

Avoiding Alma-geddon: Strategies for Access Services

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Course Reserves

- ▶ Distinguishing feature: Millennium allowed us to add course as holding records and course sections as item records.

Potential Problems with Alma

- ▶ Alma would automatically print EVERYTHING about course reserves: receipts, due back dates, etc.
- ▶ We weren't sure if we could properly link resolve to our e-reserve materials.
- ▶ We received duplicate course reserve records in Alma during our data test load from Millennium.

Preparing for the worst

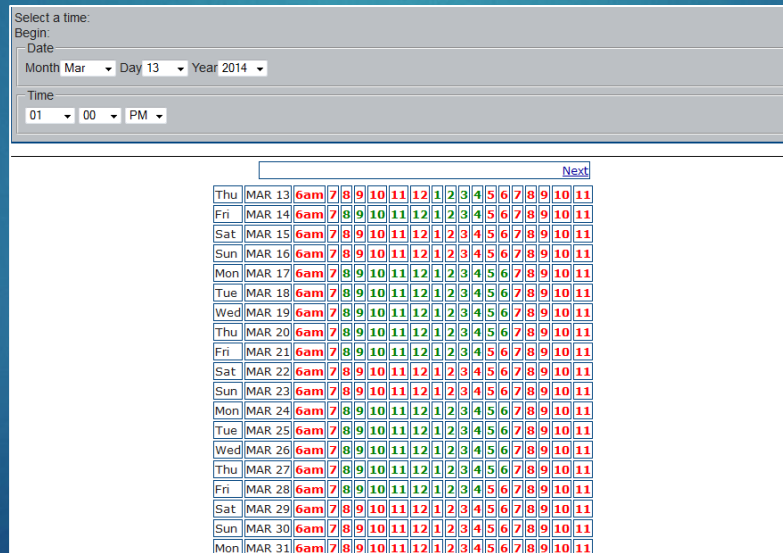
- ▶ We had to make an overall philosophical shift in how we thought about course reserves.
- ▶ We deleted all of our existing course reserves records from Millennium before migrating to Alma.
- ▶ We backed up all of our data in an Access database.

Why We Achieved Success

- ▶ Our e-reserves server was separate from Alma—all we had to do was provide a link when entering course records.
- ▶ By starting over, we were able to work with clean data.
- ▶ We were willing to fail!

Booking Study Rooms with Millennium

- ▶ Millennium's bookings module was confusing and ugly!



Potential Problems with Alma Bookings

- ▶ It launched later than expected (July 2013).
- ▶ Patrons have to choose a specific room before booking a time.
- ▶ We needed an overall improvement on what Millennium offered patrons.

The Solution: OpenRoom

- ▶ OpenRoom is an open-source bookings system developed by Ball State University Libraries in 2010.
- ▶ Patrons can toggle between “basic” and “expanded” versions.
- ▶ “My Reservations” section allows patrons to track their reservations and receive confirmation e-mails.

OpenRoom Basic Version Screenshots

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[Book Room](#) [My Reservations](#) [Logout](#)

I need a reservation on...

Mar ▾ / 13 ▾ / 2014 ▾

At the following time...

2:00 ▾ PM ▾

For how long? ▾

For how many people? ▾

Note: All fields are required!

[Find me a room](#)

[Switch to Expanded View](#)

Select a room below to make your reservation.

Room 18G
Capacity: 3
Room details: Has whiteboard →

Room 18H
Capacity: 3
Room details: Has whiteboard →

Room 201B
Capacity: 6
Room details: No whiteboard →

Graduate Learning Center
Capacity: 8
Room details: For graduate students only →

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Your Reservations

Room 18H
Mar 13, 2014 at 2:00 pm
Duration: 120 minutes
Whiteboard: Has whiteboard
[Cancel](#)

[Switch to Expanded View](#)

Works with Apple iPod, iPhone, iPad, Google Android devices, and Windows Phones
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▶ Questions?