Results from the survey of Board, Steering Committee, and Collection Development Committee about Roundtable

statements

This survey received 19 responses from a combination of Steering, Board, and Collection Development Committee members.

Advantage

WPLC should...

- ...allow systems to make their own decisions about how to purchase for their Advantage account. (95% agree; 5% unsure)
- 2. ...encourage individual libraries to invest in their system Advantage account instead of establishing their own Advantage account. (100% agree)
- ..very strongly encourage that individual library Advantage account purchase copies only and continue to contribute to the system advantage account at the expected level. (79% agree; 21% unsure)



Comments:

- It is important to retain the resource sharing nature of WPLC
- I feel that anything we can do to support collaboration of Advantage accounts at the system level is a good thing and will help patron satisfaction.
- #1- Word to include something regarding McMillan ban or similar in the future.

- To someone who wasn't involved in the discussion, the first statement could seem to conflict with the third, without the supporting comments from the group discussion.
- I don't understand the last statement, perhaps because I don't handle an advantage account to know how it works except in general principle. What, especially, is meant by "purchase copies only"--ie. as opposed to what else might they do instead?!
- No problem with these statements. To reduce holds overall, I would have liked the group to have strongly encouraged individual libraries to invest in their system Advantage accounts before they invest in other non-consortia products (Hoopla, etc.)
- I would very strongly encourage no library Advantage accounts be created.

Collections

- 1. The WPLC should increase spending with publishers that support our goals. (90% agree; 10% unsure)
- 2. WPLC should focus budget on reducing holds based on patron satisfaction and creatively continue to grow the collection. (100% agree)
- 3. The measure of success of this collection is continuous, happy and sustained usage. (95% agree; 5% unsure)
- 4. Immediately-available, desirable, and expected collection is important. (95% agree; 5% disagree)



Comments:

- All things in moderation
- No disagreement with any of this. I've always felt that the hold queues are our biggest challenge and we should address that while fighting for fair access to content.
- Unsure just depends.
- Immediately available items are key, in my opinion. We're never going to satisfy all the demand for the latest best-sellers, but we can be the place to go for someone who wants an easily accessible read.
- Overdrive patrons need to continue to understand the wait time process for popular titles. Ideally, the holds wait time could be mitigated.

In-state advocacy

WPLC should...

- 1. ...have focused marketing campaigns targeting libraries, library funding bodies, and the public (both patrons and non-users). (90% agree; 5% disagree; 5% unsure)
- ...have education programs for libraries, library funding bodies, and the public (both patrons and non-users). (to supplement the six-week support course.) (84% agree; 16% unsure)
- 3. ...have a specific brand for the collection. (79% agree; 21% disagree)
- ...designate a budget for marketing and advocacy. (84% agree; 5% disagree; 11% unsure)
- 5. ...study other ways of calculating cost per circ or separating e-resource circs from other circs. (74% agree; 26% unsure)



Comments:

- Important...but it will take time and money and focus
- I agree with advocacy campaigns to increase funding. I'm a little unsure about the last statement. What would be the purpose of separating out e-resource circs from other circs? Is that for reporting purposes and to more accurately depict the cost of these resources
- Isn't WPLC the brand? Discussion group didn't specify what they meant by a specific brand. That should be clarified.
- what is the six-week support course? does it really need to be supplemented vs. maybe just need to find ways to make it more discoverable/increase awareness of it's existence? Not knowing, I'm thinking I'd agree anyway because something briefer is clearly needed. Even if I'd been aware of the course, I wouldn't have considered even starting it given the "6 weeks" phrase!

National Role/Publisher

1. WPLC should work with libraries, publishers, distributors and authors to create equitable access to digital items. (100% agree)



Comments:

- Hallelujah!
- Totally agree we should have a larger role or join in with others.
- Equitable access means access to digital titles similarly to how Wiscat operates for physical books.

• I think this is the one we have the least control over, but is probably the most important. I guess I don't have words of wisdom to offer, but I think it's crucial.

Sustainable Increases Group

- Funding for the shared collection should increase by 5% a year for the next five years. A Reassessment process will begin at 3 years to determine effectiveness. (58% agree; 5% disagree; 37% unsure)
- 2. WPLC will explore partnerships and other avenues for increased resources and maximizing the use of the collection. (95% agree; 5% unsure)



Comments:

- Slow and steady wins the race, right? While many want more of an increase, some want none. This is a good place to start.
- I think we'd be OK with a 3-5% increase, but we'd have to talk about it as a group. I believe the WPLC should advocate with legislators to make this a state resource in much the same way that Badgerlink is. It impacts all state residents and you could argue it has as much of an impact on our quality of life, if not more.
- \$\$ is always a problem with small libraries. 5% might be a bit much every year. Put this hand-inhand with the marketing part to educate the board members who would be voting on their libraries' funding.

- I support this in theory, but feel that 5% might be difficult for the libraries to sustain over 3 years cumaltively. Perhaps, a smaller incremental increase 3%?
- I know 5%/year is going to be tough for a lot of libraries, but it's essential for the digital library to remain relevant and up-to-date.
- I agree that we do need to have a planned, predictable, appreciable increase, but I don't know if the 5% is enough to have the necessary impact nor if the increase might already be too much for some libraries to support.
- I'm unsure about the 5% increase statement only because it may be difficult to convince all of my member libraries (especially the small rural ones) to reduce physical procurement in favor of electronic procurement.
- Why does the increase have to be 5% every year? What about every other year as a step process? Our libraries may have a harder time accepting and sustaining a 5% increase and our system cannot supplement the share. If libraries are trying to increase wages to compete with other business the cuts are reducing many line items.

Overall

See the following page for a chart of all the results, sorted by "Agree", then "Disagree." A couple of observations:

- There is a high percentage of agreement on most statements.
- There is only disagreement on 4 of the statements.
- Where there is less agreement, there is more "unsure" responses. Some causes of this seem to be:
 - Uncertainty about the actual recommendation.
 - \circ $\;$ Confusion about terms or other information in the statement.
 - Lack of first-hand knowledge of the topic of the statement.

100	WPLC should work with work with libraries, publishers, distributors and authors to create equitable access to digital items.
100	WPLC should focus budget on reducing holds based on patron satisfaction and creatively continue to grow the collection.
100	WPLC should encourage individual libraries to invest in their system Advantage account instead of establishing their own Advantage account.
95%	Immediately-available, desirable, and expected collection is important.
95%	WPLC will explore partnerships and other avenues for increased resources and maximizing the use of the collection.
95%	The measure of success of this collection is continuous, happy and sustained usage.
95%	WPLC should allow systems to make their own decisions about how to purchase for their Advantage account.
90%	WPLC should have focused marketing campaigns targeting libraries, library funding bodies, and the public (both patrons and non-users).
90%	The WPLC should increase spending with publishers that support our goals.
84%	WPLC should designate a budget for marketing and advocacy.
84%	WPLC should have education programs for libraries, library funding bodies, and the public (both patrons and non-users). (to supplement the six-week support course.)
79%	WPLC should have a specific brand for the collection.
79%	WPLC should very strongly encourage that individual library Advantage account purchase copies only and continue to contribute to the system advantage account at the expected
74%	WPLC should study other ways of calculating cost per circ or separating e-resource circs from other circs.
58%	Funding for the shared collection should increase by 5% a year for the next five years. A Reassessment process will begin at 3 years to determine effectiveness.

0% 0% 0% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 10% 5% 11% 16% 21% 21% 26% 5% 37%

Agree Disagree Unsure