Good morning. It is a real pleasure to echo Kathy's welcome to you all for this Forum.

Our topic today -- accessing electronic journals from aggregators -- is a timely one. Your attendance is certainly one measure of that.

Responses to a note I sent out earlier last fall to VIVA's technical listserv also suggested that many schools were doing **"something"** about aggregator journals or were **thinking of doing "something"**.   I'm a big believer in learning from each other, and that trying to **adopt** or **adapt** an existing good project is more sensible than attempting to reinvent in isolation.

 Earlier this Fall when I proposed this Forum to the **VIVA Steering Committee** they felt the same and agreed that we should move forward with all speed.

At that Steering Committee it was suggested that **Elaine Day's** background knowledge on this subject would make her a great partner in pulling this Forum off, and it certainly has.   **John Duke** was a visitor at that Steering Committee meeting, volunteered VCU as a site, and was promptly roped into the planning process too.

 I'd certainly like us all to acknowledge our thanks to Elaine and John for their work in getting this Forum together.

What I'd like to do now is **review our agenda,** and **consider a few of the general issues related to getting users to journals**.>>>>>>>

1

Our speakers have all implemented an electronic journal list so I think one of the first things we know is that if it has been done somewhere we can do it too.

Doris Hendrickson will be talking about the electronic list at Radford. Doris has adapted a lot of the work from ODU so Radford is a good example of if they can do it we can too.

Ed Summers will talk about their work with electronic serials at ODU. Ed and Carole Kiehl from ODU will soon have an article coming out about the process in **Library Collections, Acquisitions, and Technical Services.**

We'll have a brief **break at 10:45** and then look to two speakers on their home ground, **Jimmy Ghaphery and Barbara Anderson.**

Finally **Elaine Day** has pulled together some significant information about other similar or related projects and will let us know about that.

We'll hold questions for our speakers until they have all presented.

Then we would like to hear from you. Let us know what you are doing with electronic jrs.   Two things at the end are important too.   To get your input about a way to get simple holdings updates from the vendors and finally your evaluation form.

A Perfect Information Gathering World from the Client's Perspective

- I can find relevant citations on any topic by searching in one mega database

- If the citation/abstract I find looks interesting I can link directly to the article or book cited

- If the article or book has interesting references or footnotes I can link directly to the items cited in the references or footnotes

When we think about creating a service or project it is sometimes good to step back a bit first, and kind of think about what a perfect service might look like from a user's perspective.

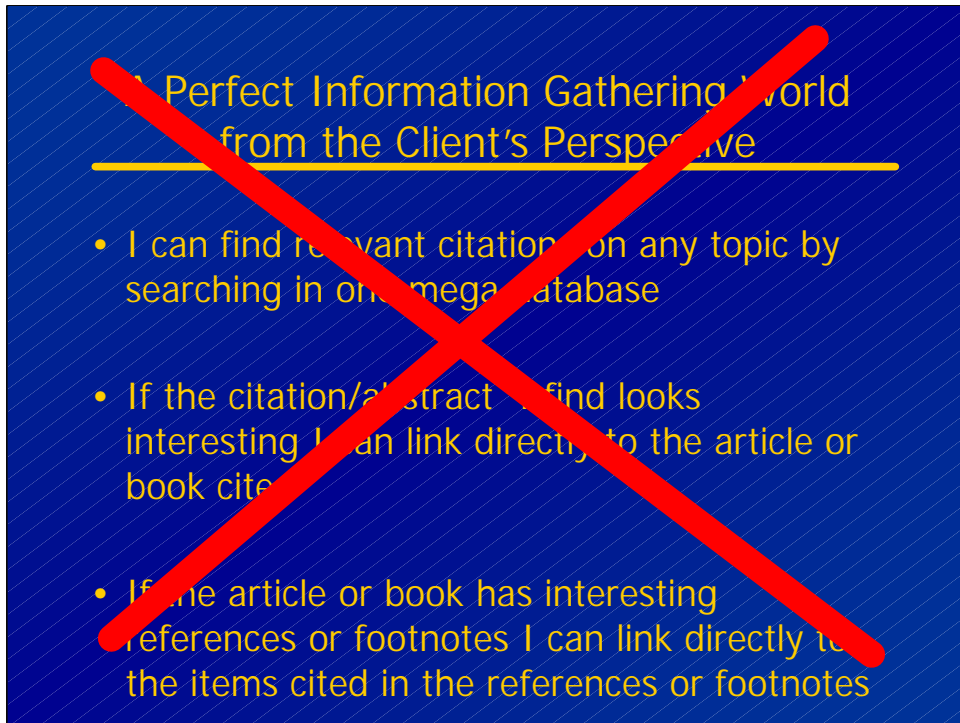 If we think about information gathering a "perfect" world might look something like this.

