



# WISPALS Library Consortium

## 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2017

### WISPALS MISSION

WISPALS Library Consortium advances the teaching and learning missions of its member institutions through sharing information and creating collaborative and financially responsible solutions to common challenges.

### WISPALS OFFICERS

**Board President - Bryan Albrecht, Gateway Technical College**

**Executive Committee Chair – Kelly Carpenter, Lakeshore Technical College**

**Executive Committee Incoming Chair – Vince Mussehl, Chippewa Valley Technical College**

### WISPALS MEMBERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES



Vince Mussehl, Chippewa Valley Technical College

Jane Roisum, Fox Valley Technical College

Gary Flynn, Gateway Technical College

Kelly Carpenter, Lakeshore Technical College

Maria Hernandez, Mid-State Technical College

Hans Baierl, Moraine Park Technical College

Kristin Kruzan, Northcentral Technical College

Kim A. LaPlante, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

Terry Kemper, Waukesha County Technical College

Juan Jiménez, Western Technical College

Scott Vrieze, Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College

## WISPALS STATISTICS

For 2016-2017, WISPALS libraries served 691,071 students, faculty and staff.

Between all eleven schools, they have a combined total of 771,003 titles available to their users via the shared consortium catalog.

In 2016-2017 over 78,000 physical items were checked out to patrons.

## 2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

### **Strategic Planning**

In July of 2016, the WISPALS Executive Committee met to connect with one another, update the WISPALS mission statement, learn about what other similar consortia from around the country are doing, and devise strategic initiatives for the consortium. Those initiatives that were developed are:

1. Streamline the information sharing environment among WISPALS members
2. Develop a repository of information literacy resources and curriculum
3. Create a catalog of good examples of create list reports
4. Develop and implement a plan to create ILS training videos and to add more visuals to documentation
5. Develop more opportunities for in-person best practice sharing/annual forums for specific roles related to the ILS
6. Continue work on outstanding ILS issues and implementation

### **User Committees and Basecamp Implementation**

To move forward on the strategic initiatives developed in 2015-2016, three user committees were established to share resources, practices, and challenges in instructional, technical, and user services. The committees were formed by volunteers from member library staff. The committees decided to meet quarterly and met in March and June of 2017. While the primary goal of these committees is to promote information exchanges and collaborative activities, they were also charged with growing and evaluating a shared environment of resources in Basecamp by using the platform for their committee work. Basecamp is a project management platform which allows groups to communicate, share documents, and schedule events all in one place. The experience of using the platform has been very positive for user committees and plans are moving forward to implement the shared resource library in Basecamp broadly to the full consortium.

### **Cooperative Purchasing**

In 2016-2017, WISPALS provided the cooperative purchasing coordination and management for 51 electronic resource subscriptions with eight vendors, totaling \$290,779.72 for the year. The consortium continued to advocate for reduced yearly price increases for electronic resources and of those 51 subscriptions, 41 renewed at lower than a 5% increase from the previous year.

## New Logo

In 2015-2016, the WISPALS website was updated and moved into Wordpress to simplify the management of the site content. With the presentation of the new site, the consortium agreed that a newly designed logo would help with the promotion and presentation of WISPALS online. In early 2017, the Executive Committee provided feedback on potential logo designs, narrowing down the options to those the committee felt represented the consortium appropriately. In May, the final design was approved and can be found at the beginning of this report.

## THE STRENGTHS OF THE MEMBER LIBRARIES

Each individual member of WISPALS holds expertise, wisdom, and experience with which they strengthen the consortium as a whole.

**Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC)** Library had a very successful year! A new Learning Center Coordinator was recruited in the summer of 2016 to oversee the library's public services and outreach initiatives. CVTC Library is in the process of recruiting two new librarians to serve as information literacy and open educational resource liaisons for health and behavioral sciences. Finally, the library received approval to offer a new Library & Information Services associate degree program, which will begin its first full cohort of 30 students in the fall of 2017. The CVTC Library staff has a busy year ahead but they are very excited!

**Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC)** Library collaborates with faculty, staff and the community to bring great customer service to all patrons. Library staff continues to learn emerging technologies to better serve customers and enhance services. FVTC Library recently added Virtual Reality headsets to their equipment collection.

