

University of Washington and WorldCat Local Impact on Delivery

The University of Washington began using WorldCat Local as their primary catalog interface on April 30, 2007. Links to the local UW only catalog were still available from the Libraries webpage.

Context for patron searching

- UW local catalog – materials held by UW Libraries, except Law
- Summit – Washington & Oregon union catalog of 34 academic libraries
- WorldCat Local – patrons can see materials held by UW Libraries, Summit Libraries and WorldCat Libraries. UW has set WorldCat Local as the default search on our webpage; <http://www.lib.washington.edu>

Context for patron requesting before WCL

- UW materials – Many UW materials (books, media, scores, etc) are requestable by UW patrons through our local catalog.
- Summit materials – patrons can request materials held at UW and other Summit libraries through Summit. System is smart enough to know that if it is held by UW and available, to place the hold on the UW copy (referred to as Same Site Requests). If UW doesn't hold or its copy isn't available to place a hold on a copy at another site.
- Materials not held by UW or Summit had to be requested through ILL.

Requesting with WCL.

- WorldCat Local – requests for materials held at UW or Summit are routed through Summit. Requests for materials held by WorldCat Libraries are routed through ILL (ILLiad).

How requests are handled in ILL. Whenever possible we try to get the person what they want. If we get an ILL request and discover that the book is available at UW or Summit we place the hold for the person. If we get an article request and find that we have it full text online we post the article to ILLiad for the patron. The only time we cancel is if we only hold journals in print. We are piloting a free pull and scan service. We also have a purchase ILL program where we sometimes will purchase rather than borrow materials not held by UW or Summit.

The table shows statistics for

- Summit requests by UW users – filled by other sites. The percentage increases ranged from 44 – 84%; with the earlier months being lower than later.
- Summit same site requests. These were filled by UW holdings. Big increase because this was replacing holds that used to be placed through the UW local catalog.
- ILL borrowing Total requests received. The percentage increases ranged from 10% – 170%; as with Summit requests the earlier months were lower than later.
- ILL borrowing Filled by ILL. These are requests that we filled from other libraries. Number is greater since the number of requests is greater.
- ILL borrowing Fill rate. The fill rate has decreased 6% when you look at May – August. The May – December looks low but these are preliminary statistics and we expect them to go up as outstanding transactions are finished.