

IT Report for IHLS Board, Nov 25, 2014

Polaris Upgrade to Test Web-based Circulation Client

Currently the Polaris servers are scheduled to be upgraded to Polaris 5.0 on December 26th. This upgrade will enable many new features to Polaris that will enhance the way holds work in Polaris and the possibility to use a web based library client (LEAP). While every new feature won't be available for library use on day one, we are excited to remain on the latest software that Polaris provides and offering the very best ILS (integrated library system) to our SHARE member libraries. This upgrade is scheduled for 2-3 days, but in practice we've found that 24 hours is all Polaris needs to accomplish their tasks.

Video Conferencing Bridge

There has been much effort put into the video conferencing equipment and setup this past month or two. CMS (Central Management Services) in Springfield was forced to make many changes to their security due to a "toll fraud" attack on the Internet. Many hackers were trying to use video and voice devices, like the Polycom video servers at each of our locations, for free long distance. Fortunately, none of our devices were vulnerable, but the attacks still took a toll on the CMS network. Because of this we are looking at many different options including partnering with RAILS and upgrading our video end-points.

Other News

The IT department is happy to announce that Brant Wingerter, former network administrator, has accepted the job of Web Developer. Because of this we are now looking to fill a Network Administrator job opening in the Edwardsville area.