

Developing consensus is goal

Library Technology Planning Conference scheduled Feb. 23-24

Guided by a goal of forging a consensus in the state's library community on the strategic direction for further development of library automation and information technology, a Library Technology Planning Conference is scheduled Feb. 23-24, 1998, in Wausau.

Jointly sponsored by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Department of Administration (DOA), and assisted by a steering committee appointed by State Superintendent John T. Benson, the invitational working conference will bring together about 100 participants representing a cross section of Wisconsin's library community and key stakeholders. Participants will include individuals who are knowledgeable in the area of library technology or who have an interest in providing and promoting quality library services.

In preparation for the Wausau conference, a series of four "open

forums" and a statewide ETN session were held in December. The purpose of these sessions was to provide wider input than will be possible at the conference, and to seek ideas and opinions about how Wisconsin libraries should use technology to give citizens better access to information. The issues, concerns, and ideas from these sessions will be used as a source of conference topics. Open forums were held in Madison, Waukesha, Green Bay, and Eau Claire.

The ETN session was available at any of the more than 80 ETN locations statewide.

Background

The February technology conference arose from a recommendation last spring by the Legislative Council's Special Committee on Public Libraries that the DPI and the DOA hold such a conference. This recommendation also was incorporated in Senate Bill 269, which was introduced on behalf of the Legislative Council.

The DPI has long supported the use and advancement of technology in Wisconsin libraries. For example, WISCAT, the state library catalog, represents the department's largest single investment in a statewide library technology project. More than 1,100 libraries of all types now partici-



Library technology highlighted in 1997-99 budget

The state's 1997-99 budget included an increase in state aid to library systems and increases in library service contracts. In addition, public libraries in the state will benefit from the TEACH program which was incorporated into the state's 1997-99 biennial budget. TEACH (Technology for Educational Achievement) represents the state's single largest investment in K-12 school and library technology. From the library perspective the TEACH program will

- provide \$5 million annually in general obligation bonding for public library infrastructure loans. The state will pay 50 percent of the principal and interest on these loans. The exact details of this program will be developed by the TEACH Board.
- permit public libraries to participate in the educational telecommunications access program. This will allow all public libraries to get a high-speed T1 line for \$100 a month or a DS3 line for

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Combined issue

As a result of changes in staffing and production schedules, this month's *Channel* is a combined December 1997 and January 1998 issue. ■

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Instructional Media and Technology News

pate in WISCAT. The DPI also has allocated funding, primarily in federal LSCA/LSTA dollars, for various other technology-related projects. An example is the allocation of more than \$3 million for retrospective conversion for all types of libraries, Internet access in public libraries, and enhancement of automated systems in public libraries. In September, the DPI started a competitive bid process that will result in a contract for statewide library access to periodical indexes and similar databases. The department also has allocated funds to pay for at least one year of such access.

As the joint sponsor of the conference, the DOA has led the development of an enterprise-wide vision of information technology for state government. The DOA also is responsible for BadgerNet, the state's new telecommunications network, which will be available to all PK-12 schools, public libraries, and academic institutions.

With access to information increasingly dependent upon access to a robust and affordable networking infrastructure, the DOA plays a key role in development of education and information networks. The DOA also is responsible for the TEACH Program (see related article) for funding technology access and use in Wisconsin's PK-12 schools, institutions of higher education, and public libraries.

Conclusion

More information about the conference, library automation, and technology is available at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlcl/pld. Inquiries about library automation, technology and the February conference also can be directed to Bob Bocher, DPI library technology consultant, (608) 266-2127, or by e-mail at bocherf@mail.state.wi.us. ■

During the past two months, the Instructional Media and Technology team celebrated the promotion of one staff member, welcomed another and loaned a third staff member.

Neah J. Lohr is the new director for the Instructional Media and Technology Team. Neah began her duties as director on October 26. She has served as the DPI Instructional Computer Consultant for the past nine years. Prior to coming to DPI, Neah was district media coordinator for the Reedsburg School District. "It is gratifying to have the addition of a director's position to the Instructional Media and Technology Team," said Carolyn Winters Folke, division administrator. "This restores the former bureau director position which was

lost during budget cuts."

