In 2013, when I took over as the acquisitions librarian, this is how my desk looked:

My predecessor accepted purchase requests on paper. When she left, the person who took over ordering accepted emails. When I took over, that person printed out all those emails so I was left with a massive stack of papers to sort through. I thought to myself, "This is crazy and I already deal with enough papers as it is! I need something different."

My solution? I decided to use something I was already using on a daily basis and knew how to use very well. I had heard about the Getting It System Toolkit at another conference a few years ago and was curious if it could work for us.

Fast forward to today and I can honestly tell you that ILLiad and GIST make the perfect team.

SUNY Geneseo’s Milne Library is where GIST originated. A group of librarians got together along with Atlas Systems (makers of ILLiad) to create GIST as part of the larger IDS Project.

Introduction

Your first step should be to plan your workflow for what works best for your departments. This is an example of a workflow provided by IDS. Their model starts with a GIST request for ILL AND Acquisitions loan requests.

Their model did not work for us, so we decided to go with GIST only for acquisitions requests. Our ILL workflow is completely separate.

Planning

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Implementation

1. ILLiad Add-Ons
   - GIST for Web (shown on right)
   - GIST Purchase
   - GIST Acquisitions
   - Cataloging [not required]
   - Copyright Clearance Center [not required]

2. Edit webpages with HTML

3. Get API Keys (Amazon & WorldCat)

4. Install SQL Tables

Testing

- Ask for volunteers
- Change their user status in ILLiad to “GIST Tester”
- Test the webpages – do links and buttons work?
- Test email routing and custom queues in ILLiad
- If needed, troubleshoot request forms
- Once all that is done… YOU ARE READY FOR LAUNCH!

Planning

Your first step should be to plan your workflow for what works best for your departments. This is an example of a workflow provided by IDS. Their model starts with a GIST request for ILL AND Acquisitions loan requests. Their model did not work for us, so we decided to go with GIST only for acquisitions requests. Our ILL workflow is completely separate.

Results

If you follow the GIST directions perfectly, this is what your form can look like. Examples of our ILLiad queues are also below. You can customize these to fit your workflow.

Need help with GIST? Even though some of the gistlibrary.org website might look out of date (for example, the forums), they still support this project and are more than happy to help you. I shared my desktop a number of times with the executive director, Mark Sullivan. Not being a systems librarian or computer science person, I needed a little help knowing exactly where to put some of the configuration files and how to edit some of the HTML.

Also, I highly recommend using the GIST-L listserv. It’s not used often, but when it is, people respond quickly. Plus, just like any other listserv you might belong to, you can access the archives where you might find the answer to your problem!

Results, cont.

So far, faculty are using GIST the most. We are trying to encourage use of the service through our Curriculum Process System (the method through which faculty propose new courses) so that we know our collection supports courses at ETSU.

Questions?

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THANK YOU!