



Sharing SFX

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[SFX](#) is an industry leader in the area of linking software. It is also one of Ex Libris' suite of products. An increasing need is seen to be sure to point students and faculty towards the wealth of electronic resources available to them (even when they are not fully aware of all of those resources). And, an SFX implementation is an effective step towards this goal.

In the meantime, many SUNY libraries are operating with very small staff numbers, all are expected to provide traditional services plus add services for a new information age, and there is yet another software system to configure?! The SUNY Office of Library and Information Services (SUNY OLIS) is striving to assist our SUNY colleagues stuck in this jam. One example is providing centralized management for some of the SUNY SFX systems.



This "shared SFX" approach commenced earlier this month. As with any sharing, there have to be some rules. Campuses give up some ability to customize their SFX system for the benefits of having OLIS manage it. In addition, we had to place some limits on which campuses could utilize this service. Those libraries with a significant number of electronic resources (separate from [SUNYConnect](#) and [NOVEL](#) resources) aren't good candidates for this first go round of shared SFX. As OLIS gets more experience with this management we'll likely put out another call for additional [SUNYConnect](#) participants. For now, those participating in this service are Canton, Cayuga, Empire, Erie, Herkimer, Jamestown, Maritime, Old Westbury, Onondaga, Orange, Schenectady, Suffolk, Sullivan and Ulster.



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