“THE BIG, IMPORTANT ISSUE IS TO ENSURE EQUITY ACROSS ALL CAMPUSES. ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF NEED TO HAVE EQUALLY SUCCESSFUL AND POWERFUL LIBRARY SERVICES.”

Gerry Hanley, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Technology Services

WHAT IS THE ULMS?

ULMS stands for Unified Library Management System. It’s a next-generation digital platform for providing library services across the California State University.

WHAT WILL IT DO?

1. **AID DISCOVERY.** The platform will serve as a gateway to digital resources for CSU students, faculty and staff across disciplines, ensuring library users at every campus equally powerful access to articles, e-journals and e-books.

2. **UNITE RESOURCES.** The ULMS will provide “consortium capabilities,” allowing libraries to see what other campuses are buying and leverage that knowledge for better contracts when purchasing digital journals and articles.

3. **EMPOWER ANALYTICS.** Libraries will easily be able to share and compare user data, giving the CSU a more complete picture of what books, journals and resources are in high demand and allowing libraries to better serve users’ needs.

4. **SIMPLIFY WORKFLOW.** Currently, staff must enter the same data into multiple systems, many that don’t communicate with each other. One platform reduces redundant data entry and unifies the source of data about CSU library collections.

WHO SUPPORTS THE ULMS?

The ULMS is a collaboration between the CSU libraries and the Chancellor’s Office.

LEARNING FROM OTHERS

Many other library systems have begun to implement unified platforms. CSU has been consulting with the Orbis Cascade Alliance of 37 libraries based in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. The University of Wisconsin System of 26 institutions has also adopted a common library system.

“We can expect this trend toward large-scale systems to continue and to accelerate as libraries seek opportunities to operate more efficiently…and to leverage technology to strengthen strategic cooperative initiatives.”


MORE INFORMATION ON THE ULMS

CSU Systemwide Digital Library Services
ulms.calstate.edu

TIMELINE

June 2015
ExLibris award announced

October 2015
Official project launch with ExLibris

October 2015 – February 2016
Vanguard Campus Phase

March 2016
Full campus implementation cycle begins

April 2016 – August 2016
Campus migration planning and testing

August 2016 – March 2017
Training and final data migration preparation

May 2017 – June 2017
Go Live (23 campuses)