

# WPLC Selection Committee Minutes

Thursday, April 14, 2016, 3:00-4:16 p.m.

## **Present:**

Sara Gold, WILS  
Kelly Allen, South Central/Oregon Public Library  
Nancy Ashmore, SWLS/Prairie du Chien  
Dale Cropper, Nicolet/Brown County Library  
Terry Ehle, Manitowoc-Calumet/Lester Public Library  
Chris Hamburg, Manitowoc-Calumet/Lester Public Library  
Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm, Winnefox/Neenah Public Library  
Kristie Hauer, Nicolet/Shawano City-County Library  
Kaushalya Iyengar, Bridges/Waukesha Public Library  
Anne Paterson, OWLS/OWLS  
Jacki Potratz, Milwaukee County/Milwaukee Public Library-Central  
Beth Price, South Central/Madison Public Library  
Irene Scherer, Kenosha County/Community Library  
Jessica Schoonover, Winding Rivers/Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library  
Cathy Tuttrup, Bridges/Brookfield Public Library  
Katie Zimmermann, Wisconsin Valley/Marathon County Public Library  
Minutes: Andi Coffin

## **1. Allocation of \$100 to MoneySmart Week Titles**

These titles are available for the week, unlimited simultaneous use and a curated collection can be created for them, with messaging to indicate that the titles are only available for a month. We can push out communications about the titles for promotion. It may be possible to add these to the permanent collection.

*There is agreement from the group that we should move forward and allocate the money to purchase the titles.*

**Sara will notify OverDrive and the titles should be available by the end of the day tomorrow.**

## **2. Review of 2015 Recommendations from WPLC Digital Collections Workgroup**

Recommendation 1: In response to the high number of holds, the Advantage selectors will receive a list of the top 15-20 titles statewide in audio and ebook, with holds numbers, on the first of each month to help guide purchasing for Advantage accounts. Most of these titles have over 200 holds and the decision to purchase is at the discretion of the selector. The timing is constructed to work ahead of the statewide holds manager, and potentially reduce the purchases made then. We've asked OverDrive to suppress titles that are no longer available for purchase but allow them circulate to fill current holds. This functionality is not available currently.

Recommendation 2: We are no longer using OverDrive's holds manager because it is not functioning as we need it to (on holds ratio, not total number of holds).

Recommendation 3: This recommendation has been implemented, and more information about the process can be found on wplc.info. OverDrive is working on way to notify users that they may or may not receive notification if the title is purchased. Ideally, we'd like to notify systems when titles are purchased that have been recommended by their community, but it isn't feasible right now. We are currently spending a little less than previous to this process, and we are not purchasing pre-release recommendations.

Recommendation 4: Are there volunteers who can work together to build a \$5000 cart of popular Spanish language titles? Jacki Potratz volunteers to work on adult titles; Kelly Allen volunteers to work on children's titles.

Recommendation 5: We have stopped purchasing music, and previously-purchased music has been removed from the collection.

Recommendation 6: We stopped buying video and removed downloadable video from the collection.

Recommendation 7: We started increasing purchasing in audiobooks immediately and it has helped to increase audiobook circulation.

Recommendation 8: This recommendation with regards to magazines was also implemented.

### **3. Proposal to address Holds**

Currently, we spend \$25K on audio, and \$20K on ebooks for holds a month. The proposed process begins with a report sorted by holds, then sorted by holds ratio to get a better understanding of demand. Those top titles will have additional copies purchased to resolve holds.

There is concern about how to make the 2-week default notification more visible, and that people who do auto-check out won't get that notification.

For new titles that are going to be very popular, we'll begin with 20-25 copies of that title. Sara would like help from YA and children's selectors to help with monthly purchasing of new titles. Nicole will help with that. We are asking OverDrive for help managing and automating new title purchases and forecasting for popular titles.

**Sara will send information before the end of the month about how much each selector should be purchasing everything month.**

Preorders are a challenge because people want to place holds on them. Currently, we pull out anything that will release in more than three months. This prevents those titles that are in pre-release from accumulating excessive holds. We cannot suppress these titles once ordered.

*The committee recommends to Steering that we do not purchase pre-release titles that are more than one month from release date.*

Committee members express that patrons are dissatisfied when they place holds on pre-pub titles, and then wait a long time before the line starts moving. **Sara will investigate if there a way for OverDrive to stop allowing patrons to recommend pre-release titles, or if the publication date can be added to the patron-facing record.**

### **4. 2016 Budget**

There is a philosophical discussion to have about whether we buy additional copies of very popular titles that are very expensive, or more copies of other titles that aren't as expensive.

Committee members are concerned about format availability and wonder if they should be taking it into account when they are selecting.

There is concern about money being diverted away from the children's / YA collection to focus on the adult collection.

All regular selectors should send Sara their average monthly spend.

Next Meeting: