



חשתמשי אקס ליבריס - ישראל  
Ex Libris Users Group - Israel

## **MELI - Annual Report to INUG 2014**

### **Members**

54 member institutions:

- 8 universities / 19 libraries
- 27 colleges
- 7 special libraries (including the National Library of Israel and the Inter-University Center for Digital Information Services)
- 1 public library

### **Steering Committee**

Marina Kalach, University of Haifa – Chair / Internet Site  
Aya Steinig-Messika, Tel Aviv University  
Dalia Mendelsson, The Hebrew University  
Michal Pinkas, Ben Gurion University of the Negev -Treasurer  
Olga Merzin, Yizrael Valley College  
Tamar Vakil, Bar Ilan University  
Tsachy Horowitz, National Library of Israel

### **Organizational Matters**

Currently the National Library of Israel agreed to continue to allow MELI to manage finances via library accounts. MELI and the library signed a mutual memorandum in 2013. MELI will reassess this arrangement by the end of 2014.

### **Meeting with Ex Libris**

The steering committee met with Ex Libris management representatives in March to discuss specific Israeli issues. Representatives of the Primo and SFX workgroups joined the discussion:

MELI presented the growing interest in joining Alma adaptation and implementation among the various Israeli users. The steering committee and ExLibris agreed to organize a meeting with library directors as a first step, in order to assess the readiness of the user institutions to join the "early adopters" project and eventually, migrate to Alma. An outline of the project will be presented in the meeting.

MELI asked to discuss the procedures for Israeli development requests - for next versions of Aleph as well as suggestions for Aleph APIs.

Primo group presented the various acute problems with Primo and Primo Central systems such as relevancy issues, search results ranking and the desperate need for a morphological tool to support searching in Hebrew (because of Hebrew's specific linguistic structure). It was agreed that Exlibris Primo product managers and development team will increase the number of meetings with Primo group to discuss these issues and support further.



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Several meetings were held so far, and recently Exlibris signed a contract with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party company and a Hebrew morphological component will be implemented in the near future Primo releases.

The SFX user group reported several problems with the Hebrew titles transliteration in the KB, and asked to continue adding Hebrew publications to the SFX knowledge base.

### **Training Days**

MELI organizes 3-4 training days a year, each hosted by a different member institution.

The first day for 2014 was on the topic of Aleph 22 (which had just been announced) and ALMA.

The second day, organized by the Primo group, was a hands-on training on the usage of Primo reports.

The third day – "The Future of Discovery Tools" - was planned for the end of July but was postponed to the end of September due to current sensitive security situation.

### **Technical Seminar**

MELI in cooperation with Ex Libris organizes a two-day technical seminar biennially. This year's seminar planned to take place at the end of November 2014.

### **Goals for the remainder of 2014 and 2015**

Establishment of an Aleph-API working group.

Further discussion of introduction of Alma in Israel with Ex Libris and with our members.

### **Involvement in IGeLU**

Neomi Greidinger, University of Haifa, is on the IGeLU steering committee.

Boaz Dotan, University of Haifa, is a member in Primo Product Working Group.

Yosef Branse, University of Haifa, is a member in KBAB – Knowledge Base Advisory Board.

In an effort to promote participation at the IGeLU annual conference, MELI continues to cover the costs of the conference, flight and hotel for a staff member of one the member institutions who will present at the conference. This year's stipend goes to Yosef Branse, University of Haifa, who will present "Make Big Brother Work for You: Mining Patron Data for Enhanced Library Services".