On December 1, the team also welcomed Jim Klein, retired Appleton director of curriculum and district media director, as a limited term employee. Jim will help evaluate district technology plans and lead the task force developing information/technology literacy standards. "We are thrilled to have a person of Jim's stature and professional excellence leading this effort," Folke said.

Richard J. Sorensen, school library media consultant, is occupied at the Department of Administration where he is helping establish the TEACH program. Dick is "loaned" to DOA for approximately two months until permanent TEACH staff are hired. ■

TEACH Initiative (cont.)

\$250 a month. (Generally, commercial costs for such high-speed lines are five to 10 times the discount provided by the TEACH program.) A total of \$1.17 million has been allocated over the biennium to provide a state subsidy for the T1 and DS3 lines. These high speed lines can be used for a variety of purposes, including Internet access and as a means to transport transactions between libraries participating in shared automated systems. These costs include the installation of the line and the CSU/DSU. The cost does not include other hardware (i.e. routers) and any associated charges from an Internet service provider. These lines are expected to be available by March 1998.

- Provide \$2 million in general purpose revenues (GPR) in 1997-98 and \$4 million GPR in 1998-99 to provide educational technology training and technical assistance grants. The grants will be made to Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESAs) and school district consortia, which may include public libraries as members of the consortia. The TEACH board will give priority to consortia that include a public library component.
- Provide \$5 million in 1997-98 to more fully fund grants from the ETB's February 1997 grant cycle. Several public libraries or library systems will benefit from this allocation.

If you have questions about the TEACH program's impact on public libraries, contact Bob Bocher, in the division's Public Library Development Team. Updates also are posted on the Web at: <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dlcl/pld/libtech.html>. ■

Summer Library Program

'Go Global: Read!'

1999 Summer Library Program theme announced

Selecting a multicultural focus, the 1999 Summer Library Program (SLP) Planning Committee selected "Go Global: Read!" as the 1999 Summer Library Program slogan.

Committee members offered the following activity ideas to be used in conjunction with the theme:

- Use folk and fairy tales from many cultures;
- Call attention to cultural similarities as well as diversities;
- Use the wealth of resources now available;
- Incorporate environmental themes (intriguing animals, endangered species, weather patterns, plant life, geology);
- Remember Wisconsin's varied ethnic groups;
- Do intergenerational activities & genealogy;
- Stress reaching out to understand others;
- Use travel schemes in decorating and programming;
- Explore foods, crafts, and costumes;

Manuals mailed

The 1998 manuals for "Make Waves: Read!" were distributed in November 1997 in keeping with the revised time table for SLP products. Reports from around the state indicate satisfaction in having this planning material available early to librarians. ■■

- Use Internet technology;
- Examine commercial products on the market;
- Invite exchange students to share stories and insights; and
- Look to the future as well as the past.

Committee members also recognized an important challenge inherent in the "Go Global: Read!" slogan: the need to accurately present information about cultures other than one's own while avoiding an overly academic approach. The group's consensus, however, was that Wisconsin's youth services librarians are unquestionably creative enough to present their programs and guests with light

hearts, open minds, and the magnetism to attract and engage children.

The 1999 Summer Library Program Planning Committee was composed of representatives from the state's regional library systems: **Arrowhead**—Rose Mary Leaver (Arrowhead Library System); **Eastern Shores**—Sue Pesheck (Weyenberg Library of Mequon/Thiensville); **Kenosha County**—Kathleen Thomson (Kenosha Public Library); **Lakeshores**—Molly Panko (Burlington Public Library); **Manitowoc-Calumet**—Jolene Sterk (Manitowoc Public Library); **Mid-Wisconsin**—Jane Besel (Jefferson Public Library); **Milwaukee County**—Jennie Stoltz (Hales Corners Public Library); **Nicolet**—Mary Bohman (Algoma Public Library); **Outagamie-Waupaca**—Kathy Mitchell (Clintonville Public Library); **South Central**—Barbara Huntington (South Central Library System); **Southwest Wisconsin**—Sharon Charles (Southwest Wisconsin Library System); **Winding Rivers**—Deb Lambert (Hillsboro Public Library); **Winnefox**—Laurie Magee (Oshkosh Public Library); **Wisconsin Valley**—Marie Wardall (Scott Free Library, Merrill); and **Regional Library for the Blind**

Make Waves: Read!

