

Library chooses WorldCat Local “quick start” for its functionality and ease of implementation

James P. Boyce Centennial Library is an early adopter of new search-and-discovery service



Situation

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary—founded in 1859 and located in Louisville, KY—is the largest and oldest of the Southern Baptist Convention’s schools of ministry. At its heart is the James P. Boyce Centennial Library, dedicated to supporting Southern Seminary “through the ongoing development and organization of collections and services so that every member of the Seminary community will have the resources to advance their ministry competencies.”

The Boyce Centennial Library was using a Web OPAC that was “unintuitive and often produced search results that did not meet user expectations,” explained Robert Brunansky, Director of Library Technology at Boyce Centennial Library. “One question we faced was how can we improve our OPAC so that patrons can quickly, easily and enjoyably find the information they need?”

Solution

“We decided to take advantage of WorldCat Local ‘quick start,’” said Brunansky, “because it was simple to set up, provided powerful search functionality, and was inexpensive to implement.” By using WorldCat Local “quick start” the library can now provide its users with search functionality and integration that wasn’t available on its legacy OPAC. “We also liked the idea of creating online community with reviews and tagging,” he said. “The availability of these features in WorldCat Local ‘quick start’ prompted us to take a look at the offering.”

Boyce Centennial Library’s FirstSearch electronic resources are now integrated into an OPAC search with WorldCat Local “quick start.” “This integration gives our patrons a one-stop search to discover resources in both journals and books,

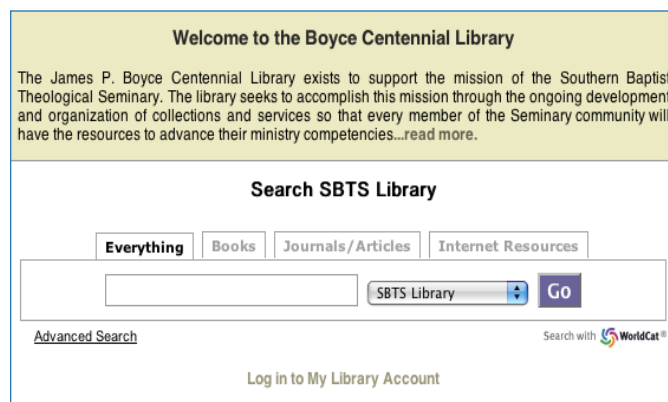
AT A GLANCE

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

- The James P. Boyce Library on The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary campus houses approximately 1 million items and more than 400,000 volumes.
- The Boyce library serves approximately 2,600 students and faculty.
- The library is dedicated to the development and organization of collections and services to support all members of the faculty and student body.

“The feedback ... has been positive, with special emphasis on the integration of various kinds of resources all in one place.”

Robert Brunansky, Director of Library Technology, Boyce Centennial Library, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY



The branded WorldCat Local “quick start” search box as it appears on the Boyce Centennial Library Web site (<http://library.sbts.edu>).

find where those items are stored—whether physically or digitally—and quickly access them,” stated Brunansky.

Brunansky is quick to point out that such ease of access is “instantaneous” when items are electronic, full-text

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journals. The library staff hopes to develop an online community of users who review and tag items, making it easier for students to find relevant and helpful resources in their fields of study. “Finally, we want to make online research more enjoyable by presenting our patrons with an attractive user interface,” he said.

Setting up WorldCat Local “quick start” proved to be very simple. “I attended a Webinar on configuration,” noted Brunansky, “and following the Webinar I input our data into the configuration page. WorldCat Local ‘quick start’ was able to auto-fill most of our information so that we only had to input a minimal amount of data.” All totaled the setup of WorldCat Local “quick start” took about two days as the library staff experimented with images for their library’s Web banner, color schemes and other features. “We are still in the process of updating our data in (the) WorldCat (database) so that our search results in WorldCat Local ‘quick start’ are complete, accurate and informative.”

Results

What pleases the staff at Boyce Centennial Library greatly about WorldCat Local “quick start” has been having the ability to supply an inexpensive searching solution for the students and faculty of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. “The feedback we have received has been positive,” said Brunansky, “with special emphasis on the integration of various kinds of resources all in one place.”

“Our (students and faculty) now have a more powerful search option available (to them),” said Brunansky. “(One that is) fully equipped with features that will not only help them find items for which they are searching, but also enable them to discover items they did not know existed.”
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For more information about WorldCat Local “quick start,” please visit our Web site at www.oclc.org/worldcatlocal/quickstart, or contact OCLC at libservices@oclc.org. To download the WorldCat Local “quick start” brochure, please visit www.oclc.org/services/brochures.