

OWLS Director Report

July 15, 2021 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

OWLS and COVID-19

OWLS operations have returned to pre-pandemic norms with the exception that most staff continue to work from home most of the time. As we seek new office space, we anticipate maintaining a hybrid work model for most staff. In August, the Personnel Committee will meet to review and revise related policies.

Libraries and COVID-19

OWLS hosts monthly online Directors Chats, and I hold weekly online office hours. Library service levels are under the control of local library boards, so service levels vary based on local conditions. OWLS member libraries report service levels as follows (as of 7/2/21):

- Closed: 0 libraries
- Curbside only: 0 libraries
- Open doors; limited service, restricted access: 0 libraries
- Browsing/lingering permitted with greater access: 11 libraries (BCL, CPL, HPL, IVL, KAU, MAN, NLP, SCA, SEY, WAU, WEY)
- Fully restored: 6 libraries (APL, FPL, KIM, LIT, MAR, SHI)

Circulation increased with the launch of the summer library program in June. June 2021 circ is 80% of June 2019 circ. Total YTD OWLSnet circulation through June 2021 is 61% of 2020 circulation through June.

Bibliocommons

The Bibliocommons discovery layer launch has been delayed due to three unresolved technical issues. OWLS staff are in communication daily via Basecamp and meeting online with Bibliocommons and TLC staff weekly to troubleshoot.

Vacation

I will be on vacation July 19-30.