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Executive Director Report

Provides leadership in ensuring sustainable, equitable resource sharing

Anne Slaughter and I have reviewed the three proposals we received from consultants for an assessment into ways in which multitype resource sharing among libraries in Illinois could be done more efficiently and economically and provide better services and better use of tax dollars. We will report back to the LLSAP sustainability working group at their meeting in May.

Models best practices in equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion

Our EDI work continues, both on the staff side and with our board EDI committee. Representatives of the Climate Team presented a progress report to staff in March. The EDI committee met on March 30. Biz Lindsay-Ryan provided training on identity, culture, and bias.

Assist member libraries in preparing for the future

Our draft operational plan is in the board packet and is an agenda item for the meeting. You will also find a memo from me that describes our major continuing and new initiatives.

Please contact your federal legislators and urge them to support President Biden's proposed budget for FY 2023 which includes an \$8.8 million increase for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and a \$1

million decrease for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL). The IAL decrease is very disappointing at a time when strong support for literacy is crucial. Complete this simple [form](#) to urge your legislators to fully fund federal library programs for FY 2023.

Leads alongside member libraries to develop and strengthen Illinois library community

Illinois House Bill 5283: In provisions amending the Public Library District Act of 1991, provides that, if the trustees fail to appoint a new member within 90 days after a vacancy has been declared, the State Librarian shall appoint an individual to fill the vacancy within 60 days after the trustees have failed to fill the vacancy and that, if the State Librarian fails to fill the vacancy within the 60 days after the trustees have failed to fill the vacancy, the vacancy shall be filled at the next regularly scheduled election.

Illinois Senate Bill 3497 (expanded Cards for Kids Act): Amends the Illinois Local Library Act and Public Library District Act of 1991. Provides that a library board may adopt regulations waiving the nonresident fee for persons under the age of 18. Removes language in the Illinois Local Library Act providing that nothing in the Section requires a public library to participate in the non-resident card reciprocal borrowing program of a regional library system.

Both of these bills await the governor's signature. The Illinois State Library will craft administrative rules to guide implementation in libraries.

Several other bills (including Illinois Library Association priorities HB4758 expanding access to Broadband and HB4470 on creating equitable access to e-books) are still being monitored as they move through the legislative process.

Certification officially concluded on March 31. RAILS staff are continuing to work with some libraries to complete their certification. The school data project is also continuing, and we hope to present a progress report to the board at an upcoming meeting.



This Month at RAILS – April 2022

THE TOP THREE

In response to board member feedback, each month we will provide brief talking points on select This Month at RAILS items to help you spread the word about our programs/services. Here are this month's top three:

Visit the RAILS Booth at Reaching Forward

RAILS will have a booth at the May 6 [Reaching Forward](#) professional development conference for library staff in Rosemont. Please encourage anyone you know who is attending Reaching Forward to stop by the RAILS booth to learn more about the programs and services we offer for all levels of staff at all types and sizes of libraries.

More Volunteers Needed to Record Specialized Library Spotlights

The Specialized Library Spotlight videos RAILS produces in conjunction with our My Library Is... campaign have become very popular. In addition to receiving many views, several of the featured libraries have told us they appreciate this opportunity to highlight the services their library offers and to make others more aware of the value of specialized libraries in general.

We are looking for more specialized libraries to interview to keep this successful venture going. Please encourage any RAILS specialized staff members you know to contact the RAILS Communications Team (communications@railslibraries.info) to schedule their spotlight recording.

Enter RAILS' Explore More Illinois Contest for a Chance to Win Lunch for Your Library Staff

RAILS is [running a contest](#) to encourage libraries to suggest attractions for [Explore More Illinois](#). Libraries can submit attraction suggestions through May 31. For every suggestion that results in an additional Explore More attraction by August 15, the library will receive one entry into a raffle for lunch for library staff. The Quipu Group, the Explore More software vendor, is sponsoring the contest.

Provides leadership in ensuring sustainable, equitable resource sharing

Enhance sharing of knowledge and best practices

RAILS at Reaching Forward South

Brian Smith, Applications & Web Developer, staffed the RAILS exhibit table at the April 8 [Reaching Forward South](#) annual professional development conference for library support staff in central and southern Illinois. The conference was held in Champaign. Approximately 18 library staff members from both RAILS and IHLS stopped by to hear more about RAILS' statewide services, including [Explore More Illinois](#) and [inkie.org](#).

