



## Additional **SUNYConnect** Updates

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### Union Catalog

While individual library implementations of the **SUNYConnect** LMS are essential, the **SUNYConnect** union catalog represents a critical component of the SUNY-wide initiative. Progress on this part of the project has been less than expected. Both the **SUNYConnect** Advisory Council and the SUNYLA Executive Board/Council have had to send letters to Ex Libris to express this disappointment.

"We fully understand your position in the matter of the Union Catalog application and we stand behind our commitment and plan to implement this important part of the project. We do appreciate your concern and would like to state that we are allocating the required resources to resolve the issues to your utmost satisfaction." (Azriel S. Morag, Chairman Ex Libris Ltd. May 11, 2003)



### ALEPH Customers



After these fits and starts, a new prototype of the **SUNYConnect** union catalog is available. The prototype system includes the catalogs of Binghamton, Cayuga, Cortland, Oneonta, Stony Brook Health Sciences, Sullivan and Upstate Medical. **SUNYConnect's** Data Management Working Group will be involved in the initial testing of the prototype system.

### Group4

Eleven libraries are currently involved in implementing the **SUNYConnect** LMS. While there have been some delays in Group4's implementation schedule, eight of the campuses have begun evaluating test databases. An extensive training program (offered regionally) is well underway. Group4 includes two non-Multilis sites (Buffalo State College and Genesee Community College). The [Group4](#) campuses (and their main Ex Libris contact) follow: Alfred State, Corning, Erie, Finger Lakes, Jamestown and Monroe ([Mary Croxen](#)); Alfred University, Buffalo State, Alfred Ceramics and Genesee ([Chris Holly](#)); Genesee ([Debbie Cheesman](#)).

### Customized Reports

SUNY ALEPH Users' Group ([SUNYAUG](#)) delegates provided comments and suggestions regarding some customized ALEPH reports. The comments will be considered in making revisions to these reports. The plan is to have the reports available to **SUNYConnect** participants by September 1, 2003.

### Group3

All of the Group3 campuses are now receiving day-to-day ALEPH support from the Ex

Libris Technical Support Team.

### **Some Group3 Assessments**

Each campus that implements the SUNYConnect LMS is asked to do an assessment of the process. The OLIS is most appreciative of both the efforts at the campuses and the amount of thought that clearly have gone into these assessment documents. What follows are excerpts from two of the Group3 project assessments.

1. In regards to your library implementation teams and other units on your campus, please comment on: What aspects of the migration process worked well and why?

"We had a coordinated planning process that began in the summer of 2002. All staff were included in the pre-migration planning process. Each department looked at current policies and procedures and discussed needs and priorities for the new system. We spent many sessions focused on circulation policies. This process helped us to re-familiarize ourselves with current Multilis system parameters, and helped us to develop a better sense of functionalities we might want in the new system. Based on the Migration Timeline supplied by OLIS we were able to develop a local planning document that was coherent and comprehensive.

"All library staff participated in data checking...

"We held regular (mandatory) all staff update meetings on the migration. This was an economical use of our time. All staff heard the same information at the same time, which reduced the amount of misinformation and misinterpretation.

"The [train the trainer model](#) worked well for us overall.

"Having ITEC manage the server minimized the technical support needed from campus IT department. Support from ITEC is very good."

2. In regards to the interactions of your library with the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS), please comment on: What aspects of the migration process worked well and why?

"We can't say enough for the training developed and delivered by OLIS staff. For the most part, it was delivered close to when we would need it. Training developed by OLIS staff was very practical and focused on what we needed to know. The hands-on work on circ tables was invaluable. Across the board, OLIS staff provided excellent support for us."

### **New or Revised SUNYConnect LMS Documents**

"LMS Proposed Migration Schedule" (Revised June 24, 2003)

<http://www.sunyconnect.suny.edu/aleph/lmsmigrate.htm>

"SUNY ALEPH Course Catalog" via <http://www.sunyconnect.suny.edu/aleph/>

SFX "Version 2 Configuration Instructions from Ex Libris" via

<http://www.sunyconnect.suny.edu/sfx/>

### **ALIS Update**

Advanced Learning and Information Services appointments: Dr. David Porush, Executive Director of Learning Environments (SUNY Learning Network and SUNY Training Center); Dr. Peter Shea, Director of the SUNY Learning Network.



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