

Executive Director's Report

In the two months since I last reported to the membership, network staff have completed several key projects and have embarked on new projects that will carry over into FY09. The Java client has been fully launched and all but one library slated to use this staff client have been trained. The Eservices department has developed documentation for the Directors Station Data Analysis System and on-site training sessions are being scheduled. At the same time Bob Demanche has been working with Cataloging Services to develop templates for the new spine label functionality available in the Java client and several libraries are beta testing the first one. The staff website has been launched and we are now beginning to conceptualize a new public website which is scheduled for launch in fall 2008. The PC Support Department has responded to 34 help desk issues in March and April. All libraries that have purchased Envisionware for public PC reservations or print management are now operational with the assistance of our consultant Dale Irving whom many of you know from the Middleboro Public Library. Kristin completed a major project for Mass Maritime and will be working with Bristol Community College as they review work flow and processes in Technical Services. In response to requests for more training, Laurie is conducting workshops for circulation staff on the new search features available in the Java Client and she will be conducting Virtual Catalog training as well. There are currently 4 libraries doing an inventory of their collections and Taunton High School just completed an inventory of its entire collection. This is simple to do and very popular with our school members – let us know if you would be interested in finding out how to inventory your collection. You can do either a specific part of the collection or the entire collection. It doesn't require an expensive handheld scanner and SAILS has equipment to loan.

During the month of May we will be renewing our Always Available collection on Overdrive. This is a collection of 50 titles that have unlimited usage so patrons never have to place a hold to use one of

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Workflows Tip—PINs

Remember to tell a patron their PIN when you are registering them. It's an easy thing to forget and if they don't want to have an email in their record, they won't get the welcome notice from the network reminding them of it.

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them. The collection is refreshed every 12 months although certain titles continue to be popular and remain in the collection. Always Available titles are heavily used and represent 18% of overall circulation.

In general our downloadable titles from Overdrive are a hit with users. Circulation is twice what it was last year and increases monthly. We are attempting to diversify the collection by offering different formats and types of materials. We have applied for funds to add a collection of juvenile and classic videos to the collection and we look forward to being able to offer the service to iPod users later this summer. We will also be adding to the music collection now that Overdrive is expanding the types of music available for purchase. The collection consists of 1471 items. The chart below shows how heavily it has been used in the past 3 years.

Subject	Checkouts
Fiction	15608
Nonfiction	5275
Mystery	3822
Suspense	2823
Romance	2261
Thriller	1321
Juvenile Fiction	947
Classic Literature	800
Self-Improvement	738
Music	722

Soon we will begin getting in gear for FY09 and our focus is going to be on creating an effective user experience for your patrons. We are hopeful that our request for grant funds to update iBistro with a 21st century user interface is funded. If it is, we will begin the formal process of reviewing and selecting the new interface in October 2008 with our goal to have it launched by mid-2009. The PubPac committee has begun reviewing products on the market and we are going to be actively soliciting feedback from patrons. You will be hearing more about this in the coming months. We are also investigating ways to enhance the content of the online catalog, adding additional information or features to make using it more meaningful to your patrons.

Every spring we survey directors and staff to obtain feedback on the services we provide. This helps us plan for the upcoming year. The staff survey will be emailed to library staff members by mid-May. The directors' survey will be sent out by late May. Please be sure to respond to our invitation to complete the survey when it arrives. I will report on the results in June but they are much more meaningful if everyone participates.

There are some important meetings coming up in June. The Technical Services Users will be meeting on June 4. The Circulation Services Users will be meeting on June 10. The Envisionware Users will be meeting on June 18. We hope that your library will be represented at these meetings – we need everyone's input if we are going to be successful and often this is the only opportunity library staff has to meet their counterparts at other libraries.

Staff Survey Time!

Remember to fill out our network survey and make your opinions count. At the network, we've made several changes to our services based on the responses we get to our surveys. In the past these included methods for training, presentation of information on the website, documentation, and available ways to contact us for support. Your answers are important! So please fill out the survey at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=5VL_2bF_2fD6yBHKhJGKozIFBw_3d_3d

New Always Available Collection—Overdrive

We've renewed our MaxAccess collection, which was set to expire in May. These are the titles that have no checkout limit, so they are always available. We tried to get the popular titles, as well as some that may be on summer reading lists. The ones from last year with the highest checkouts were kept. . They are the titles in bold.

