ExLibris

bx

Scholarly Recommender Service
Web-savvy library users are well acquainted with the highly popular usage-based recommendations found on commercial Web sites (“Customers who bought this item also bought...”). Now Ex Libris is offering a first-of-its-kind service that focuses on the scholarly domain and is based on the actual usage of library resources. The Ex Libris bX scholarly recommender service provides researchers with recommendations for scholarly articles, integrating these recommendations tightly and intuitively into each researcher’s search environment.

The bX recommender service derives from work by the renowned researchers Johan Bollen and Herbert Van de Sompel from the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The recommendations are based on an analysis of the multitude of link-clicks carried out by researchers from institutions around the world and captured by each institution’s link resolver.

By offering the bX recommender service, your library steps up to serve your patrons with a valuable tool that meets user expectations for up-to-date, Web 2.0-type services and helps researchers focus on articles of potential interest and relevance to their topic.

Users Who Viewed This Article Also Viewed...

Make Your Users’ Input Count

Institutions that sign up for the bX service can also contribute their usage data anonymously to the service. Although contributing data is not a requirement for using the service, all additional usage data will enhance the quality of the recommendations provided to the subscriber community. Furthermore, the institutions that contribute their usage data to bX can opt to receive recommendations derived from their institution’s own usage data in addition to the global recommendations based on the usage data of all participating institutions.

Quick and Easy Setup

The bX recommendations are offered as an on-demand service, meaning that there is nothing to install or maintain on your network. Once your institution has registered online for the bX service, you can immediately activate bX recommendations in the SFX® menu. Furthermore, the bX API, which returns recommendations in XML, ATOM, and RSS formats, enables you to integrate the service into your other applications.

Key Benefits for Your Users:

Added value: Users are guided to information they need and offered the opportunity to broaden the horizons of their research.

Fast delivery: bX recommendations are delivered to your library’s system, so users can start receiving recommendations immediately.

Intuitive presentation: Users view recommendations in their familiar search environment.

Key Benefits for Your Library:

Quick and easy startup: Launch the service with the click of a mouse—no hardware purchase, installation, maintenance, or administration required.

Inspiration for your users: Help your users take advantage of the experience of the global research community.

Your choice: Decide where in your library systems bX recommendations should appear.
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