


SENYLRC MetaSearching's Promise

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Informed Strategies
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Google reigns

- ◆ 30% of web searches
- ◆ Relevancy rank
- ◆ Web pages and URLs
- ◆ Single search – millions of websites
- ◆ Delivers “an” answer vs “the” answer



Users

- ◆ Users
 - If not on web – doesn't exist
 - Self service
 - 24x7
- ◆ Born with the Chip
 - Format agnostic
 - Experience based learners
- ◆ Libraries
 - 20-30% electronic resources
 - X% of use?
 - Epreferred




User Groups




Trends - Carol Tenopir

- ◆ User Studies
 - Librarians – search control
 - Faculty – more content
 - Students – easy access
- ◆ Change in usage
 - Decrease in browsing
 - Increase in searching



Metasearch

- ◆ 70s databases - Dialog
- ◆ 80s CDs - Silverplatter
- ◆ 90s web - metasearch – Ask Jeeves



Experience vs Reality

- ◆ Google
 - Indexes websites – URLs
 - Ahead of time
- ◆ Metasearch
 - XML, Z39.50, HTTP
 - On the fly

Search Options

- ◆ Single search vs List of databases
- ◆ Include books
- ◆ Organize resources
 - By subject
 - By type of content
 - By type of user

Results presentation

- ◆ Working
 - See results in process
 - Simple message
- ◆ Results list
 - By database
 - Merged and duplicates removed

Results Order

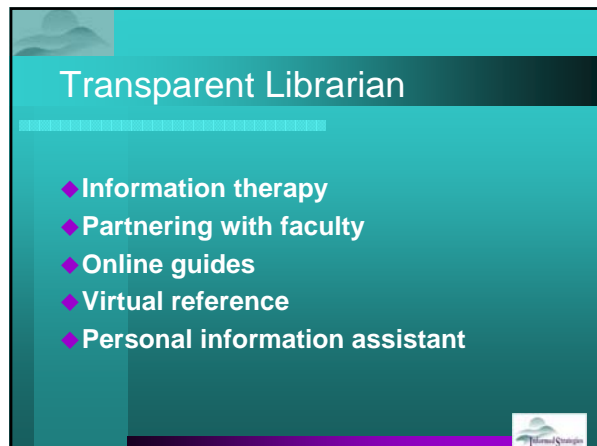
- ◆ Bibliographic databases
 - Most recently published
- ◆ Full text
 - Keywords in article/keywords in database
- ◆ Relevance
 - Most used or linked to

Post Search Processing

- ◆ Store searches
- ◆ Set up alerts
- ◆ Export citations

Publisher/Vendor Issues

- ◆ Lack of brand recognition
- ◆ Server capacity
- ◆ Lost functionality
- ◆ Results selected



Transparent Librarian

- ◆ Information therapy
- ◆ Partnering with faculty
- ◆ Online guides
- ◆ Virtual reference
- ◆ Personal information assistant

