Friday, October 11th marked the official launch of the Quebec University Libraries Partnership (Partenariat des bibliothèques universitaires québécoises, PBUQ), with 170 people in attendance, including several library directors from the 18 Quebec universities, library staff members involved in the Partnership’s committees and working groups, representatives from the vendor, OCLC as well as representatives from the Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI).

Presentations and workshop

The Library Subcommittee took advantage of the launch to organize two presentations in the morning for Quebec university library staff. The first of these was a progress update on the Shared Services Platform (Plateforme partagée de services, PPS) by the project team and the Comité de Pilotage, and the second was a description of the development and future plans for the solution WorldShare Management Services (WMS) by the vendor OCLC.

The afternoon was devoted to a workshop centred around inter-university collaboration and mobilization. The objective of the workshop, “Supporting each other for a successful implementation of the Shared Services Platform” was to identify strengths and possible contributions from each institution to the Shared Services Platform project to lay the groundwork for strong collaborations at both the individual and institutional levels.

Website

The Library Subcommittee also took the opportunity to launch the Partnership’s website biblios-uni-qc.org. The site is designed for Quebec university library staff. On the site you will find information about the three current projects (PPS, GéoIndex, and Dataverse), as well as additional documentation, including the press release (in French) of the October 11 launch of the Partnership.

A summary of the day as well as photos of the launch ceremony for the Partnership and the afternoon workshop are already available in the section “Événement.” Recording of the morning presentations will be available on the website as of next week.

Please visit the website regularly!
Reminder: What is the Partnership?

The Quebec University Libraries Partnership (Le Partenariat des bibliothèques universitaires québécoises, PBUQ) brings together the libraries of all 18 Quebec universities.

Since the fall of 2014, these libraries have collaborated to put into place shared projects, most notably one to replace each integrated library management system with a Shared Services Platform. Following a call for proposals as part of a competitive dialogue, WorldShare Management Services (WMS) from OCLC, a nonprofit cooperative of member libraries, was chosen as the solution in April 2019.

There is a potential for numerous projects to emerge from the Partnership. The current initiatives are:

- Shared Services Platform (June 2020)
- Shared Platform for Research Data, Dataverse (September 2019)
- Shared Platform for Geospatial Data and Aerial Photographs, GéoIndex (January 2019)

ON BEHALF OF THE COMITÉ DE PILOTAGE OF THE SHARED SERVICES PLATFORM (SSP)

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Caroline Lessard
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