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Date: January 18, 2007; revised January 24, 2007
To: OWLSnet Library Directors
From: Rick Krumwiede and Gerri Moeller
Subject: 2006 Circulation Statistics

Attached are the 2006 circulation statistics for all OWLSnet member libraries. As you know, determining the annual circulation statistics has been a difficult task for many reasons. Many of you have also had many questions about the circulation statistics that we have provided to date.

While it has taken us longer than we would have liked to gain a good understanding of statistics gathering in the Innovative Millennium system, we are very confident that the numbers presented in the attached report are accurate, reasonable, and provide us with a good baseline measurement of circulation activity that we can use going forward into the future.

The migration from the Geac Plus integrated library system (ILS) to the Innovative Millennium ILS has brought many changes for all of us in OWLSnet, including changes that have an impact on our statistics and how they are compiled.

- Because we agreed to use a smaller number of loan rules, some loan rules changed for every network library when we migrated. Changes in loan rules (e.g., the duration of loans or the number of renewals allowed) can certainly have an impact on patron behaviors and, consequently, on checkout and renewal activity.
- The Millennium software provides us with improved ability to determine checkouts to internal or interlibrary loan patrons, i.e., by patron type rather than by patron statistical category.
- Patrons now have the ability to renew items that are overdue.
- Staff can no longer override holds to renew items for patrons.
- The Millennium software counts online renewals differently than Geac did.

In talking with other library consortia that have recently changed ILS vendors, it is clear that different vendors' systems don't count activity in exactly the same ways. Vendors typically don't reveal exactly what they're counting to get a particular activity level, but it is very clear that, at least in some areas, Millennium counts activity differently than it was counted by Geac. Consequently, comparisons between activities counted in our two different systems are not likely to be 100% accurate. Because we were on the Millennium system for about 85% of the year, we believe 2006 statistics should provide a good baseline for comparisons with future year's statistics.

The remainder of this memo attempts to describe and explain the attached *2006 OWLSnet Circulation Detail*.

Total Transactions Compared

The 2006 total transactions include all checkouts and renewals recorded in the Geac system from January 1, 2006 through February 19, 2006 and all checkouts and renewals recorded in the Millennium system from February 21, 2006 through December 31, 2006. Please note that this methodology represents a change from our earlier thoughts about estimating February checkouts based only on Geac activity. We originally estimated February activity based only on Geac statistics because we were told that our February numbers recorded in Millennium would be inflated and inaccurate. However, because we didn't follow some of the procedures typically used by libraries migrating to Innovative that would have double-counted some activities, we believe that the end of February numbers recorded in Millennium are reasonably accurate and are better than estimating the whole month based on partial month Geac statistics.

2005 total transactions include all checkouts and renewals recorded in Geac from January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

Ineligible Checkouts Compared

Ineligible checkouts are checkouts to internal cards or interlibrary loan cards that cannot be counted as a circulation under the state and federal definition of what constitutes a circulation. While all checkouts do represent activity that occurred at a library, this activity may not be included in a library's circulation count.

The number of 2006 ineligible checkouts was determined by counting all checkouts to ineligible P-types. In 2005 the number of ineligible checkouts was determined by counting all checkouts to ineligible patron statistical categories (pscat).

While the number of ineligible checkouts varies widely by library, there was a very large increase in the total number of ineligible checkouts, i.e., from 6,367 to 51,242. It is likely that this increase is the result of detecting ineligible checkouts by P-type rather than by pscat because the newer method is more reliable. It is likely that the number of ineligible checkouts was under-reported in the past.

In 2005, total ineligible checkouts represented only .45% of all transactions. In 2006, total ineligible checkouts represented 1.2% of all transactions. Given the amount of checkouts that occur in libraries for library programming, technical services functions, out-of-OWLSnet interlibrary loan, holding new items for release dates, etc., 1.2% of total transactions seems to be a reasonable number for ineligible checkouts.

Eligible Checkouts Compared

2006 eligible checkouts include all checkouts to eligible P-types that occurred in the Millennium circulation client. It is important to note that this number also includes all renewals that were done by library staff to eligible P-types in the client.

2005 eligible checkouts include checkouts by library staff to patrons in eligible patron statistical categories. Neither staff renewals nor online renewals are included in this number.

Total eligible checkouts increased 6.1% in 2006. However, this increase is likely to be understated because the 2005 number appears to have contained some ineligible checkouts.

