PubPac Committee Meeting Minutes

Feb 10, 2010 10 a.m.

The committee reviewed the demo by Bowker for their Syndetics content for SOPAC. We loved the features, especially the info that comes down for series. The other feature we're getting pricing on is their "searchable fiction" product. Our database is uploaded to them, they run searches against this database to present titles that have the same author, subject, genre, or series (I think), for the current title. We compared the pricing for the different products; Content Cafe, Novelist, and Syndetics and believe Syndetics can give us the best value and service. It's also the easiest to implement. We'll be making a formal recommendation to the Board on 2/17.

Had a lengthy discussion of headings for the Resources page in SOPAC. So far we've come up with the following:

Downloads, Newspapers & Magazines, and Online Tools, Gadgets & Widgets. The committee is still looking for a catch-all term or phrase to include links to resources such as tax forms, timely health issues, job resources, etc. Topics that can change through the year or over time, but are relevant to people's livelihood. Something such as Vital Information? We'll continue work on this at our next meeting on 2/24.

This is what the Resources Page will look like, as of now:

Downloads

Overdrive Audio Books - download books to listen on a portable player or a computer. Formats include; MP3 and WMA.

Overdrive E-books - download books to read on an ereader device or your computer. Format include: PDF and EPUB.

Overdrive Music - download music to listen to on portable player or a computer. Formats include; MP3 and WMA.

TumbleBooks - animated picture books for kids, created in Flash, to view and read on your computer. Also includes some Tumble Readables, Quizes, and Puzzles.

History SAILS On... - local collection of historic documents to read online or download. Includes Middleboro's Cranberry collection, Hanson's history books, Carver and Rochester's cemetery records, and more.

Newspapers & Magazines

We'll put in the Gale widget for the Gale powersearch. We're going to try to find if there's a ProQuest search box for the magazines and then link to the other individual databases not covered by these search tools?

Online Tools, Gadgets & Widgets

This is where we'll put the different things we currently have on the SAILS public site, under the same heading.

The Virtual catalog will go in a promo box, so people who don't find something in the local catalog will always be able to access the VC. We'll explain that this is a Statewide catalog and list the 9 networks & participating colleges.

The summer reading lists will also go in a promo box, when the time is right for the lists to appear.

We had a brief discussion about the patron favorites and no one on the committee can remember hearing patrons talking about these. I mentioned that this feature should be able to be somewhat available for patrons by using the saved searches feature in SOPAC with the RSS capability.