Library Lab Final Report for "Do We Own This? Project"

Submitted by Tom Ma

Project Summary:

The initial goal of producing a prototype as a proof of concept was successfully attained. The app is still in a beta stage of development. The user interface was implemented using the Sencha Touch javascript framework and PhoneGap was used for barcode scanning. We also used OCLC's WorldCat API and Library Technology Service's PRESTO Hollis API for cataloging metadata. Remaining development tasks for a production release entail having the app dynamically generate its list of libraries from a JSON feed from the Harvard Library Portal and integrating the newly released "Map It!" book location API from the Harvard Library Lab. Versions for other mobile platforms such as Android would then be built after those tasks were completed. We are now gearing up to do a live test with Law Library staff and faculty volunteers to assess further development needs.

At the showcase and on other occasions where the app was demonstrated, the feedback has been highly favorable. I really believe that this could be a very useful tool for faculty, students and staff in the Harvard community and should be further developed.

Financial Summary:

I don't have access to CREW reports, but Chip informed me that he only logged in a total of 86 hours, so the total expense toward programming will be less than the $9,500 allotted. For the $500 set aside for the showcase and PR, only about $68 dollars (forgot to make copies of receipts before submitting for reimbursement) was used for materials cost: poster board, laminating, etc.