

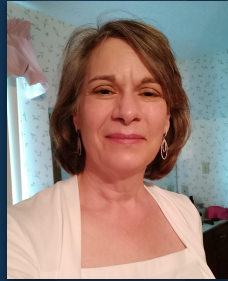


SimplyE

Current Efforts and Future Plans



Robert Cartolano
Columbia University



Christine Peterson
Amigos Library Services



James English
Lyrasis

Summary

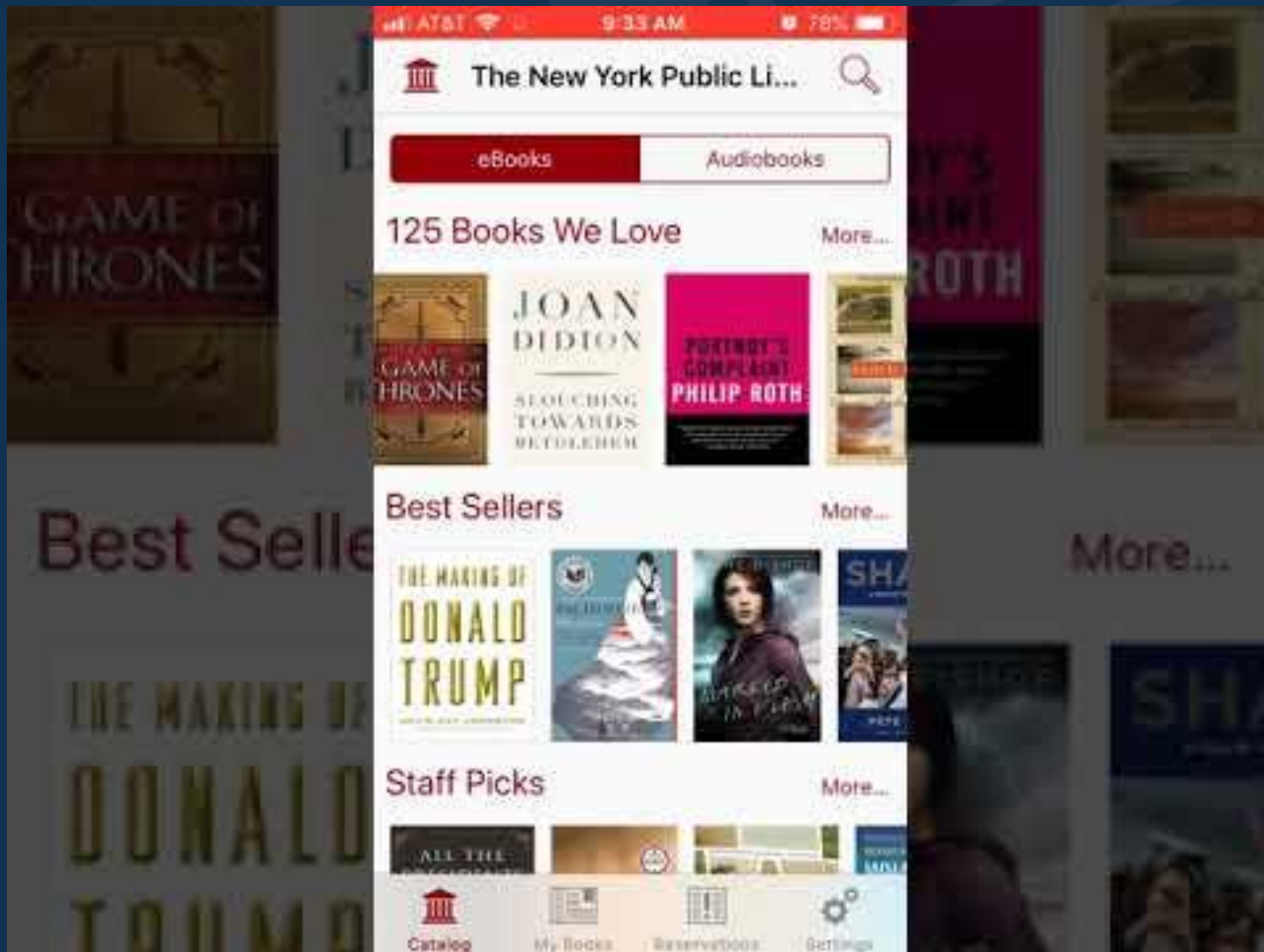
SimplyE continues to gain momentum across public and academic libraries.

New efforts are underway to better understand the needs of ebook readers and improve the system to meet the needs of institutions.

Learn about recent accomplishments, current efforts and future plans to improve SimplyE and expand its use in libraries.

