

Librarians need to get a Second Life

Tom Clark

SunLibrary – Sun Microsystems

**Cool Tools: Digital Tools used
in the Library Setting**

SLA@Simmons and

Simmons ASIST Student Chapter

17 October 2006



What is Second Life?

- 3D virtual world populated with over 800,000 residents (350,000 “active”)
- Choose a name...and create your avatar
- Created and hosted by Linden Labs
- Inspired by the metaverse in Neal Stephenson's Snow Crash
- Perspective – World of Warcraft game has 7 million subscribers
- Free and paid accounts (it costs \$\$\$ to own land and build or add to it)
- Invitation into Groups which have level of privacy
- Communication thru IM vehicle.
- Ability to use multimedia
- Places are secondlife://...

Are there Librarians in there?

- Info Island created by The Alliance Library System, an Illinois library consortium
<http://www.infoisland.org>
- Launched this past weekend with events, presentations, demonstrations, tours, scavenger hunts, info kiosks and more...
- Previously called Second Life Library 2.0
<http://secondlifelibrary.blogspot.com/>
- New Media Consortium (<http://www.nmc.org>) is collaborating w/the Alliance Library System
- The Library of Congress has an exhibit in Second Life





Look who is in Second Life

- **Sun Microsystems**

- > Sun Microsystems Takes a Leap into Virtual World Second Life

- <http://www.sun.com/smi/Press/sunflash/2006-10/sunflash.20061010.2.xml>

- > Sun Rises in Second Life

- http://news.com.com/2008-1043_3-6124577.html





Look who else is in Second Life

- Wells Fargo
 - > Wells Fargo launches game inside 'Second Life'
http://news.zdnet.com/2100-1040_22-5868030.html
- IBM
 - > IBM ... With a First-of-Its-Kind Virtual Block Party in Second Life
<http://www-03.ibm.com/press/us/en/pressrelease/20411.wss>
- Education
 - > At colleges, real learning in a virtual world
http://www.usatoday.com/tech/gaming/2006-10-05-second-life-class_x.htm
 - > Second Life Education Research
<http://www.secondlife.intellagirl.com/>
- Politics
 - > The Avatar Candidate Withdraws
http://nwn.blogs.com/nwn/2006/10/the_avatar_cand.html

"Second Life is creating new possibilities for communication, sharing and community-building..."
- John Gage, Sun Chief Researcher

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Don't forget to have fun!

- One thing lacking with the remote workforce is having fun with your co-workers...

Thank You

Race Brannan

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