1998 Summer Library Program Manuals and Posters still are available.

To obtain copies of any SLP materials, contact Sandi Ness, DPI Publications Sales, at (800) 243-8782 or (608) 266-2188 (nesssk@mail.state.wi.us)



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WISCAT on the World Wide Web available free to libraries

The Division for Libraries and Community Learning (DLCL) is pleased to announce that the World Wide Web (WWW) version of WISCAT is now available to all libraries free of charge.

This search-only version of the WISCAT database was launched in early 1997. During the past year, libraries wanting to use the catalog purchased a subscription license, and were given a User ID and password. The subscription cost was based on the number of workstations accessing the catalog.

Beginning in January 1998,

libraries will have free access to WISCAT on the WWW from an unlimited number of workstations. A password and User ID no longer will be required, allowing easier access from public workstations within the library. DLCL is encouraging libraries to include a link to WISCAT on their own home pages and Internet resource lists.

The Web version of WISCAT will remain a search-only catalog. Libraries that need to interact with

the catalog for interlibrary loan or holdings update purposes will need to access the database through purchase of the WISCAT Client Software, available from DLCL.

WISCAT on the World Wide Web is located at: <http://wiscat.brodart.com>

Questions and comments on this newly-improved service can be directed to Mary Clark at clarkmh@mail.state.wi.us or (608) 224-6179. ■■

Hitachi drives needed by libraries

Several months ago, WISCAT staff started a program to redistribute Hitachi CD-ROM drives from libraries no longer using them to libraries that desperately need replacements for dead or dying drives.

Although that initial effort was very successful, there still is a need for more drives. If your library no longer is using the Hitachi CD-ROM drives for WISCAT, and would like to get rid of them, the Department of Public Instruction's Division for Libraries and Community Learning (DLCL) will gladly take them (including cards and cables). The speed of the drives (single or double) is not an issue, as long as the drives work.

This is a great opportunity to get rid of some old equipment, while at the same time helping out another library.

If you'd like to donate any of the Hitachi drives, please contact Stef Morrill at (608) 224-5394 ([morrissl@mail.state.wi.us](mailto:morrisl@mail.state.wi.us)). ■■

Don't forget Legislative Day Feb. 10, 1998

Mark your calendars to attend Library Legislative Day on Tuesday, February 10, 1998, at the Inn on the Park in Madison. Program registration forms are in the November/December WLA Newsletter and in your WLA conference registration folder. The registration deadline is January 16, 1998. If you have questions about registration information, feel free to contact Legislative Day Committee Chair JoAnn Savoy at 608-262-3069 or josavoy@macc.wisc.edu.

The committee will make appointments for you with your legislators so do not make appointments yourself.

Libraries can maximize the impact of this event by writing or calling legislators to tell them about Library Legislative Day. This way legislators can block out that day for this event, and they will know that their constituents are interested in meeting with them on that day. ■■

SLP theme (cont.)

and Physically Handicapped—
Marsha Valance (Regional Library).

Unforeseen circumstances prevented the attendance of committee members **Claudia Backus** (Waukesha County Federated Library System), **Miriam Hansen** (Indianhead Federated Library System), and **Ida Nemec** (Plum Lake Library, Sayner; representing Northern Waters Library Service). These individuals will, however, be contributing to the 1999 SLP manual along with the other members of the planning committee.

All youth services librarians in the state are invited to submit material for the "Go Global: Read!" 1999 manual. Contribution forms are available on the DPI Web site (<http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlcl/pld/youth.html>), or use forms available from your system's youth services liaison. ■■

Youth Initiative

Special Needs Youth Initiative for Public Libraries to ensure equitable access

Quality library service for children is an investment in the future, for without a literate adult population democracy cannot be sustained.