Agenda

SimplyE Demonstration
Recent Accomplishments
Current Efforts
Future Plans



<https://youtu.be/T6iLTyYphw>

Recent Accomplishments

- Rapidly expanding adoption of SimplyE for public libraries - over 200
- Improvements to SimplyE mobile app (NYPL-driven)
- Community-supported (chaired by DPLA and Minitex)
 - SimplyE Advisory Group
 - Contributors Group
- Public libraries
 - Audiobook support
 - State library, consortial, single library deployments
- Academic libraries
 - PDF open access ebook support
 - Sloan-funded Academic Feasibility Study

Alfred P. Sloan-Funded Feasibility Study

Activities:

- Conducted survey - 150+ participating libraries

- Identify research needs

- Develop proof of concept

- Develop technology & community roadmap

- Develop report & plan

Co-investigators: Robert Miller (LYRASIS), Robert Cartolano (Columbia University Libraries)

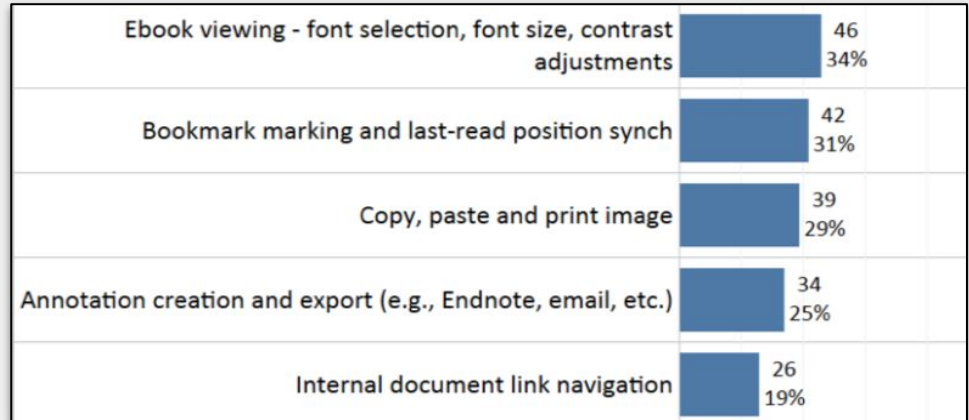
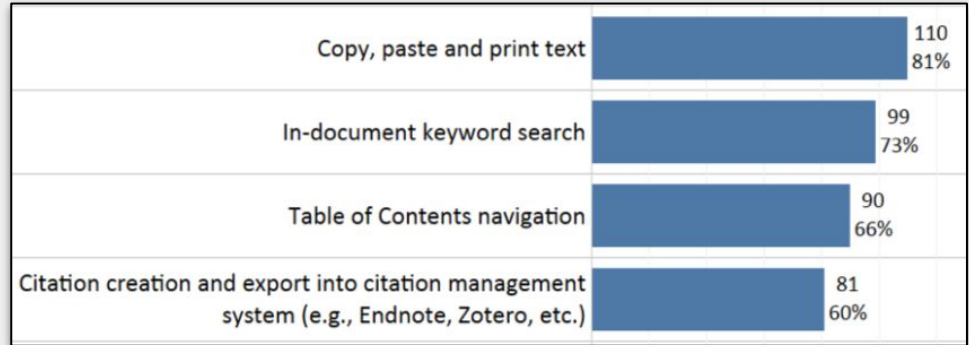
Steering Group: LYRASIS, Columbia University, New York University, New York Public Library, Digital Public Library of America, MIT Press, Minitex/University of Minnesota

Project Consultant: James English, Product Strategist (LYRASIS)

Top Survey Results

- Use of ebook as source of information
- Common expected ebook features (EPUB)
- Expected digital platform features expected

Question: Select five most frequently used features by your academic ebook readers:

