

WPLC Workgroup and Projects Updates

For WPLC Steering Committee, February 2017

Selection Committee

A huge “thank you” is in order for the dedicated members of the Selection Committee, many of whom have served a two-year term. 2016 was focused largely on spending to bring down holds and reduce wait times and the Committee did an excellent job of selecting on their own while the project managers worked with OverDrive to maximize money allocated for holds and renewals on metered titles. This year, our goals are to automate as much of the holds ordering as possible, implement the recommendations from the 2016 Digital Collections Workgroup, maintain and refresh Featured Collections on a biweekly basis, and review all documentation for Selection Committee members including responsibilities, training, and selection guidelines. The next meeting will be the week of Feb 27th.

Digital Collection Workgroup

At their first meeting, the Digital Collections Workgroup focused their work for this year on a few areas:

1. Creating guidelines and best practices to coordinate the work of Advantage and Consortium selectors to ensure the best use of resources and to standardize process.
2. Considering adding other language materials and adult literacy materials to the collection.
3. Review and update the criteria for vendor selection and review major vendors to determine if they meet these criteria.

As part of this annual process, surveys of patrons and library staff are conducted. The patron survey is now closed. The library survey is being drafted and will be sent out soon.

Statistics Workgroup

The Statistics Workgroup has been hard at work with their OverDrive Stats project. As a reminder, the workgroup identified statistical needs and corresponding templates and instructions for users. Project managers worked to create the templates and instructions and for the past month, the committee has been testing and reviewing the templates.

Historical & Local Digital Collections Committee

The Committee last met by phone on January 17, 2017. Their next meeting will take place in April.

The digitization training and guidelines funded by WPLC in 2016 are now available:

- The [Digital Projects Toolkit](#), a train-the-trainer-style self-guided online course funded by WPLC and created by Recollection Wisconsin, launched in December. Twenty-four people, primarily library system staff, have registered so far. Participants are encouraged to complete the course by March 16, 2017, in order to participate in a live discussion webinar led by Recollection Wisconsin staff and digitization experts.

- Vendor list and tips for working with vendors. Recollection WI worked with partners at UWM and Marquette to compile a list of digitization vendors, available to any library on request. To go along with the list is a [tip sheet](#) with recommended questions to ask a vendor and information to provide when working with a vendor.
- [Grants information](#) on WPLC blog.

The Historical Newspapers Project continues to move forward. A second batch of content, including 11 titles from 6 different libraries, is almost ready to transfer to the Wisconsin Newspaper Association for upload to the BadgerLink database. WNA is creating a paid option for out-of-state researchers outside of BadgerLink. Project partners (WPLC, WNA, WHS and DPI) met on February 17, 2017.

Update on Periodicals Project

Three Library Systems and one library signed a 1-year agreement with Zinio to run Jan 1, 2017 to Dec 31, 2017: MCLS, OWLS, SWLS and Brown County Library. The four organizations are sharing a 30 title core collection and some have added additional titles for their individual organizations.

The reactions to the collection and roll-out have been mixed.

Positive feedback includes patrons are happy to have access to digital magazines again and sharing the collection allows a cost savings to each participating library.

Negative feedback includes an uneven rollout that did not commence until nearly two weeks after the Jan 1st start date. Libraries with existing Zinio subscriptions could not sync their new collection with existing collection via one link. Response time from Zinio re: questions has been poor. Mental Floss was dropped with no prior notification and no offers of replacement titles.

Sara Gold is working on trying to get some compensation for subscribers for the late rollout as well as work through replacements for the title no longer available.