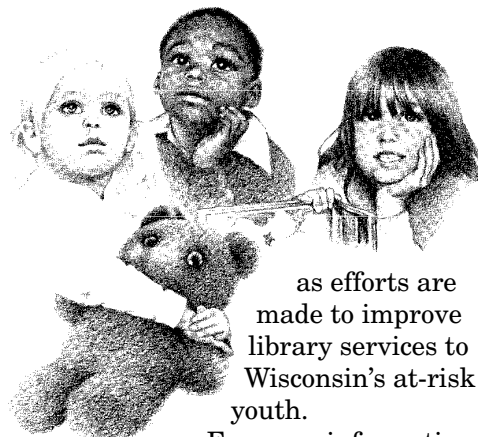
The purpose of the Special Needs Youth Initiative for Public Libraries is to develop a statewide plan to ensure that low income children and teenagers and those with disabilities have equitable access to public library services in Wisconsin. A 20-member task force appointed by the Division for Libraries and Community Learning (DLCL) will examine:

- relevant state demographics concerning poverty and disabilities;
- the roles of state and community agencies in serving at-risk youth;
- the impact of welfare reform legislation; and
- model library programs and services for at-risk youth being implemented in Wisconsin and other states.

A statewide conference for librarians and agency staff, intended to provide information and identify needs, will be held in the spring of 1998. After reviewing the data and the results of the conference, the task force will draft a plan providing specific guidelines for the DLCL, public library systems, and public libraries in their efforts to reach out to at-risk youth in collaboration with other agencies.

The draft recommendations of the task force will be shared with Wisconsin libraries for their input and suggestions through regional

focus group meetings in the fall of 1998, and the recommendations will be finalized in late 1998. The task force plan will serve as the basis for special services funding priorities in the Library Services and Technology Act program, as well as providing direction for libraries, systems, and the DLCL



as efforts are made to improve library services to Wisconsin's at-risk youth.

For more information contact Frances de Usabel at (608) 266-0419; deusafe@mail.state.wi.us. ■

Around Wisconsin

News of staff changes, individual or institution honors, major service innovations, public relations efforts, new or remodeled facilities, and local news coverage sent to "Around Wisconsin," Channel, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, will be printed. No biographical information will be included for personnel. Specific dates / months must be given for events reported.

People

Shirley Barta, director of the Antigo Public Library, has announced her retirement effective March 13, 1998, after 43 years of service.

Walter Burkhalter became the new director of the Southwest Wisconsin Library System in November. He formerly was the director of the Franklin Public Library.

Mary J. Bloedow, Rusk County Community Library, Ladysmith; **Mary M. Hutnik**, Mazomanie Public Library; and **Bret K. Jaeger**, Waupun Public Library, received new librarian certification in November.

Kathy Pletcher, UW-Green Bay's Cofrin Library director, has been promoted to CIO and University Librarian. **John Jax's** ILL position expanded to Access Services Coordinator over ILL, Circulation and Reserves. **Mike Klawitter** moved from a Reference/SPC split to full time Reference/Electronic Resources Librarian.

Recognition

Anne Lundin, Assistant Professor of the UW-Madison SLIS, has been nominated by the UW-Madison Graduate School for a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) summer stipend.

Paul Rux has been presented a special recognition plaque on behalf of the Wisconsin State Senate in recognition of his successful consulting work since 1992 in setting up NET SOUTHWEST. This is a five-county rural computing network designed to provide low-cost connection for 114 public and school libraries to information superhighway resources such as the Internet. ■

Library branches lag

Public Internet access at nation's libraries increases sharply

While nearly three-fifths of the nation's public library systems offer some type of Internet access, fewer than one in seven have World Wide Web (WWW) access in their community branch libraries, according to a study sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS).

Based on a survey of 1,700 of the nation's more than 8,900 public libraries, more than 60 percent offer public access to the Internet, up from about 28 percent in 1996. However, only 13 percent of library systems offer World Wide Web access at some or all of their branches. The study also showed that 64 percent of public library systems in metropolitan areas offer Web access in at least one branch compared with only 44 percent of rural area library systems.

"This increase in public library-Internet connectivity confirms the powerful role of public libraries in the nation's infrastructure," said Jeanne Hurley Simon, chairperson of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, an independent federal agency. "However, the data also show the needs and the gaps, like the huge gap for branch libraries lacking Internet connections."

ALA President Barbara J. Ford said the report should be of particular interest to policy-makers, funders and telecommunications providers.