Online Innovative Renewals Compared to All Geac Renewals

2005 renewals include all renewals whether done in the catalog by patrons or staff or done in the Geac circulation module by staff. Online renewals for 2006 contain only renewals made in InfoSoup. It is likely that the vast majority of renewals were made by patrons, but some renewals may have been made in InfoSoup by library staff. All renewals made by staff in the circulation client are included as 2006 eligible checkouts.

Because Millennium does not count renewals by library where an item was originally checked-out, all online renewals made by a library's patrons are assigned to that library regardless of where the item was checked-out. Originally, we proposed allocating online renewals to each library based on its percentage of total checkouts. We later abandoned this method because a variety of tests proved this method to be less reliable than assigning online renewals by patrons' home agencies. A review of 2005 checkouts and renewals verified that there was no significant correlation between a library's percent of total checkouts and its number of renewals. It is interesting to note that assigning online renewals by owning library results in numbers very similar to assigning online renewals by patron home agency.

The total number of 2006 online renewals decreased significantly from total 2005 renewals. This reduction in renewals seems counterintuitive in an environment where the number of holds filled has increased by 19% and total transactions increased by 6.0%. It also seems unusual that some libraries experienced large decreases in renewals while others experienced large increases in renewals. It is likely that the change in renewals is due to a variety of variables rather than a single explanation. Some possibilities include the following:

- Because 2006 renewals only include online renewals, libraries where staff have actively renewed items for patrons may experience a relative decrease in renewals because staff renewals are now counted as eligible checkouts.
- Libraries with a large number of patrons receiving email notices may experience a relative increase in online renewals due to patrons renewing materials after receiving courtesy notices.

- Libraries that made significant changes in loan rules could experience related changes in the number of online renewals.
- Some libraries have reduced the number of materials purchased due to budget constraints. A reduction in purchasing could result in a higher demand for a more limited number of items, reducing the availability of some items for online renewal.
- The dramatic increase in the ease of placing holds and the number of holds may have reduced the availability of some items for renewal.

Official Circulation Compared

2006 official circulation is the total of eligible checkouts and online renewals. 2005 official circulation included the total of eligible checkouts and renewals. The total network increase in official circulation of 4.9% appears to be consistent with circulation growth trends in recent years. In any given year it is not unusual for some libraries to experience a decrease in circulation while others experience an increase in circulation. If we are correct in our assumption that the number of ineligible checkouts were understated in Geac, the 2006 growth in circulation is also understated.

2006 OWLSnet Circulation Detail: January 24, 2007

	Total Transactions Compared			Percent Change
	2006 Total Transactions	2005 Total Transactions	Difference	
1 Lena	14,438	10,784	3,654	33.9%
2 Oconto Falls	64,049	58,297	5,752	9.9%
3 Gillett	41,696	41,283	413	1.0%
4 Lakewood	51,874	50,074	1,800	3.6%
5 Oconto	68,270	68,447	-177	-0.3%
6 Door County - BAI	25,014			
7 Door County - EGG	15,691			
8 Door County - FIS	15,197			
9 Door County - SIS	60,022			
10 Door County - FOR	26,000			
11 Door County - EPH	7,762			
12 Door County - STR	182,023			
13 Door County - WSH	15,259			
Door County Total	346,968	352,595	-5,627	-1.6%
14 Keshena	1,916	1,595	321	20.1%
15 Florence	37,623	41,298	-3,675	-8.9%
17 Algoma	102,137	93,541	8,596	9.2%
18 Kewaunee	49,578	48,928	650	1.3%
21 Marinette - COL	33,519			
22 Marinette - GOO	3,494			
23 Marinette - MRT	108,184			
24 Marinette - NIA	19,309			
25 Marinette - PES	27,151			
26 Marinette - CRI	35,443			
27 Marinette - WAS	34,997			
Marinette Cty Total	262,097	227,325	34,772	15.3%
28 Oneida - Green Earth	1,050			
29 Oneida - Oneida	7,336			
Oneida Total	8,386	7,089	1,297	18.3%
30 Appleton	1,336,153	1,186,356	149,797	12.6%
31 Black Creek	41,825	38,036	3,789	10.0%
32 Seymour	76,213	75,483	730	1.0%
33 Hortonville	76,768	73,799	2,969	4.0%
34 KIM - LIT (Kimberly)	158,110			
36 KIM-LIT (Little Chute)	121,751			
KIM-LIT Total	279,861	271,751	8,110	3.0%
35 Kaukauna	230,026	240,187	-10,161	-4.2%
37 New London	140,474	148,997	-8,523	-5.7%
38 Suring	19,860	16,845	3,015	17.9%
39 Shiocton	15,021	16,464	-1,443	-8.8%
40 Shawano Cty - BIR	50,273			
41 Shawano Cty - SHA	230,841			
42 Shawano Cty - MAT	5,361			
43 Shawano Cty - BON	10,112			
44 Shawano Cty - TIG	9,980			
45 Shawano Cty - WIT	19,186			
Shawano Cty Total	325,753	313,953	11,800	3.8%
46 Marion	42,547	41,859	688	1.6%
47 Clintonville	118,568	106,559	12,009	11.3%
48 Weyauwega	29,018	28,765	253	0.9%
49 Fremont	47,878	43,240	4,638	10.7%
50 Iola	55,576	54,844	732	1.3%
51 Manawa	48,769	43,017	5,752	13.4%
52 Scandinavia	12,720	10,912	1,808	16.6%
53 Waupaca	269,460	265,041	4,419	1.7%
TOTAL	4,215,522	3,977,364	238,158	6.0%