Anna Behm, E-Content Specialist, and Jessica Barnes, Special Projects Librarian, presented "Yours for the Taking: Freely Available Statewide Services," focusing on [inkie.org](#) and [Explore More Illinois](#). About 30 people attended.

RAILS was also a Platinum Partner sponsor of the conference and sponsored the morning coffee break.

RAILS at Reaching Forward

RAILS will have a booth at the May 6 [Reaching Forward](#) professional development conference for library staff in Rosemont. This conference gives us an excellent opportunity to engage with staff at all levels – not just library directors. RAILS is also a Platinum Partner of Reaching Forward and is sponsoring the morning coffee break.

Go-To Data Resources Online Roundtable

On April 7, RAILS hosted the Go-To Data Resources Online Roundtable; 55 people registered and 20 attended live. Grant Halter, RAILS Data Analysis Manager, discussed publicly-available resources for libraries and how they might incorporate them into their advocacy activities. A [recording is available](#) on the RAILS YouTube page.

Leverage economies of scale to provide greater purchasing power

Checkers Library TV Discounted Pricing

Checkers Library TV is partnering with RAILS to offer deeply discounted pricing for "The Reading Road Trip," a fun and educational program created as online and in-person programming exclusively for libraries. There is a choice of two eight-episode series, "Off-Road Adventures" or "Deep Sea Readers," that align with popular 2022 Summer Reading Themes. The subscription includes related downloadable activity sheets and crafts.

RAILS members can find more information on all our deals and discounts by logging into the RAILS [Deals & Discounts](#) page.

Career Online High School (COHS) Update

[Career Online High School](#) is an 18-credit, vocation-based high school completion program that enables libraries to offer adult learners accredited high school diplomas and career certificates in high-demand fields. RAILS subsidizes the cost of the platform.

Student interest in COHS has increased over the last month and we have been working to place out-of-district students with COHS libraries. RAILS subsidizes a limited number of scholarships for students whose home libraries do not currently participate in COHS.

The following table provides the latest information on the program as of April 6, 2022.

Scholarships Awarded	Total Graduates	Current Number of Students in Program	RAILS Graduation Rate/National Rate
302	143	68	61%/53%

RAILS Presentation at ICOLC Conference

Leila Heath, Director of Library Resources and Programs, collaborated with other Consortia Purchasing Managers from around the country on a panel presentation for the [International Coalition of Library Consortia](#) (ICOLC) conference. The program, "Create Your Own Community," was pre-recorded and presented live by two of the managers on March 22. It focused on the value of creating a small networking group within the consortia landscape to explore various issues, solutions, and procedures. The Consortia Purchasing Managers also meet bi-monthly to discuss issues related to purchasing across large, multitype library consortia.

Work collaboratively to identify and support shared catalog solutions and expand resource sharing

Find More Illinois Welcomes More New Libraries

[Find More Illinois](#) connects participating standalone and shared online catalogs. Library patrons can quickly search all these catalogs in a single search. All Illinois libraries are eligible to participate, regardless of their size, type, or library software. For libraries that join before March 2023, all setup fees are waived. No annual fees will be billed until July 1, 2023.



FMI is growing quickly, which makes it a better resource for all participating libraries. New participants since the March board report include Antioch Public Library District and Waukegan Public Library.

Latest eRead Illinois News

Anna Behm, E-Content Specialist, hosted a March webinar presented by Baker & Taylor (our eRead Illinois vendor) about the new interactive dashboard feature in [Axis 360](#). About 25 people attended and a [recording is available](#) on the RAILS YouTube site.

Anna Behm also met with the new director and assistant at Toluca Public Library in early April to provide an overview of eRead Illinois Axis 360 and to discuss other RAILS programs/services.

RAILS continues to plan for the upcoming eRead Illinois Axis 360 renewal period. We sent initial renewal emails to library participants on April 11. Libraries interested in joining eRead Illinois will be able to do so without incurring a fee for the remainder of the current fiscal year (until July 1, 2022).

Inkie.org Update

Anna Behm gave a virtual presentation about [inkie.org](#) for Cherry Valley Public Library on March 29. Five library patrons attended. Anna is also planning a presentation about Inkie.org for Bloomington Public Library in the coming months.

