



2016

WorldCat Discovery: Updates from the MLA/MOUG OCLC Search and Discovery Task Force

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WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Duffy, Michael J. IV, "WorldCat Discovery: Updates from the MLA/MOUG OCLC Search and Discovery Task Force" (2016). *University Libraries Faculty & Staff Presentations*. 7.

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WorldCat Discovery: Updates from the MLA/MOUG OCLC Search and Discovery Task Force

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Music Library Association 2016

Timeline

- WorldCat Discovery Services launched in 2014
- MLA meeting in Denver, 2/25-3/1/15
- At the time, WorldCat Discovery was scheduled to replace FirstSearch on 12/31/15
- MLA President and MOUG Chair established joint OCLC Search and Discovery Task Force to evaluate WorldCat Discovery Services

Task Force Membership

- Members:
 - Michael Duffy (MLA), chair
 - Tom Bickley (MLA)
 - Laura Gayle Green (MLA)
 - Stephen Henry (MLA)
 - Carlos Peña (MLA)
 - Rebecca Belford (MOUG)
 - Marty Jenkins (MOUG)
 - Hermine Vermeij (MOUG)
 - Brad Young (MOUG)

Task Force Charge

- Working with the Music OCLC Users Group, investigate OCLC's WorldCat Discovery Services to determine if it will be sufficient to meet the needs of music users. If the Task Force determines that WorldCat Discovery Services is not sufficient, it will recommend a course of action to petition OCLC to continue to provide the FirstSearch interface for WorldCat after December 31, 2015. It will also recommend a course of action to petition OCLC for specific improvements to WorldCat Discovery Services to meet the needs of music users.

Key Documents

- Belford, Rebecca. “Evaluating Library Discovery Tools through a Music Lens.” *Library Resources & Technical Services* 58, no. 1 (January 2014): 49-72, <http://journals.ala.org/lrts/article/view/5035/6095>.
- OCLC. “Item Bibliographic Data as Displayed in the WorldCat Discovery Interface.” <https://www.oclc.org/support/services/discovery/documentation/item-bib.en.html>
- OCLC. “Searching WorldCat Indexes.” <http://www.oclc.org/support/help/SearchingWorldCatIndexes>

WorldCat Discovery Services

- WorldCat Discovery is currently available to all libraries with a FirstSearch subscription.
- Will replace FirstSearch in late 2016.
- We examined two instances of WCD:
 - Virginia Tech, <https://virginiatech.on.worldcat.org/discovery>
 - Melvyl (University of California), <https://melvyl.on.worldcat.org/discovery>
- WorldCat Discovery can be used as a discovery layer.
- WorldCat Discovery can also be used only to access WorldCat.
- For more information, see: OCLC, “WorldCat Discovery Services,” <https://www.oclc.org/worldcat-discovery.en.html>.

Searching

- Basic search (keyword) capability
- Advanced search allows searching within defined data fields (from drop-down menu), linked by Boolean operators.
- Users may add more rows to search more fields as desired.
- Libraries may customize WorldCat Discovery to search only WorldCat, or to search many databases at once. Users may change the default selections.

Nested Searching

- FirstSearch treats search strings in each search box as if they have parentheses around them.
- WorldCat Discovery does not do this.

Nested Searching

- Compare Advanced Search to Command Line Search:

Advanced (retrieved 6,511,431 results in WCD but only 9 in FirstSearch on February 29, 2016):

Subject: england OR “great britain” OR “united kingdom”

AND Keyword: “brass band”

AND Keyword: girl* OR wom*

Command Line (within keyword search box in WCD, retrieved 12 results on same date):

su: (england OR "great britain" OR "united kingdom") AND kw: "brass band" AND kw: (girl* OR wom*)

- Thanks to Maria Perez-Stable of the Western Michigan University Libraries for the example

Special Characters and Words

- Diacritics are not necessary for searching.
- Diacritics, sharps, flats, special characters, and phonogram/copyright symbols display.
- Stopwords can be searched if enclosed in quotation marks.
- Boolean operators must be entered in ALL CAPS to function.

