

MONTHLY REPORT

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Subject: Monthly Activity Report - December 2012

- Regarding the patron account security issue previously reported with the new WLS public access catalog, we have solved the problem that until now prevented us from making the new catalog available within the Library. It was necessary to install a new internet gateway server and route access through that rather than through the usual proxy gateway server in order to work around the problem. After successful testing, our public access catalog workstations were reconfigured to use that new gateway and they now safely display the new catalog by default. They are also configured to reset the browser session after one minute of inactivity, a necessary function that ensures patron accounts would not remain logged in.
- Two prior staff workstations have been reconfigured to serve as Reservation/Print Release Stations to replace the much older systems currently in use.
- Both physical and technical specifications for the two new Trove self-checks are being finalized with the manufacturer, Sentry Technology. We have decided to utilize one of the existing self-checks as a “check-out only” system in The Trove, mounted at a height that is much more suitable for children.
- Our experimental prototype public access catalog system has been in service now for over a month and has been working out quite well. It has also generated quite a large amount of interest in the technical community after I wrote of the project in several related blogs and forums. Those posts—which link back to the two articles on our website describing the system--undoubtedly led to those two articles being the most popular on our website according to page view ranking.
- The Systems Department’s Ryan Jackson and Adult Services Librarian Erik Carlson visited the MakerBot 3D printer store in Manhattan this past month to gather more detailed information on their Replicator Desktop 3D Printers. We hope to purchase one of their printers as an exciting addition to what would be part of a maker space in The Edge. This rapidly emerging technology has been available as the focal point of Westport Public Library’s very popular maker space and has been described as quite a transformative addition for them. As for the price, the MakerBot line of 3D printers ranges from \$1750 to \$2800. While there are other 3D printer manufacturers, MakerBot appears to have the largest following as well as the best quality for an affordable price.

