UM patrons who are both Staff and Student

Dear Supervisors,

At our last meeting, questions arose regarding the administration of accounts for patrons with both staff and student status within the University of Manitoba. Library Systems has been working on the issue with IST; this message can serve as an interim update on our progress.

1. It is our understanding that members of the University who are both students and staff are being given a single UMNet ID which pertains to both statuses.

2. The consensus between Library Systems and IST is that given #1, the best policy for administering patron accounts for individuals in Alma is to also have a single account there, with the UMNet ID serving as the Primary Identifier, and with both student and staff barcodes associated with the same account.

3. Systems has asked, and IST has agreed that instituting a technical solution for populating and updating appropriate and complete information in the same Alma record is a priority. Work is underway.

   a. Barcodes: Both barcodes will be populated and synced directly from Iridium, with the staff barcode being primary, and the student barcode entered as “Additional ID 1” (with the note “Alternate Library Card Number”).

   b. Contact information: Both staff and student information will be populated and synced from Iridium.

   c. Roles: Whenever an individual takes up/relinquishes either the student or staff role with the University, Iridium will add/remove the associated barcode and contact information from the Alma account.

4. Based on our meeting with IST, we have determined that the response for “What happens with someone who has both active student and staff accounts?” on the Iridium FAQ page is not accurate (http://umanitoba.ca/computing/ist/compureps/iridium-faq.html#activestudentandstaff). We have asked that this page be corrected.

I’d like to apologise for the confusion that has arisen while this problem was being addressed. Hopefully this message can serve to clarify matters somewhat. Meantime, please forward these cases to Allison (Allison.Erhardt@umanitoba.ca), so that she can better assist IST in testing and implementing their changes.

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