MetaSearch

Present

&

Future

Dr Peter Noerr,
MuseGlobal, Inc.

ASEE Conference 2004
Salt Lake City

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Overview

- Current
  - Technology
    - Benefits
    - Problems
  - User expectations
  - Vendor view
- Future
  - Near term
  - Medium term
  - Way out

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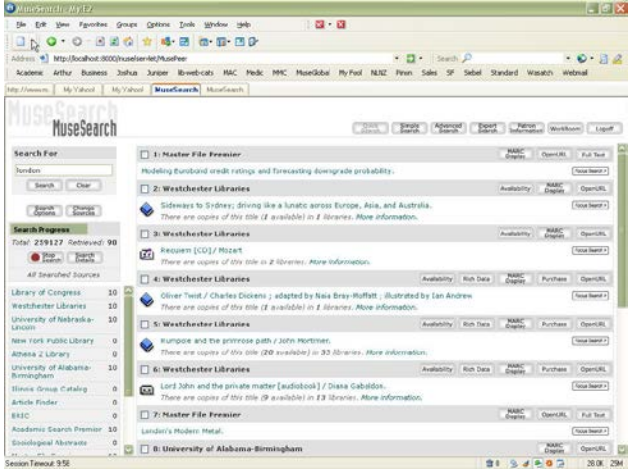
Current Technology



- Early stages (oldest 6/7 years)
- Empirical, pragmatic systems
- 80/20 solutions
- ASP vs. Installed
- Portals/portlets/components/stand alone
- Service vs. Software

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Current Technology, Benefits

- About half the time vs. without it
- User Single Signon (authentication)
- One search syntax
- Simple Source selection
- Consistent results display
- Consistent refinement tools (sort, dedupe …)
- One click to get full text (or doc delivery)

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Current Technology, Problems

- Connection protocols
  - Multiple standards
    - » Poor implementation
    - » Patchy implementation
    - » Local variations
  - Proprietary protocols
- Rapid Source (target) changes (http/html mostly)
- Source Semantics
- Record formats
- Inconsistent Source functionality
- Authentication
- Source selection

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Current User Expectations

- Simple to use (what else?)
- Covers everything (why not?)
- “Only librarians want to search, users want to find” – Roy Tennant
- “I want answers not documents”
- “Information wants to be free”
- “I need it now”
- “I have to manage and administer it?” - librarian

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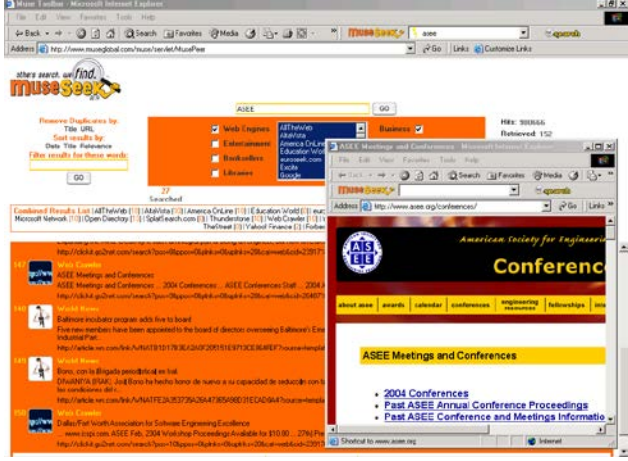
Current Vendor view



- The Market
  - » All libraries – academic, special, public, school
  - » Content providers – primary, aggregators, delivery
  - » Institutional units outside library – task groups, e-learning

    eventually all come down to individual users
- The Players
  - » 5/6 major independent system developers in information
  - » All ILS vendors – nearly all through OEM partnerships
  - » 5/6 major developers in corporate world
  - » 25-30 Web metasearch suppliers – much less sophisticated
- Location
  - » Supply side or Consumer side or Both?

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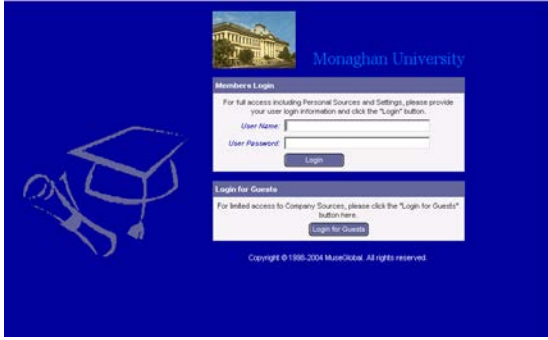
Future
Short term



- Protocols

  Standards – Z39.50/SRW/SRU, Xquery, CQL, XML, MetaSearch access

- Semantics of search matched to repository
- Functionality matched to search engines
- Data

  Metadata standards (semantics of data)

- Source Description

  Standards – Explain, RDF, UDDI, WSDL

  Functionality, access, syntax, semantics, formats

These items are being worked on by the NISO (www.niso.org) Metasearch Initiative working Groups. Participation is welcomed from all, from anywhere.

