Using VuFind To Find Repository Items

Larry Hansard

VuFind is a front-end discovery tool enabling users to search metadata from the Voyager catalog and the digital repository simultaneously.

Don’t box users in. We suggest options when users cannot find what they are looking for: spelling, modifying the search, ILL possibilities, and links to the databases page for users needing articles, not books. When a book is checked out, an automatic link searching that book in the local union catalog is provided to help users in finding it in other libraries.

VuFind offers many features beyond those of a traditional catalog front end, including:
• Searching with faceted results
• Suggesting 'more like this'
• Fetching book covers and reviews from Amazon
• Linking into the Voyager catalog for live record statuses, the ability to recall, etc.
• Providing persistent URLs
• Connecting to author biographies from Wikipedia
• Offering APA and MLA citations
• Exporting citations to Endnote and Zotero
• Texting and emailing results
• Allowing users to mark favorites and tag records for later retrieval, as well as leave comments

The Georgia Tech Library's local customizations include:
• Displaying Google Books previews
• Retrieving results in the local union catalog and in WorldCat
• Pre-entering bibliographic data into document delivery and interlibrary forms

Introduction

From a results screen:
Along with standard circulation statuses and the ability to recall items, VuFind also offers options such as:

- Images of book covers (when available from our open repository, SMARTech, or Amazon.com)
- Ability to flag favorites
- Narrowing options such as specific formats of publications ("electronic" will include all the SMARTech records as well as other e-resources the library owns), topics, authors, etc.

More From an Item Record:
Users can text, email, and export to Endnote and Zotero

End user tagging is also a possibility

For more information contact:

hansard@gatech.edu