

MONTHLY REPORT

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- The three new self-checks on the first floor are now completely operational. There are a couple of minor issues that are yet to be fixed by the vendor, Sentry Technology: the fines/fees payment feature will not accept a credit card expiration year of 2018 or later, and not all of the instructions appear in the alternate language selections.
- On Lincoln's Birthday, February 12th, Ryan Jackson and I took advantage of the Library closing to implement an upgrade of our print management system, Envisionware's LPT:One. This entailed not only upgrading the management server, but also the print client on all public access computers. The upgrade was necessary in order to support managed printing from the iMac systems in The Edge.
- Also accomplished on the 12th, our primary fileserver was moved to a different server rack location and had its network configuration modified so as to avoid intermittent loss of connection to the network. Work also progressed on the new Windows Server 2012 system which will replace the Windows Server 2003 system (after April 2014, Microsoft will no longer support that older operating system). Both our calendar website and our eCommerce website & payment service are hosted on that system and must be migrated to the new system.
- In an exciting development, after discussion with some sales people and engineers at MathWorks, they have agreed to grant us a free classroom software subscription to their mainstay products, MATLAB and Simulink. MATLAB provides a programming environment geared for engineering and modeling applications, and it is ubiquitous in the world of technical research and development. Simulink, which integrates with MATLAB, provides the capability to simulate physical models and systems such as robotics, and it is compatible with the Raspberry Pi small board computer, Arduino controller boards and Lego Mindstorms robotics kits. Students will be able to learn how to code instructions for robotics, and to simulate how those instructions will perform before applying them to an actual physical device. It is hoped that we will attract more teens to a code camp by combining programming with robotics, and the no-cost addition of MATLAB and Simulink to the software we can offer teens is an invaluable addition to the set of tools we can offer to support this and other similar programs. The software will be installed on the classroom laptops in The Edge's Media Lab.