

Andrew Christison
Senior Librarian and Solution Expert, Ex Libris EMEA



About me

- Since February 2016 Solution Expert Ex Libris EMEA
- 2012-2016 Library Systems Manager Sheffield Hallam University



Sheffield Hallam University

About Sheffield

Sheffield is a city and metropolitan borough in South Yorkshire, England

The population of the City of Sheffield is 563,749 - one of the eight largest regional English cities

Famous for steel industry

Now a major student city with 2 large universities – 65,000 students

Home to the world's oldest football club! (and 2 others)



About Sheffield Hallam University

- Based on two sites; City Campus is located in the city centre and Collegiate Campus about two miles away, in south-west Sheffield.
- Sixth largest university in the UK (out of 165) with
 - 31,530 students (of whom 4,400 are international students)
 - 4,494 staff



Sheffield Hallam University



About SHU Library

- 24/7/365
- 541,381 books
- 159,304 ebooks
- 35,781 video/audio
- 50,591 electronic journals
- 4245 print journals
- Issues and renewals: 1,387,988
- 90%+ self issue





Before Alma

Millennium since 1999 - built around print workflows and no longer developing

Summon since 2010 – mostly happy but issues around data updating

360 Link

360 Resource Manager AND Millennium ERM – really using neither

Talis Aspire for reading/resource lists since 2012



Before Alma - Millennium

- Had served SHU well but built around print workflows and no longer developing
- Shift to electronic, slowing print circulation
- Did not meet needs for electronic resource management or discovery
- Integration with Summon a headache
- Cost of integrations
- Cost of add-ons e.g. SIP2 licenses
- Reliance on university IT to manage server, make changes
- Reporting required systems team



What we wanted

- Management of all resource types in one place
- Discovery integrated with resource management
- Simplified integration with university systems
- Less reliance on university IT
- Empowerment of library staff, e.g. reporting
- Analytics data-driven decision making
- Simplify streamline processes, simplify and improve circulation policies
- Sympathetic supplier understanding of UK HE changing landscape



What end users wanted

- To get the resource they want, regardless of format
- Single interface for discovery, link resolver, delivery, library account





Business case

- Research the marketplace
- Align with University strategy
- Use University language



Review of systems marketplace

- Investigate whether a good time to procure a new system
- Review of literature, visits to libraries and system demonstrations from 8 vendors
- Discovery evaluation looked at leading discovery systems in tandem with library management systems/library services platforms

Tender process

Tender published spring 2014

Based on a combination of LMS core specification and LibtechRFP's next-generation system spec with some of our own requirements

Submissions from 7 vendors! A lot of reading for the project team

https://libtechrfp.wikispaces.com/UKCS+Download https://libtechrfp.wikispaces.com/Library+Services+Platform

Selection process

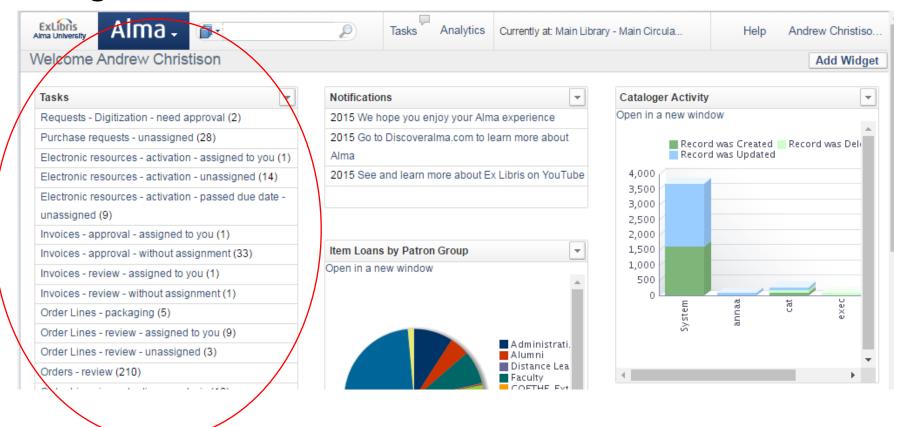


- Scoring tenders
 - Made a mistake to rely so much on the ageing core spec – many vendors could answer 'Y' to most requirements while not being really next-gen.
 - Chose Alma...what were our reasons?
 - Met with our requirements
 - –truly next-generation and offered more potential for future development

