

MONTHLY REPORT

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- The Trove finally has its own color printer available to children using the CyberPool. They will no longer have to walk downstairs to the color printer in the CyberSpot to pick up their color print jobs.
- Upon review of the WLS 2015 IT Finance Model which specifies the costs associated with the computers provided to us by WLS, we have determined that it would be far more cost effective for us to decrease the number of such computers. The cost for each those is \$1,054.93 per year, whereas the cost is \$135.48 per “Locally-Supported PC”; therefore, converting from WLS-Supported PCs to Locally-Supported PCs would result in saving \$919.45 per PC per year. Of course, we would have to purchase new computers to replace those, but even at a purchase price of \$700 per PC, the savings in the first year would be \$219.45 per PC, and \$919.45 per PC for each year of its lifespan thereafter (at least five years). While about half of the WLS-Supported PCs also have a receipt printer and barcode scanner included, those two items could be purchased for a total of about \$400 and it would still result in a net savings of \$3,497.25 per PC over the course of five years. We currently have 28 WLS-Supported PCs on hand for which we pay a total of \$29,538.
- Two portable flat panel TV stands have been purchased and are now available for use in our meeting rooms and other locations. The LCD display that used to be over the old Circulation Desk is mounted on one of them and the other stand has an LCD TV that was donated. One of these was immediately put to use in the Museum Gallery where it plays a video loop as part of the current exhibit.
- Because our portable projection screen is in disrepair and could be a hazard, it was decided to remove it from availability for use in meeting rooms. As a an alternative, we are advising meeting and program organizers to use one of the portable flat panel displays.
- A component in the Auditorium’s audio/visual setup, an HDMI converter/scaler has again failed in that it will no longer display a VGA video signal. While most laptops now provide HDMI output, some presenters have only a VGA output on their laprtop, and in such cases, we borrow an HDMI-capable laptop from The Edge. Bytec AV, the company that installed the system is sending a replacement HDMI scaler along with a separate VGA-to-HDMI converter.
- In The Edge, they have been using the cloud storage solution, Dropbox, for sharing files between wired PCs and wireless mobile devices; however, its use impacts network bandwidth as it continually synchronizes files stored on every device. In order to address this issue, a locally-hosted alternative to Dropbox has been implemented for evaluation.. A free, open source solution known as ownCloud is now installed on our test and development webserver and it appears to be well-suited to our needs. It will be installed for permanent use on our intranet server.

- It was found on two separate occasions that our mobile print service was not processing print jobs. Stopping and restarting the service fixed the problem in both instances. Until we determine and eliminate the cause of the problem, we are checking the status of the application daily and restarting the service if necessary.
- Our imaging server (used to clone Windows installations and deploy them to groups of computers) had some limitations that prevented us from deploying an image to multiple computers at once without flooding the network with traffic. What is hoped to be a more workable solution was found and has been installed. It is currently undergoing evaluation, and has already been used to upgrade the Español computers.