



חשתמשי אקס ליבריס - ישראל  
Ex Libris Users Group - Israel

## **MELI - Annual Report to INUG 2015**

### **Members**

53 member institutions:

- 8 universities / 19 libraries
- 26 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  
Tsachy Horowitz, National Library of Israel  
Yael Zuroff, Bar Ilan University

### **General**

7 Israeli academic institutions joined the Alma "Early Adopter" program. The institutions are:  
The Hebrew University in Jerusalem  
Tel Aviv University  
University of Haifa  
The Academic College of Emek Yezreel  
Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya  
Oranim Academic College  
Shenkar College of Engineering and Design

### **Organizational Matters**

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 reassessed this arrangement at the end of 2014, and decided to continue it.



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## **Meeting with Ex Libris**

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

Ex Libris presented the outlines of the "early adopters" project in Israel, planned timelines for implementation and later migration to the Alma environment.

MELI presented the growing interest in joining Alma adoption and implementation among the various Israeli users, not only the institutions in the "early adopters" program. MELI suggested to organize Alma training days based on the Alma Academy learning sessions for those institutions.

MELI asked to discuss the procedures for Israeli development requests – specifically to transfer MELI development points for Aleph to use in future Alma development requests.

Ex Libris suggested to raise this topic again in the beginning of 2018, after most of the early adopters in Israel will have migrated to the new system.

Ex Libris product support was also one of the topics in the meeting – Aleph and Digitool support teams in Israel, various problems with Primo and Primo Central systems (some of them unique for Israeli users), the Documentation Center and the Support Articles in the Salesforce system and the need for more transparency of information regarding the cases in enhancement or in development.

The SFX user group reported several problems with the Hebrew titles in the KB.

The new Aleph/API working group was presented.

## **Training Days**

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

This year's first conference took place in March 2015 and was called "Evolution or Revolution: RDA, Linked Data and more"

The second, in June 2015, was a Primo Day, organized with the local Primo working group.

The third day – SFX hands-on session - is planned for the end of October.

## **Technical Seminar**

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



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### **Goals for the remainder of 2015 and 2016**

- Supporting the introduction of our members to Alma via conferences and training sessions.
- Continue with the ongoing user group activities: representing our users' needs in meetings with Ex Libris, supporting the collaboration between our member institutes and the company, and providing options for professional conferences and seminars.
- Re-assessment of MELI annual membership fee.

### **Involvement in IGeLU**

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

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

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

Esther Guggenheim, Israel National Library, is a member of the Linked Open Data SIWG

Maya Amichal, Weizmann Institute, is a member of the Aleph-PWG

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 of the member institutions who will present at the conference.

This year's stipend goes to Shelly Chen-Aridor, University of Haifa, who will present "Challenges of Discovery Tools".