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I think we would all agree that the our user's PERFECT Information Gathering World doesn't exist just yet

Nevertheless it probably is good to keep the vision in mind -- e.g. **OCLC** is doing look up and direct link services from FS databases to journals in the ECO project,

the **Science Direct** initiative aims to aggregate many sci-tech publishing products because

"Your customers, along with ours, want a single resource for their in-depth information needs, where they can find as many high-quality, primary journals in one place as possible, accessible by a single interface."

We need to keep our eye on these developments so that we don't get too bogged down in creating perfect and complex solutions for something today that will be replaced by some other bibliotechnology in a very near future. From my perspective we need to develop **"good enough" solutions.**

What might a good enough model look like?>>>>>

Our More Modest Goal

To catalog

the several thousand full-text electronic journals that can be looked up and read in aggregator databases (e.g Infortrac, Dow Jones)

Along with

our other direct linking journals (e.g Muse, IDEAL pubs)

So that a user

can determine quickly whether a particular journal or a citation from a journal is likely to be electronically available from our library

and link to the available content in the most direct way possible

By a method

economical of library staff time and special expertise needed for

initiation, updating, and correcting

For me as a library director the last point is very important too. We need to consider time in vs.. user benefits out as we develop our systems.

Some Definitions of "to catalog"

1. To make a systematized list, usually in alphabetical order, often with descriptions of the listed items.

2. To make a card catalog

The American Heritage Dictionary lists two concepts for catalog.   In this project we can consider doing one or both.
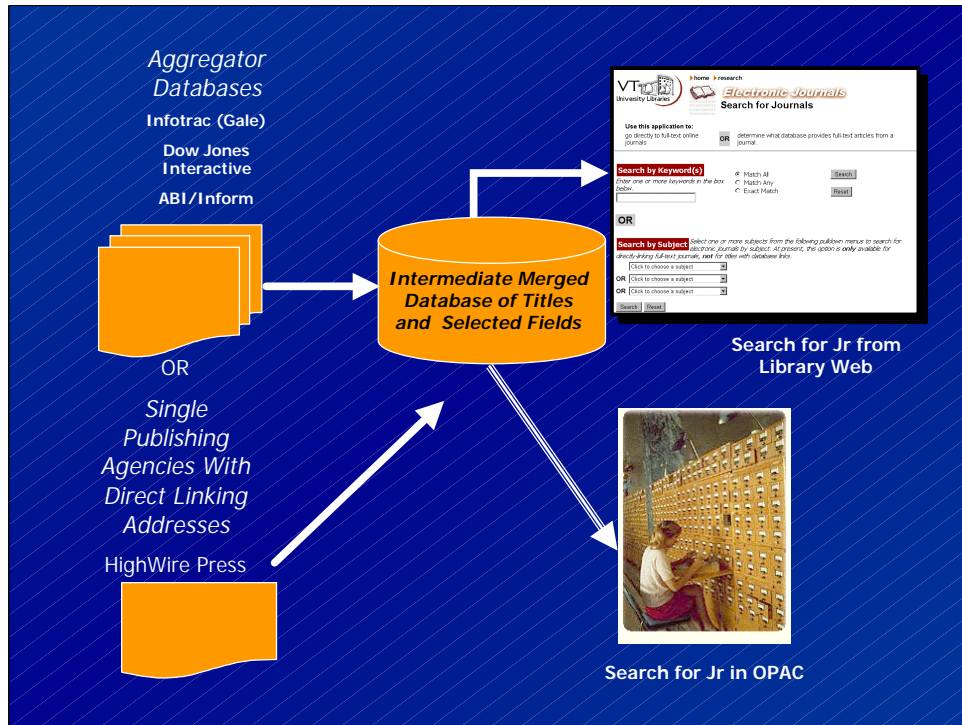
Overall a graphic model for what we hope to learn about and to introduce into our libraries might look something like this.

