Connecting Users to Library Resources
Researchers trust the library as a trusted authority for content and services. Quite often though, they bypass the resources and tools available within the library and they look to fulfill their research needs elsewhere. If libraries can present unique services that fulfill researcher needs and deliver value, they’ll not only help researchers reach new levels of success and productivity but also encourage these users to always start their research at the library.

Navigating all the resources available at a library can be difficult too. Researchers need to have a better way to access library content and connect to resources beyond those that are represented in collections. They simply need to gain more visibility and better access to what the library can provide – electronic and print resources, extended research services, and personnel.

The Value of Summon

ProQuest Summon® service provides researchers of all experience levels a compelling starting point for research and will exceed their expectations. It provides a single unified search across books, ebooks, journals, newspapers, video, images, research guides and more from a single unified index of content that is pre-harvested and optimized for discovery.

Summon is not only specifically designed to promote a library’s collection, but it is also designed to engage researchers and demonstrate the value of the library. Beyond providing the capability of running a simultaneous search across your collection, Summon simplifies access to resources, connects researchers to librarians, and more. The result is a rich research experience that exposes your resources and provides research guidance.

With Summon, libraries can:
1. Improve discovery of library resources
2. Deliver simple, fast and reliable access
3. Provide integrated research assistance
4. Make research compelling

Summon presents an opportunity to engage researchers of all types through a comprehensive and modern search experience. The user interface delivers the results that users desire, presents additional exploratory discovery options and allows libraries to expose their collection.
Designed for Libraries and Researchers

Summon® delivers a superior research experience that enables researchers to better explore, access and share library resources. It accomplishes this because it is designed to meet both researcher needs and improve your library’s role within the research process. Our four simple design-principles not only support the people that libraries serve, but also benefit those that work in the library.

- Extensive and Reliable Coverage
- Democratic Discovery and Access
- Embedded Librarianship
- Simplified Administration

Extensive and Reliable Coverage

It’s critical to have the best collection coverage, without preferential treatment through your discovery service. Summon represents this and more. Our industry-pioneering approach to developing the unified index and knowledge that supports Summon is unmatched within the industry, enabling researchers to consistently and reliably find and access what’s in your collection—no matter the provider.

- Comprehensive data approach—combines content and rights-management to enable users to view the resources available at your library
- Deep content coverage—tracks the most and broadest types of resources to deliver the ability to search for the easy and hard to find resources
- Broad range of providers—represents the entire scope of available sources within the unified index and supporting knowledgebase
- Stewardship of metadata—extends our deep expertise in metadata management to aggregate, enrich and update from all sources
- Authoritative resource metadata—improves discoverability of resources through the delivery of a single composite record with an unmatched level of detail

Democratic Discovery and Access

Your library’s collection needs to be universally discoverable and accessible without provider influence or bias. Summon is designed in an exclusively neutral manner to provide superior discovery and linking to the most relevant results across your collection – no matter the provider. Our balanced approach is successful and fair for librarians, patrons and content providers.

- Pure discovery platform—conduct a search only from indexed content to generate relevancy-ranked results
- Relevancy ranking—deliver the best results for known-item and subject searches through a continuously adjusted balanced approach
- Linking—ensure the most reliable access to full-text content through OpenURL and Index-Enhanced Direct Linking (IEDL)
Embedded Librarianship

Librarians need to take advantage of new opportunities to deliver library services and create stronger relationship with researchers. Through Summon libraries can influence discovery as well as strengthen the researcher’s connection to the library. Whether through out of the box or librarian-controlled features, you can deliver a discovery experience where you influence and engage researchers by providing guidance or opportunities to enrich discovery.

- **Flexible UX design**—present an appealing and robust discovery experience out of the box, through a full-featured and responsive mobile UI, or with a complete API
- **Automated search assistance**—help guide researchers to more focused results with a set of dynamic tools
- **Librarian-controlled search assistance**—enable research guidance at the point of need to present your more important library resources
- **Librarian-controlled customizations**—enrich the discovery experience in the way you want through visual elements and optional integrations with research services

Simplified Administration

Time and effort are resources that are often overlooked and taken for granted. In libraries, there just isn’t enough of either to waste. Summon is designed to ensure that libraries can leverage technology to their benefit and focus on other areas that need more attention. Our process and people ensure that you are able to launch, customize, maintain and optimize Summon with relative ease.

- **Fast implementation**—launch your discovery service through a process where you simply report your content, configure Summon, and test it before going live
- **Easy customization**—activate a wide variety of features within minutes with just a click in our online administration console
- **Low maintenance**—manage and update your holdings with a cloud-based system, while we take care of all the metadata and linking management
- **Extensive user resources**—optimize your service through our online documentation, automated support tools, live support help, and our extensive user community

As you dig deeper and learn more about Summon you will find that we want the discovery experience to be comprehensive, fair, successful, and influenced by you and those within your library. Summon will become an extension of your library’s overall service mission that facilitates knowledge transfer and research assistance.

About Ex Libris

Ex Libris, a ProQuest company, is a leading global provider of cloud-based solutions for higher education. Offering SaaS solutions for the management and discovery of the full spectrum of library and scholarly materials, as well as mobile campus solutions driving student engagement and success, Ex Libris serves thousands of customers in 90 countries.

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