

Libraries in Facebook and Second Life

Demos and Discussion

Mark Notess, Digital Library Program

5 December 2007



LIBRARIES

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Bloomington



facebook

What it is

- Browser-based “social utility” using real identities; easy to use
- Ad-based business model
- Stats: <http://indiana.facebook.com/press/info.php?statistics> – most students are there
- Originally relationships between “friends”, identified by university affiliation, but now anyone can join & organizations can have pages; can form affinity groups, post photos, write on a “wall” or send a private message, update status
- Automatically publishes “feeds” of your activities—has created privacy issues regularly because it tends to be an opt-out model

What’s big: gossip, chit-chat, social coordination, fun toys

Library usage

- Personal library – e.g., booktracker app
- Ask a librarian – e.g., fb librarian app
- Library page – e.g., <http://indiana.facebook.com/profile.php?id=6041853741>
- Library search – e.g., <http://apps.facebook.com/psulibrary>



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a library
masquerading
as a person

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying a Facebook profile for Herman B Wells. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://indiana.facebook.com/profile.php?id=837464511>. The Facebook profile page includes a search bar, a navigation menu with options like Profile, Friends, Networks, and Inbox, and a sidebar with Applications such as Photos, Groups, Events, and Librarian. The main content area features a profile picture of a building, a list of actions (Send Herman a Gift, Answer My Questions, Send Herman a Message, Poke Them!), and sections for Mutual Friends and Indiana Friends. A Mini-Feed on the right shows recent activity, including new friendships and a note from Herman about writing fun for everyone. The browser's status bar at the bottom indicates 'Done' and 'Open Notebook'.



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a library page

Facebook | UNC Davis Library - Mozilla Firefox


File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help del.icio.us

http://indiana.facebook.com/profile.php?id=6041853741

Google

facebook Profile edit Friends Networks Inbox home account privacy logout

UNC Davis Library



Location: 208 Raleigh Street, CB#3916, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514-6890

Phone: Reference: 919-962-1151
Circulation: 919-962-1053

Monday: 8:00 am - 12:00 am
Tuesday: 8:00 am - 12:00 am
Wednesday: 8:00 am - 12:00 am
Thursday: 8:00 am - 12:00 am
Friday: 8:00 am - 10:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 10:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am - 12:00 am

Become a Fan

6 of 32 fans See All

Davis RefDesk, Carl Harris, Anne Kreuser, Sean Chen, Eric Sessoms, Kevin Otte

Website: <http://www.lib.unc.edu/davis/>

General Information: We're experimenting with this Facebook page. What would you use it for? What resources would be useful to have here?

Ask Us

Davis Reference is online

[13:12] Davis Reference: wow, that's bizarre! that's our very own Davis Library on that page

[13:12] Davis Reference: I wonder who made that

[13:13] meeboguest299764: I wonder how you find out

[13:13] Davis Reference: I'll have to ask around. Can I help you with any questions about the library?

[13:13] meeboguest299764: no, but thanks for your time.

[13:14] Davis Reference: I'm just going to ask my colleagues. That's really interesting. Again, thanks for sharing! :)

Type here and hit enter to send a private message.

edit nickname: meeboguest299764

getmeebp

Waiting for guest1.meebo.org...

