

## **OWLS Director report**

February 16, 2017 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

- January, 20<sup>th</sup>, the AAC meeting was held at the Appleton Public Library.
  - OWLS is hoping to upgrade to the latest version of Sierra soon. There are some new features we're hoping to take advantage of. Additionally, over the last few years there have been various problems with items being held on the holdshelf. Innovative is changing their holds architecture to address this; we will need to be on the latest version of Sierra to take advantage of this change.
  - More libraries are sending weekly reports to Unique Management, the library collection agency. While the primary process is complete, we're still working on procedures for smaller issues. Libraries have reported that the process is working and seem very pleased with the process.
  - The issue with Zinio has been resolved. Because Recorded Books couldn't create separate InfoSoup and Appleton accounts, they are allowing all OWLSnet libraries access to all of Appleton's subscriptions at no additional cost. This includes Artistworks, ComicsPlus, InstantFlix and OnePlay.) You can see more about these services at <https://www.rbdigital.com/appletonwi/>.
  - Door County and Appleton are now live on Hoopla. This service is different in that all of the items are always available. They have a wide selection of primarily backlist titles of movies, television shows, audiobooks, ebooks, graphic novels and more. Because everything is always available, patrons have a limited number of uses per month.
  - OWLS is received our new color copier/printer. Since the per copy cost is quite low, and our previous black and white copier was problematic, we replaced both copiers with the one new copier.
- The Marion Public Library Director has chosen a new Director who will be starting the end of May. (The current Director will be moving out of the area.)
- Jan 24 to Jan 26, OWLS co-sponsored the Wild Winter Web Conference hosted by the NFLS library system.
- The OWLS/Winefox Summer Library Program workshop was held in Oshkosh on Feb 3.

### **Public Library System Redesign Project**

The PLSR project is continuing, and as always, you can find out more at [www.plsr.info](http://www.plsr.info). The project started with workgroups on different library issues: Chapter 43 (the state statute that governs libraries and systems), Electronic Resources (now renamed Collections), Consulting, Continuing Education, Delivery, ILL, ILS (Integrated Library Systems)/Discovery, Resource Libraries and Technology. I'm part of the ILS/Discovery Workgroup which has recently been combined with the ILL workgroup, since so many of our issues overlap.

Recently, the PLSR leadership reviewed proposed workplans and timelines, in considering what will be needed to be completed to offer plans to new models of collaborative services to the Steering Committee. There are also newly started Topic Teams, which are going to meet for short periods to

make decisions about topics that cross many of the workgroups. These include members of existing workgroups and the topics are as follows: Regions, Resource Sharing, Help Center, and Refining and Defining Continuing Education and Consulting.

The complete timelines and workplans will be shared on the PLSR site when all of the workgroups and the Steering Committee have met to finalize their plans.

### **Annual Report**

It's annual report time, which means that many OWLS staff spent the beginning of January getting annual report data to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, to prefill much of the data for all of the OWLSnet libraries. Since then, the Assistant Director and I have been working with OWLS libraries to complete their annual reports. As of today, OWLS has approved 9 of the 16 reports, and two more have been submitted for approval. State statues require that library and system boards file their annual reports by March 1 of each year.