Use of RAILS E-Resources

eRead Illinois Axis 360 Checkouts

Time Period	E-Books	Audiobooks	Total
March 2022	24,299	16,327	40,626
Fiscal Year to Date	217,255	138,938	356,193

Inkie.org Library Views

Time Period	Number of Views
March 2022	922
Fiscal Year to Date	10,680

Explore More Illinois Update

As mentioned last month, we are currently running [a contest](#) to encourage libraries to suggest potential attractions for our [Explore More Illinois](#) online cultural and recreational pass program. We've received over 50 suggestions so far and are following up on many of them. If a library suggests an attraction that ends up joining the program, they will receive an entry to a raffle to win lunch for their staff, sponsored by the Quipu Group (our software vendor).



We added our first two minor-league baseball teams in March. This month, we reached 41 attractions, the most attractions Explore More Illinois has ever had at one time. See [complete list](#) of attractions.

Illinois Central College (ICC) is working with RAILS on our community college pilot program. ICC has started marketing the program to students and staff. We also met with ICC's performing arts center director and art gallery director to discuss adding them as attractions to Explore More Illinois.

As of April 6, Illinois libraries participate in the program (323 RAILS and 84 IHLS member libraries).

Assist member libraries in preparing for the future

Help member libraries of all types and sizes demonstrate their value



New My Library Is... Advisory Team Members

The My Library Is... Advisory Team includes staff from all types of libraries who help spread the word about the campaign and work on a variety of campaign activities. RAILS recently recruited six new team members to serve one-year terms:

- Mary Burns, Northern Illinois University

- Anna Kim, Libraries and Instructional Technology Team, Chicago Public Schools
- Nichole Novak, Illinois Institute of Technology Paul V. Galvin Library
- Leanne Pavel, Linda Sokol Francis Brookfield Public Library
- Jen Rockey, Melick Library/Eureka College
- Catalina Shin, Arlington Heights Memorial Library

They join eight team members continuing from 2021. See all team member bios in the [About This Site section](#) of the My Library Is... website.

RAILS Holds Office Hours for My Library Is... Grant for School Libraries

RAILS offered two hour-long sessions in April for school libraries interested in our latest round of [My Library Is... grants](#). The drop-in events gave school library staff a chance to ask questions about the grant, kick around ideas, and hear about other library's projects. Both events were held via Zoom.

Specialized Library Spotlights

RAILS conducts video interviews with staff at specialized libraries to highlight the wide variety of different libraries and the valuable work they do, and to give them an opportunity to promote their programs/services.

Recent interviews include:

- [Eugene Giudice](#), Senior Research Services Training Specialist, Dentons (global law firm)
- [Juanita Harrell](#), Law Library Manager, DuPage County Law Library
- [Laura Turner](#), Librarian, Technical Information Center, Caterpillar Inc.

We've received several positive comments about these videos and are looking for additional specialized libraries to interview. If you know a staff member at a specialized library that would make a good interview candidate, please let us know!

Future-focused professional development and member engagement efforts

Directors University and Directors 2.0

[Directors University](#) is a joint project of RAILS, the Illinois Heartland Library System, the Illinois Library Association, and the Illinois State Library. The sixth annual Directors University will be held June 6-10 at the Illinois State Library in Springfield, the first time it has been held in person since 2020. The week-long event is intended for first-time directors and directors new to Illinois from public libraries of all shapes and sizes.

With over 40 new public library directors in RAILS alone during the past 12 months, we are expecting a strong showing in Springfield. Registration continues through April 22.

Directors 2.0 (August 2-4) will also be held at the Illinois State Library and will be open to all alumni from past Directors University or SPLMI (Statewide Public Library Management Institute) sessions. This new follow-up initiative will make it possible for directors to explore new topics and revisit other foundational topics with the knowledge they have gained since going through Directors University the first-time.

Measuring the Impact of RAILS Continuing Education

The RAILS CE team is using two new post-event surveys to gather meaningful feedback about our CE events. Working with RAILS Data Analysis Manager Grant Halter, our post-event survey asks questions specific to the CE category (HR, EDI, marketing, etc.) to identify the potential impacts of the training content. We are sending a second follow-up survey to willing participants approximately 3-4 weeks later to capture their recall of the event and to determine what tangible outcomes have occurred as a result of what they learned.

