



Advanced Discovery Service Launched in Kyushu University

- Feel the pleasure of discovery! "Google-like" searching interface for academic resources. -

Summary

Kyushu University launched Discovery Service in January 2012. The service makes it possible to find and access information from a large collection of world-wide academic resources. It is the most advanced attempt in the world to offer research articles (about 250 thousands), books (about 4 million), e-journals and e-books available in the university, in addition to 800 million global academic records.

Backgrounds

Since so much information has become easily searchable on the Web, search engines like Google are widely used for discovery, even in the research and academic fields. However, most scholarly content, such as e-journals, cannot be reached with such engines, as they require institutional or personal subscription for access. Moreover, they don't manage license agreements for using such contents nor offer proper user navigation for getting full-text contents according their holdings.

At the same time, university libraries have contributed to academic development and to the public through collecting and offering books, serials and electronic content. In addition, libraries are now required, both from within and from outside, to fulfill their function to cumulate and transmit their intellectual property to the public.

Discovery Service

We are pleased to announce the official release of Discovery Service, an information environment created by the seamless combination of two databases: Cute.Search, a global discovery system for scholarly resources, and Cute.Catalog, a Kyushu University knowledge catalog. The service implements advanced technologies and enables instinctive, user friendly operation. It is designed to easily discover the information library users need with rich functions such as the display of cover images, abstracts, table of contents, Amazon Customer Review, similar items, and times cited.

1) Cute.Search

Covers indexes of 800 million scholarly content from around the world including Kyushu University holdings (Table 1) and provides easy access to subscribed e-journals and e-books. The system is powered by Summon from Serials Solutions, a division of ProQuest, for the first time among national universities in Japan.

2) Cute.Catalog

Completely covers the bibliographic information of academic resources in Kyushu University which contain not only library holdings but also research output produced by Kyushu University researchers (Table 2). This is the world's first operation of eXtensible Catalog, an Open Source Project in the U.S., and partnered by Kyushu University.

Outcomes

- It improves the efficiency of learning, education, and research by providing a smooth process for discovery of useful resources and easy access to them.
- Multilingual interfaces position Kyushu University as a robust environment for international research and education.
- The public can easily search the overwhelming academic content of the world and the research resources of Kyushu University. Everyone can make use of the knowledge assets of Kyushu University, whether it is engineers discovering new technology or high school students choosing a university. Members of Kyushu University community can access the licensed electronic

resources by logging in through the Discovery Service, even if they are away from the campus.

- The features that allow connection to Twitter and Facebook contribute to the expansion of knowledge by means of information sharing through social media.

Future plan

- We will continue to make the Kyushu University collection more comprehensive in the Discovery Service by adding more resources such as educational content (movies of lectures, etc.) and raw data produced in the research and experiment process at Kyushu University.
- We will facilitate loading Japanese resources into the global index that many overseas academic institutions utilize and will contribute to international scholarly communication.

Table 1. Cute.Search coverage

Content type	Number of records
Newspaper Articles	394 million
Journal Articles	147 million
Books/e-Books	145.5 million
Theses and Dissertations	9.2 million
Conference Proceedings	5.6 million
Patents	3.8 million
Open Access records	37.2 million
Institutional Repository records	9.1 million
Government Documents	23.9 million

Table 2. Cute.Catalog coverage

Content type	Number of records
Research Outputs by Kyushu University Researchers	250 thousands
Library Holdings of Printed Materials in Kyushu University	Bibliographies 1.6 million Holdings 4 million
Accessible e-Journals in Kyushu University	51 thousands
e-Books	53 thousands
Institutional Repository records	17 thousands
Digital Collection	10 thousands

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