Technology Report

June, 2022

Grants

ECF: We are waiting for grants to be approved by ECF. We have placed an order with Kajeet for mobile hotspots at the George Culver Library (Sauk City).

SCLS O365 email update

In April SCLS staff enabled Modern Authentication for O365 users. We are continuing to follow up with users about the handful of O365 accounts that are still logging in using Basic Authentication.

Drupal 9 migration

Live Drupal 9 sites (June): PLA, MCF, ROM
In-progress: POR, COL, CBR, DCL

Technology Policies

We reviewed the SCLS technology policies and added the policies that were approved at the Dec 2020 Technology Committee meeting but weren't posted to the website due to an oversight.

Database renewals and stats

The time for database renewals through WiLS is just around the corner. Timeline: https://www.scls.info/reference/eresources/database-renewal.html

SCLS data dashboards for locally-subscribed resources include monthly stats for these resources: Ancestry, Consumer Report, Flipster, Gale (Chilton, Literature Resource Center, Gale eBooks), NoveList Plus, and Transparent Language. The SCLS data dashboards also contain usage stats for OverDrive and select BadgerLink resources.

SCLS Network

Network Security Project: Completed

Content Filtering Solution

A first draft on process operation is being finalized. The next round of testing will occur at SCLS headquarters. Library piloting is expected to begin mid-August.

Data Services

Database usage dashboards: The process of updating the workflows for monthly database usage dashboards is ongoing and has become a time-consuming project. While I have developed a sound overall framework, numerous, detailed issues have continued to crop up. Primarily, these involve working with the variety of data report formats available from vendors and accounting for changes in database availability over time, both for locally-subscribed resources and those provided by BadgerLink.

Local Holds Work Group: In preparation for the local holds pilot project beginning in July, I've been collecting and cleaning historical data from ILS reports to use as a baseline comparison to the pilot period. I've also started creating data visualizations that provide a sense of the trends and variance for the measures selected by the workgroup.

Statewide Delivery data: In response to a request from SCLS Delivery Service Coordinator Corey Baumann, I worked on some preliminary drafts of data visualizations exploring weekly delivery volume counts from the 16 Wisconsin Public Library Systems. The data Corey provided included sample weeks from 2017 and 2022, enabling comparison within systems over time as well as between systems. Planned follow-up work will help refine the visualizations to enhance their analytic value.

- Tim Drexler

Scripting and Reports Team

Upgrade planning: This month, the Scripting and Reports Team began testing in preparation for a Python version upgrade. Kerri Hilbelink walked the Team through the process of creating a virtual Python environment and installing packages. These environments allow individual scripts to function independently of one another and prevent dependency issues. The Team plans to maintain at least two virtual environments on the SCLS Scripts server, one using Python version 3.7 and one with Python 3.9. Most scripts will run within one of these environments; however, the Team could create additional, specialized versions to run individual scripts if needed.

Bibliovation backups and records retention: The Team discussed the potential impact of SCLS adopting the General Records Retention Schedule for Wisconsin Public Libraries and Public Library Systems related to Bibliovation data backup files. We decided that current backup storage policies probably exceed the minimum requirements set by the Public Records Board. Further discussion amongst the ILS Team may be necessary for the ILS team to verify SCLS is in compliance or plan for any necessary adjustments.

- Tim Drexler

ESET Endpoint Security Migration

Kaspersky has been removed and ESET has been installed on 1,340 PCs as of June 29th. We have approximately 100 more PCs to migrate.

MyPC

We are planning to upgrade all components of our time and print service. TBS will upgrade the server software. We will handle upgrades to the MyPC client, PaperCut client and Guest Pass utility. Work will begin in July.