April CE Webinar Highlight

One noteworthy event during the month of April was the webinar “The Connected Library: Vetting and Partnering with Social Service Providers.” Presenter Patrick Lloyd, Community Resilience Consultant for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, described the rationale for libraries partnering with social service agencies and steps on how to form a successful partnership. A [recording of this webinar](#) is available in the RAILS CE Archives.

RAILS Staff Member Participates in Two Trustee Training Events

Joe Filapek, Director of CE and Consulting, participated in two trustee training events in April. On April 2, the Illinois Library Association Trustee Forum sponsored a panel of library trustees discussing the process of evaluating the library director. Joe participated in his role as a trustee at Aurora Public Library and RAILS Board member Becky Spratford moderated the panel. On April 9, Joe spoke about library board roles and responsibilities at the North Chicago Public Library Board of Trustees retreat.

Leads alongside member libraries to develop and strengthen Illinois library community

Strengthen collaborative relationships with partner library organizations

April Meeting with AISLE, IHLS, and ILA

RAILS staff meet monthly with representatives from the Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE), Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS), and the Illinois Library Association (ILA) to discuss ways we can work collaboratively to support school libraries. Gwen Harrison, Network Consultant at the Illinois State Library, also joined us for the April meeting.

Topics discussed included:

- Materials challenges (ongoing)
 - Update on [AISLE’s CE events](#)
 - [House Committee Discussion on Book Bans and Academic Censorship](#)
- Ongoing discussion about efforts to gather better data about school libraries
- ILA Legislative update
 - [Follett Reverses Course on Parental Controls](#)

The next meeting of the group is Tuesday, May 3 at 4 p.m.

RAILS Takes Part in LIBRAS Directors Spring Meeting

[LIBRAS, Inc.](#) is a consortium of 20 private college and university libraries located in the Chicago metropolitan area. RAILS Member Engagement Manager Dan Bostrom gave an update on RAILS news and services at the March 23 LIBRAS Spring Directors online meeting. Over 15 people participated.

RAILS Participates in Specialized Libraries Career Panel

On March 25, RAILS Member Engagement Manager Dan Bostrom participated in an online career panel hosted by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's School of Information Studies. Approximately 10 students attended to learn more about careers in specialized libraries.

RAILS Staff News

RAILS at Computers in Libraries Conference

Anne Slaughter, Director of Technology Services, participated in a panel presentation at the Computers in Libraries conference about RAILS' experience with Intercept, the open source calendar software that L2 ([Library Directory & Learning Calendar](#)) is built on.

RAILS at Public Library Association (PLA) Conference

Anna Behm, E-Content Specialist; Leila Heath, Director of Library Resources & Programs; and Nicole Zimmermann, Marketing & Public Relations Specialist; attended the PLA conference, March 22-25 in Portland, Oregon. They met with current and potential vendors, scoped out new ideas for RAILS' exhibit booth displays, and attended programs and networking events.

Leila has scheduled follow-up meetings with several vendors to explore product discounts. Anna submitted a proposal for an ILA program, following a discussion with BiblioBoard at the conference. Both Leila and Anna visited the Association for Rural & Small Libraries booth and plan to attend their conference in September to learn more about the challenges small and rural libraries face and potential solutions.

Leila participated in a panel presentation, "Public Libraries Role in Re-Engaging Adults into the Educational System," about the unique challenges adults face reentering the education system, and how public libraries can help them overcome those barriers. Leila shared information about our Career Online High School program (see above). About 280 people attended.

A highlight for Nicole was "Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Antiracism in a Sundown Town," a case study presentation from the Glendale Library, Arts & Culture staff of Glendale, California. Based on research by library staff, Glendale became the first city in California to pass a Sundown Town proclamation, acknowledging and apologizing for its history of racist treatment of Black people.

[PLA Handout - Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Antiracism in a Sundown Town \(1\).pdf](#)

[PLA Presentation - Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Antiracism in a Sundown Town.pdf](#)

Consortial Reports

CARLI/I-Share

No report.