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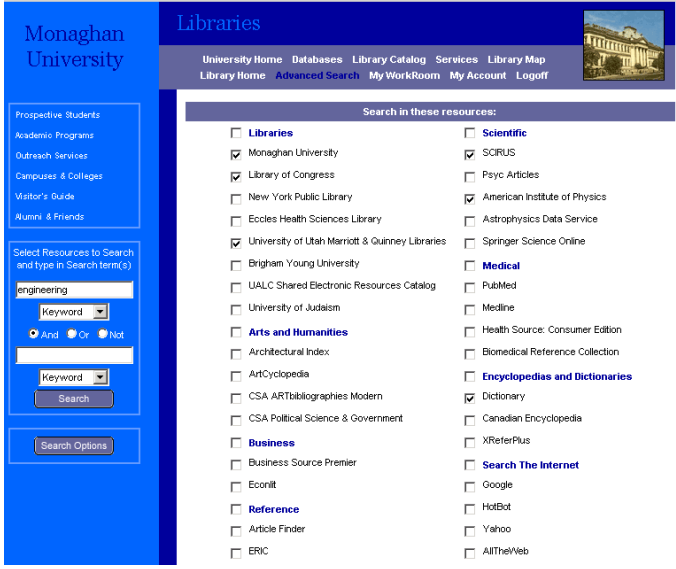
Future
Medium term



- Source Description
- Improved search semantics
- Maintenance management
  - » Possibly 20,000 “public” Sources worldwide
  - » Proliferating protocols
- Integration with …
- Improved relevance (clustering, etc.)
- “Security”
  - » Authentication, authorization, single sign on
  - » Encryption, firewalls, networking
  - » Rights management, commercial considerations
- Statistics
- New user demands

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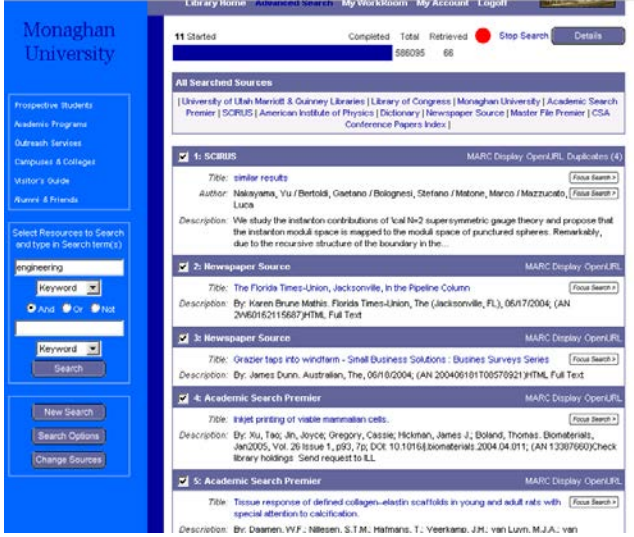
Future
Way out



- Automatic Source selection
- Automatic Source exploration
- User semantic context
- User interfaces
  - » Natural language
  - » Augmented reality
- Commodity functionality
  - » Supplier or consumer function
  - » Business models
- Pervasively available

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Questions, Comments?

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others search. we find.

MuseSeek

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Put in your terms, click your categories, click GO.

