

OSS Adoption Decision

Customizing VuFind

Costs and Opportunities

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Auburn University Libraries

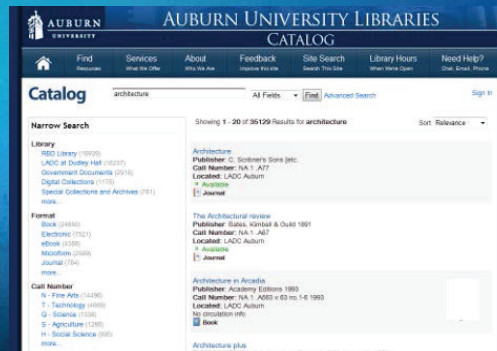
Costs? VuFind is free* software!

- * Zero licensing costs
- * Free as in Freedoms and Rights
- * Elbow grease not included

Common Customizations

```
00951cbm 22002171i  
45e000 1001300000005001700013008004100030  
60006 10012530000320018644000740021850001  
3005727000023006157100054006387100041006  
019881019140722.00770919s1977 dcu  
0a0G40c0G40d0CL0dm.c.0 0aMTTAD000aChinc  
:0bUniversity Publications of America,0c  
&0aguide.0 00a0. S. S./State Department.  
pt. 30 0aMicrofilm reproduction of Offi  
Department intelligence reports on Indio  
0aAccompanying guide (22 p.), edited by  
contents and subject index.0 00aChina0xh  
1912-19490xSources.0 00aIndia0xHistori
```

Data Wrangling



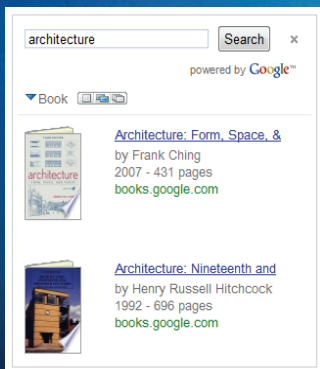
Institutional Branding

ILS Integration



Note: most of this work is required for every discovery tool

VuFind could do *exactly* what you want



Include Google Results

University Log-in

Place Request

Please [Sign in](#) to place a request

- Recall
- Missing Trace

Publish Date

1990-1999 (8370)
2000-present (6747)
1980-1989 (6614)
1970-1979 (4380)
1960-1969 (2523)
[more...](#)

