Ichabod: Hydra at NYU as a metadata augmentation system.

Project purpose: The number of digital collections currently managed by NYU Library is steadily growing, different collections use different discovery mechanisms and different metadata standards. Several library departments joined their efforts to create a centralized metadata repository with convenient search interface. Ichabod collects metadata for various electronic resources. It also gives collection administrators an option to add metadata for existing resources and create new metadata records.

Project workflow: We decided to adopt Scrum agile methodology of software development and use test driven development pattern. Product owners collect user stories and add them to the Pivotal Tracker software. User stories are discussed at bi-weekly developers meetings. Those meetings are called Sprint planning meetings. After discussion each developer gets a user story for implementation. Between planning meetings the developer group meets every other day to briefly discuss progress made by each developer and other project related matters. Ichabod developers have different backgrounds and different areas of expertise and everybody in the development group benefits from the collaboration.

Potential users: The ultimate goal is to allow users of different backgrounds (students, faculty, researchers) to search for digital content via the Library's primary search interface.