

# Five Weeks to

**STEAL THIS IDEA!**

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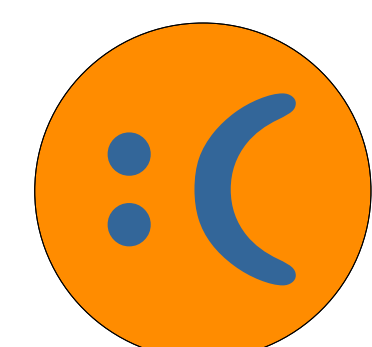
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## The Problem: Librarianship's Great Divide



I can pay for and attend professional development!



I can't.

## Planning Tools

Skype conference calls didn't work out!  
Too much noise.

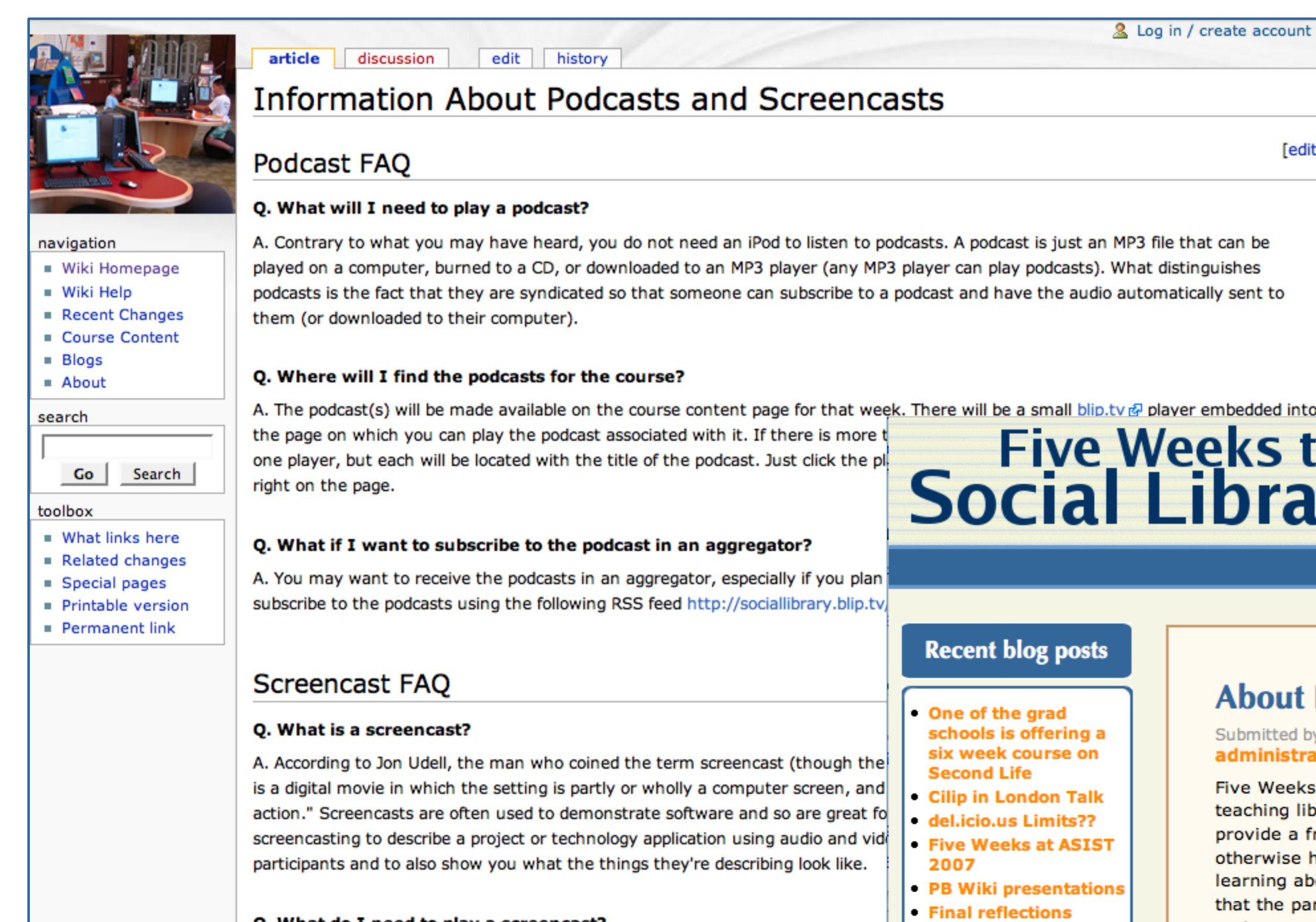


AIM chatrooms to the rescue!



Google Docs: fantastic for co-writing CFP, counting votes on participant applications.