"The increase in Internet connections is exciting but there still is much to be done if we are to achieve President Clinton's and ALA's goal of connecting every public and school library by the year 2000," Ford said.

The Federal Communications Commission earlier this year approved telecommunications discounts from 20 to 90 percent for public libraries. Ford noted that the new telecommunications discounts should help even more libraries to offer Internet access, especially those in low income areas, but that a comprehensive effort is needed at the local, state and

federal levels if all Americans are to have access to electronic information at their libraries.

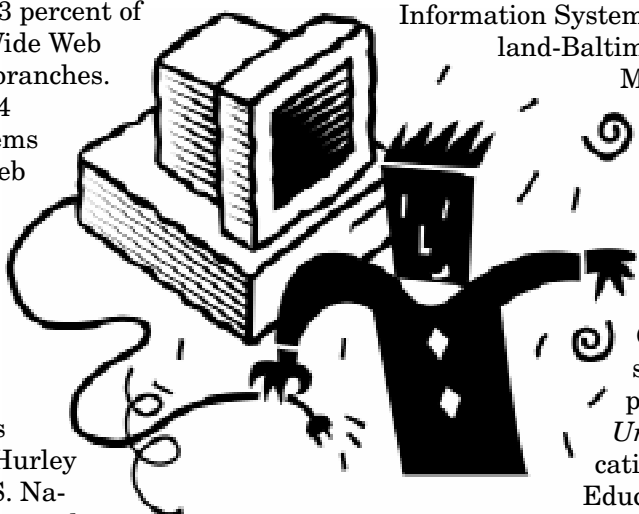
The 1997 *National Survey of U.S. Public Libraries and the Internet: Summary Results* shows that telecommunication fees and the availability of federal/state funds were the top two factors affecting public library involvement with the Internet. The survey showed that public libraries spent at least an estimated \$280 million on Internet access alone in 1997.

The survey was conducted by Dr. John Carlo Bertot, assistant professor in the Department of Information Systems at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County; Dr. Charles R.

McClure, professor in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse (NY) University; and Dr. Patricia Diamond Fletcher, faculty associate in the Department of Information Systems at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. The study sample was selected from the file used to produce *Public Libraries in the United States: FY 1994*, a publication of the National Center for Education Statistics.

The survey provides information on U.S. public library infrastructure costs associated with Internet-related services and technology, and expands upon areas of public library Internet-related data as reported in the 1994 and 1996 studies sponsored by NCLIS. Copies of the survey summary results are available on-line at <http://www.ala.org/oitp/research/plcon97sum>. The final report should be available by Spring 1998.

By law, NCLIS advises the President and Congress on national and international library and information services policies and plans. Fourteen members of the 16-member NCLIS are appointed and serve five-year terms. The other two are the librarian of Congress and the director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



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PLA conference to feature seven preconferences

“Public Libraries: Vital, Valuable, Virtual,” the Public Library Association’s (PLA) Seventh National Conference, will feature seven preconferences when it takes place March 10-14, 1998, in Kansas City, MO. The advance registration deadline is Feb. 26, 1998.

The preconferences cover a variety of topics: “Marketing Tools for 21st Century Libraries”; “Staffing Issues for the Year 2000 and Beyond”; “Readers’ Advisory: A Vital Service in the Virtual Age”; “Access and Applications: Innovative Technology Projects”; “Transform Your Library: How to Use Planning for Results, the Revised PLA Planning Process”; “Helping Others Transform Libraries: Training Trainers for Planning for Results, the Revised PLA Planning Process”; and “Implementing Technology in Small and Medium Libraries.”

Sessions will be held on March 10-11. Both one- and two-day programs are available. Rates for PLA members range from \$75 to \$185.

The conference will feature more than 100 continuing education sessions, over 300 exhibits, talk tables, author luncheons, and a number of other special events. PLA members automatically receive advance registration and housing information and are eligible for substantial discounts.

For membership or conference information, call PLA at (800) 545-2433, ext. 5PLA. PLA is a division of the American Library Association. ■■

‘Best of Show’ packet offers ideas, inspiration

The 1997 Swap and Shop “Best of Show” packet with award-winning promotion and marketing materials from 33 libraries now is available through interlibrary loan from the American Library Association’s Library and Research Center.

