

## The use of Summon at the Durban University of Technology

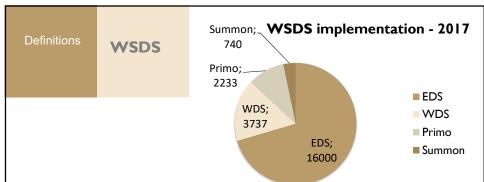
## Sagren Moodley Durban University of Technology

University of Pretoria and Carnegie Corporation of New York Capstone Conference, 29 March 2019



- Background (definitions, context, Summon)
- Research focus
- Relevant aspects from the Literature
- Brief methodology
- Key findings
- Proposed model
- Progress
- Conclusion





- Discovery tools are also referred to as Web-scale discovery tools or as web scale discovery services (WSDS) - 2008 – Summon (SS), early entrants
- "one stop shop"; 'Google-like interface'
- Relevant, ranked information from subscribed library resources and other resources

Source: Breeding, M, Library Technology Reports, 2018

Background **DUT** 

- Medium sized Academic Library, 27000 students
- 6 library sites Durban and Pietermaritzburg, KZN
- OPEN Average of 13 hours per day, 24/7 online
- Mainly undergraduate 2013 acceleration research
- 70/30 electronic to print, Access is critical!
- Strengths
  - Partners in academic learning, curriculum integration for information literacy training
  - Technology use (innovative)
  - Research support
  - LIT department( student support)
  - Strong partnerships (institutional)



Background

Summon

- DUT **Strategy** 2010 -2012 'seamless access to resources'
- Research (Team leader), implementation, marketing
   2011 Summon, advantages over other newer systems
- Summon implementation end of 2011 (Training for library staff)
- Training rollout in 2012, across faculties (students and staff)
- Known Traditional metrics Summon usage and collections usage statistics
- Unknown How Summon is being used?

**SUMMON** information, anytime, anywhere



Research Focus

## How can the use of Summon be improved at the Durban University of Technology (DUT)

- What measures are used to evaluate electronic information services (such as WSDS) in academic libraries?
- How is Summon used by staff and students at DUT?
- What are the views of Subject Librarians on the use of Summon?
- What are existing and new ways of using Summon at DUT?



### Review of literature

- Detailed review (reflection)
- Key themes (relevant research, tools, approaches)
  - Evaluation (Theories, models, approaches) \*
  - Research on discovery tools \*
  - Technology usage models/tools TAM, DOI, HCI
  - Information Behavior, ROI



# Review of literature t

Evaluation Model relevant to the study

- eVALUEd toolkit is an acronym for "an evaluation model for electronic library developments" – underutilised, case studies reported on the website
- step-by-step guide to planning and conducting an evaluation, with tools such as questionnaires and interview questions, and also allow the evaluator to create customised tools for specific purposes

User experience	issues of access to the system from the library, on campus and elsewhere; how effective is the support provided for users of the system; how effectively the system is promoted to staff and students, and the perceptions of staff and students and expectations of the system.
Management	<b>amount of use and number of users of the system</b> ; the effectiveness of the staffing arrangements for the system; <b>the quality, quantity and range of resources</b> available through the system, and the system performance, interoperability and access management of the system
Planning	used to check if the system outcomes are aligned to institutional outcomes and strategies, and also to evaluate the <b>success of the collaboration between the library and academic departments</b> and other external bodies.
Impact	The impact of the system on learning and teaching within subject areas, the impact of the system on information skills and other graduate skills, and the impact of EIS on research and the production of scholarly works are high impact areas for further research.

Review of literature

**WSDS** 

- In 2012 discovery tools was still new to the marketplace.
   DUT first Summon in SA.
- Abundance of research UK & US
- Lack of **standard measures** available
- Limited studies impact on teaching and learning
- Barriers to use access to technology, ICT skills and information literacy skills



Review of literature

Research relevant to study

- Why and how students are using Summon
- How easily Summon is meeting the needs of the users especially in relation to other sophisticated library databases.
- The relationship between **students' approach to search tasks** and the library information literacy training they receive
- Research into specific groups of users
- Research that includes a larger cohort of students from different disciplines
- **Perceptions of librarians** on the impact of Summon on information literacy
- Holistic measures such as the eVALUEd toolkit as many factors contribute to use of Summon

### Methodology

- Case Study method offers a "multi-perspective analysis" taking into account the 'voices' and views of relevant groups, and the interaction between them.
- Site of Study Durban University of Technology Health Sciences Faculty
- · Target groups staff, students and librarians
- Sampling purposive select those who "hold data"
  - Students who had attended training on Summon in the given period
  - Faculty that had the most Summon training completed in the given period;
  - Department that recorded the highest number of students that attended Summon training;
  - Academics for these departments (Coordinators)
  - Subject Librarians for these departments