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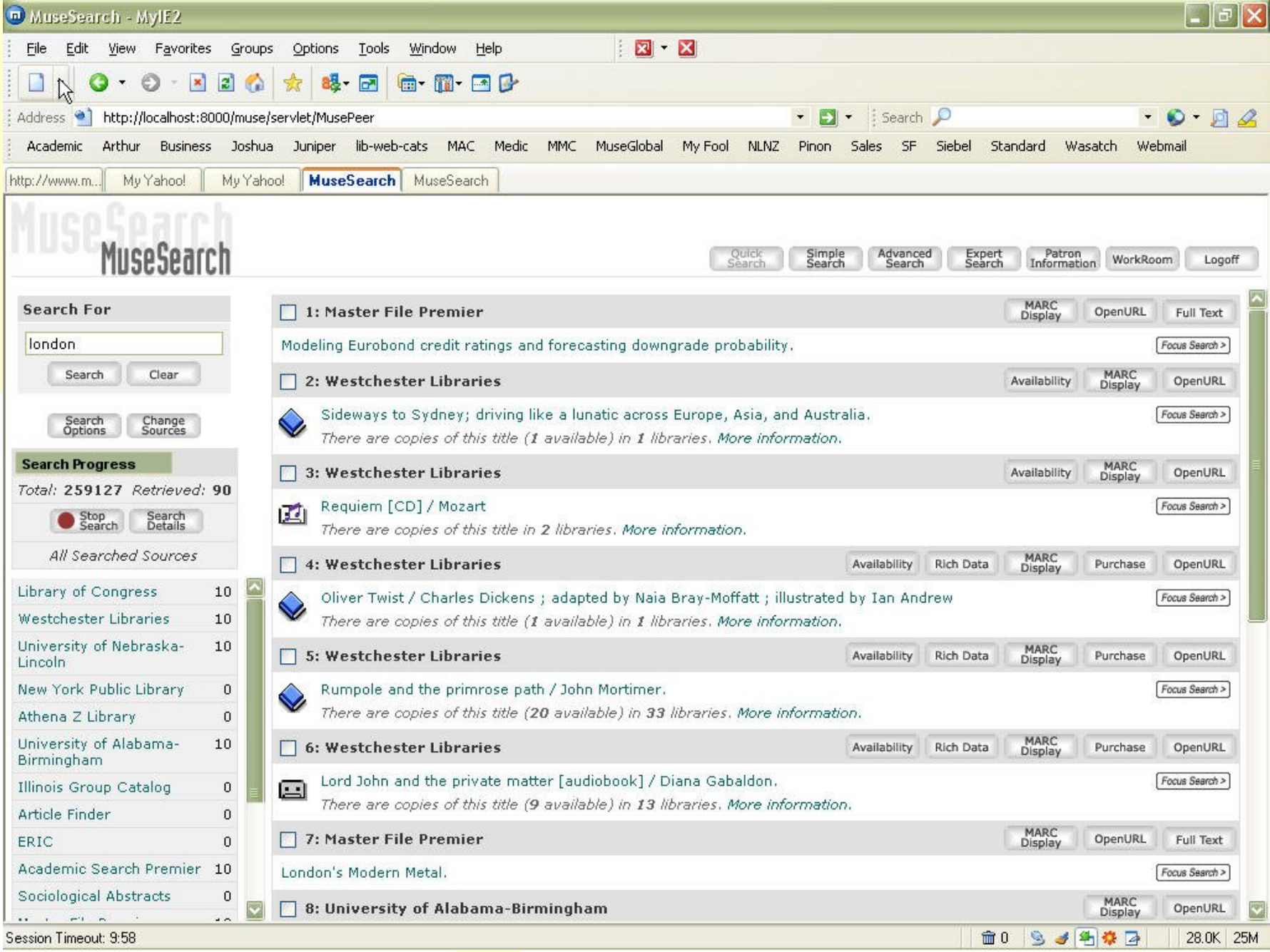

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THE Asian Children's Web

Login
New user? Sign up!

Read | Create | Learn | Have Fun

What's new? Check it out:

- This list can contain
- items of interest
- exciting upcoming events

The panel expands vertically as the text increases.

To search, type your search words in the box, check the boxes below where you want to search, and click Search.

SEARCH

To visit a website, click on its logo or name below.

Encyclopædia Britannica | Google | altavista THE SEARCH COMPANY | NLB National Library Board Singapore

For parents and teachers:

Click here to see a list of links we've collected specifically for parents and teachers. If you have a link you would like to add to our list, please contact us.

Events for Kids

Some upcoming events just for kids:

Asian Children's Festival

The Asian Children's Festival will (supply some brief descriptive text about the festival here.)

