Swinburne A-Z Databases

URL: www.swinburne.edu.au/library/search/databases/

Code: https://github.com/justinkelly/az_databases

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- Category and sub-category
- Number of database per category/sub

Not open source

About to be rewritten from scratch

Separate datastore
Footnotes

Examples of other AZ Database system

- UTS (custom python app)  http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/databases/search_databases.py
- Harvard (ExLibs Metalib)  http://e-research.lib.harvard.edu/V/tunc=find-db-1
- Princeton (Solr and Drupal)  http://library.princeton.edu/research/databases

No acceptable AZ database solution from ExLibris

Each institution using own solution to solve the same problem

Either Metalib, LibGuides or homebrew

**Motivation:**

Swinburne had been using a largely unchanged collection of static HTML pages to list our available databases by A-Z for almost 20 years. This very basically served its purpose but issues with

- inconsistent data,
- double handling (saved in html and also in the library system),
- no dynamic content or filters by area or subject,
Following a survey or other University librarys AZ systems (refer links below) we decided to create a new AZ system similar to UTSs but based 100% on the ExLirbis Alma APIs and released as open-source.

**Goals:**

- Modern system that allows for search, filtering by subject and sub-subject
- Stop the duplication of work involved in updating, adding and maintaining the existing A-Z
- All data to be stored in Alma
- Map categories to Swinburne study areas
- Forget trying to make a guide pre unit - change to often - age to quickly

Alma is the content management system
License and access information

- Simply show database user limitations

Permanent links

Separate datastore
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Metalib in Primo
- Legacy
- Confusing
- Old
- Not aligned with universities existing category and subcategory structure
- Not mobile friendly
● Simple - it worked
● Static
  ○ issues with alternate titles
  ○ how to file with common different titles
  ○ is Trove under T or N or both
Problem:

not dynamic - hard to handle parent/child database relations, same title under multiple letters or name

trying to do category and subcategory with static pages very hard
Tools - Server - PHP

Laravel - PHP Framework
https://laravel.com/
https://laravel.com/docs/5.0

http://bit.ly/anzreg_az
OAI very well supported in PHP - many libraries to choose fine

PHPOAIPMH worked the best and easiest to setup - and documented
ReactJS from Facebook - Primo 5 New UI using Angular from Google
### Data cleanup and MARC

Data cleanup
- Export all database to excel
- Redo all descriptions
- Cleanup - delete n add titles and alt titles - which display and which are only searchable
- Assign each database to a category and sub-category (if appropriate) multiple is OK
- Manually update the MARC records based on the spreadsheets

New workflows
- Once a new database comes on board - subscription notifies the AZ business owner/liasions
- Business owner created description and assigns category mapping
- Cataloguer updates the MARC record

**MARC**
- 245a = Title
- 246a = Alt title that will display in the list under its first letter and searchable
- 740 = An alt title that will be searchable - but will NOT display in the list under its letter
- 260a and b = place of publication and publisher
- 960a = subject - can be multiple
  - This field defines that top level category the database will be listed in - such as 'Engineering'
- 960b = sub-subject - got to think about this - Swinburne defined list (A-Z Subject mapping)
  - This field defines that second level (sub-category) the database will be listed in - such as 'Electrical'
- 650a = sub subject - can be multiple - Library of Congress headings
  - controlled by the cataloguers
- 520a = description
- 500a = user limit notes
- 362a = time span
- 917a = URL
A search for ebscohost in AZ Databases, returns all 42 ebscohost databases in Alma note:

a general search searches the

- url,
- title,
- description,
- alt title and other marc fields refer link and screenshot below

Title
By adding title: to the start of the search query we can limit to a title search for ebscohost, this returns the 2 database with ebscohost in the title refer link and screenshot below:

Exact
By putting quotes around the search term we can limit to an exact title search, this returns just 1 result - which is the main ebscohost database refer link and screenshot below:
http://www.swinburne.edu.au/library/search/databases/#/search/title%3A%22ebscohost%22
Category and sub-category

Some database are in all categories and subcategories

Letters

Server API

- Categories
- Letter
- Search
- Category
- Category and sub-category

Laravel (PHP) + MySQL app that provides the data API for the client
Server - OAI import & code

Import - MARC fields

Alt title import

Database design

Search
https://github.com/justinkelly/az_databases/blob/master/server/app/Http/Controllers/AZDatabaseController.php#L1
Alma configuration & API

- MARC
  - done in accordance with our expert cataloguer John Butera
  - as standard as possible
  - and using unused fields for new areas (category & sub-category) etc.

API
- Alma provides an OAI feed based on a publishing jobs
- OAI is probably the simplest API available for listing of records
  - and many libraries already exist for OAI

ALMA
- To enable the API in Alma
  - first create a set for your databases
  - create a publishing job based on this set that exports to OAI
  - setup the appropriate schedule
- Normally an API is ‘live’ or dynamic
- With the OAI API in Alma the feed is not live - its updated based on the publishing job/schedule
- If a new database is added in Alma and it needs to be in AZ before the next publishing job is run
  - You have to manually run the publishing job and the corresponding import job in AZ
OAI API is not live

AZ databases affects everyone in the library

Any change to AZ database requires consultation with most areas of the library

Best time to implement a new AZ is along side a library website upgrade
Questions