CENTRAL LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

January 2018

To Central Library Consortium Member Libraries:

In 2017 CLC was excited to make significant progress in improving the patron experience for our members.

Innovative delivered on many commitments made regarding PAC improvements. Early in the year, CLC participated in the beta process for the new Responsive PAC. Over 100+ enhancements were accepted to become part of the product and many of those were available in version 5.6 that was released later in the year. CLC also committed to further improving the Polaris PAC by making an Accelerated Development investment in August. We've already seen demos of features that will be delivered in 2018 as a result of this funding.

Upgrades to Polaris in 2017 allowed CLC to add support for integrated Overdrive records. This features allows patrons to checkout Overdrive items from the PAC without having to go to another site and login again. We've encountered some issues with the integration and still have some problems to work out, but we're already seeing some impressive results. We spot checked several members Overdrive counts and saw a doubling in the number of unique users versus the same months in 2015 and 2016.
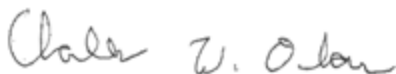
Our Polaris upgrades this year also brought dozens of improvements to Polaris Leap. This modern web interface for Polaris is available on a wide variety of devices and it is much easier to train new staff to use. Now that Leap offers: record set creation, basic item record editing and holds queue management, CLC considers Leap a suitable replacement for the staff client at most circulation desks.

To help ease the burden of member libraries managing multiple Polaris client upgrades in a single year, CLC also began offering to upgrade local Polaris clients using the client deployment tool. The tool was used successfully at several member libraries and saved hours of valuable local IT staff time.

As 2017 came to a close CLC posed itself for some exciting new resource sharing opportunities in 2018. In Q1 of 2018 CLC will be going live with three spectacular new members: Delaware, Granville and Pataskala. And we'll also begin participating in the SearchOhio and OhioLINK statewide INNReach projects. With the new members, and through the INNReach projects, CLC patrons will have access to tens of millions of additional items.

I encourage you to review the entire list of Key Accomplishments for 2017 on the next page.

Thanks for another great year!

Charles "Wes" Osborn
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Central Library Consortium