

UHLS E-Content Advisory Committee (ECAC) - Meeting Minutes 2/8/23

Attending via UHLS Zoom: Judith Wines (UHLS), Anne Pitlyk (UHLS), Geoff Kirkpatrick (BETH), Nate Heyer (COLN), Catherine Snow (EGRN), Stephanie Anderson (APL), Kristina Ronald, Chair, (GUIL)

Meeting called to order at 2:06 by G. Kirkpatrick.

New Business

J. Wines told the committee that some of the digital holdings totals for the state annual report were not correct and would be updated shortly. She will email the committee after the meeting with the exact question numbers.

J. Wines, K. Ronald, and A. Pitlyk met with representatives from OverDrive to go over a sort of Year in Review look at UHLS's OverDrive usage and holdings. All slides from this meeting will be emailed to committee members. J. Wines went over the highlights.

- Our spending and frequency of purchase are on par with that of our peers.
- Our holds wait time is longer than average, which can be attributed to our decision to focus on purchasing new content rather than only spending on holds.
- Many of our patrons are power users.

At the same meeting, OverDrive's new diversity audit was shared. UHLS selectors have done a good job purchasing titles from OverDrive's diversity categories.

K. Ronald went over the current state of our transition to Libby. 79% of UHLS patrons are already using the Libby app. She asked what we can do to assist any libraries that are transitioning more slowly.

- N. Heyer pointed out that it appears to be smaller libraries that aren't transitioning to Libby as quickly as others, and so it is most likely a small number of patrons causing those percentages. He recommends pushing out handouts with all the necessary info.
 - J. Wines asked if COLN has any ready-made handouts, N. Heyer responded that they use the handouts provided by OverDrive.
- K. Ronald asked if there was a need to send a message to all digital users. The consensus was that was not necessary, as OverDrive is pushing out messaging within the app.
- S. Anderson recommended that links in the UHLS Mobile app change from the OverDrive website to Libby. N. Heyer suggested using libbyapp.com if the UHLS Mobile app can only redirect to websites.

J. Wines gave the example of a Pete Evans, who is known for his neo-nazi views, cookbook that is in the OverDrive collection and asked for feedback on whether our weeding policies need to be updated. The consensus was that they do not.

J. Wines shared that there has been renewed interest from MVLS and SALS about signing an RLA agreement. She has shared the parameters and language from our agreement with MHLS and both new systems are fine with keeping the parameters the same. SALS does not block any cardholders from accessing digital content. The consensus was that this would not change the committee's mind about signing up for new RLA agreements but that we should see if SALS is open to adding the expired card block.

- K. Ronald called for a vote on signing new RLA agreements. The vote passed unanimously.

OverDrive is currently working on a search for any incompatibilities between UHLS and the other two systems. Once that is done we can move forward.

J. Wines highlighted some updates to multi-library search functionality in Libby that were pushed out in December. The app now defaults to putting holds on the shortest list among available libraries.

Old Business

K. Ronald asked how the committee would like to measure the effectiveness of the new distribution framework for Central Library funds.

- S. Anderson suggested looking at circulation changes for YA and J titles.
- A. Pitlyk recommended reviewing the average wait time for holds.

The committee will meet in mid-April to review the data. A. Pitlyk will prepare the reports. Why did she volunteer more work for herself? We may never know.

Open forum

J. Wines asked if anyone else would be interested in seeing what a state-wide RLA would look like in OverDrive. There was some discussion of what this may look like for patrons and whether publishers would allow it, though it is all hypothetical at this point.

G. Kirkpatrick moved to end the meeting at 3:06pm