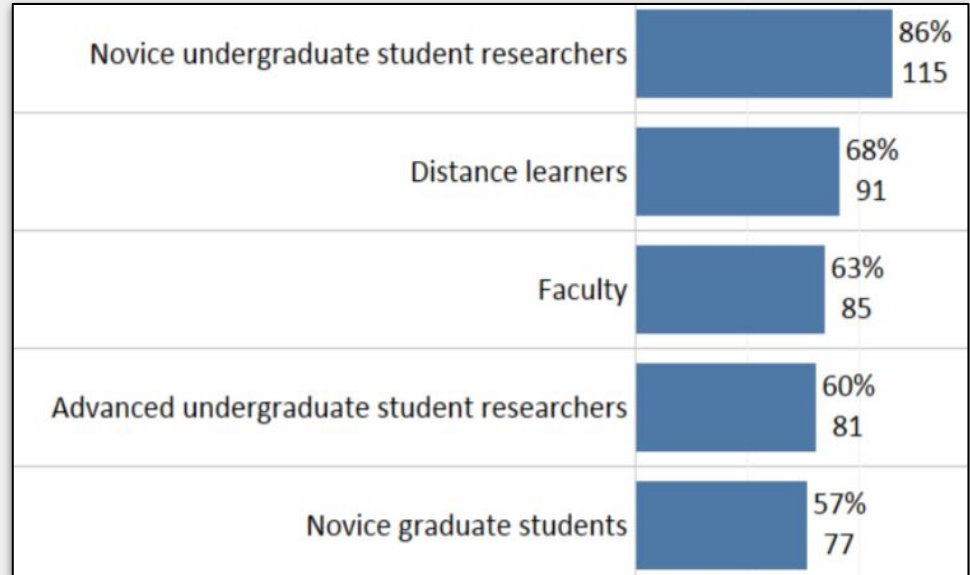


User Experience Results

While digital natives are familiar with computers . . .

- The “tools of research” are not native to their digital upbringing
- User expectations were more likely informed by “consumer” technology

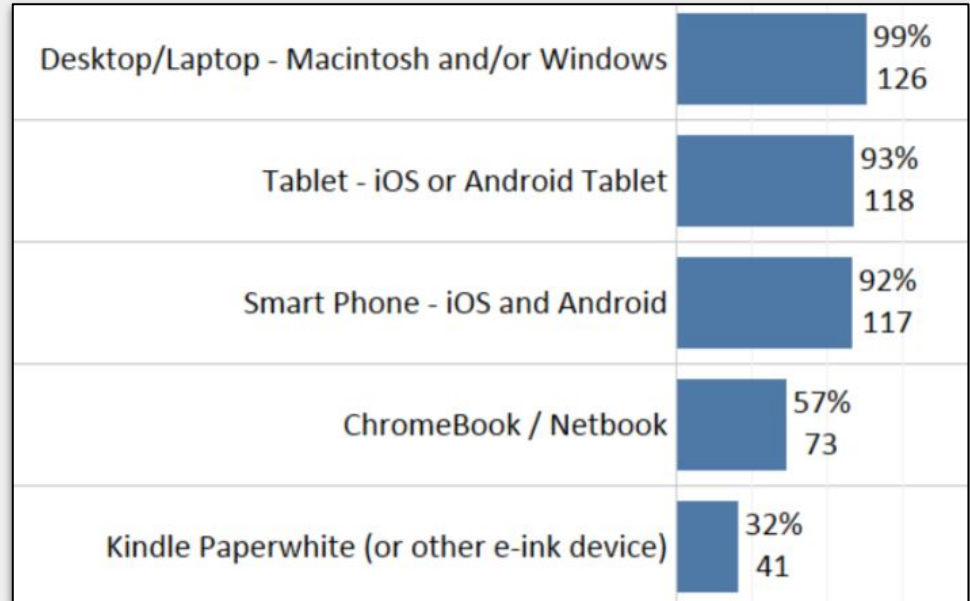
Question: Select which groups most need simplified ebooks access. *Check all that apply.*



Device/Platform Results

The traditional computer now shares its importance in academia in the age of tablets and smartphones.

Question: Indicated devices used for academic ebooks. *Check all that apply.*



Readers First - Public Libraries

- Search and browse a single comprehensive catalog with all of a library's offerings at once
- Place holds, check-out items, view availability, manage fines and receive communications within single location
- Choose content, devices and apps from any provider or from multiple providers
- Download e-books that are compatible with all readers



<http://www.readersfirst.org/>

Academic Ebook “Essentials”

- Common method of access
- Local discoverability
- Search - Download - Read
- Great reading experience
- Scholar tools
- Library branding, reporting, administration
- Stop proprietary mobile app proliferation



<http://www.readersfirst.org/>

Current Efforts: Supporting All Libraries

Calendar Year 2020

Open PDF support	LYRASIS
Next-gen reader	NYPL
Open standard DRM	Amigos, NYPL
Web-based client	Amigos
Local content	Amigos
Community documentation	Amigos

Current Efforts: Public & Academic

Calendar Year 2020



Public Libraries

Audiobooks for Overdrive & DPLA Exchange	NYPL & DPLA
Patron documentation	Amigos
Accelerating adoption	All

Academic Libraries

Campus (SAML) Authentication Support	Minitex, Columbia, LYRISIS
Academic SimplyE limited production	Columbia, LYRISIS
Extensive ebook provider conversations	All

