Technology Report

October / November, 2023

Drupal

Drupal 10 Upgrade - On the evening of October 18th, Rose upgraded SCLS-hosted library Drupal sites from Drupal 9 to Drupal 10. This resulted in some small feature changes and the critical benefit of continued security support. (Drupal 9 reaches its end-of-life on November 1 and will not receive security fixes after that.)

Drupal migrations – Work continues on migrating the remaining Drupal 7 SCLS websites.

Microsoft 365

Behind-the-scenes 365 license cleanup

In preparation for Microsoft retiring certain MS 365 licenses in August 2024, SCLS staff reviewed and updated license assignments in October to prevent any disruptions in service.

Licenses

SCLS staff is looking into licensing which will provide additional security and management capabilities for MFA and other 365 components.

Cyber Incident Response Planning

As part of the work they are doing for cyber incident response planning, SCLS staff identified and gathered critical information in both online and offline locations. Having this information at the ready will aid in a prompt and efficient response should an incident arise.

Database subscriptions and renewals through WiLS

SCLS staff have been meeting with WiLS staff to review upcoming end-of-year database subscriptions and renewals.

MyPC hours and holidays

Each year in autumn, SCLS staff ask libraries to fill out a spreadsheet with hours and holidays for your library so we may correctly configure MyPC for the coming year. The 2024 spreadsheet was sent to the [Time and Print email list](#) on 10/9, and libraries' completed spreadsheets should be returned to Brian no later than Monday, December 4, 2023. Incorrect open hours and closed dates may result in PCs being unavailable and/or a library's MyPC usage statistics being off. Adjustments to open hours and closed dates may be requested by contacting the SCLS Help Desk.

Server upgrades

Upgrades were performed on SCLS non-Windows servers on the evening of 11/6 (internal servers used for Bibliovation backups and reporting functions) and 11/13 (servers providing authentication, proxy, and LINKcat functions). SCLS staff worked to correct an issue that arose after the first batch of upgrades,

and the second batch of upgrades were completed without any issues. The upgrades provided necessary security updates.

The antivirus server was upgraded to the latest version. Most antivirus desktop clients were upgraded during the week of Thanksgiving.

The SCCM server was also upgraded to the latest version. The SCCM server allows SCLS staff to remote into library PCs to handle support requests. It is also used for software deployments and Windows patching. Each PC has an SCCM client installed. The clients were also upgraded during the week of Thanksgiving.

Data Services

Most Requested Titles data dashboard – Based on the response to a presentation I gave at the SCLS ILS User Summit in October, I've been working on expanding the "MPL Collections – Items Most Requested by MPL Patrons" dashboard to include all SCLS libraries. The revised dashboard, still in development as of 12/4/23, is accessible at the following URL: https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/scls/viz/DEV_most_requested_titles_07/MostRequestedItems

Anyone is welcome to view and explore the development version, and I encourage users to send me feedback or questions (tdrexler at scls.info).

In addition to adding more libraries, I've also added functionality to download the list of titles as an Excel file. The spreadsheet download includes extra fields such as author, ISBN, and publication date to help collections staff when searching for specific titles (thanks to Eddie Glade of Portage County Public Library for the idea).

Dane County Library Service data queries – In November, I worked on collecting data related to a set of questions from Tracy Herold, Dane County Library Service Director. She wanted to examine circulation data to determine how City of Madison residents use libraries in nearby communities. Answering this question required separating circ transactions representing hold pick-ups and in-library browsing. Developing the procedure to categorize each transaction took longer than I expected, but I was ultimately able to collect the data in a series of spreadsheets as well as present it in the form of an interactive dashboard.

- Tim Drexler