Migration Update   January 4, 2018

Happy New Year! I'm sure everyone is curious about what is going on with the CARL migration, so I thought I'd send out a brief update to let you know what's going on at TLN. It may appear that things are very quiet here, but we are actually very busy with the initial design of the system.

The design phase will take approximately two months. We have to understand how the CARL system works and then translate our existing SirsiDynix policies to CARL. This covers everything from due dates and fine amounts to the indexing that controls how titles are displayed in circulation and the catalog. If you think about how many item types you use and how the due dates, renewal limits, and fines vary from one item type to another and then multiply that by fifty, you can begin to understand what a cumbersome and detailed job that is. We have several calls each week with the experts at CARL to discuss details of different modules. This phase should be complete by the end of February and CARL staff will begin building our system using our policies and our data at the beginning of March.

There are several other things going on right now too. CARL received the first data extract last month and they are in the process of loading the bibliographic database. The load is going smoothly and they aren't finding any errors. The hardware has been ordered and is expected to ship soon. CARL staff will be on site in two weeks to install the hardware. TLN is also in the process of replacing all the equipment in the training room and upgrading the lighting. Some of the equipment has already come in, and staff is developing specifications for the workstations now, as well as specifications for the new mobile training lab. That equipment will be ordered next month.

I'm waiting for a proposed training schedule from the CARL staff and I will begin working on locations as soon as I have it.

The SAS Executive Committee is discussing the billing formula now.

I would like to thank all of you for quickly responding to the surveys I have sent out. The response to the training survey was an unprecedented 100% and I received a 90% response to the billing formula survey that was sent to the directors. I will continue to send out surveys when we need quick feedback on issues and I thank you in advance for your participation.

Please contact me if you have any questions. I am happy to come to your library to meet with your board and/or staff if you feel it would be helpful.

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