

Theme: Shanghai library FOLIO project

Time: April 12, 2023 07:30 pm (EST) / April 13, 2023 07:30 am (GMT+8)

Attendees:

Vincent Bateau (Enterprise Architect, EBSCO)

Gang Zhou (Project manager, Shanghai library)

Sha Jiang (Technical Director, Jiayu)

Lucy Liu (Product Owner, Folio China)

Notes:

1. Update for LC project (Gang Zhou)

Vince:

- I can't speak to the details of this project, unfortunately. Overall we are going to replace their existing system which is based on the Voyager databases. We are still trying to figure it out. It's a complicated system and we are trying to understand the systems that are already in place.
- There will be no significant changes to their workflows or how they do their work; but there could be some minor changes. This is essentially a migration effort from their existing Voyager systems to FOLIO.
- They will likely want to make some improvements using the things that FOLIO offers: things they can't achieve currently with Voyager.
- We have another initiative with them, which is: BIBFRAME and Linked Data. That's the separate track from the FOLIO track. There's ongoing discussion about what work would be there. It would be an opportunity for innovation over ways that libraries represent their data and bibliographic data. The LC work is highly influential. It will affect how other libraries do their work.

Lucy: Are BIBFRAME and FOLIO separate projects?

Vince: They are parts of the overall project, but different tracks. They are going at different speeds. One focuses on migration from other existing systems to support workflows; while the other is a kind of conceptual improvement on how bibliographic data are kept and maintained.

Lucy: What will be the deliverables of the BIBFRAME track/effort, an editor for bib records?

Vince: We're still trying to figure it out. I would guess it's going to be a working model of Linked Data to represent knowledge that is currently captured in different structures of bibliographic data and have them usable in a way that can be represented as a graph essentially, i.e., how we manipulate the graph, how we edit the data, etc.

Lucy: EBSCO also provides a Linked Data service, which is called BiblioGraph. How will the LC Linked Data effort work with the existing EBSCO service?

Vince: I don't think we want them to be the same. We are doing something innovative with the Library of Congress. EBSCO has a product that is currently available. That's a different thing. They are similar as they both use graph representations and Linked Data requires graphs.

Lucy: Will the deliverables in the LC Linked Data effort be contributed to the FOLIO community even though they are similar to the EBSCO BiblioGraph services?

Vince:

- I think so. What can be done for converting the LC data from Voyager to FOLIO will all be going back to the community. That's definitely the goal and also a requirement. I don't think the Library of Congress wants to keep anything to themselves instead of giving them to the community. I'm less sure about the Bibframe track.
- It's a big deal that LC has decided to adopt FOLIO. It takes FOLIO to the next level because it brought the OSS project tremendous interest from other libraries because LC will adopt FOLIO. Just as what we've seen in China. You reported that there were over 700 in-person attendees and over 20,000 online attendees in a recent conference. That shows a lot of interest there. I think we'll see something similar in other places as well.

Lucy: Yes. We received 10 applications to join the FOLIO China community after the conference - five libraries and five vendors.

Vince: How many members do you have in total?

Lucy: 36 - 18 libraries and 18 vendors. <https://www.calsp.cn/about/members/>

Gang Zhou: Do you have an estimate when LC will be live on FOLIO and what apps will be launched first?

Vince: It's a multi-year project. We started in late fall. It's going to take a few years. I can't say specifically which apps will be extended. But they can implement all of them because it's a big library that needs a lot of things.

Lucy: I heard LC will go live in three years.

Gang Zhou: Yes. So I wonder if there will be updates on this project, step by step and year by year.

Vince: We would like to leave the yearly updates to LC because it's their system and it's up to them when and what they want to say about it. But, as you see in Slack, they are already involved in the community. So they might have already have provided some updates. I don't particularly track what they are doing there and what they are saying.

2. We are upgrading our FOLIO to the Nolana release. We need to upgrade from Postgresql 11 to Postgresql 12 as Nolana requires. Is there any experience in the FOLIO community to do so? We have a living system online. How much time does it take? Are there tools/methods we can use? (Sha Jiang)

Vince:

- I didn't personally attempt an upgrade myself. But I assume the community has to deal with this as well.
- I think the best option is to post the question in the SysOps channel on Slack and get advice there.
- It's really a question of what tools Postgres offers to upgrade from version 11 to version 12. It is a solution that needs to be provided at the Postgres

level. FOLIO doesn't particularly care about the mechanics of upgrading Postgres.

Sha Jiang: Can we remain on version 11?

Vince: I think you should upgrade to 12.