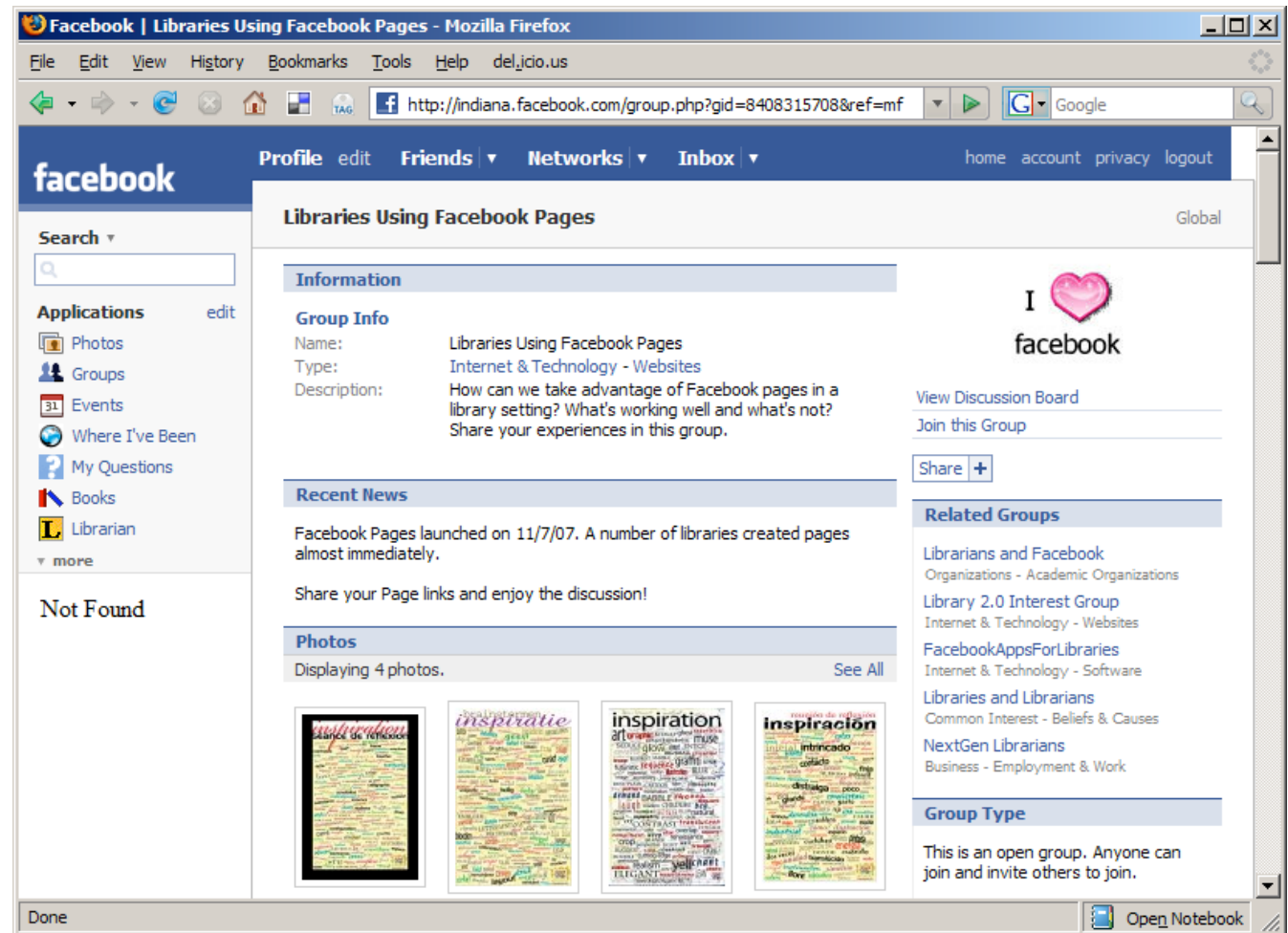
Open Notebook



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Facebook Key Questions

- how do people clump their life activities?
[activity as unit of analysis]
- what library-relevant activity is or will go on there?
- will Facebook become people's home page or portal?





What it is

- 3D virtual world - using *virtual* identities (avatars) communicating largely via text or audio chat; can walk, fly, teleport, dance, build, dress, etc.– but there's a steep learning curve
- Requires 3D Second Life Viewer application installation
- Free to join; pay for land, classifieds, land use fee & currency (Linden dollars) but can sell to other residents and earn money – virtu-real economy
- Stats: http://secondlife.com/whatis/economy_stats.php - most students are NOT there

What's big: clothes, looks, stores, building things, chit-chat, having sex; other: RL classes, conferences, concerts

Library usage

- Info Island – various libraries - <http://slurl.com/secondlife/Info%20Island/89/122/33>
- Whitehorn Library – 19th c. library - <http://slurl.com/secondlife/Caledon%20VictoriaCity/47/201/25>



Reference Desk

Stop All Animations
Volunteer!

Library Friend
Ootle Kuttelwascher

Calculators &
Calendars

Dictionaries &
Encyclopedias

News

Google

Communicate

Chat

Fly

Snapshot

Search

Build

Mini-Map

Map

Inventory



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More than 150 colleges in the United States and 13 other countries have a presence in Second Life. ... Often it's just one person at a college — a faculty member, librarian, or technology guru — who prods officials to consider Second Life's educational possibilities and inspires others on campus to enter the virtual world.

– Chronicle of Higher Education, 21 September 2007



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Second Life Key Questions

- if most students (and faculty) aren't there, what's the point?
- will SL ever replace things like Oncourse or Breeze for distance or blended learning?
- will SL-like interfaces ever replace the desktop metaphor or the web browser?



All I want for Christmas is some Linden Dollars...



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Links and Resources for Second Life

- Download the Second Life software from here: <http://secondlife.com/>
- Blog for educators in Second Life - <http://edumuve.com>
- Listserv for educators in Second Life - <https://lists.secondlife.com/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/educators>
- SL Library 2.0 blog - <http://infoisland.org/>
- SL “in world” events calendar - <http://secondlife.com/events/>

Libraryish places to go in Second Life (have to be running SL to use):

- Info Island – various libraries - <http://slurl.com/secondlife/Info%20Island/89/122/33>
- Whitehorn Library – 19th c. library - <http://slurl.com/secondlife/Caledon%20VictoriaCity/47/201/25>