

Resource Sharing Advisory Council
October 5, 2011

Present: Sarah Clark (APLM), Carolyn Fagan (TROL), Dawn Geurds (EGRN), Debbie LaRose (COLN), Carol Melewski (RCSC), Lisa Pitkin (GUIL), Virginia Prew (TROY), Michele Reilly (VOOR), Mary Trev Thomas (BETH), Joe Thornton (UHLS)

Terminal Services: Virginia asked if other libraries are experiencing the same performance problems as TROY with the “new” Terminal Services server (RDS). At least once a day there’s a period of significant slowness at TROY. The consensus is that things are better lately, and that the libraries will continue to notify UHLS when things slow down.

Horizon & HIP upgrades: Virginia also asked about the rumored upgrades to Horizon and the HIP. Joe said that we have tentative dates of 11/30 - 12/1, that the system will be down for those two full days, and that the circ staffs will need to use PC Reliance. UHLS will make sure that everyone has PC Reliance installed and knows how to use it. Any workstations that use the local Horizon client will need to be upgraded. Workstations that use Terminal Services will not.

Someone asked if we should postpone delivery on the upgrade days. Joe will talk to Jo-Ann about this.

APL DVDs: Lisa asked for an update on APL’s plans, if any, to loan DVDs to other libraries. Sarah explained some of the issues determining APL’s policy. It was surprising (at least to me) and enlightening to learn that a major factor in the policy is the amount of staff time required to checkin and checkout DVDs. This time may be shortened if APL switches from double to single boxes for DVDs. Sarah also reminded us that APL’s classical CD collection is accessible to all libraries now.

Old borrower barcodes: Jo Greene (NGRN) asked by phone if we should have a policy of deleting lost borrower barcodes. This came up when Jo was looking at the list of candidate borrower records to be purged, and she saw a lot of duplicates. I told her that there was nothing in place to automatically delete those, but there could be.

Sarah said that their Comprise system grabs the old barcode, so APL deletes them. It didn’t seem to be a major issue for anyone else. Joe said that UHLS will look into using a program to delete APL’s old borrower barcodes. If it’s possible then we’ll offer that service to all the libraries.

E-Readers: We had a brief discussion of how libraries are loaning e-readers. Mary Trev said that BETH creates bib and item records that are staff-only to prevent people from requesting them. This topic will also be discussed by the Database Maintenance Advisory Council.

Standards: Dawn and others (Virginia? Carolyn?) worked since the last meeting to identify which Itypes their libraries really need. They came up with the brilliant (in my opinion) suggestion to eliminate almost half of our 68 existing Itypes, give them better names, and reassign our items to the new Itypes. This would be a big project but would go a very long way toward the standardization goal that we had been asked to work on. The group said that the Database Maintenance Advisory Council should also be in on the discussion, and Joe said that he thought a subcommittee of the Directors Association or ASC was being formed to look at standards. Given all this, we decided to wait for the outcome of Joe's presentation of this idea to ASC at its 10/7/11 meeting.

Circulation contacts: Debbie asked if there was a list of contacts for circulation at all the libraries. Joe said he will email the libraries and ask them all to send the name, email address, and phone number of one person per library.

Expired holds: Mary Trev asked how long expired holds stay on the "expired holds" list. Joe said that a script runs every night to delete all holds that expired more than thirty days earlier.

Next meeting: Joe will look for an available Wednesday in November or December.