OWLS Director report
November 15, 2018 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

Continuing Education on Workforce Development
On October 29th, Shipps, Glamann, and staff from several OWLS libraries attended a workshop presented by Kevin Virobik, Business Services Consultant for the Department of Workforce Development about the no-cost programs and services offered at the Menasha Job Center. Virobik shared a variety of resources to connect library customers to community experts in job search techniques, resume creation, interview preparation, and career exploration.

AAC Meeting
OWLSnet member libraries met in Appleton on November 2nd for our final AAC meeting of 2018. Key topics included a comparison of print management products and a review of subscription services and database trials for potential new shared resources.

County Budgets
On November 5th, the Outagamie County Board adopted the 2019 budget, without any changes to our request for library aids. The Waupaca County Board budget meeting is scheduled for November 13.

OWLS-Winnefox ILS merger exploration
The ILS merger exploration committee has not met since September. The next meeting will be November 28th and the topic will be governance and ownership of a combined consortium. This will be our first meeting with an outside facilitator. System staff will meet with facilitator, Michael Rust, on November 19th.

PLSR update
The PLSR Steering Committee met on November 7, 2018 to continue to review the draft recommendation report. The committee encourages the library community to review the most recent draft Version 6 (11/7/18). It is an opportunity to see the proposed recommendations and the structure of the report. If you have comments on the draft please submit them to the Steering Committee as soon as possible but no later than November 26, 2018 via the contact page.

The Steering Committee plans to release its next draft on December 3rd with a recorded overview presentation of the report draft as well as deploying a survey on December 3rd for each library and system to complete. The survey period will run from December 3rd to December 9th. Additional details on the survey will be available in the coming weeks.

Updated Report Completion Timeline
- Next draft of Recommendation Report released: 12/3/18
- Library/System survey period: 12/3/18-12/9/18

- Steering Committee meeting: 12/13/18 or 12/14/18, details TBD
- Report sent to Department of Public Instruction: 12/21/18
- Presentation to State Superintendent: TBD

Directors Meeting

There will be a meeting of OWLS member directors on Friday, December 7th from 9am to noon at the Waupaca Area Public Library. Agenda topics will include annual reports, CE validation, county plans, and inclusive services. Future meetings are tentatively scheduled for April 12, August 9, and December 13, 2019.

Staff Development

On 11/14, I will attend DPI's State of the State: Admin & Compliance meeting in DeForest. On 11/15 and 11/16, I will attend Lean Overview and Tools for Facilitation seminars at FVTC.

Amanda submitted the following report from her attendance at WLA and LITA.

The greatest takeaway from WLA and the LITA Forum were from the sessions that spoke of organizational values and creating project plans that aligned with and communicated those values to benefit our libraries and our communities. As we move forward with significant projects in the next few years, it will be crucial to always be mindful, and frequently check, that we are making decisions based on the values outlined in our system plans.

WLA had a great session about weeding popular and prolific authors as well as many valuable sessions on leadership. The LITA Forum had a lot of great information about how we can help keep our patrons' privacy safe and how we can implement technology that will align with our values, maintain the integrity of our data during a potential database migration, and hopefully make our current processes more efficient. The opening speaker said, "We all do better when we all do better" (attributed to Paul Wellstone) and I believe having a clear vision for our future and our technology will help us all do better in the next couple of years.