Progress Report for *Do we own this?*

Conversations with selectors:

We had conversations with Bibliographers/Selectors (Bridget Reischer, Law ; Leslie Donnell, Kennedy; Betsy Eggleston, Med School; Daryl Boone, former bibliographer; and Lynn Shirey, FAS bibliographer for Latin America regarding the app under development. Overall the bibliographers/selectors received the information about the collection development app pretty enthusiastically. There was some concerned that the use of the app would by-pass bibliographers. I assure them that this was not the intention, but rather that the requests would go directly to acquisitions departments with the assumption that the requests would relayed to bibliographers. There was generally disagreement about directing the user first to Borrow Direct. The bibliographers wanted there to be an option between Borrow Direct and sending a request to the designated acq departments. Having the requests sent directly to the appropriate acquisitions unit was something that the bibliographers especially liked. They hoped that Borrow Direct information could be transmitted to them. I am unsure if this will work considering the privacy issues involved.

Initial phase: Stand alone app vs inclusion in Harvard mobile app:

We have not yet discussed formally the possibly of including the proposed app with the Harvard Mobile App with those responsible. Based on Chip's preliminary investigations, it would be technically difficult to add the proposed app to the Harvard app as the UI framework, Modo mobile API does not support camera access. In addition, the group decided that it was cumbersome and not user-friendly to have to access the app via the Harvard Mobile App.

Decisions and obstacles:

Borrow Direct

Borrow Direct does not have a supported web service api, but we are investigating Brown University Library's webservice api for Borrow Direct (https://code.google.com/p/borrow-direct-api/) to fulfill borrow direct requests. During a meeting with Laura Morse and Corinna Baksik, we learned of security issues as well as Document Delivery issues (Iliad form) that may present themselves as obstacles.

Sencha Touch

We will be using Sencha Touch as our mobile UI framework as this does support camera access. We will be using the PRESTO API, possibly through a proxy.

Next phase:

We have completed the initial design work for the technical backend behind our app, and plan to start developing the app in June. We expect to confirm the usability of the Brown Borrow Direct API. We will also be gathering emails from the various acquisitions units across campus. The goal is to have a working prototype by the end of June or early July.

Submitted by Tom Ma on behalf of the group.