Barron's EZ-101 Study Keys	Benjamin W. Griffith,	Clear and Convincing Proof	Kate Wilhelm
The Devil Came on Horse-	Brian Steidle	Sleight of Hand	Kate Wilhelm
All in One Piece	Cecelia Tishy	The Price of Silence	Kate Wilhelm
The Palace of Illusions	Chirra Banerjee Di- vakaruni	Skeletons	Kate Wilhelm
Two Time	Chris Knopf	A Wrongful Death	Kate Wilhelm
Deadly Nightshade	Cynthia Riggs	Defense for the Devil	Kate Wilhelm
Jack in the Pulpit	Cynthia Riggs	The Deepest Water	Kate Wilhelm
The Cemetery Yew	Cynthia Riggs	Love Is Murder	Linda Palmer
The Cranefly Orchid Mur- ders	Cynthia Riggs	Kingdom of Lies	N. Lee Wood
The Paperwhite Narcissus	Cynthia Riggs	Fahrenheit 451	Ray Bradbury
How to Survive a Robot Up-	Daniel H. Wilson	I Am Legend and Other Stories	Richard Matheson
City of Masks	Daniel Hecht	China Road	Rob Gifford
Barron's EZ-101 Study Keys	Don Baucum, Ph.D.	A Mortal Bane	Roberta Gellis
The Age of Innocence	Edith Wharton	Absolute Certainty	Rose Connors
The Copenhagen Connection	Elizabeth Peters	False Testimony	Rose Connors
The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	Criminal Paradise	Steven M. Thomas
Barron's EZ-101 Study Keys	Francis E. Skipp, Ph.D.	A Person of Interest	Susan Choi
1984	George Orwell	No Immunity	Susan Dunlap
Animal Farm	George Orwell	Forbidden	Suzanne Brockmann
Getting Stoned with Savages	J. Maarten Troost	That's Not in My American His- tory Book	Thomas Ayres
The Sex Lives of Cannibals	J. Maarten Troost	Foul Play	Tori Carrington
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen	In the Shadow of the Glacier	Vicki Delany
The Sultan's Seal	Jenny White	Funny Boys	Warren Adler
Pennsylvania Avenue	John Harwood	My Ántonia	Willa Cather
Comfort Food	Kate Jacobs	A Grown-up's Halloween	Yuri Rasovsky

'08 Summer Reading Lists & Link Builder Tool

Now that summertime is right around the corner, we're getting several of your summer reading lists. They will again be available from the SAILS homepage as well as within iBistro. Since you are able to use the Link Builder Form to create the links to search for a particular title, SAILS will no longer create the lists for you, but will be happy to convert your list with links into the catalog, into an .html web page.

So what should do?

1. Go to: <http://www.sailsinc.org/linkbuilder.asp>
2. Plug in your search criteria. You can use the form to build a link to a specific title, author or subject in iBistro. You can also combine terms and limit to just your library.
3. Copy and paste the created link into the hyperlink properties in a Word document—right click on the book title, left click on “hyperlink”, and put the link into the address field..
It should look like this:
[The Bleachers](#) by John Grisham
4. Repeat steps 2 & 3 until you have search links for all your titles. A quick tip is to use the browser's back button so you don't have to enter your library again.
5. Email the saved Word document to llessner@sailsinc.org.

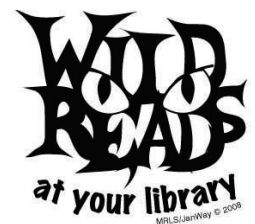
What if you don't have a new list?

1. Visit this website: <http://sailsinc.org/summer/>
2. Find the link for last year's reading list and email a note to me (llessner@sailsinc.org) with the link and your information, verifying the list is the same and you give permission for us to post it on the SAILS site.

You can also show the link builder form, or send this article, to your schools' Tech and English Departments so they can create their own summer reading lists to post on their sites, with links into the catalog for students to easily place holds on the materials.

Another thought is to use this form to create links into the catalog for the [SEMLS summer reading program](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Laurie at llessner@sailsinc.org.



Cancelled Hold Notice—Clarification?

We've heard you've been getting several questions from patrons asking why they are getting notices saying their holds are cancelled. We're finding that a lot of these are caused by the patrons cancelling the holds themselves in iBistro. To try and lessen the confusion, we've added the following to the page that displays in iBistro when a patron cancels a hold. "Please note - you may receive an email telling you this hold was cancelled."

SAILS Library Network
 547 West Grove Street
 Middleboro, MA 02346
 (800) 331-3764 (508) 946-8600 fax: (508) 946-8605
 email: support@sailsinc.org URL: <http://www.sailsinc.org>



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Upcoming Training & Meetings

Upcoming Training

Detailed descriptions and registration information, are available on the [SAILS website](http://www.sailsinc.org), including all the OverDrive sessions.

Searching for Circulation

06/11/2008
 9:30 am to noon

Virtual Catalog Training

06/12/2008
 9:30 am to noon

Adding records using the Java Workflows client

06/26/2008
 9 am to noon

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Technical Services Meeting (Required)

06/04/2008
 10 am to noon, SAILS

Circulation Users Group Meeting

06/10/2008
 9:30 am to noon, SAILS

Membership Meeting

06/18/2008
 10 am to noon, SAILS

Envisionware Users Group Meeting

06/18/2008
 1 pm to 4 pm, SAILS

SAILS Network Statistics

	April '08	March '08	Feb '08	Jan '08	Dec '07	Total FY08
Total Intranetwork Loans	59,301	63,346	60,401	64,682	56,012	597,823
Total Items Circulated	365,037	383,990	364,232	379,189	281,407	3,640,413
OverDrive Circulation	837	880	814	859	691	7,611
VirtCat Items Borrowed	1,020	1,187	1,196	1,092	897	10,838
VirtCat Items Loaned	612	607	550	653	460	5,876
Cataloging Requests	4,449	4,023	3,388	3,507	4,554	37,132
WebDewey Sessions		134	94	88		888
MARC Records Added	4,001	4,980	3,092	3,132	2,952	35,820
Patrons Added	3,003	2,973	3,388	3,130	2,325	37,449
Holds	47,493	50,901	49,686	53,248	37,163	468,471
Total MARC	1,001,459	999,980	1,001,329	999,147	996,407	
Total Holdings	3,509,703	3,502,540	3,507,076	3,509,471	3,511,522	
Total Patron	415,610	418,728	417,977	430,980	430,394	
Total Uptime	99.99	99.84	99.41	98.94	99.93	
TumbleBooks	1,692	1,709	2,012	2,284	1,842	17,531