2006 OWLSnet Circulation Detail: January 24, 2007

	Ineligible Checkouts Compared			Percent Change
	2006 Ineligible Checkouts	2005 Ineligible Checkouts	Difference	
1 Lena	928	370	558	150.8%
2 Oconto Falls	127	130	-3	-2.3%
3 Gillett	639	14	625	4464.3%
4 Lakewood	294	48	246	512.5%
5 Oconto	17	493	-476	-96.6%
6 Door County - BAI	83			
7 Door County - EGG	79			
8 Door County - FIS	69			
9 Door County - SIS	794			
10 Door County - FOR	236			
11 Door County - EPH	40			
12 Door County - STR	1,557			
13 Door County - WSH	49			
Door County Total	2,907	1,283	1,624	126.6%
14 Keshena	29	0	29	-
15 Florence	73	56	17	30.4%
17 Algoma	493	19	474	2494.7%
18 Kewaunee	10	11	-1	-9.1%
21 Marinette - COL	15			
22 Marinette - GOO	0			
23 Marinette - MRT	432			
24 Marinette - NIA	0			
25 Marinette - PES	20			
26 Marinette - CRI	9			
27 Marinette - WAS	38			
Marinette Cty Total	514	593	-79	-13.3%
28 Oneida - Green Earth	107			
29 Oneida - Oneida	107			
Oneida Total	214	266	-52	-19.5%
30 Appleton	23,272	66	23,206	35160.6%
31 Black Creek	8	4	4	100.0%
32 Seymour	256	66	190	287.9%
33 Hortonville	446	513	-67	-13.1%
34 KIM - LIT (Kimberly)	2,565			
36 KIM-LIT (Little Chute)	2,650			
KIM-LIT Total	5,215	216	4,999	2314.4%
35 Kaukauna	2,111	637	1,474	231.4%
37 New London	993	182	811	445.6%
38 Suring	340	0	340	-
39 Shiocton	0	0	0	-
40 Shawano Cty - BIR	29			
41 Shawano Cty - SHA	3,308			
42 Shawano Cty - MAT	2			
43 Shawano Cty - BON	0			
44 Shawano Cty - TIG	3			
45 Shawano Cty - WIT	31			
Shawano Cty Total	3,373	22	3,351	15231.8%
46 Marion	253	16	237	1481.3%
47 Clintonville	3,251	339	2,912	859.0%
48 Weyauwega	58	105	-47	-44.8%
49 Fremont	53	156	-103	-66.0%
50 Iola	416	9	407	4522.2%
51 Manawa	605	630	-25	-4.0%
52 Scandinavia	62	91	-29	-31.9%
53 Waupaca	4,285	32	4,253	13290.6%
TOTAL	51,242	6,367	44,875	704.8%