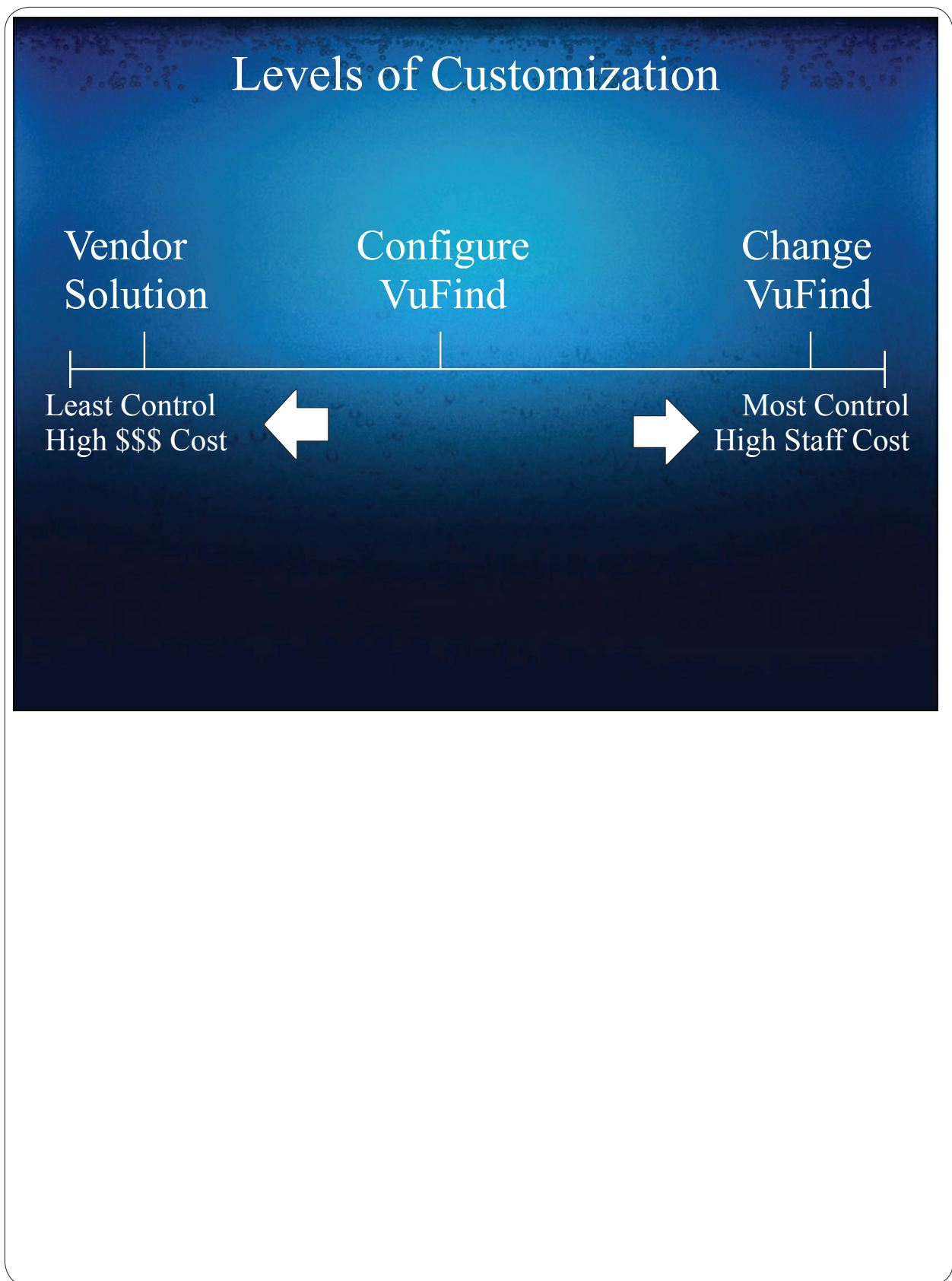
Custom Facets

Index Digital Collections

J.H. Dunn's peanut plot, Clayton County

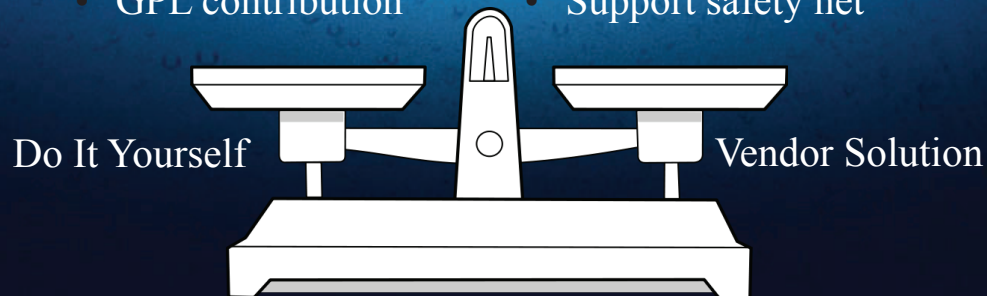


Main Author: [Lowery, J. C.](#)
Format: Electronic
Published: Auburn University Libraries
Description: Peanuts on a plot on J.H. Dunn's farm in Clayton County, route 1. From the J.C. Lowery agronomy slide collection. For more slides, visit Auburn University Libraries Special Collections and Archives. Kodachrome color slide
Subjects: [Peanuts -- Alabama](#)
[Alabama](#)
[Peanuts](#)
[ACES](#)



Is internal development worth it?

- In-house expertise
- Change is difficult
- More possibilities
- GPL contribution
- Licensing fees
- Waiting for fixes/features
- Limited customization
- Support safety net



What You'll Need

- Supportive and critical Research Librarians
- Patron feedback
- More meetings and time than you expect
- But most of all ...

What You'll Need (cont.)

... Mad Scientist Programmer(s)!



Frankenstein, 1910. Public Domain

Case Study: Auburn University Catalog

- 18 months from experimentation to Beta to default*
- 1 project leader spending 50% time
- 2 software developers each spending 50% time
- 1 server admin spending 5% time
- 1 graphic designer spending 5% time
- 5-8 departmental representatives in weekly/biweekly meetings
- Server costs

*Development continues. Meetings are smaller and monthly.

Risks

- Software project failure rate is notoriously high
- Considerable staff costs
- Customize too much and upgrading is painful
- Google Scholar gains sentience; then what?

Rewards

- Less patron frustration, especially among undergrads
- Increase in patron service usage
- Campus-wide interest in indexing local data
- Leads to publishing, seminars, and grants!
- Share improvements with libraries around the world

