Dear Colleagues,

We hope you are keeping warm this winter and that you enjoyed the holiday season! Over the past few months, ODI has expanded its membership to include several more librarians as well as a few more representatives of content providers (current roster available at the end of the newsletter). With these fresh eyes, we are reviewing the recommended practice and expanding upon areas that are in need of updates. Additionally, we are reaching out to librarians to understand current needs and pain points so that we can be sure that ODI is focusing on critical areas.

ODI in Action

ALA Annual. ODI co-chair Laura Morse provided an update on recent activities and upcoming initiatives of the Open Discovery Initiative at the NISO Update session


Current Initiatives

Library Survey. The Open Discovery Initiative’s Recommended Practice was released almost 4 years ago, based on work conducted in 2012-2014. In order to understand how the discovery landscape has changed, from the library perspective, the Standing Committee has distributed a survey to help us understand three broad themes:

1. To what extent do librarians think the discovery landscape is more transparent?
2. Do librarians at libraries that have discovery services understand what portions of their library’s licensed content is available through that service?
3. What, if any, are the specific areas that could be aided by additional transparency?

The survey is available at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LGBPX8K.

Content Coverage Disclosure. The ODI group has begun drafting a recommendation for content coverage disclosure by discovery providers. Following work completed in 2016 and 2017 including feedback from librarians, content providers, and discovery service providers a need for increased understanding and transparency in discovery provider content coverage was identified. Current efforts are focused on incorporating survey responses and fully defining the information points for inclusion in the recommended practice.
Discovery Service Provider Survey. Early in 2017, a survey was sent to A&I services with the goal of understanding why A&I providers have not been participating in discovery services to a greater degree. Twenty A&I providers responded to this survey. Using the responses to this survey, ODI group members identified various potential barriers that discovery services present to A&I providers. A follow up survey of narrative questions has been developed that will be sent to representatives from Discovery Service Providers. This survey will inquire how Discovery Service Providers are able to meet the most important concerns of A&I services.

A preview of the survey that Discovery Service Providers will be asked to complete can be seen here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Preview/?sm=5JDsfqRBX99Gr4ysNoOmVryoNatgvys8eUtF_2B8KJE6xxd5zzTM1R8izvKTV8ibr

Stakeholder Specific Brochures. In addition to the brochure created last fall, we are now working on separate brochures for libraries and content providers that clearly outline the benefit offered by ODI to each relevant party. Our hope is that by creating brochures that appeal to each stakeholder’s needs, we can increase participation in our efforts.

Library Usage Statistics. This new ODI subgroup plans to reexamine the usage statistics that the recommended practice suggests discovery services provide to libraries. Our goal is to better understand what is being provided and whether the recommended statistics are adequate. Following our investigatory work, we hope to generate refreshed recommendations to better suit library needs.

Learn more about ODI

Please attend these upcoming presentations by the ODI Standing Committee to learn more about the Open Discovery Initiative:

Geoffrey Morse. ALA Midwinter 2018. NISO Annual Meeting & Standards Update. Saturday, February 10, 2018. 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. mountain Time. Colorado Convention Center, Room 106

Rachel Kessler. NISO Open Teleconference. ODI Discussion. February 12, 2018. 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. mountain time. Please join the discussion and ask any questions you might have about our initiatives! To join, simply dial US: +1 646 558 8656 or +1 669 900 6833 and enter the code: 155 493 528#. International numbers available:

https://zoom.us/zoomconference?m=95vHNMACENSKvXDowQrFcbgIMUtWhOnf
Please follow ODI on Twitter and keep an eye on the ODI Website!

Thank you - The Open Discovery Initiative Standing Committee

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Noah Brubaker, Private Academic Library Network of Indiana (PALNI)
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Jay Holloway, OCLC Online Computer Library Center
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Bobbi Patham, Springer Nature
Geoffrey Morse, Northwestern University Libraries
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