MSC Consortium Update
Spring 2023

Kids Catalog

The MSC has finished testing the Enterprise Kids Catalog and will soon begin to roll out this new product to libraries. Stay tuned to our GovDelivery Updates in the next several weeks for more information as we get ready for the launch.

Auto Renewal

Based on feedback from the auto renewal survey, there is enough interest in the MSC to add auto renewal as an option for libraries who want it. The feature can be added per library, so each library can choose if they want to implement it or not. MSC Staff are working with SirsiDynix on the configuration and the option will likely be available in the coming months. As a reminder, auto renewal only affects materials and patrons that are eligible for renewal—so holds, renewal limits, and delinquent patron accounts may still stop a renewal. Other SirsiDynix libraries that have implemented this option report that patrons like it.

GovDelivery Update

The MSC has started using the GovDelivery platform for releasing system updates. In the next few weeks, we will be subscribing all MSC Library Directors to this newsletter using the information listed in ASPeN. If other library staff members would like to be on the distribution list, they can sign up at: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MTLIBRARY/subscriber/new?topic_id=MTLIBRARY_54

Office Hours

As part of our efforts to increase communication and provide more varied options for member librarians access to MSC staff, we have held two sets of Office Hours so far and have several time slots for individual appointments available at the MLA conference. A few librarians dropped in to get questions answered or get some live troubleshooting done and we will continue to schedule these sessions and send reminders about them – but we are asking for your feedback in scheduling future MSC Office Hours! We want to make sure we are scheduling it for a time when the majority of libraries are able to attend.

Please help us by filling out this survey: https://forms.office.com/g/EFQQiWpR4S

SMS

In the next couple of weeks, MSC staff will begin testing the new SMS notifications. We anticipate that it will be ready to be rolled out to libraries prior to the end of the Shoutbomb subscription which is set to expire at the end of the fiscal year.

Report Issues Update

Over the past few months there have been several instances when normal morning operations were hindered by a long running indexing report that caused "locked record" and other errors as well as significantly delaying the scheduled reports until late in the day. MSC staff have been working with SirsiDynix to resolve this issue and after the most recent occurrence of this issue, we have made some progress. The run-length of the indexing report is dependent on the number of bibliographic records and the problem was exacerbated when monthly or quarterly maintenance resulted in a large number of additional bib records to be indexed. MSC staff identified a separate process that was marking a large number of records for reindexing unnecessarily. That process has been disabled and we are seeing an improvement in the run-length of the indexing report. We will keep monitoring this issue going forward to identify any other contributing factors.

BCA Reports Migration

As mentioned above, we've been experiencing issues recently with reports in Workflows. As a way to combat this, we will be reaching out to libraries individually over the course of the next several months to review existing reports to see if there are any that are either no longer in use or if they can be migrated over to BLUEcloud Analytics (BCA) in efforts to further improve report processing speed.