Why Change the Library Catalog?

Drawing upon feedback from the 2015 Library Use Surveys, usability sessions, and analytics, the OneSearch Management Team at Western Libraries has redesigned the library catalog to better serve our patrons. To accomplish our goal, we gathered – and used – information about library resources in several ways:

- **Behavior analysis**: Western Libraries examined the anonymized user behavior in OneSearch through Google Analytics in order to determine the most frequently used catalog features.

- **Usability testing**: Western Libraries hosted several usability sessions through Winter and Spring 2015 Quarters. During these sessions, students and faculty from across campus were invited to explore the OneSearch environment and tell us how to improve it.

- **Survey + user feedback**: In addition to reviewing reported issues in OneSearch, Western Libraries used feedback from the February 2015 Faculty Library Use Survey and the April 2015 Graduate Student Library Use Survey into the redesign of the catalog.

- **Data source statistics**: Western Libraries reviewed the use statistics associated with article databases, Summit requests, and interlibrary loan activities in order to build a strong understanding of how patrons use OneSearch.