

SLA-ASIAN CHAPTER & PROQUEST

Invite you to participate in a National Seminar on
“Enhancing Access to Library Resources:
A Critical Discussion, Examination and Evaluation
of Web-Scale Discovery Services.”

START
HERE

Seminar Venues

- Pune - University of Pune (13th October 2014)
- Bangalore - Jain University (14th October 2014)
- Chandigarh - Panjab University (16th October 2014)

About Web-scale Discovery

Web-scale discovery is a transformative technology that allows Library patrons to search seamlessly across a vast range of local and remote, pre-harvested and indexed content, receiving relevancy-ranked results in the intuitive interface expected by today's information seekers.

In the face of increasing number of electronic databases and other information products, Web-Scale Discovery Services provide a single & simple entry point which searches the Pre-Indexed metadata and/or full text documents. It creates a unified, customized index of an institution's information resources and a powerful means of accessing all the content from a single search box. By harvesting metadata from both internal (library) and external (database vendors) sources, discovery tools create a pre-indexed service of unprecedented size and speed.

Scope of the content, item types, inclusion of the full text, and richness of the metadata are important considerations for providing access. To best serve the library, the search service should align with the library's available content, both outsourced (i.e., the books, databases, and full text) and in-house generated, and the appropriate approach towards research for its users.

A library serving an active group of graduate students & researchers may make different choices from a library serving community college students. That is why it is important to understand how a central index is created and how a library's collections and implementation choices will help libraries evaluate the offerings.

In order to understand these issues, SLA Asian chapter with support from ProQuest, has designed a series of free seminars, at three different places in India. The seminars are free and will address issues of technology, content, search and retrieval and user needs and demands.

Seminar Format

The format of this seminar would be invited talks, and discussions on several issues, which will allow immense interactions, raising thought provoking issues.

Seminar Objectives

The seminar is intended to be a platform for discussion, knowledge sharing and demonstration of this emerging technology by eminent panel experts, subject experts as well as information professionals from premium institutions, who are the early adopters of Discovery Services.

To discover services effectively, we need to be able to measure and compare the similarity among services. Most ontology-based and IR-based discovery techniques assume that service input/output are simple data types when calculating service similarity. However, real-world services published on the Web usually have complex data types input/output parameters.

Furthermore, a good match of parameters does not guarantee good usability and good reliability. The relevant services must be further evaluated by users' past experiences.

Discovery services can play a vital role in a library's strategic infrastructure. But it's not a one-size-fits-all arena. The needs of public and academic libraries, for example, differ enormously. Libraries can select from a variety of options to deliver the best user experience, but they must be well-equipped with data and perspective as they place their bets in this critical area.

Seminar Organisers: SLA-Asian Chapter and ProQuest | In collaboration with: Jain University & Karnataka State Library Association



Programme Structure

- Presentation by Experts: 6 to 8 experts having experience in this area will deliver talks on indexing and discovery tools
- 'Case Study' presentation by Web/Electronic resource librarians
- Presentation by ProQuest



Seminar Objectives cont'd...

This seminar would be a rare opportunity for Library & Information Science Professionals to gain knowledge of following constituents of existing discovery tools and evaluation criteria, which can help in selecting tools that fulfill the requirements and is sustainable:

- Library supplied data
- Open access and public domain data
- Publisher metadata and full text
- WSD-licensed material
- Mutually licensed

Discussion Points:

Discovery Tools : Evaluation Criteria

- **Mutually Licensed Content:** Does the central index help expose the rich metadata from your A&I subscriptions?
- **Item Types:** Does the central index include item types important to your library? Are the results full of item types you do not want?
- **Full-Text Indexing:** Does the central index include the back files for journals and have searchable full text for a variety of sources?

Discovery Layer

- **Search/Discovery Tools:** Do the basic/advanced options, facets, & limiters enable your users to find the content they seek?
- **End-User Features and Controls:** Do the folders/lists, tagging, exporting citations, and other features support user interaction with the content?
- **Interface customizations:** Can you control the branding and layout, include widgets, and use APIs?
- **Relevancy Ranking:** Does the relevancy expose the kind of material important to your users?
- **Results Enrichment:** Is it possible to enhance the results with book jackets, external information, and recommenders?

Sub themes

- Issues and challenges of accessibility/e-discovery
- Discovering information within and outsourced resources
- Research and corporate needs
- Integration and filtering
- Discovery Dilemma: Volume-to-vs-Relevance
- User needs and satisfaction • Handling volumes

About SLA-Asian Chapter

SLA-Asian Chapter was established in 1999 and is celebrating 15 purposeful years.

With more than 200 members, the SLA-Asian Chapter is one of the bigger chapters, covering a large geographical area comprising of over 20 countries and has been recognized as the fastest growing chapter of SLA.

About ProQuest - Seminar Sponsors

As one of the largest database providers, ProQuest is committed to empowering researchers and librarians around the world. Its innovative information content and technologies increase the productivity of students, scholars, professionals and the libraries that serve them. Through partnerships with content holders, ProQuest preserves rich, vast and varied information – whether historical archives or today's scientific breakthroughs – and packages it with digital technologies that enhance its discovery, sharing and management.

For academic, corporate, government, school and public libraries, as well as professional researchers, ProQuest provides services that enable strategic acquisition, management and discovery of information collections.

Who should attend?

- Library and information science professionals & scholars
- Information technology professionals
- Knowledge workers
- Policy makers
- Educationalists and academicians
- E-learning communities
- Content and knowledge managers
- Library managers
- Library consultants/ Corporate professionals

Seminar Directors: Dr.Tariq Ashraf, Treasurer, SLA Asian Chapter & Dr.Medha V.Joshi, Immediate Past President, SLA Asian Chapter