The Best of Show Awards are given annually by the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) Public Relations Section (PRS) Swap and Shop Committee to recognize outstanding promotional materials produced by libraries during the past year.

The circulating packet includes annual reports, book lists, fund raising and summer reading materials, newsletters, special events flyers and more.

The packet can be borrowed for inspiration and helpful hints for a three-week loan period. Send requests to the American Library Association, Library and Research Center, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (800) 545-2433, ext. 2153 (fax: 312-440-9374). ■■



PLA announces national conference speakers

Journalist Jim Lehrer, writer Kate Lehrer, and author James Ellroy will be featured speakers for the Adult Author Luncheons at the 1998 Public Library Association (PLA) National Conference in Kansas City, MO., to be held March 10-14. Noted children’s authors Ashley Bryan and Rosemary Wells will keynote the Children’s Author Luncheons.

Jim Lehrer, news anchor of “The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer,” and of its previous incarnation, “The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour,” has served as a reporter, writer, and author of several novels and plays.

Kate Lehrer is the author of three novels. Her critically-acclaimed work has been described as quiet and elegant, “...a compelling approach to historical fiction.”

Best-selling crime novelist Ellroy is author of “L.A. Confidential” (originally part of the “L.A. Quartet” series), a dark tale of crime and police corruption in 1950s Los Angeles that recently was made into a movie. Ellroy also received high praise for “My Dark Places,” an investigative autobiography that tells the grim story of his mother’s unsolved murder. ■■

Reaching Out

LSCA grants support special services

Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) grants in the Special Services categories occasionally produce materials that are of interest and may be useful for librarians throughout the state. The grants that ended this past June are no exception.

In the Special Needs Systems category, the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System's grant to serve the elderly and persons with visual impairments included the compilation of a six-page bibliography of "Programming Planning Guides and Resources," put together by the Manitowoc Public Library. These are materials that would be helpful for activity directors, librarians and others who plan programs or services for older adults, persons with visual impairments, and other special groups. Of particular value is the "guides and manuals"

section, a comprehensive listing of about 30 publications dealing with programming for older adults.

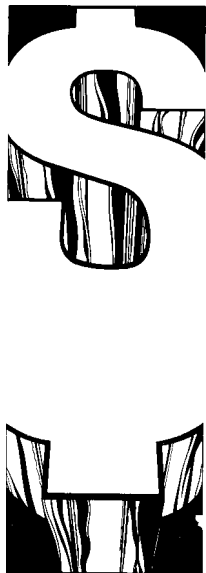
Also in the Special Needs Systems category, the Waukesha County Library System's project to serve persons with developmental disabilities resulted in a 52-page annotated bibliography. The titles fall within two sections: raising awareness about developmental disabilities; and materials for individuals with developmental disabilities. Included in the first section are adult nonfiction, juvenile and young adult fiction and nonfiction, informational

videos, and professional books for librarians. The section on materials for individuals with developmental disabilities contains books requiring low or no reading skills for all ages, audio tapes and SmartReaders fiction, audio tapes and SmartReaders nonfiction, and CD-ROMs. The appendix is a six-page list of the publishers cited in the bibliography.

In the 1996-97 Reading Motivation—Special Needs Youth category, the Brown County Library's "Born to Read" project resulted in the development of an award-winning 30-second public service announcement (PSA) which was produced in conjunction with a local television station and aired many times each day—even during an NFL playoff game. Read by different parents, the script emphasizes the importance of reading to

babies, and is reinforced by visual shots of infants and books. Other products of this grant are a large bookmark that includes short lists of picture books for infants and parent resource books, tips for reading to babies, and "Peek-a-Boo!", a 16-page book of rhymes that includes one written in Spanish.

Copies of all the print materials are available from Frances de Usabel at (608) 266-0419 (e-mail: deusafe@mail.state.wi.us). The public service announcement is available for short-term loan from her office. ■■



Federal LSTA appropriation determined

On November 8 Congress passed the conference report (H. Rept. 105-390) for H.R. 2264, the FY98 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill. Within that appropriations bill, the Library Services and Technology Act was funded at \$146.3 million for FY98. This is a \$10 million increase over FY97 programs, and also is higher than the House-passed proposal of \$142 million. The final appropriation for LSTA is nearly at the Senate-proposed level of \$146.3 million.

