Balancing centralized project commitments with local priorities.

Off the beaten track:

- Raspberry Pi home-grown ventures:
  - Looking for an alternative to something like the appealing-looking Brennan B2, (pictured left, ~$900 CAD) using:
    - 3x Pi models for RuneAudio (to the stereo), KODI (to the TV), with a NAS (hard-drive mirroring device);
  - Library implications? (The Raspberry Pi is replacing Spinetix for digital signage)

- Ditching Labstats for powershell to monitor public machine usage:
  - Where could R fit in? What about Gephi, check U of G Gephi online tutorial?

Cameron Metcalf
University of Ottawa Library
Code4Lib North – May 31, 2019
Does metadata register irony and/or sarcasm?

Behold...

...(Almost as good as the U.S. *Navel* Academy Diplomas)
Centralized IT Projects - Feb-May 2019

• Multi-factor authentication – employees;
• SAML (ADFS) - (benefits ArcGIS Online);
• Office 365 – employees;
• Desktop optimization;
• Password access management;
• Ticketing system changeover (from ServiceNow to TopDesk);
• External mail message warning.
Local Library Projects – Requiring Student information system data, Virtual Machines

• Room-booking system (co-op student developer);
• ARES (nearly launched, after 14 months);
• Collaborative Futures - Ex Libris Alma – nine months along;

*Improved communications focusing on change in documented governance:*
• Architecture Review Board intake process and presentations;
• System Information Documents and reviews

*Seeing a trend in development focus on:*
• "Middleware“ development and project-management provided by Senior Programmer;
Effect of Centralization Initiatives

- Increased formal communication channels (governance and responsibilities);
- Re-distribution of effort and time with fewer resources available to be devoted to project-development and planning (this year as we adjust);
- Less local discretion over timing (central initiatives launched during academic sessions due to perceived security risks);
- Second-guessing future considerations where to host (off-campus, AWS?)
- Replacement of pre-established, robust local solutions:
  - Password management (local version of Royal TS becomes obsolete);
  - Local Intranet and Slack messaging in favour of MS Office 365 (is the Intranet dead...again?)
New Buildings and Challenges for the Library

- The balance of specialized spaces that can still be flexible and broadly appealing without diluting its specialized functionality;

- Teleconference / AV needs - keeping up with demand and sharing procedures to improve communication (make the complicated simple, accessible) and meet expectations;

- Sell a vision or an idea by providing a picture (even if it is a photo mock-up);
uOttawa Learning Crossroads (CRX)
Space shared with the Library, Faculty of Education, Teaching and Learning Services
Carrels (background) are used to full capacity by those bringing their own devices, in CRX.
Resource-provision student researchers

• Desktop upgrades in all Library labs, with priorities to busiest areas, training environments, persisting in high-end stations for data analysis;

• Investigation of leveraging the Faculty of Engineering's success with Software-as-a-service and VDI;
  • Testing this summer with new machines as network switches are replaced and upgraded.

• Pilot test of peripheral-only stations the majority of which will go to graduate-level floor, based on usage-patterns.