

**Wisconsin Public Library Consortium**  
**Selection Committee Meeting Notes**

January 16, 2025 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM

Attendees: Shawn Carlson (BLS), Cecelia Cole (IFLS), Margie Dorn (Winnefox), David Dowling (PLLS), Chris Hamburg (MCLS), Katie Hanson (SCLS), Sue Heskin (NWLS), Mehta Hess (Winnefox), Clare Kindt (Nicolet), Kristin Laufenberg (OWLS), Scott Lenski (MCFLS), Kayla Mathson (WRLS), Zander Miller (Kenosha), Loralee Peterson (WVLS), Lisa Pike (MCLS), Elisha Sheffer (WVLS), Rosalia Slawson (MLS), Kimmy Wegner (WRLS)

Project Managers: Sara Gold (WiLS), Rebecca Rosenstiel (WiLS)

Meeting began at 1:00 pm

**1. Introduction of any new members**

S. Gold welcomed Zander Miller from Kenosha County Library System and Margie Dorn from Winnefox Library System.

K. Mathson asked the group if others have encountered Libby making patrons re-sign in to verify their library card every time the app is opened, as this has happened to two different patrons over the past couple of weeks. C. Kindt shared that this happened at Nicolet last Fall when their ILS IP updated- Libby wasn't able to connect with their ILS.

**2. OverDrive and WPLC Updates**

a. 9,494,155 circs in 2024!

b. Star ratings removed from the website as of 1/6/24. Individuals wanting to use ratings can do so by creating tags.

c. Marketplace Updates

i. When new titles are added in the All Access packages, a \$0 invoice is generated in the SU Orders report that lists the new titles added.

ii. *In Beta Only* – removal of pinned carts section in shop and curate pages to improve the user experience when conducting searches. Please pass along feedback to us or the “Feedback” link in Marketplace Beta.

S. Gold will share out the link again for those interested in using Marketplace Beta. D. Dowling noted that PLLS would be interested in using Marketplace Beta.

d. Authentication cases from library systems are going straight to Overdrive Support YAYAYAY!!

Sending authentication cases directly to OverDrive Support cuts down on the amount of time it can take to get back to patrons with a fix- thank you to library systems and staff for doing this.

D. Dowling asked for clarification on if this is in reference to the OverDrive Support Zoho Form for patron issues? The Zoho form is used by patrons to alert library/system staff that there is an issue; if the library/system is able to help the patron, they can; if the

problem is authentication or needs additional support from OverDrive, library/system staff should go directly to OverDrive Support (not WPLC Project Managers).

- e. New metrics other than current average waiting period are being considered by OverDrive (ie how long to fill holds).

WPLC Project Managers have been asking for a different set of metrics for average waiting period for a long time, since the current metrics only calculate average waiting time based on a set period of time and only counts users that have been active in the last 30 days; which are not reflective of how quickly users are receiving holds materials. S. Gold will share updates with the group via Basecamp for their input once more information becomes available.

- f. Katie is running Peer Advisory Reports for each Individual systems, and a few systems have reached out to current average waiting reports. WPLC Project Managers are working with OverDrive to setup a webinar/meeting to walkthrough PAR reports for interested library systems staff.

S. Carlson and K. Laufenberg shared that they have requested PAR reports, and were told by OverDrive that they can only run these reports for one library within their systems. Both Bridges and OWLS chose the largest library in their systems, and the information is helpful; but it would be more beneficial to be able to have this information for all libraries. S. Gold will share this information with the rest of the Project Managers, and will reach out to OverDrive for more information.

- g. **Shelf Talkers:** A big thank you to Katie Hanson for documentation help and piloting the Shelf Talker feature. The documentation can be found [here](#).

S. Gold added that this documentation, along with other Selection resources, are available on the WPLC website under For Libraries then Selection Resources. As a reminder, the WPLC website will be getting an update later this year.

- h. **AI in Audiobook Narration**

S. Gold shared that there have been cases of AI narration in audiobooks. AI-generated audiobooks are often self-published and attractive due to the high cost of professional narration. Overdrive does not have a policy to not purchase or distribute AI titles but is reviewing them carefully. There may be the need to update the collection development policy to address AI-generated content. Please report any suspected AI-generated titles to Overdrive for review and removal.