	Research Instruments	
Questionnaire (Students) N = 86	Semi – structured interview ( Academics) n = 4	Semi structured interview ( Subject Librarians) n = 2
<ul> <li>Gender</li> <li>course</li> <li>level of study</li> <li>perceived level of computer literacy</li> <li>use of library resources for assignments</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>course</li> <li>information seeking behaviour</li> <li>perceived literacy levels of students</li> </ul>	course     perceived literacy levels of students
<ul> <li>Summon training attendance</li> <li>what Summon is being used for</li> <li>problems when using Summon</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>awareness and use of Summon</li> <li>integration of the use of resources into assignments</li> <li>requests for information literacy and Summon training</li> <li>barriers to use of Summon</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>level of integration</li> <li>extent of training</li> <li>problems identified when training on Summon for information services</li> </ul>
ideas on how Summon can be improved	<ul> <li>suggestions for improvement to Summon - students and academics</li> </ul>	suggestions for improvement to Summon - students and academics and librarians

Results

**Students** 

- Summon is not the first search tool of choice for students when finding information, Google and Google Scholar are rated highly amongst students
- Use improved after the Summon training
- Used Summon to find information for assignments and projects
- Factors that **influence the use** of Summon ease of access, information needs are met, time saving and lecturer influence
- Factors that negatively affect the use of Summon technical issues accessing Summon; difficulty to use Summon; lack of skills needed to use Summon
- Overall, from those students who used Summon, the experience was
  positive with the majority of students satisfied with Summon as a
  searching tool, and willing to re-use and share



Result

**Academics** 

- The majority of the academics used Summon as the starting point for research or lecture preparation.
- As users of Summon, the academics played a major role in **encouraging the** use of Summon by students.
- The liaising with the Subject Librarian to set up integrated assignments and projects that involve the use of Summon
- The academic is able to attribute the improvement of appropriate use of library resources in assignments and projects to the Summon training.
- Formal assessment of assignments, tests and examinations (for referencing and use of library resources) is done by either the academic or Subject Librarian



Results

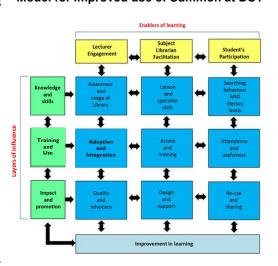
Subject Librarians

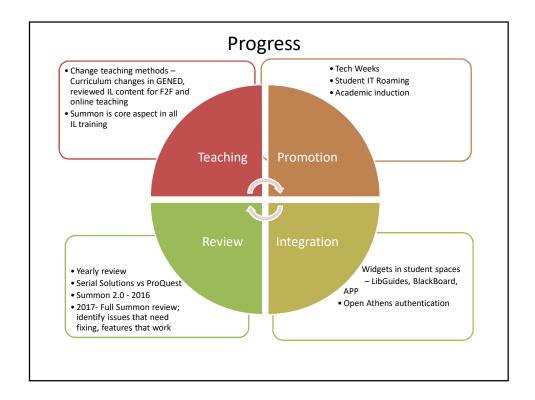
- Crucial role in facilitating access to information through information literacy training, and general promotion of library resources.
- The extent to which Summon is covered in information literacy training for a course depends on the level of integration into the assignment, and the number of lessons that are assigned.
- In the integrated assignment librarians direct students to quality library resources using the assignment topic as the starting point.
- Concern over the computer literacy levels of students, low computer literacy skills impacted on the training outcomes of the course.
- Formal assessment of assignments and projects appropriate library resources used
- · Shift in the types of queries they handle
- Spending less time training students searching strategies, and more time on evaluating results and citing resources.
- The integration of IL into the course should be encouraged, and attendance of training should be compulsory



- Model is a representation of the interactions in four courses
- Interdependent relationships among the students, academics and Subject Librarians that influence the student's information literacy skills, and use of appropriate resources for learning, and are referred to as enablers of student learning.
- There are also three layers of influence, namely: knowledge and skills; training and use; and impact and promotion that can affect the use of Summon. These three levels work together in improving the use of Summon, and ultimately, to bring about an improvement in learning.