Record Display

- Records display in a brief view both in results list and in the initial record display.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://wmu.on.worldcat.org/search?queryString=kw%3Abasic+music+reference&databaseList=137%2C143%2C173%2C199%2C203%2C217%2C233%2C239%2C245>. The search results show 39,372 results. The first result is "Basic music reference : a guide for non-specialist librarians, library assistants, and student employees" by Alan Green and Michael J. Duffy IV. The record display shows the title, authors, publication year (2013), and database (WorldCat). It also includes buttons for "Check eResources", "Request Item", and "Google Preview". The "Description" tab is selected, and the "Availability / Holdings" tab is also visible. The "Availability / Holdings" section shows "Libraries Worldwide" with 194 libraries and a search location: "D B Waldo Libr, 1903 W Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, US-MI".

Users can expand the view to a fuller view by clicking on "Description."

Particular libraries holding the items are listed here.

Record Display

- More detail is available under “Description.”

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying search results from Western Michigan University Dwight B. Waldo Library. The search query is 'kw:basic music reference'. The results list three items, with the first item selected to show its full record details.

1. Basic music reference : a guide for non-special...
by Alan Green, Michael J. Duffy IV.
Print book ©2013
Database: WorldCat
Held by: Western Michigan University Dwight B. Waldo Library

2. A basic music library : essential scores and so...
by Elizabeth A. Davis, Music Library Asso...
Print book 1997
Database: WorldCat
Held by: Western Michigan University Dwight B. Waldo Library

3. The New York Public Library desk reference.
by New York Public Library.
Print book ©1989
Database: WorldCat

Publication: Middleton, Wis. : Co-published by Music Library Association and A-R Editions, ©2013.

Physical: xiii, 123 pages : music ; 24 cm.

Description:

Language: English

ISBN: 9780895797452 0895797453

OCLC Number: 799024838

LCCN: 2012024103

Series: [Music Library Association basic manual series :8](#)
[Music Library Association basic manual series .no. 8.](#)

Contents: Part one: Basic concepts and tools : Distinctive materials: scores and recordings : Know your scores! ; Recordings come in different shapes and sizes -- Languages -- Library catalogs : When to use a library catalog ; How to use a library catalog ; Basic search concepts : Keywords ; Personal names ; Phrase vs. keyword ; Boolean and proximity operated ; Truncation and masking ; Combining concepts ; Controlled vocabulary searching with subjects ; Controlled vocabulary searching with names ; Controlled vocabulary searching with uniform titles ; Classification systems ; Limiting searches by format -- Music reference tools : Guides to music reference literature : When to use one of these music reference guides ; Dictionaries and encyclopedias : What are...

Contact Support

Record Display

- Subfields generally display in the same order as they do within any MARC field.
- However, 245 subfield \$c does not display.
- Potentially a problem for pseudonyms or incorrect attribution.

Headings

- Personal and corporate name headings display together in brief view.
- Uniform titles display and are hyperlinked, but only when they come from 240, 130, or 730.
- Name-title headings do not display.
- Within personal name headings, only subfields \$a, \$b, \$c are hyperlinked and display – subfield \$d is neither hyperlinked nor displays.
- Problem: record for *On the Transmigration of Souls* by John Adams
- Clicking on John Adams produces a list of all works by John Adams as author, including *The Works of John Adams, Second President of the United States*.
- Subject headings display and are hyperlinked.

Facets

- Sort by
- Library
- Content
- Format – also many icons for various formats
- Databases
- Author
- Year
- Language
- Topic

Notes

- Most note fields display.
- 546 (Language note) does not display but is indexed.
- 511 (Participant or performer note) displays separately.
- 518 displays as “Event notes.”
- 505 displays
 - Non-enhanced notes in 505 (subfield \$a) are not indexed as authors or titles
 - Author and title in enhanced 505 notes (subfields \$r and \$t) are indexed respectively

Publisher Number

- 028 (Publisher Number) is indexed but does not display.
- There is no browse for publisher number.

Next Steps

- FirstSearch currently performs better for music searches.
- Task Force will send report with recommendations to MLA and MOUG Boards.
- We will recommend that the MLA and MOUG boards jointly request changes and a response from OCLC.