**Gateway Technical College (GTC)** is venturing into Co-Curricular Assessment to measure what students are learning outside of the classroom (in this case, in the library). The WISPALS/WiLS collaboration has resulted in a significant discount for Gateway's subscription to the Credo InfoLit modules which will be used directly in this endeavor. In addition, GTC Library has been able to endure some turnover in staff while continuing to implement features of the Sierra ILS with the help and services provided by WiLS.

**Lakeshore Technical College (LTC)** reorganized this year and the Library is now a part of Student Resources. This move provides students a centralized location to find and access a wide variety of resources to help them be successful. LTC is committed to providing excellent customer service and collaborates with many divisions on campus to ensure the Library is supporting their needs.

**Moraine Park Technical College (MPTC)** saw an increase of over 30% in circulation amongst all three campus libraries. MPTC Library has raised awareness of Open Educational Resources for faculty throughout the year. The Fond du Lac campus library will be partially remodeled to provide additional, larger study rooms by January 2018. A student survey was conducted to help guide library services and build upon successes.

**Mid-State Technical College (MSTC)** Library has undergone an identity change, merging library services with other academic support services such as student technology, tutoring, and adult basic education. Now housed in a beautifully renovated space, Mid-State's library services are located in the LiNK.

**Northcentral Technical College (NTC)** Library partnered with Student Life and NTC's Diversity Steering Committee in several campus-wide opportunities. In support of diversity awareness, the Library created a trivia challenge and provided videos with public performance rights for a display in the Student Den during Black History month. NTC Library highlighted resources for various topics over social media (Pinterest and Facebook), such as military veterans, Hmong, generational differences, LGBTQ, and more. At the faculty & staff Spring In-service, NTC Library created numerous diversity resource handouts to support breakout sessions. NTC Library staff felt it was a pleasure to collaborate with campus groups to promote diversity awareness.

**Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC)** began surveying new students during registration and used that survey information to provide early assistance, including personalized computer help in the Library before classes started. The College also remodeled the Marinette campus library and created plans for a remodeled library on the Sturgeon Bay campus.

**Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC)** Library Staff opened the new Student Enrichment Center for the Fall 2016 semester. This space combined the services of academic support, IT service desk, and the library. WCTC Library designed a space that includes noise zones, collaboration and silent study areas, library instruction room, a café, and different types of furniture. In addition, WCTC Library was able to highlight its print collection in a new setting and offer new library services. In the end of the year survey, students were overwhelmingly positive about the new space.

**Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC)** Learning Resource Centers (LRC) endeavor to meet the diverse resource needs of students, faculty, and staff in its large, eleven-county district. The Learning Resource Centers have recently added and are promoting a Health and Wellness collection. These non-curricular items are intended to support students and staff achievement of personal goals.

**Western Technical College (WTC)** Library has been working to prepare for a building remodel in which the library will be merged with the Learning Commons to create one location for academic support. The staff will review the services provided, the total collection, and instructional needs to determine how to utilize space effectively and ensure a warm and welcoming environment for all patrons.

## BUDGET

Below is a table of actual expenditures for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Item	Amount
Project management/staff	\$100,000.00
ILS software	\$298,818.00
Electronic resources	\$361,597.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$760,431.00</b>

## UPCOMING GOALS

For 2017-2018, WISPALS will work toward the following goals:

### **Revise WISPALS Bylaws & Operating Agreement**

A workgroup of the Executive Committee members and the project managers are revising the bylaws to clarify language and reflect current practice. As part of this process, it was discovered that the current operating agreements among the partners are out-of-date, so the group will also undertake a revision of that agreement.

### **Grow the Shared Resource Collection in Basecamp**

Continuing an initiative begun in 2016-2017, the WISPALS Executive Committee, along with the three User Committees, will contribute internal and external resources to a shared collection of materials in Basecamp. This collection will allow members to leverage the work done at other colleges instead of recreating resources themselves and help to share knowledge and best practices among members.

### **Explore New Initiatives and Collaborations**

In August 2017, at the WISPALS Executive Committee Annual Meeting, the Committee discussed potential new initiatives and collaborations with non-member Wisconsin technical colleges. These potential initiatives include support for Open Textbooks and Open Educational Resources, increased and improved cooperative purchasing, additional training options for the shared ILS, and new WISPALS membership options, among other explorations. As of the writing of this report, the Committee is considering if and how to proceed with these new initiatives.