We are now waiting to hear what the specific allotment for Wisconsin will be. Complicating the development of the allotment table for states is unusual language about project preferences included in the conference report. No specific projects are required in the statutory language for LSTA. However, the conference report recommends that the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) consider the Senate Appropriations Committee language "regarding a project to digitize a card catalog, a project regarding an historic medical library collection, a one-of-a-kind historical library in Pennsylvania, and a demonstration of interactive Internet connections." ■■

LSTA technical amendments enacted

Several technical and conforming amendments to the Library Services and Technology Act have been given final congressional approval and signed into law. S. 1505, passed by the Senate on November 9, was passed by the House on November 13 by voice vote, and signed into law (P.L. 105-128, Museum and Library Services Technical and Conforming Amendments of 1997) by the President on December 1, 1997.

The amendments include adjustments to the appointment authority of the IMLS director, a clarification that special libraries are included in the definition of library, a clarification of the maintenance of effort requirement, a clarification that national leadership awards could include cooperative agreements, adjustments to the provisions for Native American library services, and correction of a typographical error. Additional details were provided in an earlier ALAWON (v6, n99, November 12, 1997) on S. 1505.

During House consideration of the bill, both Reps. Michael Castle (R-DE) and Dale Kildee (D-MI) spoke in favor of passage. Rep. Kildee added, "We are fortunate indeed to have Ms. Diane Frankel as the director of our Institute of Museum and Library Services. She is an exceptionally strong and talented leader, and enactment of these amendments will most certainly enable her and her able staff to build upon the superb record they have compiled at this small but very important agency." ■■

LSTA Advisory Committee meeting scheduled on March 3-4, 1998

The next meeting of the LSTA Advisory Committee will be March 3-4, 1998, at the Comfort Inn, 4822 East Washington Avenue, Madison.

The purpose of the meeting will be to determine the funding priorities for LSTA projects to begin January 1, 1999. In conjunction with the meeting, there will be a public hearing March 3, 1998, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. The hearing offers an opportunity for interested persons to make suggestions and provide comments on the LSTA program in Wisconsin, including how the funds can best be used to improve library services in the state.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing but would like to provide comments or suggestions, you may submit comments in writing by Feb. 27, 1998, to Peg Branson, Department of Public Instruction, P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI, 53707-7841 or e-mail her at bransms@mail.state.wi.us. ■■

At Reference and Loan

Phrases are only clues to lost poems

This month, Reference and Library staff are appealing to readers' collective memory to help locate copies of poems and other materials sought by library users in Wisconsin.

"The Devil's Soliloquy" is the title of a poem remembered from the 1920s or 1930s and was probably in a magazine called *The Smokehouse*. A Brown County library user is hoping to locate the full text of the poem.

"To the preacher, life's a sermon; to the loafer, life's a rest...." are lines from a poem whose title may be "Life Is." The full text of this poem or reading also is sought.

A poem or nursery rhyme that includes the words "Oh, mother, my dear" and "land of yonder" or "land out yonder" was used by a library patron at her mother's funeral but the text has been lost. She would like a copy of the poem.

A Stevens Point library user recalls only scattered phrases from a poem entitled "Salt of the Earth." Phrases remembered are "New friends I cherish....But old friends to me....Friends are like garments....New ones.... But when we're at....The clothes that we...."

Standard indexes such as Granger's Index to Poetry and the Internet have been checked for all of these poetry requests.

A Marathon County Library patron is looking for the sheet music for "an old song." The first line is "Hail the king of the land and the sea. My power reaches out o'er the realm...." Standard indexes to songs and hymns have been checked.

Anyone with the information sought is asked to contact Mary Struckmeyer at (608) 224-6168 (e-mail: strukme@mail.state.wi.us). Those using e-mail should include their full names in the text of the message, since this information does not always come through in the header. ■■

NHPRC approves grants of \$721,136 for records research projects

At its meeting Nov. 18, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission recommended grants totaling \$2.3 million for 28 projects that will improve our understanding of America's past.

