

## **OWLS Director report**

May 18, 2017 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

### **PLSR update**

An [update](#) has been posted to the PLSR site. The message contains a summary of information presented & feedback received at WAPL. Because not everyone could be at WAPL, the Steering Committee will be hosting a virtual Q & A session on Tuesday, May 16th 12-1pm.

You can connect to the meeting in the following ways:

From your computer, tablet or smartphone: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/295035749>

You can also dial in using your phone: United States: +1 (872) 240-3311      Access Code: 295-035-749

### **NFLS updates**

Mark Merrifield, the NFLS library director, has announced his departure from NFLS, effective Friday, May 12, due to disability. In a phone call from Mark, as well as in an email to NFLS and OWLS library directors, Mark indicated that the NFLS board is interested in talking to neighboring systems, particularly OWLS, about merging or hiring a co-director of the two systems, and will be seeking a meeting of committees of both boards to talk about these ideas.

Additionally, there is a letter included in your board packet from Mark, regarding the OWLSnet fees proposal, in which he requests a meeting of the committees from the two boards to discuss the fees proposal prior to the June OWLS Board meeting.

### **WiscNet on BadgerNet**

The good news is that with WiscNet as a part of the new BadgerNet contract, OWLSnet member libraries will be able to continue to use WiscNet as our internet service provider. We don't expect any significant changes in the service provided, or the costs to OWLS or member libraries.

### **Staff at OWLS**

The graphic artist at OWLS, Bradd Hintz, has resigned to take a position with his family's company. Bradd has been at OWLS for nine years and created beautiful posters and designs, and mounds of buttons and die cuts. He will be missed!

OWLS has hired a new part-time administrative assistant through a local temporary agency. She's working out well and handling a wide variety of tasks, and it's been nice to have someone sitting at the reception desk again. With Bradd's departure, Aja has been trained on using the printing equipment, and will be able to handle some of the tasks of producing final documents for our member libraries.

Prior to Bradd's departure, he worked with me and Evan to revamp our printing charges. With the new color copier, printing costs have changed, and we'll be updating and simplifying the cost structure to make our prices more consistent with our actual costs. While some prices will be increasing and others will be decreasing, we think that on the whole, there will be a slight decrease in prices.

Bradley and Evan have completed some of the ILS/Technology Coordinator interviews, and hope to make a decision soon.

### **Self-Insurance for Local Employers**

(From the ETF website <http://etf.wi.gov/employers/ht-04-12-2017.htm>)

*April 12, 2017*

#### ***ETF Issues Legal Opinion on Self-Insurance for Local Employers***

*ETF has received questions and media inquiries regarding whether the Group Insurance Board (Board) may offer **self-insured** health coverage to local government employers. ETF has issued a legal opinion, which confirms that the Board can continue to administer the local program in a self-insured structure.*

*If you have additional questions, please contact your Wisconsin Retirement System or insurance case manager.*

### **Transition**

My last day at OWLS will be June 1, 2017, and Bradley's first day as Acting Director will be, coincidentally, the same day. I've been working closely with the rest of the management team to hand over projects and complete as much as possible before I leave. However, due to some unforeseen events (such as Bradd's resignation and Bradley's need to take some unscheduled time off), we're still determining what additional responsibilities Dave and Evan will need to take on. Bradley and I will talk about this with Personnel Committee later this month and hope to have more information then.