Building a ThinkTank @ Your Library

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Overview

- An idea
- Recruitment
- Content
- Platform
- Promotion
- Tips
- Questions

The Idea

Space to talk and learn about emerging tech (monthly)

~~An engine for developing new services~~

Everyone must participate.

~~"We tried that before. It didn't work"~~

2 rules of ThinkTank

Invitations

#toRead

TED | Ideas worth spreading

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What we learned from 5 million books

TEDxBoston 2011, Filmed Jul 2011; Posted Sep 2011

527,259 Views

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INTERACTIVE TRANSCRIPT ▶

ABOUT THE SPEAKER ▶

ABOUT THIS TALK ▾

Have you played with Google Labs' Ngram Viewer? It's an addicting tool that lets you search for words and ideas in a database of 5 million books from across centuries. Erez Lieberman Aiden and Jean-Baptiste Michel show us how it works, and a few of the surprising things we can learn from 500 billion words.

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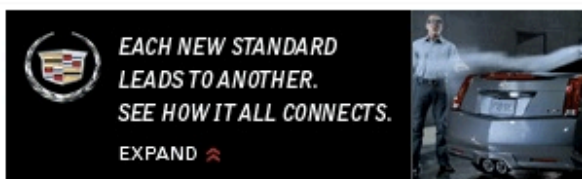
WHAT TO WATCH NEXT

Brewster Kahle builds a free digital library
20:06 Posted: Sep 2008
Views 172,367 | Comments 40

Aaron Koblin: Artfully visualizing

Provide a Platform

Experience the Platform

BETA matters

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | **LIBRARY**

ASK A LIBRARIAN
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🏠 Home   📖 Books   📑 Articles   📖 Journa*List*   ❓ Help   🏛 Site Search

ℹ Beta Apps (From the Lab at MSU Library)

Welcome to the Digital Labs at Montana State University Library. Below you'll find a sample list of our experiments and trials with digital media and applications. It's an example of our research and development initiatives. Please have a look and kick the tires.

Current Beta Projects

MSU Library Mobile Web Site
A mobile version of the MSU Library Web Site; a web app built with the jQuery mobile framework.
Beta site: MSU Library Mobile Web Site

Subject Map for Montana State University Library
Browse the MSU collection using Library of Congress Subject Headings. This interactive map shows you the arrangement of our stacks on each floor. Uses Flash and HMTL to make it go.

Set your Terms, Master your Searches
A mashup of the top related terms for a query according to the Yahoo Search Index. This is a proof of concept app. We are using it internally to build a loose, natural language search index for our article database search. It could be a candidate for a public app as a "Term Recommendation" engine. Would like to build off concept to help students work out better terms for searching library resources. Need to find more sources for related terms from Google or Wikipedia search indices and work with public services staff to refine. Built with PHP, HTML and Javascript.

Google Gadgets for Montana State University Library
A range of applications you can add to your personalized Google homepage, Blackboard, or any other Web page. Uses XML, Google gadgets API, javascript and HMTL to make it go.

mediaHub
An experiment where library media on YouTube or blip.tv are "mashed up" to create a search/browse app. The goal is to create a central hub for all categories of library media - interviews, promotions, tutorials, events, classes, etc. Uses the YouTube API or blip.tv API, PHP, and xHTML to make it happen.

Feed Me Some Worldcat
Run a search on Worldcat - Get an Opensearch feed for your feedreader. Sit back and get updates on Worldcat topics. What is a feed? Learn more about feeds from this video.

MSU Digital Collections in Flickr
Selected photographs and papers from the Montana State University Library Special Collections are now available on Montana State University Library's Photostream at Flickr.com.

Library Lifestream

What is this?
Welcome to the Digital Labs at Montana State University Library. You'll find our experiments and trials with digital media and applications here. Please have a look and kick the tires.
➕ Powered by DAWS

From the Blog

- There are no library news or research notes available at this time. Check back with us later.

#ToRead

- The Fight Over the Future of Digital Books - Dan Cohen - Technology - The Atlantic
- Google Ngram Viewer
- Mobile Apps Must Die | Blog | design mind
- New What we learned from 5 million books – Stephen's Lighthouse

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Facilitated by the DAWS Team:
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➕ more...

MSU Library ThinkTank URLs

- MSU ThinkTank Archive
  - goo.gl/RDbBx

- MSU ThinkTank Beta
  - www.lib.montana.edu/beta/

- MSU ThinkTank Tag on pinboard.in
  - goo.gl/NzMT1

Tips

- Start Small
- Find a Champion
- Get Support
- Be Selective, but Recruit from All Levels of Org
- Set Scope & Theme
- Be Transparent & Document

Inspiration

- Harvard Library Lab
  - osc.hul.harvard.edu/liblab

- Scholars Lab, University of Virginia
  - www2.lib.virginia.edu/scholarslab/

- "A Skunk in the Library"
  - Bethany Nowviskie
  - nowviskie.org/2011/a-skunk-in-the-library/

Questions?

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