Cooperative Computer Services (CCS)

- At the April 13, 2022, Governing Board meeting, the board will be reviewing and approving the addition of a Resource Sharing policy and annual business including the budget, meeting calendar, and officers for 2022-2023.
- CCS staff are attending virtual IUG the week of April 4.
- We are surveying our technical (networking) groups regarding meeting preferences for 2022-2023. At this time, it looks like the majority of members prefer continuing virtual meetings. We have seen strong attendance over the past two years despite challenging circumstances in libraries.
- Through 2021, CCS worked with the User Experience Advisory group to review and recommend improvements to patron email notices. As part of this work, CCS analyzed notices of other library consortia and gathered two rounds of feedback from library patrons. On March 15, CCS made improvements to the notices including:
 - Increasing font size
 - Using uniform font
 - Removing redundant information
 - Simplifying wording
 - Adding links to library website and catalog in the footer
- CCS staff have completed QA of Polaris 7.1 and scheduled an upgrade for May. Many technical services features are being added to Leap and CCS has begun developing training for technical services in Leap.
- We are working on several administrative projects including changing banks, reviewing benefits, have recently implemented an online time keeping system, and defining needs for our future office.

Pinnacle Library Cooperative (PLC)

- Pinnacle's newest staff member, Julie Perenchio, started as our new Member Services Librarian in March. Julie has previously worked for several public libraries including Naperville, New Lenox, and White Oak and is currently an instructor at Moraine Valley Community College. She'll be focusing on creating training opportunities for our member libraries.
- In February, the Pinnacle Governing Board voted that all six Pinnacle libraries would be joining Find More Illinois this year. We are currently in the implementation process.
- Due to increasing prices and declining usage, we have decided to once again narrow the focus of our EBSCO database package. Beginning in July, we will be utilizing the group discount pricing made available from RAILS.

- As we are approaching our 10-year anniversary, we have decided to begin working on our consortium's first strategic plan. Amanda Standerfer from Fast Forward Libraries will be helping to facilitate the process this Spring.

PrairieCat

- PrairieCat has recently added a new staff member, Matt Maturo, to the Systems group. Matt was brought in to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Jeffrey Sullivan.
- PrairieCat continues to move toward more independence as a consortium. Currently, investigations are underway to replace our existing, RAILS-hosted ticketing system with a new, cloud based system. This is the first step in a plan to replace most of our RAILS-hosted IT infrastructure by FY24. In addition to IT infrastructure migrations, investigations are underway to find alternatives to our current office space in the RAILS Bolingbrook building, also targeted for FY23-24. Telework and moving toward cooperative agreements with member libraries will save PrairieCat significant funds in FY24 and beyond. For now, the offices we leverage in the Coal Valley building will be retained in FY23 and 24.
- Work is also underway to redesign our current support website. The website, originally designed and (at the time) hosted by RAILS, will be completely overhauled to meet current needs. Our websites are now hosted offsite at Cherry Hill, a company which specializes in hosting, designing and supporting library Drupal sites. The new website will include forums for member communication and a wiki-like interface to present documentation.
- Mt. Carroll Public Library, currently a Union Listing member, has signed an IGA to upgrade to Basic Online, which is a circulating level membership. The IGA will be voted on by Delegates at the 4/27 meeting, and work should begin to upgrade them shortly thereafter.
- North Chicago Public Library's board has voted to join PrairieCat at the Fully Participating level, and the IGA is currently in review with their legal team. It is hoped that this will also be approved at the April Delegates Assembly meeting.
- PrairieCat continues to partner with Innovative Interfaces on their Vega Promote and Communicate modules, which provide marketing and communication tools for libraries. Our Vega Discover test server continues to be reviewed. Innovative has targeted July for the general release of consortia features for Sierra Discovery clients.
- In addition to the FY23 budget, Delegates will review and vote on a new five year contract with Innovative for our Sierra software platform.

Resource Sharing Alliance NFP (RSA-NFP)

- RSA welcomed a new staff member in February. Erin Roberts has joined our team as a Cataloging and Database Coordinator bringing RSA's cataloging department back to full strength. Our cataloging request load from our members continues to be high and we've started internal discussions on ways to reduce that workload. Most of those methods involve an increased use of temp records which we've limited use of in recent years. We average over 800 cataloging requests per month from our membership.

