

CATCH Library Lab Progress Report #1

March 1, 2013

This is a progress report on the CATCH Library Lab project.

Background work:

- Researched repurposing code from Domeo's OA compliant DB for CATCH hub DB
- Highbrow Project: We met with Reinhard Engel to discuss the CATCH API requirements for Highbrow. As soon as the CATCH DB is in place we will open the core set of API's for Reinhard to test.
- DRS 2: We participated in the DRS2 project stakeholders meeting and met with Randy Stern to understand the requirements and limitations of connecting CATCH hub to the DRS 2. They are contemplating a content delivery framework that could be connected to CATCH. This would provide an annotation metalayer for all content served from the DRS2
- Map Annotations: Met with Bonnie Burns, David Siegel and Marc MCGee from Harvard Map Collection to discuss development of simple map annotation UI that would connect to CATCH hub for their historical map collection served through the HUL geospatial library services.
- Tablet-Based Application for Library Collections: discussed with Chip Goines to add OA compliant annotation features to the DRS mobile device browser. Chip confirmed that additional development funds would have to be requested for these features to be developed.
- Inquired on front-end development rates: experienced independent freelance can run from \$100 - 200 /hour. Agency rates are much higher upwards of \$300 to 400/hour.
- Met with Jonah Bossewitch and Mark Phillipson from Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning at Columbia University, and discussed options of adopting modules from Mediathread for the CATCH annotation browser.

Development:

- Core back-end database for CATCH is almost complete. It will be deployed and in place within the next two to three weeks pending server space availability. The database deployment will rely on Elasticsearch, a distributed, RESTful, free/open source search server based on Apache Lucene.
- We are designing wireframes for a basic annotation browser and annotation search GUI that will be coupled to the database. These are the design documents for the front-end developer to implement.

Hiring:

- Searching for a front-end developer to create basic annotation browser and annotation search UI. We have put-in a request for a developer through the Berkman Center Redmine project management site (on 2/6/2013). We are still waiting for a response.
- Meanwhile, we are searching for a local freelance developer that would fit our budget -- we wish to keep it within the \$100/hour range. We have a good lead and hope to fill this position within the next two to three weeks.

Planning:

- edX: We are in discussions to connect the CATCH hub DB to the annotation framework pilot that is being developed for the spring edX - HarvardX course titled HeroesX that is taught by Prof. Greg Nagy.
- Tag Team: We plan to reach-out to Peter Suber to discuss collaboration between his project TagTeam with CATCH