Technology Report
April, 2022

Content Filtering

We have purchased the Untangle appliance. Continuation of the filtering project will involve incorporating the appliance into the SCLS network, developing new workflows, etc.

Grants

The ECF grant funding has been extended to December 31, 2023. Grants applications are due by Friday, May 13! ECF covers the cost of mobile hotspots and data, and possibly tablets, for public libraries to lend to patrons. It is possible that costs will be covered 100% for up to one year. There are some stipulations, but they are not as difficult as when the ECF grants were first made available. We have been exploring options. Additional information will be provided to libraries in the first week of May.

SCLS O365 email update

On Tuesday, April 12, SCLS staff enabled Modern Authentication for O365 users, and reports show that most accounts are now utilizing Modern Authentication to log in. In upcoming months, we will be following up with libraries about the handful of O365 accounts that are still logging in using Basic Authentication.

Drupal 9 migration

Live Drupal 9 sites (as of 4/27): PAR, CIA, MNT, NOF, RAN, SUN, PDS, WAU
In-progress: BER, PLA, AMH, POR

After a so-much-slower-than-expected start, most of our major issues are finally (*finally*!) addressed. A handful of sites were rescheduled for fall, and Rose is still working furiously to catch up on the sites that were not rescheduled. With Drupal's end of support date being pushed out, we have adjusted our timeline and will aim to have the Drupal 9 migrations completed by the end of December.

Many thanks to the libraries whose sites have already been migrated. Staff have been wonderful helping us figure out the best way to work around unexpected issues, giving us feedback about documentation and processes, and being patient as we work out all the details. Thanks also to SCLS' Tim D and Brian H for helping with scripting and other migration work.

SCLS Network

Network Security Project: In an effort to improve the safety of library staff and patrons, a project has begun to add several security features and standards to the SCLS network. The highlights of the project include creating new Layer 3 Access Control List standards and ensuring SCLS device identity in public spaces. The new Access Control Lists will allow traffic to reach necessary required destinations while blocking unnecessary destinations. In the event of malicious operation, these standards will help curb access of nefarious parties. The second point hopes to prevent unlawful entry on SCLS-supported patron

networks. There is a growing trend that patrons are disconnecting the Patron Access Computers and connecting their own devices. There is potential this exploitation could cause harm to people and infrastructure on both a local and system level. To counter this potential, we will be effectively "whitelisting" SCLS-supported Patron switchports. Any device that does not match this list will not gain access on the network. **Update**: The piloting process has reached completion. We will now be migrating all SCLS network sites to use the new security standards. Migration will begin May 2 with an expected realization date of early June.

BadgerNet RFP Evaluation Process: DOA TEACH released the draft RFP. Will Allington has been reviewing the draft along with the other included documents.

Content Filtering Solution

We have selected the Untangled product. We are working on scheduling an informational session to go over the differences between Untangled and iBoss with libraries that participate in the filtering service.

Data Services

Administrative Assistant position comparison: James Ramsey, Director of the Stoughton Public Library, inquired about comparing salary data for part-time library administrative assistants using the 2020 Public Library Salary data compiled by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Using Tableau Prep, I developed a process to extract titles, salary information, and weekly hours for all public library staff in Wisconsin. I used this data to calculate hourly wages and saved the output in an Excel file. Then I analyzed the data to identify positions similar to Stoughton's and delivered a list of recommended libraries to contact for gathering detailed position descriptions.

- Tim Drexler

Scripting and Reports Team

Drupal 9 website migration utility scripting: The Scripting and Reports Team collaborated to develop a Python script capable of processing Drupal 7 website form submission data and converting the dates to a format required for site upgrades onto the Drupal 9 platform. During the course of development, the Team also researched and applied Python virtual environments, which allow scripts to run with any necessary modules without effecting the global Python installation.

- Tim Drexler