2014

Catalogue 2.0: The future of the library catalogue

Judy H Jeng, *San Jose State University*
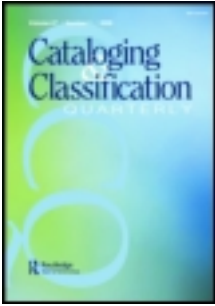
Cataloging & Classification Quarterly

A Review of "Catalogue 2.0: The Future of the Library Catalogue"

Judy Jeng [a][b]

[a] Drexel University , Philadelphia, PA

[b] San Jose State University , San Jose, CA
Published online: 24 Mar 2014.

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Book Review

CATALOGUE 2.0: THE FUTURE OF THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE, edited by Sally Chambers. Chicago: Neal-Schuman, 2003. xxvii, 212 p. illus. ISBN 978-1-55570-943-3. $80.75

In his foreword, Marshall Breeding aptly describes this book as "an interesting and important exploration of the realm of the emerging technologies, products and projects that impact the way that libraries provide their customers with access to their collections and services," as a result of dissatisfaction with the online catalog. The book provides an overview of the current state of the art of the library catalog and then looks to the future to see what the library catalog might become.

The book contains a foreword by Marshall Breeding, an introduction by Sally Chambers, and eight chapters written by experts in the field. In the "Introduction," Sally Chambers provides a review of how the library catalog and cataloging have changed and the current trends in those areas.

Chapter 1, "Next-generation catalogues: what do users think?," by Anne Christensen, presents the lack of a user-centered approach in the development of early online public access catalogs (OPACs) and how academic libraries lost what used to be a monopoly position for the provision of scientific information. Librarians seem to be most concerned about data quality in next-generation catalogs. Ease of use is the most important paradigm for next-generation catalogs.

Chapter 2, "Making search work for the library user," by Till Kinstler, explores how users demand self-service from intuitively usable search engines and have come to expect it from library catalogs. The author describes how Boolean search differs from the Vector Space Model that is used in many search engines and explores how such search engine technologies can be applied to library catalogs. Additionally, other features of modern search engines, such as search suggestions and faceted browsing, are also explored.

Chapter 3, "Next-generation discovery: an overview of the European scene," by Marshall Breeding, provides a brief overview of the features and general characteristics of a number of new library discovery systems, focusing

on those products that have been implemented or developed in the United Kingdom and other parts of Europe.

Chapter 4, "The mobile library catalogue," by Lukas Koster and Driek Heesakkers, defines mobile catalog and explores the different kinds of mobile applications, including advantages and disadvantages of each application.

Chapter 5, "FRBRizing your catalogue: the facets of FRBR," by Rosemie Callewaert, explores how the theory behind the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) model has been applied in practice in Belgium, including user experience and metadata creation and enrichment.

Chapter 6, "Enabling your catalogue for the Semantic Web," by Emmanuelle Bermès, provides a short introduction to the Semantic Web and its practical implementation, linked data.

Chapter 7, "Supporting digital scholarship: bibliographic control, library co-operatives and open access repositories," by Karen Calhoun, examines bibliographic control, cooperative cataloging systems, and library catalogs in the context of changing library collections, new metadata sources and methods, open access repositories, digital scholarship, and the purposes of research libraries. The author concludes the chapter with a call for research libraries to consider collectively new approaches that could strengthen their roles as essential contributors to the emergent, network-level scholarly research infrastructures.

Chapter 8, "Thirteen ways of looking at libraries, discovery and the catalogue: scale, workflow, attention," by Lorcan Dempsey, outlines how the catalog is changing to become a part of a larger discovery environment.

This book is timely and well-written. The topics covered include the OPAC, search engines, discovery systems, mobile applications, FRBR, the Semantic Web, and digital repositories. Each chapter starts with a good introduction of the topic, followed by a discussion of current developments and explorations about the future.

This is an excellent book. I recommend it to anyone interested in knowing about the future of the library catalog.

Reviewed by Judy Jeng
Adjunct Faculty
Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA

San Jose State University
San Jose, CA