KOHA-llaboration:
Utilizing the resources of the open-source community to migrate the ANS library catalog

Elizabeth Hahn
Librarian

The American Numismatic Society
e-mail: hahn@numismatics.org
Entrance hall of the American Numismatic Society
The object and mission of the Society shall be the creation and maintenance of the preeminent national institution advancing the study and public appreciation of coins, currency, medals, orders and decorations, and related objects of all cultures as historical and artistic documents and artifacts; by maintaining the foremost numismatic collection, museum, and library; by supporting scholarly research and publications; and by sponsoring educational and interpretive programs for diverse audiences.
Climate controlled rare book room and entrance to ANS Library
Catalogs and Cataloging
LOAC: Library Ordering, Accessioning, and Cataloging

Custom made software developed for first electronic and online version of the collections. Records then uploaded to online database.

American Numismatic Society
First online catalog of library collections – simple, single word searches best; poor handling of diacritics; sorting results not possible; delay of newly cataloged items appearing.
Catalog project:

**Why?**
- Previous system (Loac) inadequate for many reasons. Need for more accurate searches, more results; more user friendly; sorting options; correct upload delay.

**What?**
- Migrate data to a newly implemented OPAC – Koha open-source.

**Who?**
- Internal library staff, Koha community, outsourced ByWater.

**When?**
- Fall 2009 – Spring 2010

**How?**
- ANS internal staff (IT, cataloger, board); external IT support (ByWater); library community (Koha, other users).
Why Koha?

- Budget concerns
- Better searches, more results
- More user friendly
- Able to sort search results by name, date, etc.
- Immediate record information updates
- Community of support and development
Summary of initial problems encountered and bug reports submitted and repaired

-- Problems with how original data was stored, complexity in migration.
-- Desire to customize Koha to accommodate certain features, such as indexing of articles, which are a major component of the ANS library catalog.
-- Host publication info stored in 773 field, which must be visible and searchable.
-- Some 100,000 analytic records made customization necessary (versus adding notes to each).
-- No item records in old catalog, desire to show locations in 852 field.
-- Desire to search the large collection of auction catalogs by auction date.
New version of library catalog -- live on April 19, 2010
Example of a record detail from the old online catalog
(of a book in Arabic)
Example of a record detail from the new online catalog
(of a book in Arabic)
Another example of a record detail from the old online catalog (of a book in Russian)
Another example of a record detail from the new online catalog (of a book in Russian)
KOHA-llaboration:
Utilizing the resources of the open-source community to migrate the ANS library catalog

Elizabeth Hahn
Librarian
The American Numismatic Society
75 Varick Street, 11th Floor
NY, NY 10013
telephone: +1(212)571-4470
email: hahn@numismatics.org