Apps And APPsearch…Thus Far

By: Andrea A. Leonard

Abstract
This presentation was part of a panel titled “Apps in the World of Libraries and Discovery: A New Frontier” at the 2016 ER&L Conference in Austin, TX. It showcased how apps were used in the discovery environment at Belk Library & Information Commons at that time.

Apps and thus far

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A short discovery service story
Which apps do people see in APPsearch?
Which other “apps” are we using?

EBSCO
cloud-hosted
Curriculum Builder
Other EBSCO cloud apps…

Google Analytics (beta)

Item Exact Match Recommender
How has the cloud fundamentally changed the adoption of discovery apps for libraries?

- increased number of offerings
- increased variety and functions
- reduced the technical burden
In fact, it’s like a candy store...!
Is this a good thing?
Usage Stats for July 1-Dec 31 2015

- Librarian chat now:
  249 chats originated from APPsearch - 1989 chats total
- Reference Universe: (not available yet)
- Report a problem: (not available yet)
- Text message (not available yet)
- Map It! (not available yet)
Informal surveys:
Do you use any of these apps?

Student Advisory Group - 6

Library Faculty & Staff - 13

[Bar charts showing usage rates for different apps]
Informal surveys:
Want to add any of these EBSCO apps?

Student Advisory Group - 6

- Search Google Scholar
- LibGuides: Recommended...
- Own Drive eBooks...
- RSS Feed of news and...
- Save PDF to my Cloud - save...
- Zotero Integration...

Library Faculty & Staff - 13

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Are apps increasing our library engagement?

Too early to know...?
How do we measure this?
Are apps increasing our library engagement?

Too early to tell...?

- **A library faculty/staff comment:**
  “Concerned about info overload and feature overload. Need to watch out that what makes a librarian swoon likely will not be appreciated by most patrons. Add features with caution. It is a gift to be simple”

- **A student comment:**
  “I don't know about Zotero. I've been struggling with integrating it to my research. I wish there's more integrated reference system directly linked to Word.”
Thank You
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