## Course Tools



blip.tv



## Five Weeks to a Social Library



MediaWiki

Drupal

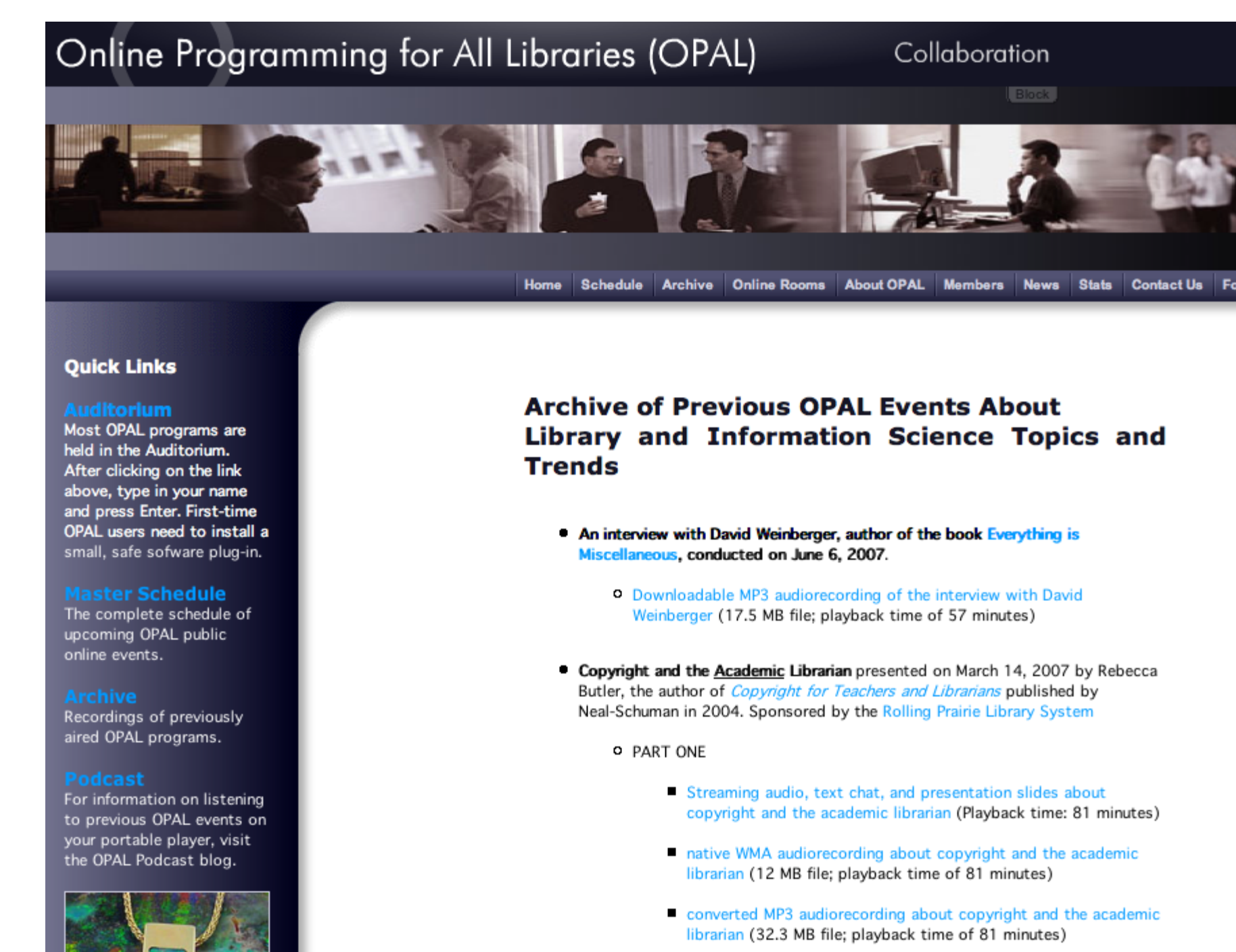
## Web Conferencing: The Missing Link

For very small groups, consider Yugma!



No free web-conferencing application would cover the number of participants we had.

We therefore owe tremendous thanks to Online Programming for All Libraries (OPAL; <http://opal-online.org>) for volunteering to host and archive twice-weekly live web conferences for Five Weeks!



Librarians with limited or no access to training include:

- K-12 librarians and media specialists
- Librarians in rural areas
- Librarians serving disadvantaged populations
- Solo librarians
- Community-college librarians

## One Solution: Five Weeks Online

All-online course on social software

- Six librarians: Virginia, Vermont, New York, Texas, and Wisconsin
- 40 participants: US, Europe, Latin America

Weekly coursework

- Screencasts and podcasts
- Designated readings
- Exercises designed to get participants interacting with the software
- Once-weekly small-group chat
- One or two live web presentations
- Optionally, chat with the week's presenters
- Post to group blog reflecting on the week's content

Final capstone project

- Social-software proposal for the participant's library
- Comments and critiques from other participants