost of learning materials for their students.

Working together this group will:

- Identify indicator(s) and definition(s) to be used in the Course Catalog, to highlight affordable course options in the state of Florida.
- Make recommendations on the classification, use, and design of these indicators.
- Collect best practices for local implementation and catalog upload processes for peer institutions

The incorporation of textbook cost indicator(s) will build off the current FLVC infrastructure, OPEN FL community, and the FloridaShines Catalog. Statewide indicator(s) provide students and institutions a way to easily highlight and discover online courses with affordable textbook costs. Being the first statewide system to include textbook costs indicator(s) for colleges and universities in the same catalog will continue to push FLVC as a leader for the nation and will give an advantage to Sunshine State students, and online students across the nation, through easy to access, affordable textbook costs course options throughout Florida.
Florida’s Zero Textbook Cost Definition:
A Zero Textbook Cost icon may be placed with any course section requiring course materials at no cost to students.

- Required course materials associated with the section must be zero cost for student access, including ancillaries, homework, quizzes, etc.
- These resources must be freely accessible to the students without barriers. Placement within the registered student LMS is permitted provided the student has no additional costs for course section materials for the entire semester.
- Students have access to materials on the first day of class and through course completion. It is preferable that students have a way to retain these educational resources for continued learning and reference (at minimal through degree completion or separation from the institution).
- The format of materials may be either print, digital, or both.
  - Students may have the option for print-on-demand for digital materials if a no-cost option is available to all students.
Courses, where students are required to print materials, would NOT qualify.

- May include open educational resources, faculty-developed content, institution-developed content, institutionally retained or licensed campus library materials that all students enrolled in the course have simultaneous access to use, public domain, Creative Commons licensed, or any other properly licensed and adopted materials.
- Optional resources may be for cost but must not be necessary for student success in the course.
  - Other required supplies (e.g. scantrons, scientific calculators, lab materials, etc.) are not considered a textbook cost, so if a course section meets the parameters noted above but has a materials fee, the section may still be considered ZTC.
- Fees to access an online platform to do coursework or homework are considered a textbook cost, and therefore the course section would NOT qualify.

Best Practices:
Please review the Best Practices, located at the end of the document linked directly here. If you have comments or best practices to contribute please send these directly to rsauls@flvc.org.