2006 OWLSnet Circulation Detail: January 24, 2007

	Eligible Checkouts Compared			Percent Change
	* 2006 Eligible Checkouts	2005 Eligible Checkouts	Difference	
1 Lena	12,820	9,330	3,490	37.4%
2 Oconto Falls	60,318	53,949	6,369	11.8%
3 Gillett	39,397	35,573	3,824	10.7%
4 Lakewood	49,794	45,929	3,865	8.4%
5 Oconto	65,347	65,880	-533	-0.8%
6 Door County - BAI	23,826			
7 Door County - EGG	14,565			
8 Door County - FIS	14,507			
9 Door County - SIS	56,134			
10 Door County - FOR	23,955			
11 Door County - EPH	7,175			
12 Door County - STR	166,681			
13 Door County - WSH	14,401			
Door County Total	321,244	308,339	12,905	4.2%
14 Keshena	1,844	1,331	513	38.5%
15 Florence	36,764	37,942	-1,178	-3.1%
17 Algoma	96,822	82,566	14,256	17.3%
18 Kewaunee	48,048	43,808	4,240	9.7%
21 Marinette - COL	32,311			
22 Marinette - GOO	3,384			
23 Marinette - MRT	103,904			
24 Marinette - NIA	17,888			
25 Marinette - PES	25,828			
26 Marinette - CRI	34,404			
27 Marinette - WAS	33,516			
Marinette Cty Total	251,235	211,849	39,386	18.6%
28 Oneida - Green Earth	936			
29 Oneida - Oneida	7,019			
Oneida Total	7,955	6,247	1,708	27.3%
30 Appleton	1,181,014	1,118,384	62,630	5.6%
31 Black Creek	39,889	36,639	3,250	8.9%
32 Seymour	72,974	69,197	3,777	5.5%
33 Hortonville	68,045	59,499	8,546	14.4%
34 KIM - LIT (Kimberly)	147,106			
36 KIM-LIT (Little Chute)	113,127			
KIM-LIT Total	260,233	259,724	509	0.2%
35 Kaukauna	219,789	223,557	-3,768	-1.7%
37 New London	130,848	131,727	-879	-0.7%
38 Suring	18,680	15,499	3,181	20.5%
39 Shiocton	14,592	15,362	-770	-5.0%
40 Shawano Cty - BIR	47,410			
41 Shawano Cty - SHA	218,241			
42 Shawano Cty - MAT	5,352			
43 Shawano Cty - BON	9,593			
44 Shawano Cty - TIG	9,760			
45 Shawano Cty - WIT	18,643			
Shawano Cty Total	308,999	289,695	19,304	6.7%
46 Marion	40,711	36,650	4,061	11.1%
47 Clintonville	110,019	101,303	8,716	8.6%
48 Weyauwega	27,844	26,432	1,412	5.3%
49 Fremont	45,639	38,081	7,558	19.8%
50 Iola	52,316	47,998	4,318	9.0%
51 Manawa	46,317	38,199	8,118	21.3%
52 Scandinavia	12,061	9,682	2,379	24.6%
53 Waupaca	258,386	257,069	1,317	0.5%
TOTAL	3,899,944	3,677,440	222,504	6.1%

* Eligible checkouts in Innovative include renewals done by staff in client.

2006 OWLSnet Circulation Detail: January 24, 2007

	Online Innovative Renewals Compared to All Geac Renewals			
	2006 Online Renewals	2005 All Renewals	Difference	Percent Change
1 Lena	690	1,084	-394	-36.3%
2 Oconto Falls	3,604	4,218	-614	-14.6%
3 Gillett	1,660	5,696	-4,036	-70.9%
4 Lakewood	1,786	4,097	-2,311	-56.4%
5 Oconto	2,906	2,074	832	40.1%
6 Door County - BAI	1,105			
7 Door County - EGG	1,047			
8 Door County - FIS	621			
9 Door County - SIS	3,094			
10 Door County - FOR	1,809			
11 Door County - EPH	547			
12 Door County - STR	13,785			
13 Door County - WSH	809			
Door County Total	22,817	42,973	-20,156	-46.9%
14 Keshena	43	264	-221	-83.7%
15 Florence	786	3,300	-2,514	-76.2%
17 Algoma	4,822	10,956	-6,134	-56.0%
18 Kewaunee	1,520	5,109	-3,589	-70.2%
21 Marinette - COL	1,193			
22 Marinette - GOO	110			
23 Marinette - MRT	3,848			
24 Marinette - NIA	1,421			
25 Marinette - PES	1,303			
26 Marinette - CRI	1,030			
27 Marinette - WAS	1,443			
Marinette Cty Total	10,348	14,883	-4,535	-30.5%
28 Oneida - Green Earth	7			
29 Oneida - Oneida	210			
Oneida Total	217	576	-359	-62.3%
30 Appleton	131,867	67,906	63,961	94.2%
31 Black Creek	1,928	1,393	535	38.4%
32 Seymour	2,983	6,220	-3,237	-52.0%
33 Hortonville	8,277	13,787	-5,510	-40.0%
34 KIM - LIT (Kimberly)	8,439			
36 KIM-LIT (Little Chute)	5,974			
KIM-LIT Total	14,413	11,811	2,602	22.0%
35 Kaukauna	8,126	15,993	-7,867	-49.2%
37 New London	8,633	17,088	-8,455	-49.5%
38 Suring	840	1,346	-506	-37.6%
39 Shiocton	429	1,102	-673	-61.1%
40 Shawano Cty - BIR	2,834			
41 Shawano Cty - SHA	9,292			
42 Shawano Cty - MAT	7			
43 Shawano Cty - BON	519			
44 Shawano Cty - TIG	217			
45 Shawano Cty - WIT	512			
Shawano Cty Total	13,381	24,236	-10,855	-44.8%
46 Marion	1,583	5,193	-3,610	-69.5%
47 Clintonville	5,298	4,917	381	7.7%
48 Weyauwega	1,116	2,228	-1,112	-49.9%
49 Fremont	2,186	5,003	-2,817	-56.3%
50 Iola	2,844	6,837	-3,993	-58.4%
51 Manawa	1,847	4,188	-2,341	-55.9%
52 Scandinavia	597	1,139	-542	-47.6%
53 Waupaca	6,789	7,940	-1,151	-14.5%
TOTAL	264,336	293,557	-29,221	-10.0%