### Model for improved use of Summon at DUT

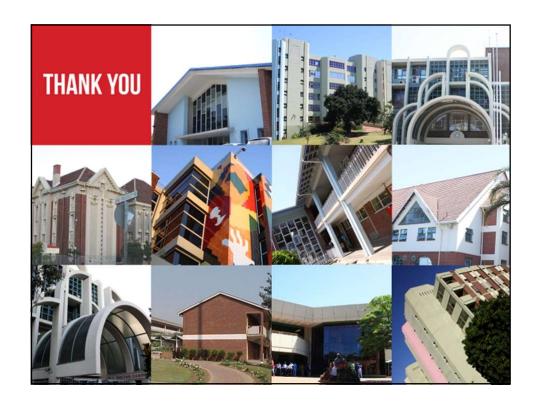




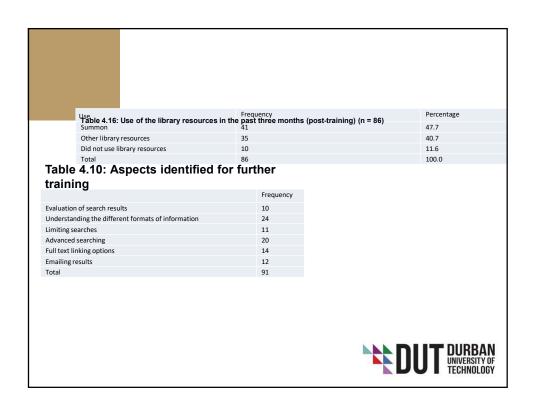
#### Conclusion

- 2015 2019, changes to Summon, Summon training, and Summon Marketing, Summon use
- **Measures** ( current and new) to demonstrate impact of use of technologies
- Move to another discovery tool?
- Lost opportunities
- areas for further research impact model, across Faculties, adoption of technologies
- formal implementation of recommendations





Month	Facet filtering	Basic se	arch				
Jan 201	-	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	.223				
Feb 201			.196	Stats – students are refining searches Need for training in search strategy			
Mar 201			213				
Apr 201			.316				
May 201		1.5%	.962				
Jun 201		100000	,710				
Jul 201	10.000	100	.892				
100000000000000000000000000000000000000	201	7.55					
Aug 201		100000	,698				
Sep 201			,067		Popular Searches since January 1st, 2016		
Oct 201	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PERSON OF	200	,506		Search String	Searches	D
Nov 201		1111	,923				110
Dec 201	7 1,521	4	,769		verbal communication	903	1
					verbal communication nonverbal communication	903	
Count					hospitality management	754	
Month	Click on recommend	ed resource	Facet filtering	Basic search	google	620	1
Jan 2018			1,925	5,367			1
Feb 2018			3,556	7,313	research methodology	581	17
Mar 2018			38,876	50,883	biodiversity	487	
Apr 2018 May 2018			37,942 32,085	50,611 48.511	istor	421	+
Jun 2018		6		29,015	rea .		+
Jul 2018		11	-	18,771	reference guide	418	3
Aug 2018		25		39,035	mfecane war	388	
Sep 2018		24	20,897	32,281			+
Oct 2018		16		22,457	summon	372	
Nov 2018 Dec 2018		2		9,102	blackboard	362	
			941	3.378			1



Thebridge (2004: 78) highlights two critical areas of the toolkit that have been developed to understand the impact of electronic services on learning and teaching

How EIS supports learning	Evidence to support outcomes	Data collection methods
Encourages the use of new	Information skills	Student questionnaire
types of learning resources		
Encourages	Skills sessions	References in course materials
experimentation with new		
resources and methods of		
learning		
Improves access to	Off campus	Number of new users
resources		
Help to improve learning	Information literacy skills	Training/ help documentation
skills	ICT Skills	Student questionnaire

How EIS supports teaching	Evidence to support outcomes	Data collection
Supports the planning of teaching	Development of new teaching resources	Questions for
	Identification of news teaching resources	Questions for library staff
	Information seeking tools which aid the finding of resources for courses	Questions for library staff
Supports the delivery of courses	Incorporated into new teaching materials	Statistics
	Embedding information skills sessions	Questions for library staff
	Joint assignments between library and academic departments	Questions for library staff
Supports assessment	Assignments encourage use of EIS	Statistics
Provides support for individual	Helping find resources	Q for lecturers
learners	Develop information skills	Q for library staff
	Design of tutorials	Q for library staff
	Enabling self help	Q for library staff

11 of the 83 students who rated their immon, 38% of the students used other of research. Only 14% of students used Summon as the starting point for information searching, post resources to find information, and 10% of computer literacy levels as good or excellent still required additional training on students found Summon difficult to use. training 48 % of students using Summon as a starting Summon Need for training 24 of the students cited understanding the Finding info for assignments different formats of information as needed. Computer literacy levels and the impact of 56% of students found that Summon led and 10 of the student's required additional training on Summon them to relevant information, and 41% training in evaluation of information found that Summon was faster, and 13% Impact of Summon training on students found that Summon provides accurate and relevant information. The students, academics and librarians were asked about the impact of Summon training on assignments. 68% of the students used Summon for the assignments, and 56% found that Summon improved their ability to find relevant sources for assignments Factors affecting use Subject Librarians had different Quality of assignments experiences with regard to the subject librarians who are responsible for marking the reference sections of assignments also found that students were usability issues. From a student perspective, of the 62 students naking use of more appropriate resources nassignments. The Subject Librarians also who responded to factors that provide feedback to the lecturers on the affected their use of Summon, use of resources in assignments. Reference queries of Subject Librarians have also 37% found Summon easy to use dropped after Summon training as students are finding resources easier via Summon . and indicated that they had saved time by using Summon. 42% of students experienced challenges in using Summon that