User Experience Committee
Minutes
December 5, 2024

"In order to better serve both patron and staff end users, the User Experience Committee will discuss and recommend to the Administrative Council services and configurations in order to optimize usability."

The committee will meet on Thursday December 5th (1:00PM – 2:00PM) online via Zoom.

[Register online](https://prairiecat-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIucuGhqzwpG9S0RR3hWul9wIFMoTjlcG9E) (https://prairiecat-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIucuGhqzwpG9S0RR3hWul9wIFMoTjlcG9E)

1. Welcome and introductions, public comment
   Present via Zoom: Shelby O'Hara (PrairieCat), Chelsey Knippel (PrairieCat), Elizabeth Smith (PrairieCat), Emily Kofoid (GV), Victoria Blackmer (CV), Madison Ward (YK), Emily Schaub (PU), James Stratton (RP), Carolyn Coulter (PrairieCat), Austin Nord (WO), Eric Linnell (BD), Kari Prange (LP),

   Not present: Britta Krabill (DK), Jennifer Barton (GE), Melissa Landis (PrairieCat), John Slanicky (PrairieCat), Jason Jensen (PrairieCat), Marie Monaco (PO)

   There were no public comments.

2. Review agenda for addition/changes
   There were no revisions.

3. Approve minutes for September 5, 2024, PrairieCat User Experience Committee Meeting

   Motion #1: Schaub (PU) moved and Linnell (BD) seconded to approve the minutes. The Committee voted by vocal acclamation to approve the minutes from 9/5/2024 meeting minutes as presented. There was no discussion on the motion.

4. Mobile App

   4.1. Review survey feedback from mobile app demos

      4.1.1. Bibliocommons/Biblioapps
      O'Hara (PrairieCat) discussed the Bibliocommons application demonstration. A few of the key points were the lack of advanced searching but they have powerful filtering options and natural language search functions. It is possible to integrate events, but only through the Biblio events, so this would have to be an additional purchase. There is not an in app library, library card registration or renewal, however, the library card can be saved in the Apple Wallet. At this time, there is no

integration with Android or Samsung wallet. Another downside is that self-checkout is a separate module, which would be an extra fee as well. They do have a consortia consumer base; however, their consortia consumer base is significantly smaller than PrairieCat, with their largest being 53 libraries.

4.1.2. Communico
O'Hara (PrairieCat) stated that Communico has their fine payments through Stripe, which would have to be an additional set up. Their events can be linked out to 3rd party programs. Patrons can register and renew library cards in the Communico app. The digital library card can be added to the Apple and Samsung wallet apps. It also has self-checkout available.

4.2. Side by side comparison with previous Innovative demo
O'Hara (PrairieCat) presented the mobile app demo survey comparisons. Communico has the highest overall rating, but the results are a bit skewed. There were 9 responses for the Innovative demo, 3 responses for the Biblio demo and only 2 for the Communico demo.

5. User Roles and Homepage Builder/Showcases

5.1. Beta tester feedback
O'Hara (PrairieCat) explained that the beta testes for the Vega user roles and homepage builders have been given access to their main library Vega Discover site. Beta testers are encouraged to fill out the feedback survey.

5.2. Showcases TalentLMS course
O'Hara (PrairieCat) stated that a showcases TalentLMS Course is in the works to grant showcase permissions to library staff. Once the course is completed, users will be granted permissions to create showcases by PrairieCat staff. Smith (PrairieCat) explained that these permissions have to be granted by the Consortia Admin staff because of how the software is designed.

6. Kids Cat Update

6.1. Vote for this enhancement on Idea Exchange (https://ideas.iii.com/forums/951766-vega-discover/suggestions/49093076-improve-locations-facet-in-themed-kids-catalog)
O'Hara (PrairieCat) gave an update on the Kids Catalog. Currently this project is paused due to the fact that we would have to add every location code for juvenile, easy reader and any other category that would be included in a Kids Catalog. PrairieCat has created an enhancement request on Innovative's Idea Exchange website asking to improve the locations facet of the Kids Catalog. Please take some time and vote for this enhancement.

7. Vega Discover Guide
O'Hara (PriairieCat) shared the Vega Discover Guide with the Committee. This is an optional feature that we could enable, however, it would be enabled consortia-wide. The guide feature gives the user a "tour" of how to navigate the Vega site. The Committee agreed to enable the guide feature.

8. Any other topics to discuss?

9. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 1:54 pm.

<div align="center">Next meeting will be March 6th, 2025.</div>