

## OWLS Director Report

September 15, 2022 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

### Hiring Update

Our new Administrative Assistant, Melissa Knight, starts on September 26<sup>th</sup>. I am grateful to OWLS staff who have stepped up to help out with daily tasks and provide office coverage while we are short staffed.

### Upcoming Library Board Visits

I have completed visits to the Iola, Manawa, Black Creek, Scandinavia, Shiocton, Clintonville, Little Chute, Marion, Kaukauna, Seymour, and New London library boards. Thanks to Kristin Laufenberg, Michelle Frola, Cathy Thompson, Marcia Trentlage, and Mike Hankins for joining me on some of those visits. Upcoming visits are:

Cancelled <del>9/19/2022</del>	4:00 PM	Kimberly
Tuesday, 9/20/2022	4:30 PM	Appleton
Tuesday, 9/27/2022	4:00 PM	Hortonville
Monday, 10/17/2022	4:00 PM	Weyauwega

OWLS Trustees are welcome to join me at any of these meetings. Please let me know if you will attend.

### CARL Speed Issues

At the July AAC meeting, libraries shared their dissatisfaction with CARL software response times. Since that meeting, Dave has collaborated with WiscNet to optimize firewall settings on our VPN tunnel to TLC and worked with Heartland to implement quality of service settings on the OWLS and library routers that prioritize CARL traffic on our network. Those actions have eliminated the most likely causes of slowness on our network end.

Dave has also installed software on circulation computers at three cooperating libraries to capture detailed network traffic data at the moment when the slowness occurs. The next time one of those libraries reports slowness, we will send the captured data to TLC for analysis.

August was the 2-year anniversary of our migration from Sierra to CARL. Amanda has distributed a survey to evaluate overall satisfaction with the software and uncover points of friction. Survey results will be shared at a future meeting.

### **Trans-Inclusive Librarianship Course**

OWLS is sponsoring registration of a group of member library directors and staff in a UW-Madison iSchool course on trans-inclusive librarianship. The course description states, “Libraries must actively affirm and support the safety and rights of transgender people (ALA Rainbow Roundtable). We do this through the creation and maintenance of safe and welcoming spaces, collections, and programs. In today’s world, the rights and protections of members of the transgender community are threatened by anti-trans legislation, and trans community members continue to face high rates of violence. How can libraries of all types provide a trans-inclusive respite to both trans community members, and members of their own staff?” So far, four have registered.

### **Library Card Sign Up Month Campaign**

The statewide Library Card Sign-Up Month promotion has launched. Patrons who visit the library to sign up for a new card, renew their existing card, or just show off their current card will take home a vinyl sticker with a variety of designs to choose from. The stickers direct folks to the [getyourlibrarycard.org](http://getyourlibrarycard.org) website. Any OWLS Trustee who attends a Board meeting in person this fall may also choose a sticker!