For your family

Here are some fun family links:

Alfy

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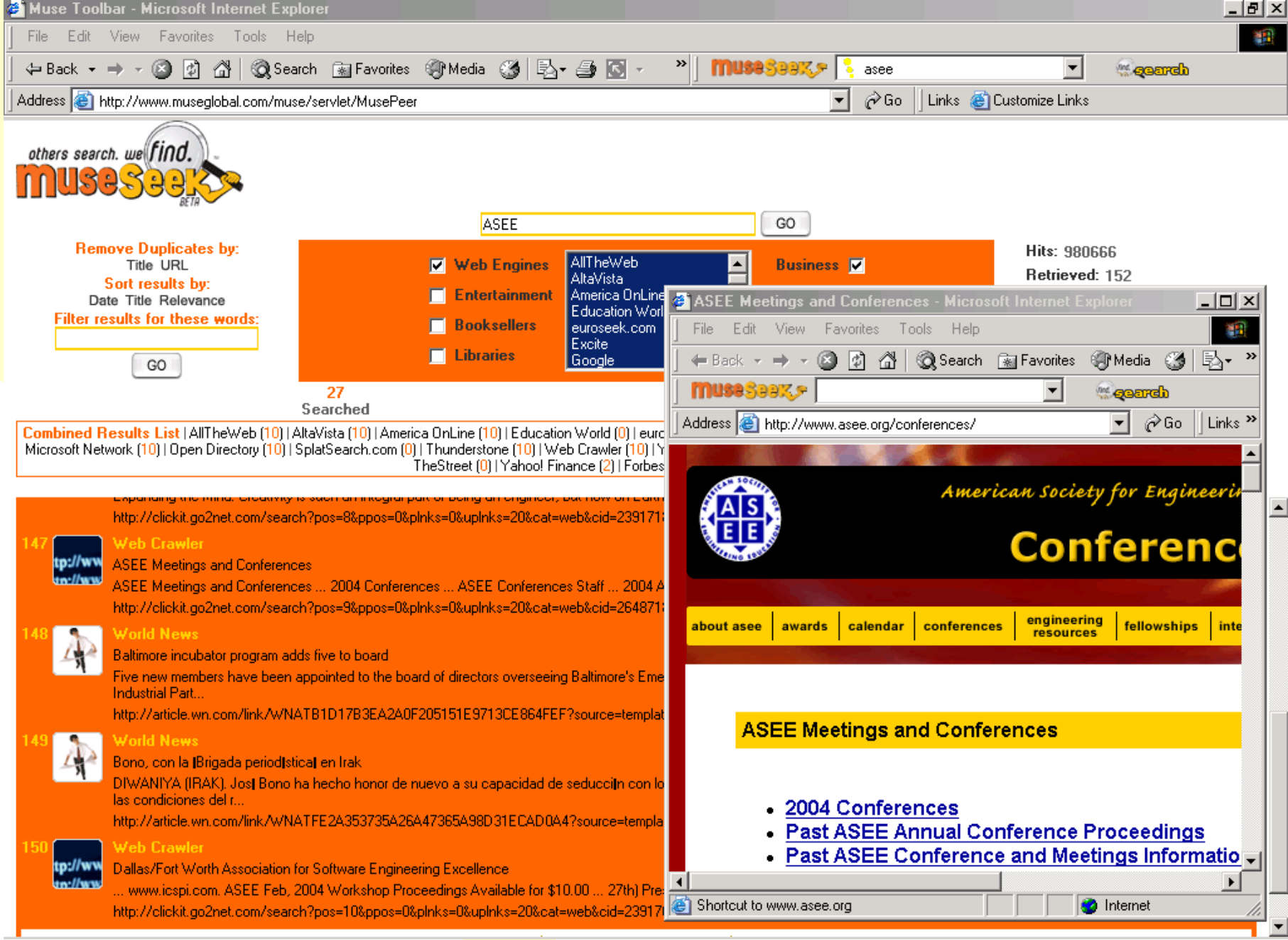

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For full access including Personal Sources and Settings, please provide your user login information and click the "Login" button.

User Name:

User Password:

Login

Login for Guests

For limited access to Company Sources, please click the "Login for Guests" button here.

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- Prospective Students
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- Outreach Services
- Campuses & Colleges
- Visitor's Guide
- Alumni & Friends

Select Resources to Search and type in Search term(s)

engineering

Keyword

And Or Not

Keyword

Search

Search Options

Search in these resources:

