

NICE TEAM MEETING MINUTES

December 20, 2022

Meeting began at 8:30 a.m.

Team Members Present: G. Rae (NWLS), K. Zimmermann (WVLS), R. Metzler (WVLS), M. McLimans (WiLS), M. Clark (WiLS), S. Heskin (Superior), M. Lank-Jones (Hayward), A. Johnson (MCPL), P. O'Connell (Minocqua)

Others Present: K. Cochran Kieseewetter (WiLS), S. Hafemeister (WVLS)

Team Members Absent: T. Blomberg (Rib Lake), T. Schmidt (Mercer), J. Johnson (NWLS)

I. Survey Check In

Kim Kieseewetter from WiLS shared goals that they hope to get from the survey. The three goals are as follows:

- Identifying concerns and barriers taking into account lessons learned from past collaboration attempts
- Identifying benefits of a merged integrated library system
- Identifying conditions that make a merged ILS desirable

The team discussed the first section of the survey which identifies those taking the survey. Comments and suggestions were shared with Kim. They also discussed the second section of the survey which deals with the following:

- 1) Concerns about issues related to a shared ILS
- 2) Benefits of a shared ILS
- 3) Differences between now and ten years ago when WVLS and NWLS explored an ILS merger and now
- 4) Benefits and openness to change with combined ILS services
- 5) Possible scenarios for a shared ILS is preferable

Comments were shared regarding the wording for scenarios. Katie, Rachel, Jackee and Gina will work on the wording to make it more clear for library staff.

The team also requested a clear definition of an ILS to be included in the beginning of the survey. An introduction and explanation will be developed. Any additional comments or suggestions/changes to the survey can be shared with Kim prior to January 3, 2023.

II. ILS Research

Project WIN - Melissa McLimans directed the team to the document entitled "Project WIN Contextualized". She has compiled information about past efforts and changes since that time that will be applicable to the project. Any suggestions/changes can be directed to Melissa prior to January 3, 2023.

Successful ILS Mergers – Melody Clark presented information regarding successful ILS mergers entitled "Successful ILS Mergers". It is a working document as she is still receiving information

to update it. It provides information regarding the mergers from ALS/SHARE, OWLS/NFLS Infosoup and RAILS Consortia. Any request for additional information/changes can be provided to Melody prior to January 3, 2023.

Updated documents will be included with the next agenda for January 17, 2023.

III. Standing Item – Reporting of Questions

Katie Zimmerman shared that a form for questions and feedback as well as answers to FAQs is now included on the exploration project website at <https://nicelibraries.org>. She also reported that they have received questions and have addressed those they can answer now. Other questions will be answered as the process continues because there are too many unknowns at this time. One question that was asked is multi-faceted and will be addressed by early February.

IV. Standing Item – Communication Needs

Melissa McLimans asked if there were any communication needs. No new needs were expressed. The team will continue their efforts to keep messaging consistent and clear throughout the project.

V. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be January 17, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting ended at 10:05.

Respectfully submitted,
Susie Hafemeister, Meeting Recorder