WHELF

Shared LMS Benefits 2017 - 2019

In 2016 the 9 Welsh higher education libraries, the National Library of Wales and NHS libraries completed the implementation of Ex Libris' Alma and Primo. The benefits of sharing a Library Management and Discovery system continue to be realised.

Cost savings

£150K saved each year on system subscription by purchasing as a consortium.
£600 saved each month as National Library of Wales provide Welsh translation for all libraries' system interfaces.

Leganto

Swansea and Cardiff Universities produced a framework agreement which any WHELF institution can use to procure a reading list system. Cardiff, Swansea, Cardiff Met and UWTSD have used it to purchase Leganto. Knowledge sharing and collaboration supported successful implementations.

WHELF Reciprocal Borrowing

A resource sharing scheme built on the shared LMS became business as usual in 2019 following a successful pilot. 5060 requests were fulfilled between Feb 2018 and April 2019 delivering £13500 cost savings.
£23600 was saved through shared testing and implementation.
The scheme maximises collections across WHELF, has enabled knowledge sharing, streamlined processes and has comparable delivery times to the British Library.

National Bibliographic Knowledgebase (NBK)

All libraries are contributing their records to the NBK, the database JISC Library Hub services are built on. Sharing knowledge about the process saved time.
Libraries whose records were not in Copac report an increase in resource sharing requests and income. Since Sept 2018, one institution has received £2750 from supplying to non-WHELF libraries which subsidises virtually all their BL borrowing.

Metadata

11 templates have been created and shared to support the creation of high quality records.
Collective lobbying with JISC and SCONUL has been effective in Ex Libris and publishers agreeing actions to improve metadata.

System enhancements

Coordinated voting on system developments has resulted in Ex Libris developing 16 enhancement requests raised or supported by WHELF. 12 other requests raised or supported by WHELF are planned for development.

Sharing Best Practice

A valuable network of support has developed around the LMS.
A well used Yammer network has been established.
Workshops covering Collection Management, Cataloguing and Analytics have taken place.
Knowledge sharing networks have developed around the functional areas of the LMS, for example, Cataloguing, Reading Lists and Resource Sharing.