CORAL Overview for Public Libraries
Introduction

Jennifer Weston
Product and Education Specialist
Equinox Open Library Initiative

CORAL Overview for Public Libraries

Presentation Outline

- About Equinox
- Public Libraries and Open Source
- Public Libraries and ERM
- Public Libraries and CORAL
About Us

Equinox Open Library Initiative

https://www.equinoxoli.org/

- 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation
- Experienced library practitioners, technical experts, IT managers, and software developers
- Provide innovative open source software for libraries of all types
- Support library automation by
  - Investing our time and talents in open source software
  - Providing software and consulting services
Public Libraries and Open Source Software

Open Source Advantages

- Cost
- Flexibility
- Avoid Vendor Lock-in
- Collaborative development
- Community

Types of Open Source Tools

- Integrated Library System
- Office suite alternatives
- Subject guide tools
- Public kiosk management
- Room reservation management
Public Libraries and ERM

- What about Electronic Resources Management?
  - Using non-specialized software
    - Tools-at-hand (spreadsheets, wikis, project management)
  - Is there a formal process and policy?
    - Is there a documented workflow?
  - Who is responsible for ERM?
    - Content?
    - Contracts?
Say “Hello!” to CORAL

Centralized Online Resources Acquisitions and Licensing

CORAL Advantages

- Stable and mature option
- Initiated in 2008, first released in 2010
- User friendly and highly customizable
- Feature-rich with independent modules
- Practical for all size libraries
Public Libraries and CORAL

Public Library ERMS Needs and Wishlists

- More robust than existing spreadsheets with filters
- Simple to implement and maintain
- Access can be shared & is intuitive for users
- Customizable billing manager reports
- Robust statistics for reporting
- Ability to track database purchases (with pre-packaged content)
Public Libraries and CORAL

CORAL Modules

- Resources
- Licensing
- Organizations
- Usage Statistics
- Management
Public Libraries and CORAL

Resources Module

- Module can be used as a standalone system
- Provide database to track resources -- create and search for electronic resources
- Optional Knowledge Base integrations to manage holdings
- Provides a customizable workflow tool for the acquisition of electronic resources to ongoing support and maintenance
Public Libraries and CORAL

Licensing Module

- Storage and access to digital copies of active and expired license agreements
- License Expression Comparison
  Track & compare license terms that are important to the library
- Track License Renewals
Public Libraries and CORAL

Organizations Module

- Central storage depot for organizational information reduces errors and inconsistencies
- Manage contacts and account information for vendors, publishers, and consortiums
- Aliasing for tracking acronyms and name changes
Public Libraries and CORAL

Usage Statistics Module

- Supports COUNTER reports
- Automated retrieval of usage reports using SUSHI
- Can check for outlier statistics
- Store login credentials and URLs for vendor statistics portals
- Improve upon a manual process of downloading reports from multiple sites and consolidating them into spreadsheets
Public Libraries and CORAL

Management Module

- Store documents such as policies and procedures related to ERM
- Documents can be assigned a Type and placed in Groups
- Documents can be archived
Public Libraries and CORAL

In Summary

CORAL is an excellent open source ERM option for public libraries

○ Not tied to other products or platforms
○ Implement only the modules needed
○ Provide clear streamlined structure
Thank you!

Jennifer Weston
Product and Education Specialist
Equinox Open Library Initiative
jennifer.weston@equinoxOLI.org