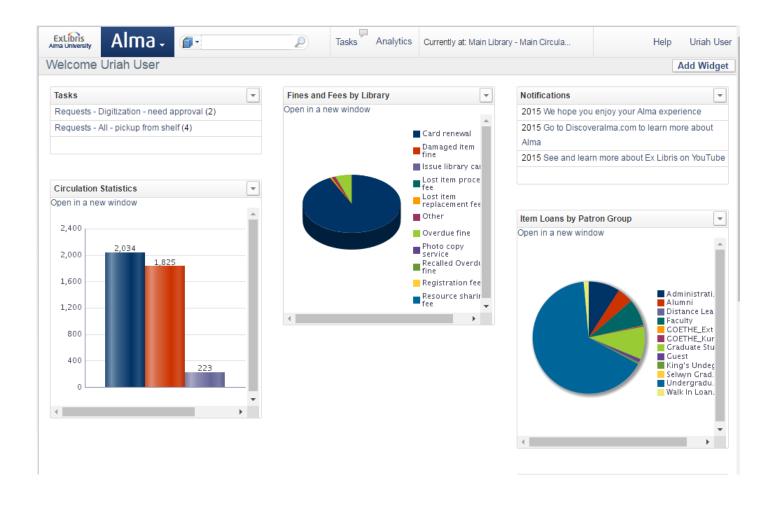




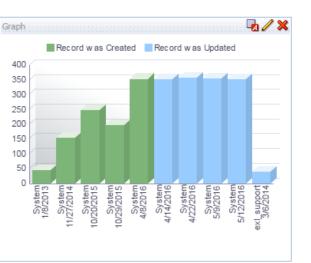
Task orientated with exception-based workflow engines

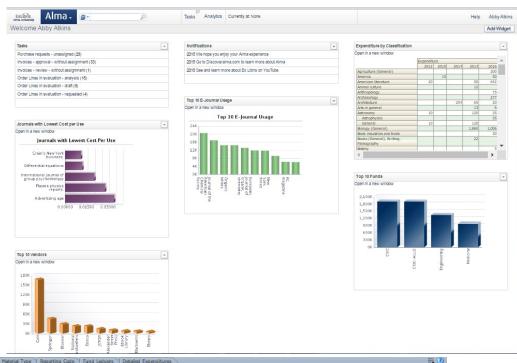


Personalised Dashboards



Analytics







Full discovery integration





- Ex Libris reputation
- User community





Implementation process

- Contract Award end 2014
- Kick-off Feb 2015 go-live 6 July 2015
- Speedy and intensive, but Ex Libris team had the process perfected!



What we achieved early on

- Reduction in number of systems
- Empowerment of staff
- Flexibility on any device, take anywhere
- Ease of configuration
- Library control (from IT)
- Premium sandbox
- No paid addons eg SIP2 licenses
- Streamlining workflows, reconfiguring teams
- Cost savings!
- Sharing reports e.g. SCONUL reports
- Integrations
 - EDI supplier integrations, EOD, EDI invoices,
 - Coutts OASIS
 - WPM online payments
 - Selfchecks just worked
 - SMS
 - EZProxy



What we achieved early on

- Mature but developing system
- NERS
- Ideas Exchange
- Developer Network
- Circulation/Fulfillment: lot less fines, simplified loan policies, automatic renewals
- Loading MARC records automatically by schedule
- Mass updates to records
- Community zone integration with proQuest KB coming
- Alma Community mailing list, user groups



The best is yet to come!

- Monthly releases
- Built for the future

Questions