2006 OWLSnet Circulation Detail: January 24, 2007

	Official Circulation Compared			Percent Change
	2006 Official Circ	2005 Official Circ	Difference	
1 Lena	13,510	10,414	3,096	29.7%
2 Oconto Falls	63,922	58,167	5,755	9.9%
3 Gillett	41,057	41,269	-212	-0.5%
4 Lakewood	51,580	50,026	1,554	3.1%
5 Oconto	68,253	67,954	299	0.4%
6 Door County - BAI	24,931			
7 Door County - EGG	15,612			
8 Door County - FIS	15,128			
9 Door County - SIS	59,228			
10 Door County - FOR	25,764			
11 Door County - EPH	7,722			
12 Door County - STR	180,466			
13 Door County - WSH	15,210			
Door County Total	344,061	351,312	-7,251	-2.1%
14 Keshena	1,887	1,595	292	18.3%
15 Florence	37,550	41,242	-3,692	-9.0%
17 Algoma	101,644	93,522	8,122	8.7%
18 Kewaunee	49,568	48,917	651	1.3%
21 Marinette - COL	33,504			
22 Marinette - GOO	3,494			
23 Marinette - MRT	107,752			
24 Marinette - NIA	19,309			
25 Marinette - PES	27,131			
26 Marinette - CRI	35,434			
27 Marinette - WAS	34,959			
Marinette Cty Total	261,583	226,732	34,851	15.4%
28 Oneida - Green Earth	943			
29 Oneida - Oneida	7,229			
Oneida Total	8,172	6,823	1,349	19.8%
30 Appleton	1,312,881	1,186,290	126,591	10.7%
31 Black Creek	41,817	38,032	3,785	10.0%
32 Seymour	75,957	75,417	540	0.7%
33 Hortonville	76,322	73,286	3,036	4.1%
34 KIM - LIT (Kimberly)	155,545			
36 KIM-LIT (Little Chute)	119,101			
KIM-LIT Total	274,646	271,535	3,111	1.1%
35 Kaukauna	227,915	239,550	-11,635	-4.9%
37 New London	139,481	148,815	-9,334	-6.3%
38 Suring	19,520	16,845	2,675	15.9%
39 Shiocton	15,021	16,464	-1,443	-8.8%
40 Shawano Cty - BIR	50,244			
41 Shawano Cty - SHA	227,533			
42 Shawano Cty - MAT	5,359			
43 Shawano Cty - BON	10,112			
44 Shawano Cty - TIG	9,977			
45 Shawano Cty - WIT	19,155			
Shawano Cty Total	322,380	313,931	8,449	2.7%
46 Marion	42,294	41,843	451	1.1%
47 Clintonville	115,317	106,220	9,097	8.6%
48 Weyauwega	28,960	28,660	300	1.0%
49 Fremont	47,825	43,084	4,741	11.0%
50 Iola	55,160	54,835	325	0.6%
51 Manawa	48,164	42,387	5,777	13.6%
52 Scandinavia	12,658	10,821	1,837	17.0%
53 Waupaca	265,175	265,009	166	0.1%
TOTAL	4,164,280	3,970,997	193,283	4.9%