Expanding SimplyE Community



New York
Public
Library



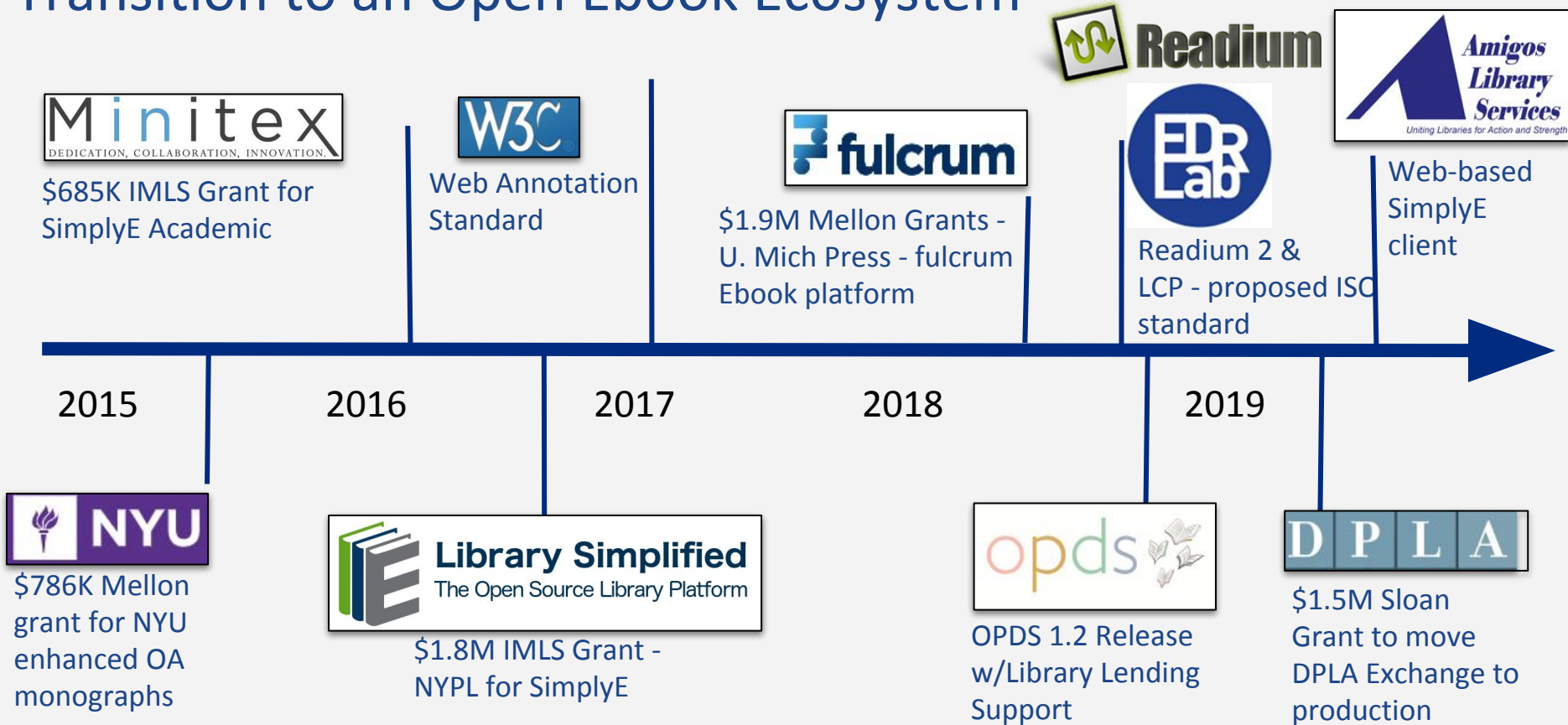
Public Library Ebook Providers



Academic Library Ebook Providers



Transition to an Open Ebook Ecosystem



Future Plans (2021)

- Content providers
 - All: ProQuest, Gale, EBSCO
 - Public: Hoopla
 - Academic: Springer, Taylor & Francis, Elsevier, HathiTrust, presses
 - Open: OAPEN, fulcrum
- Open standard DRM
 - LCP for licensed ebook providers
 - DRM-based PDF (LCP-PDF)
- Enhanced local discovery
 - Web catalog
 - Direct links for local discovery systems
- Additional formats
 - Comic book integration (CBZ)
 - Magazines

Keeping Up

Public libraries:

- Monthly call
- [#general Slack channel](#)

Academic libraries:

- [SimplyE Academic Mailing list](#)
- [#simplye-academic Slack channel](#)

Questions?



Robert Cartolano
Columbia University
rtc@columbia.edu

James English
Lyris
James.English@lyris.org

Christine Peterson
Amigos Library Services
peterson@amigos.org