



Highlights from Dawson Day 2009

By Jude Norris, eBook Sales & Marketing Manager

Dawson was delighted to welcome over 200 library guests and publishers to the Dawson Day held at the Fishmongers' Hall on Wednesday.

Everyone was captivated by the history of the Fishmongers' Hall, and artwork including Annigoni's first portrait of The Queen. The Doggett's men took pride in relaying history of the Hall and ensured that guests were well versed in the day's events.



Library staff enjoyed featured talks and demonstrations on all Dawson services. The day provided an ideal opportunity to meet the Dawson staff, talk to publishers and proved an excellent forum to network with friends and colleagues from around the country.

Mark Howard and I presented an update on new features and publisher signings on dawsonera. Claire Chandler and I also provided live demonstrations throughout the day in the Court room, which gave librarians a chance to ask any questions regarding the service.

New Developments

I began with an overview of dawsonera and summarised the development that continues to ensure dawsonera is at the forefront of ebook technology.

During the past twelve months the specification for Phase II has been written, developed and these features are live on the platform. This phase introduced over 100 new features and enhancements. A high proportion were in response to customer feedback and suggestions.

Highlights include improved searching, with the addition of a 'metadata' only search, and a 'did you mean?' function, as well as the integration of Refworks citation manager which allows students to export and manage citation information. The introduction of IP passport authentication has proven to be a beneficial tool for libraries, particularly for walk-in users. Further

enhancements to the rental model allow libraries to make ebooks not owned by the institution available to rent via the library catalogue.

In addition to the phase II project, Dawson has assisted over 55 libraries to move from Athens to Shibboleth authentication. Providing WAYFless URL links within 24hrs of order ensures users can seamlessly pass from the library catalogue direct to the full text, taking full advantage of single sign on technology.

During the presentation I emphasised the ability to deep-link ebooks at title, chapter or page level within resources such as VLEs and illustrated examples of how customers have already achieved this with persistent links, providing ease of access for students. Multiple entry points promote the discoverability of ebooks and libraries are already taking advantage of cross linking dawsonera titles, using SFX. We are extending our partnership with ExLibris working on integration with Metalib.

eContent

Mark concluded the presentation with an update on new publisher signings, sharing his collection development plans for the future.

Aiming to achieve in excess of 100,000 titles by the autumn term, Mark has now licensed 96,000 ebooks. Coverage on dawsonera now extends to over 220 publishing partners.

The growth of content on the platform is rapidly increasing, with dynamic work flows in place. New content and weekly feeds from existing academic publishers ensure that content is loaded on a daily basis.

eTextbooks are always at the top of our priority list and Mark has had recent success in negotiating with textbook publishers such as Hodder Education and Learning Matters to make their content available for the first time, as well as, the addition of some 600 textbooks from our existing partner Cambridge University Press.

New Publishers May 2009

International Marketing Reports
IT Governance Ltd
Hodder Education
Learning Matters
Nottingham University Press
Walter de Gruyter
Whittles Publishing

[Full Publisher list](#)

Take advantage of our title matching facility, either supply a wish list of titles, or ask Dawson to match against your printed acquisitions.

For more information or to request publisher title lists please email enquiries@dawsonera.com or telephone +44 (0)1933 417500 to speak to a member of the team.