- [ ] **Libraries**
- [x] Monaghan University
- [x] Library of Congress
- [ ] New York Public Library
- [ ] Eccles Health Sciences Library
- [x] University of Utah Marriott & Quinney Libraries
- [ ] Brigham Young University
- [ ] UALC Shared Electronic Resources Catalog
- [ ] University of Judaism
- [ ] **Arts and Humanities**
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- [ ] **Encyclopedias and Dictionaries**
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- [ ] Canadian Encyclopedia
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- [ ] **Search The Internet**
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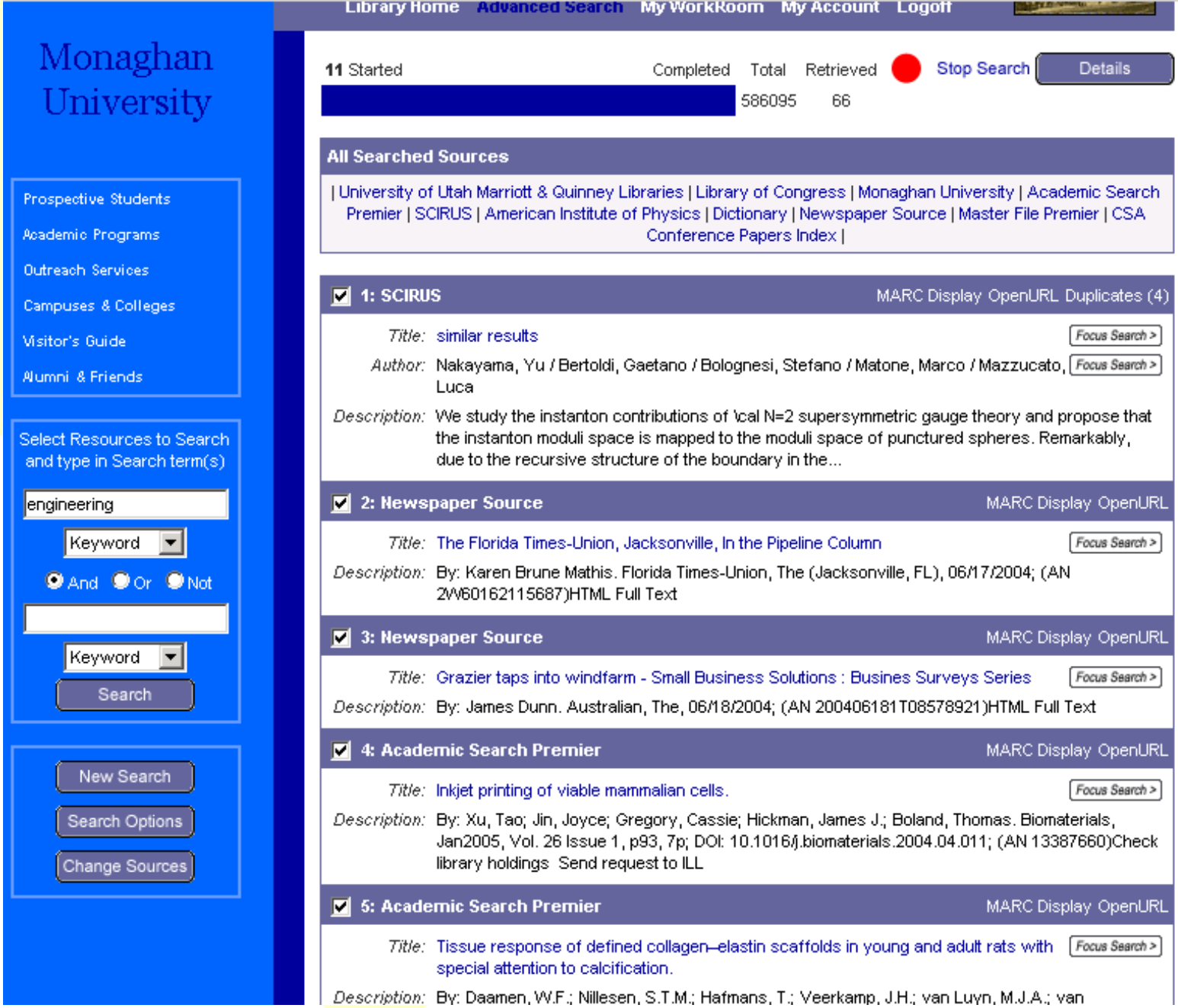

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- Library News
- History
- Arts
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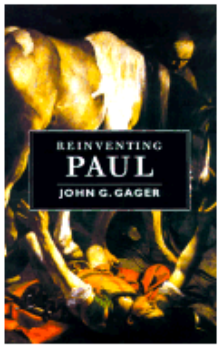
Search Library Catalogs, Articles and the Web:

Search



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Excerpt
Book Review from Library Journal
Book Review from Publisher Weekly

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Partly Cloudy

Sat Jun 19 12:55 PM MT
Temperature: 81°F/27°C
Humidity: 26%
Barometer: 30.07in/1019mb
Winds: VAR at 6mph/10kph

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