

ERAC Notes

3/7/16 - 4CLS & Phone

Niche Academy

Rep Jim Wilson provided an overview of Niche Academy, a service that offers online tutorials for online databases, social media, etc. The webinar only worked for those in the room. Jim will contact the others directly to show the short intro. A free trial will be set up so members of the committee can explore further. There would be a base fee for the system. Individual libraries could opt-in for a version they could customize on their website. It is a shared system in that we could use tutorials created by other libraries. We could also upload tutorials of our own.

Stats

Brian is working on stats for the online resources and will distribute shortly. Flipster stats do not break down by library.

Resources to Look At This Year?

The committee wonders what will come of the NOVEL survey. Several resources we subscribe to ranked high on the list of requested resources- Ancestry, Mango Languages. If the state were to take over one of these (or more) we would have more flexibility to look at additions. Also, Steve is talking to another system about jumping on to one or more of their database licenses. There are many related issues, but it could save some money.

Historical Newspapers sites – Brian will work on adding links to 4cls members' digitized newspaper collection from the Research Center

ERAC Roster

We still need a rep from Delaware County. Steve will ask a few folks.

Other Discussion

Committee discussed possible use of a facebook or twitter page to help publicize libraries and library resources. Issues are what would be posted & who is intended audience. Also, who is tasked with posting?

Overdrive now offers curated lists. We can set up specific collections in the overdrive interface, like back to school, local interest, seasonal titles, etc.

Libraries can spend their own money to add titles to the Download Zone. Contact Megan for details.

Next Meeting – May 9 @ 10 AM at 4CLS (with call-in)