We will have a database, we may also put those items in our catalog.
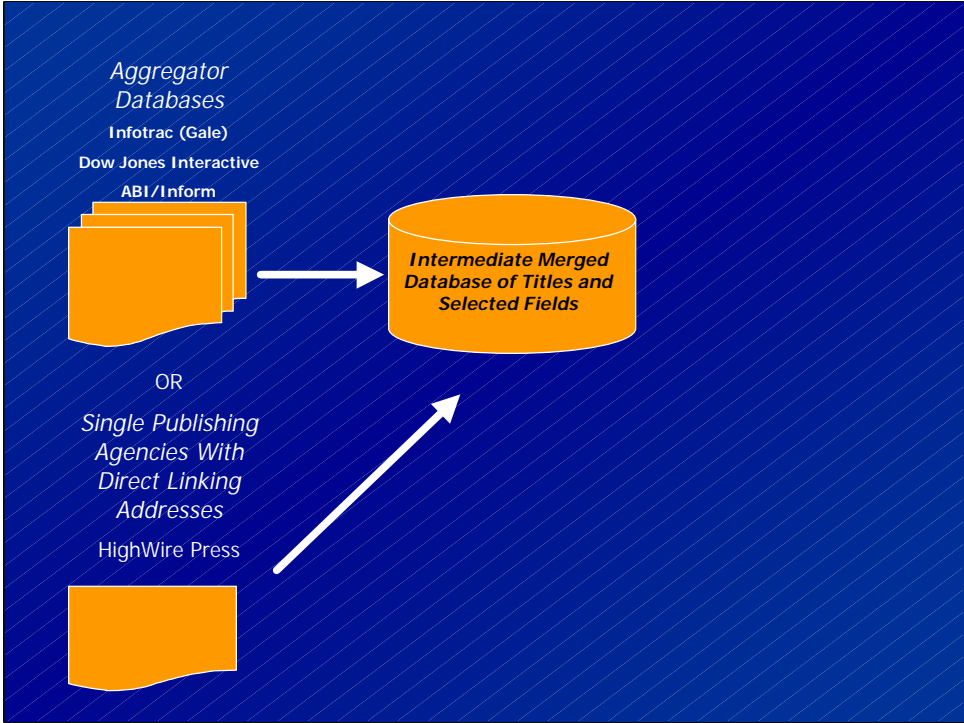
The data getting part is complicated.

What the information looks like when it comes from the *Database Aggregator* or *Publishing Agency*

title	issn	citation start	citation end	fulltext start	fulltext end
ABA Journal	0747-0088	Jan-96			
ACM Computing Surveys	0360-0300	Mar-96		Dec-96	
ACM Transactions on Computer Syste	0734-2071	Feb-96		Nov-96	
ACM Transactions on Database Syste	0362-5915	Mar-96		Mar-97	
ACM Transactions on Information Sys	1046-8188	Jan-96		Jan-97	
ACM Transactions on Mathematical S	0098-3500	Mar-96		Mar-97	
ACM Transactions on Programming L	0164-0925	Jan-96		Jan-97	
Ad Astra	1041-102X	Jan-96			
Administration & Society	0095-3997	Feb-96		Feb-96	Dec-98
Administrative Law Review	0001-8368	Jan-96			
Administrative Science Quarterly	0001-8392	Mar-96		Mar-96	
Adolescence	0001-8449	Mar-96		Mar-96	
Adult Learning	1045-1595	Jan-96			
Advertising Age	0001-8899	Jan-96		Nov-97	

From Expanded Academic Index

title	issn	citation start	citation end	fulltext start	fulltext end
	1256		1256		687
ABA Bank Compli	0887-0187	07/01/1984	current	10/01/1994	current
ACM Computing S	0360-0300	12/01/1990	current	03/01/1996	current
AS/400 Systems M	1086-881X	10/01/1979	current	10/01/1997	current
ASCI Journal of M	0257-8069	09/01/1980	03/01/1987		
ASEAN Business	0129-2900	07/01/1980	04/01/1981		
AT & T Technolog	0889-8979	01/01/1987	01/01/1996	01/01/1992	01/01/1996

