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Michigan, South Australian Students and Faculty Now Using Summon™ Web-scale Discovery Service to Speed Research

Grand Valley State University and University of South Australia are up and running

September 23, 2009 (SEATTLE) – In less than two months' implementation time, the first two commercial adopters of the Summon™ service have launched the web-scale discovery tool at their universities. Michigan's Grand Valley State University (GVSU) and the University of South Australia (UniSA) have their Summon services up and running for the new semester, enabling students and faculty to search the breadth of the library's collections – physical and digital, at the article level – from a single search box. The Summon™ service is from Serials Solutions, a business unit of ProQuest.

The Summon™ search box sits front and center on the GVSU libraries' home page, www.gvsu.edu/library. "Summon is a game-changer in how we provide access to our content," said Ron Berry, the libraries' director of technology and information resources. "Students and Faculty could easily get lost in the various choices of platforms to search for their information, but Summon gets right to the heart of the content and provides easy linking to material in its native database or catalog."

At UniSA, the Summon™ search box replaces the "Find It" box on the library homepage. The library also plans to have the Summon™ search box replace GoogleScholar in staff and student portals. During this early phase, other search points in the Library toolbar will remain temporarily.

"The most compelling reason for going with the Summon service - and going early, was that it so clearly provided a simple way to meet the Library's objective of improving information discovery by providing an obvious and easy-to-use starting point for research," said Helen Livingston UniSA Library Director.

"It's a forward thinking system and we're already discussing the best way to take advantage of the availability of the open API to direct users to library content effectively through our Moodle learning course management system and the staff and student portals," said UniSA Library IT Manager Jenny Quilliam.

The Summon™ service is built with entirely new technology and based on extensive end-user studies. Its simple, library-branded search box eliminates the confusion users have in finding a starting point for their research. Its aim is to attract researchers back to the library and expose more of the library's content to them, earning more value from investment in collections.

The service has been developed in close cooperation with the library community and the content providers who serve it. Among those contributing to its expansive content are ProQuest, Gale, Lexis-Nexis Academic, Publishing Technology – provider of the scholarly research platform IngentaConnect™ – and Thomson Reuters ISI Web of Science.® In total, the Summon™ service includes content from more than 6,000 publishers and has indexed nearly half a billion records.

To learn more about the Summon™ web-scale discovery service, visit www.serialssolutions.com/summon.

About Serials Solutions

Founded by a librarian for librarians in 2000, Serials Solutions is the global leader in E-Resource Access and Management Services (ERAMS) that serves more than 2,000 libraries of all sizes and types. Serials Solutions® KnowledgeWorks, the authoritative e-resource knowledgebase, is the foundation for Serials Solutions® 360, the only complete and integrated e-resource access and management solution. Serials Solutions recently introduced the Summon™ web-scale discovery service, a revolutionary tool that provides instant access to the full breadth of the library's collection through a single search.

Serials Solutions also is the exclusive source for Ulrichsweb.com™ and Ulrich's Serials Analysis System™ worldwide, and represents the AquaBrowser Library® unified discovery interface in the academic market in North America. The WebFeat® federated search service recently acquired by ProQuest soon will be incorporated into the Serials Solutions family of access and discovery services.

Serials Solutions provides fast implementation, easy customization, and outstanding value to libraries throughout the world. For more information, please visit www.serialssolutions.com or call 1-866-SERIALS. Serials Solutions is a business unit of ProQuest LLC.