- RSA's new Support website design has been settled. The new design is a total rethink of our information layout and grouping and will allow several paths to find the same information. Now we're working on updating, revising, labeling, and grouping our Member Services documents. We will use the Member Services information to test our design layout and gather feedback from our membership. We're at the point where real-world documents and information are needed to move forward.
- RSA's Board and Users Group are examining new items in our system from three angles: Reciprocity, age of new items, and cataloging new items. We are reworking our Reciprocity Policy to become a statement of intent and how libraries should share. We've designed all new, standardized, item types for new materials to specifically denote an item's holdability at system level. We also discovered a very apparent cleanup project is needed for all items marked as new that are older than one year. Surprisingly, RSA's membership responded overwhelmingly positive in a survey asking if they would standardize the usage of item types and length of an item's 'newness'. Standardization has historically not been common in RSA. The massive changeover in Directors of RSA libraries is leading to opportunities for standardization.
- RSA has added Hoopla integration to our online catalogues. We currently have 24 libraries participating with 4 or 5 currently working on setting up Hoopla accounts. We have also updated our web services, Enterprise catalog, and a few other minor things to accommodate SirsiDynix's Cloudsource Open Access product. That is now live in testing on our system. It provides access to over 32 million open access articles, journals, ebooks, reports, complete educational courses and more. We need to redesign parts of our catalog display to incorporate the Open Access content into our legacy search layout to make it clearer to patrons what search filter it currently active. We also need to design marketing and educational resources for our libraries to help them explain this product to their patrons or students. For many RSA libraries, this product provides their only full-text access to various online resources and databases.

Rock River Library Consortium (RRLC)

No report.

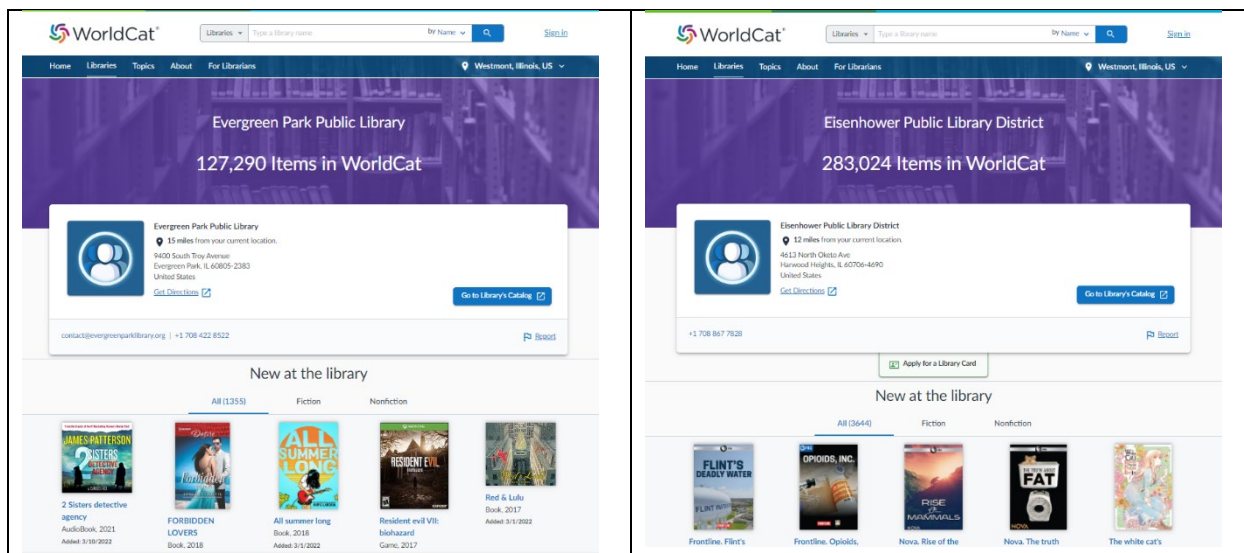
System Wide Automated Network (SWAN)

OCLC WorldCat update

SWAN is coordinating within the Illinois OCLC Holdings Manager the reset of WorldCat holdings for the six LLSAPs participating (CCS, PrairieCat, RSA, Pinnacle, SHARE, and SWAN). The offer to reset WorldCat holdings was announced by the Illinois State Library and is part of an interface change to WorldCat. The OCLC Holdings Manager is responsible for setting 25 million holdings for Illinois libraries in WorldCat.

The WorldCat interface will change mid-year and the announcement coincided with the PLA annual conference in March. Currently the beta version of WorldCat is available under a special login to ensure each library's configuration and collections are prepared for the launch of the new site. The new WorldCat is a fully responsive design, and new features such as integrating an individual library's e-

content will be outlined in the near future. Other features such as “Apply for a Library Card” are part of the existing WorldCat configuration for libraries.



