

LibraryCrunch

Bringing You A "Library 2.0" Perspective, by Michael Casey

[« Blyberg's Beautiful Drupal](#) | [Main](#) | [Peer review study compares Wikipedia and Britannica](#) »

Talis and Library 2.0

[Talis](#) is throwing together a round-table to discuss Library 2.0. I'm not sure what to think of this, though I hope that [John Blyberg](#) is invited to be a part of their discussion. Talis has taken a very proactive approach to this L2 discussion, publishing a [white paper](#) several weeks ago and [blogging regularly](#) about the idea.

Something [I've been trying to stress](#) (how successfully, I can't say) is that Library 2.0 is [not simply about technology](#) – though L2 does take advantage of many great Web 2.0 applications. I can understand why a large ILS vendor wants to be a part of the L2 discussion, and I look forward to hearing how they plan to make better L2 technology. However, there are numerous service aspects of L2 not directly related to technology, so I'm not sure how involved in that part of the L2 discussion an ILS vendor can be.

Talis also seems to be planning a presentation at [CIL 2006](#). I look forward to sitting in on their discussion.

Posted by Michael on December 13, 2005 11:36 PM | [Permalink](#)

➔ TrackBack

TrackBack URL for this entry:
<http://www.librarycrunch.com/mt/mt-tb.cgi/79>

➔ Comments

Michael

I'd certainly welcome either John Blyberg or yourself expressing interest in being on the panel, and would also be interested in more elucidation of your "I'm not sure what to think of this". There isn't some sinister ulterior motive; honest!

I agree, and I hope that I have never suggested otherwise, that Library 2.0 is not only about technology. It's about a raft of changes, whether small or fundamental, but they all either draw upon technology or have an impact upon the way in which a piece of technology is designed, implemented or utilised somewhere in the organisation – often in areas apparently unrelated to the function at hand.

An ILS vendor such as Talis has every reason to be involved in Library 2.0 discussions across all areas of the organisation. We're about more than just technology, too! In some of those areas, it has more to offer than in others, but it certainly needs to understand the wider picture if it is to do its job properly, and not just deliver widgets to specification.

And yes, Talis is presenting at CIL on the Friday.

Posted by: [Paul Miller](#) | [December 14, 2005 02:17 AM](#)

Paul,

This is a delicate balance. I have no fear of Talis harboring sinister ulterior motives, trust me! But I do worry that the ultimate answer to the question of "where are libraries going and how are we going to get there" must come from librarians in cooperation with their potential user base. You are correct, vendors such as Talis and SirsiDynix and others do "have every reason to be involved in Library 2.0 discussions", but I would question the part about "across all areas of the organisation".

Red flags go up for me any time suppliers/vendors become deeply entrenched in the policy and planning making process. One need only look to the military for some very destructive examples of contractors driving military strategic planning. That being said, I harbor no such fears regarding Talis, I just want to explain my concerns regarding this relationship between vendor and library. It is, as I said, a balance that must be preserved.

You want to know what would make me feel more comfortable? Talis should get together with SirsiDynix and any other ILS vendor and host a discussion at CIL that includes some of the same library-people you have in mind for your upcoming dialogue. A community-oriented approach would go a long way towards alleviating these concerns.

Thanks for replying.

Michael

Posted by: [Michael Casey](#) | [December 14, 2005 08:10 AM](#)

➔ Post a comment

(If you haven't left a comment here before, you may need to be approved by the site owner before your comment will appear. Until then, it won't appear on the entry. Thanks for waiting.)

Name:

Email Address:

URL:

☐ Remember personal info?

Comments:

Preview

Post