### 3. Sales

- a. **New Year New You Sale** (January 1-31)

- i. Financial planning, career growth, healthy lifestyle, self-improvement, etc.
- ii. 25-50% off
- iii. <https://marketplace.overdrive.com/News/Details/1504>

- b. **Recorded Books January OD Max Sale** (January 1-31)

- i. 25% off over 900 audiobooks in OD Max, including Onyx Storm!
- ii. <https://marketplace.overdrive.com/News/Details/1506>

- c. **Black History Month Sale** (January 13-February 14)

- i. Fiction and nonfiction by Black authors, with a focus on history and achievements

- ii. 25-50% off
- d. **Lunar New Year Sale** (January 27-February 28)
  - i. Year of the Snake
  - ii. Chinese-language (Simplified and Traditional) titles from 2023 to present
  - iii. 25-50% off
- e. **Awards List Link:** <https://resources.overdrive.com/library/collection-development/stars-awards/>

#### 4. YTD budget review

*Document:* [2025 WPLC Selection Purchases](#)

##### *Discussion*

S. Gold reviewed the Selection Purchases spreadsheet, reminding the group that this spreadsheet is for selectors that are selecting within the genre areas, best sellers, or preorders for the shared collection. S. Gold called for volunteers for the open genres: Adult Fiction Mystery/Thriller and Adult Nonfiction Spirituality and Religion. K. Laufenberg volunteered to purchase for the consortium for Adult Fiction Mystery/Thriller; R. Slawson and S. Lenski volunteered to split purchasing for Spirituality and Religion (alternating months).

S. Gold covered budget allocations included on the spreadsheet as well, noting that allocations will remain the same. In previous talks, it was mentioned that allocations might need to be reduced, however there is more to contribute than anticipated. In addition to allocations remaining the same, additional funds may be put towards Adult and Juvenile Best Sellers and Preorders.

S. Gold shared that the timing/amounts for content credit replenishments is changing for 2025, and this year a larger amount was deposited in January. This will allow the consortium to purchase Simultaneous Use packages, purchases from January sales, title replenishment, as well as substantial purchases throughout the year on titles that may be coming out.

S. Gold pointed out on the spreadsheet as well that OverDrive magazines are not paid for out of collection development funds, and have already been renewed for 2025. The Consortium also recently added the Romance Package (1,076 titles); and 100 titles of the Blackstone Audio and 100 titles for Tantor Media.

S. Gold asked the group their thoughts about investing in the simultaneous use All Access Comics collection? K. Hansen asked if titles in the collection are strictly superhero comics, or if it also includes manga? S. Gold will share a title list with the group, but it looks like there isn't much manga. Titles in sim use packages are typically set for the year, and are not updated in intervals.

#### 5. Strategic Initiatives for Collection Development

*Background:* For 2025, the initiatives for WPLC Collection Development will focus on the following areas:

- Working with the OverDrive team to educate and engage selectors at system and library levels on selection guidelines and tools to reduce wait times. S. Gold noted that titles with inactive holds for over a year are typically removed to avoid creating unnecessary

wait times, and clarified that titles with active holds over a year should not be part of the weeding process. K. Laufenberg asked what inactive vs active holds are; S. Gold noted that inactive holds are suspended holds.

S. Gold added that Advantage selectors can purchase individual titles specific to their patron base without limits.

- Exploring different metrics other than “current average waiting period” to measure “success” in the collection, and there are no longer thresholds for purchasing titles not in the shared collection.
- Adding Always Available content at the shared collection level (Jan)
- Experiment with thresholds for repurchasing expired metered access titles at the shared collection level. There had previously been discussions on repurchasing titles with at least two holds, but now there is threshold of eight to ten holds due to budget constraints.
- Review the WPLC [Patron](#) and [Library Survey](#) results to shape purchasing decisions and holds/checkout limit recommendations.
  - **Library Survey**
    - Consider small % increase in funding in future
    - Wait times – generally cannot have more holds allowed AND shorter wait times
    - Help with Marketing content for libraries?
  - **Patron Survey**
    - Audiobook is king
    - Getting materials in timely manner – highest dissatisfaction
    - Jump for format in number of checkouts in magazines (higher people checking out 6-10 vs in other formats)
    - Increase scope vs holds was interesting!
- Advantage Spend by System per Population:

System	Spent per Pop	System	Spent per Pop
Winnefox	.477	OWLS	.137
MCLFS	.445	Prairie Lakes	.1275
Bridges	.355	SWLS	.1272
NW	.259	Monarch	.126
IFLS	.212	WVLS	.086
Manitowoc	.202	Winding Rivers	.037
SCLS	.196	Nicolet	.024
Kenosha	.179		

Note: this is system spend AND branch spend

*Discussion:*

In reference to the patron survey results, S. Gold added that despite the high dissatisfaction, the amount of holds does not necessarily reduce wait times. D. Dowling asked if the survey results can be shared? S. Gold confirmed yes; selectors can feel free to share these results out with library staff.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, March, 20 2025, 1:00 to 2:00 PM

The meeting adjourned at 2:02pm