

## **PANEL DISCUSSION: ON THE WILD FRONTIER OF DISCOVERY**

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Panelists: Maureen Nolan**, University of Washington, Natural Sciences Library, WA, USA

**Sally Taylor**, University of British Columbia, Woodward Biomedical Library, Canada

**Marie-Pascale Baligand**, Irstea, France

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With the advent of Web-scale discovery services in recent years that offer a comprehensive index of a library's licensed and locally owned content, all accessible via a simple, single search box, the question naturally arises how these new tools compare with more traditional databases. The panelists share their experiences with the discovery services at their respective libraries, including user response. The panelists discuss various types of searches and offer recommendations regarding when the discovery service might prove most effective and when traditional databases should be used instead. A brief analysis of the relative depth of coverage of the literature across a commercial discovery service, Google Scholar, core indexing/abstracting databases, and publisher ejournal collections is presented. The panelists also discuss the pedagogical implications of teaching users this new style of searching and information retrieval.

**Keywords:** discovery tools, searching, databases, ejournal collections, information retrieval