Ex Libris Customer SFX/Metalib (2000-5) Questionnaire -- Katherine Ward

1…What is your name and the name of the institution(s) where you worked with SFX, Metalib, or other Ex Libris products?
Katherine Ward, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame IN
SFX

2…When did your site install Ex Libris software and when did you start working with it?
Gosh, I really do not remember. Last 7 years maybe?

3…What was your job title, or, more generally, what did you do?   Were there particular projects you were involved in?
Web resources librarian, SFX problem solver, and EZproxy wrangler.

Thinking especially of the 2000-2005 time period….

4…Who were Ex Libris' main competitors?

5…Why were SFX and Metalib as successful as they were? Why did customers go with them rather than similar products?

6…Comments on the role of SMUG users group?
I actually have never attended a SMUG meeting, which is rather odd.

7…Were there particularly interesting/valuable Ex Libris staff that you remember?
Meeting the amazing Herbert Van De Sompel at the University of Ghent in 1998. I was completely stunned his vision for what became the essential link resolver SFX. His grasp of metadata and what it could mean to libraries and research was astounding. Very simply put his ideas about "Drilling down" through layers of a journal title, to vol. and issue, to TOC and then locating the full-text of the article was something I had never thought about. To top it all off he went flawlessly from French to German to Flemish to English without missing a beat.
   And the always delightful Marc Daubach who played tour guide for us.

8…Are there particular interesting, fun, or odd things that you remember?