From ABI/INFORM ProQuest

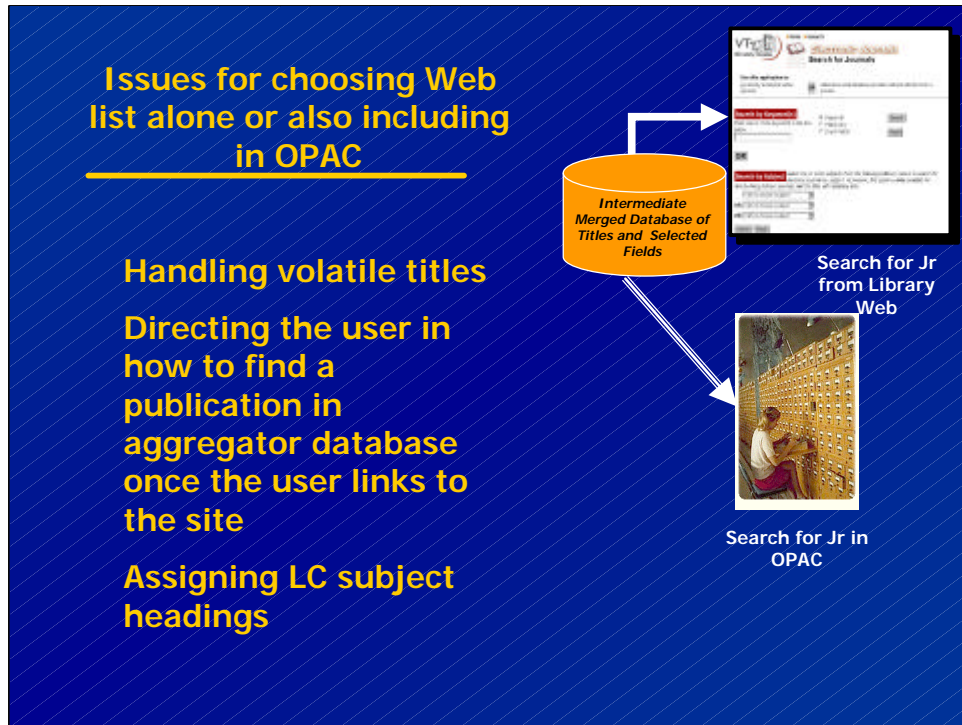| fulltext start date	home	issn	title
Oct-97	ajpcell.physiology.org		Cell Physiology
Oct-97	ajplung.physiology.org		Lung Cellular and Molecular Physiology
Jan-94	www.ajrcmb.org	1044-1549	American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Mol
1984	biochem.AnnualReviews.org	0066-4154	Annual Review of Biochemistry
1999	bioeng.AnnualReviews.org		Annual Review of Biomedical Engineering
1984	biophys.AnnualReviews.org	1056-8700	Annual Review of Biophysics and Biomolecula
1985	cellbio.AnnualReviews.org	1081-0706	Annual Review of Cell and Developmental Biol
1984	genet.AnnualReviews.org	0066-4197	Annual Review of Genetics
Jan-76	www.biophysj.org	0006-3495	Biophysical Journal

From HighWire Press

With these three examples we can see that simply downloading the information isn't possible.

The vendors arrange their data in different columns.

Date parameters are different.

Aggregators connect to the dbase not the publication

For services like Highwire you can make a direct link.

Issues for choosing Web list alone or also including in OPAC

Handling volatile titles

Directing the user in how to find a publication in aggregator database once the user links to the site

Assigning LC subject headings

Intermediate Merged Database of Titles and Selected Fields

Search for Jr from Library Web

Search for Jr in OPAC

Many places are choosing to put journals which can be directly linked in their OPAC

and aggregator titles and direct link publications in their web database.

It will be very interesting to see how our speakers are working with the challenges.

Our Project Speakers Will:

1. Discuss hardware and software

2. List services from which they get aggregated titles (e.g., Dow Jones, Expanded Academic Index)

3. Indicate whether the titles in the database are searchable from the web database only, or are searchable/linkable from their OPAC too.

4. Note how often source files are updated and how long it takes to do this

5. List the fields (e.g., title, ISSN, start date, stop-date) they include in their database and whether they modify for consistency (e.g. dates)

6. Indicate whether and how they use the concept of Search tips for the user so she/he knows what to do once linked to an aggregator database

7. Demonstrate on their system
a.What a user would do to find the full text article for the citation   Why Y2K is good for you
PC Magazine, April 6, 1999 p4
b.What the user would do to browse the most recent issue of *American Libraries* for full-text articles

We've asked each of our speakers to give consider the following information in their presentations.

I hope you are looking forward to learning how they have addressed the background issues as much as I am.

Again,   Let's hold questions until all have given their talks.

Doris Thanks for agreeing to be our first speaker and get us started.