

Open Library 2019 Planning

OpenLibrary.org, Books UI, Lending & Formats

Theme: No Dead-Ends, reducing confusion & bad experiences

- **Modernize Catalog** - Missing modern books = prime source of bad experiences
 - **Modern Books:** Import new modern books from Amazon (last 20 years)
 - **Just in time import?** @cclaus
 - **Sitemaps:** Fix Sitemaps! Pre-req for increasing affiliate revenue @mek
 - **Error Reporting:** Add error reporting to Import Process (v. "internal-error")
- **Fix Broken Experiences**
 - **Fix Availability Faceting:** Filter books by "lendable", "public", or "print-disabled"
 - (don't rely on public subject tags)
 - **Browsable Subject Pages** to be an IA-like browse experience (w/ load more btn)
 - **Sign-up Flow:** Account registration - tell users instantly if username taken
 - **100% Mobile:** Users on various devices should have good experiences
 - **Load Speed:** Page loads should be counted in ms, not seconds!
 - **Support Flow:** Minimize volume of Support Emails to @jeff
 - All developer/API questions should go through github
 - **"Want to Read" List Public-by-default:** for new users (allow private setting)
 - **Canonical Books Page:** Users shouldn't be confused by edition v. work
 - **Editions-centric Search:** Search returns work w/ right edition selected, e.g. in a specific language (stretch goal)
- **Big Bets**
 - **Follow a user** (subscribe to their "Want to Read" -> email notifications)
 - **Donate This Book:** give users a way to unlock books we don't have
 - **Text-to-speech:** Make improved Text-to-speech 1st class citizen / option on OL
 - **Integrate Previews:** Previews on OL book pages @richard, @brenton
- **Upkeep**
 - **Python 2→3:** serve more users via async IO @cclaus
 - **Docker:** Move dev.openlibrary.org (staging) to docker @charles
 - **Xenial Upgrade:** openlibrary.org prod servers to xenial (2019 deadline) @mek
 - **Streamlining production dev-ops**
- **Succession? Delegation?**
 - Drini onboard!

Success metrics:

- **Continuous stream of modern books** coming into Open Library via Amazon
- **Affiliate revenue** increasing mo/mo due to fixed sitemap and new books
- **New user account creation rate** growing mo/mo due to user-follows + reading-log
- **Fewer support emails** for login, API requests (more github issues)

Planning Meeting Notes

Yearly Planning Meeting:

Attendees:

- Tabish
- Charles
- Drini
- Christian
- Lisa
- Monkey (bookbrainz)
- Mek
- Alex
- Brenton

Lisa wants to help with data cleanup

Wants edition **search**

Wants search by isbn -> editions

Wants ability to de-dupe

Automate want-to-read to twitter

Could we have a feature to “copy a record” for add a new edition
/isbn

Tabish

Fixing the search page filters for mobile

More modern scientific books

Unified ingestion pipeline

Canonical books document

Drini

Fixing Search!!! Replace solr with docker based solr

Index editions and works separately

Goodreads catalog is better

Infogami/infobase → Wikibase ?

Charles

Tooling for other Librarians (a la Lisa's dedupe needs)

Get devs onboard more quickly

If no book is available, have a user-driven/search, **guided import**

Fixing orphaned editions -> impact on search, import lendable books

Alex

Wants to work more with Jon Robson on UI issues + javascript

Monkey

Create more links between bookbrainz + openlibrary

Collaborate on tools to help community

More near-term:

Any other things broken? Issues