SWAN manages all the configuration and settings for its 100 members and is sponsoring OCLC training open to all Illinois libraries conducted by OCLC staff. Look for upcoming events in L2 on WorldShare ILL borrowing, lending, and general overviews.

Information security audit

Last October in the SWAN update to the RAILS Consortia Committee, we shared that SWAN is conducting an information security risk assessment with Sikich. The initial findings were presented at the SWAN Board meeting held on March 18, 2022. The security audit is measuring SWAN’s IT security against a NIST standard for “protecting controlled unclassified information in nonfederal systems and organizations,” which is essentially what public libraries, local government, and library resource sharing consortium fall under. Some of the findings of the audit include:

- Library user data stored presents a liability risk at \$150 per record, which is the current cost to remediate a breach
- Risk and Authorization Management Programs are becoming common practice at state level, emphasizing the necessity of SWAN having a framework; while Illinois has not adopted a “RAMP,” the states Texas, Iowa, and Wisconsin have recently passed cybersecurity laws
- The NIST cybersecurity standard specifies 14 written policies an organization would adopt at the governing level
- Adopting the NIST standard will ensure that cybersecurity liability insurance will be available for the future, whereas organizations not following a security standard will be at risk of losing their cyber insurance

- Security policies adopted will be require executive level standards outlining how the organization will meet the standard, with department managers involved in the procedures of step-by-step instructions, and guidelines for the controls around data access and usage

Our next steps will be to create the security policies with Sikich using an industry standard template. Our IT staff will research and build monitoring system audit logs that are aggregated across the SWAN library service platform (Aspen Discovery, BLUEcloud, Symphony, e-commerce, remote authentication, etc.). SWAN is engaged in a single-sign-on pilot to adopt an identity provider platform which all library staff users will be managed under for access and auditing.

SWAN Board Strategic Summit

The SWAN governing board conducted a half day event with presentations from Berit Nelson, SirsiDynix Chief Product Officer; Mark Noble and Jordan Fields, ByWater Solutions Aspen Product Librarian and Team Lead; Christopher Holly, EBSCO Director of SaaS Innovation; Robert Klaus, President Unique Management Solutions; and Bruce Crocco, OCLC Vice President of Library Services for the Americas. The SWAN Management Team presented its tactical plan for 2022 on its solutions in support of the SWAN strategic plan.

RAILS Board Calendar of Events

<https://librarylearning.org/events>

Month	Agenda Items/Topics
January	RAILS Quarterly Consortial Reports
	Filing for SEIs Due – (admin staff -submit list of those who need to file)
	ALA midwinter meeting (end of January)
	ILA Legislative Meet-ups
February	ILA Legislative Meet-ups
	Appoint Nominating Committee for March Board Election
	Public Library Association (PLA) Annual Conference (end of February)
March	Executive Director evaluation process starts
	SEI notice email from Cook County in March
	ILA Trustee Workshop
April	Draft of System Area and Per Capita Grant Application + List of Membership
	Certification Membership Status Changes (if warranted)
	Notification of All systems Board meeting date
	Board members complete evaluation of Executive Director for May
	Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) – (filed by Board members)
	RAILS Quarterly Consortial Reports
	ILA Reaching Forward Illinois conference
May	Six-Month Review of Closed Session Minutes 5ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
	President or designee compiles Executive Director evaluations for June Meeting
	Approval of APC
June	Plaques: goodbye to retiring and non-returning board members
	Preliminary Board Meeting Fiscal Year Calendar
	Nominating committee presents slate of officers
	Closed session to discuss the findings and recommendations of Executive Director evaluation
	ALA annual conference (end of June)
July	Board Orientation
	RAILS Board Officers Signatures for Bank
	Swearing in of newly elected members with Oath of Office
	Election of Board Officers
	Committee Appointments by new President
	OMA certification for new board members
	Annual filing of conflict of interest form
	RAILS Quarterly Consortial Reports
	Board Meeting Fiscal Year Calendar Approval
August	
September	Annual Report Acceptance
	Audit Report Acceptance
October	RAILS Quarterly Consortial Reports
	ILA annual conference
November	Six-Month Review of Closed Session Minutes 5ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
December	No meeting