The Commission recommended that the Archivist make grants totaling \$721,136 for five electronic records projects (listed below). Nine state board planning grants and 14 documentary editing projects also received grants.

Application materials for all Commission grants, including fellowships, may be requested by telephone, fax, mail, or e-mail: NHPRC, NARA, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 106, Washington, D.C. 20408-0001; (202) 501.5610; fax (202) 501.5601; or e-mail nhprc@arch1.nara.gov, www.nara.gov/nara/nhprc/.

The electronic record projects recommended were:

Association of Research Libraries, Coalition For Networked Information, Washington, DC: A one-year grant of up to \$20,000 for a project entitled "Improved Access to Electronic Records," to develop, offer, and evaluate a pilot workshop that will bring together teams of archivists and information technologists to explore electronic records issues.

Regents of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI: A 30-month grant of \$105,845 for a project entitled "Preserving Electronic Records of Collaborative Processes," to conduct an analysis of record-keeping practices in six private-sector environments with the goals of producing case studies, assessing the degree to which



functional requirements for electronic record keeping are applicable in settings without highly structured business processes, developing guidelines for electronic record keeping in such settings, and publishing a monograph based on this study.

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, MN: A two-year grant of \$90,031 for the Society's electronic records project, to establish electronic records pilot programs with two state agencies to evaluate the metadata the agencies produce, determine the applicability of that metadata to archival concerns, and establish a set of "best practices" and guidelines that will provide incentives

for other state agencies to document their information systems and provide the basis for a functioning, sustainable electronic records program within the state archives.

The Research Foundation of The State University of New York, Albany, NY: A two-year grant of \$381,332 for a project entitled "Secondary Uses of Electronic Records," to develop guidelines to support and promote long-term preservation of, and access to, public electronic records of value to secondary users, including historians and other researchers. The project will examine the factors that contribute to or impede secondary use of records, then use

applied research methodologies to assess technology tools, management strategies, and resource-sharing models for their potential to facilitate such access.

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY: A two-year grant of up to \$123,928 for a project titled "Archival Electronic Records Practice," to study the types of archival electronic records produced on the college level within a large university. The goal is to initiate discussions and provide recommendations that will form the basis for future efforts to implement best practices for electronic record keeping for Cornell's centralized university information system (Project 2000). ■

Dates and Data

Send information on continuing education activities and meetings to Continuing Education, *Channel*, Division for Libraries and Community Learning.

January 1998

- 1-31 National Book Month.** Sponsored by the National Book Foundation and the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. Contact National Book Foundation, 260 Fifth Avenue, Room 904, New York, NY 10001; (212) 685-0261.
- 6-9 Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE).** New Orleans.
- 9-15 American Library Association.** Midwinter meeting. New Orleans. Contact ALA, (800) 545-2433.
- 16 The Internet: Sites for Your Workday, Sites for You.** Video teleconference for library support staff. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Madison Area Technical College. Sponsored by South Central Library System and MATC. Sessions are free to members of library systems that have intersystem agreements with SCLS; \$20 (others). Registration materials mailed to all Wisconsin library systems. Contact Donna Hussin, (608) 246-5613, dhussin@scls.lib.wi.us.

February

- 1-28 American History Month.** Contact Historian General's Office, Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776 D Street NW, Washington, DC 20006-5392; (202) 879-3255.
- African-American History Month.** Sponsored by the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. For materials, contact The Associated Publishers, Inc., 1407 14th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 265-1441.
- American Music Month.** Contact National Federation of Music Clubs, 49 South James Road, Columbus, OH 43213; (614) 231-2815.
- 1 National Freedom Day.** Commemorates the signing of the 13th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which abolished slavery in 1865.
- 6 Developing Leadership for Change.** Second teleconference in a two-part series titled "Dancing with Change: Libraries Now

and in the Future"; first teleconference was on 12/5/97. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Madison Area Technical College. Sponsored by South Central Library System and MATC. Registration is free to SCLS members and members of systems that have intersystem agreements with SCLS; \$20 (others). Contact Donna Hussin, (608) 246-5613, dhussin@scls.lib.wi.us.

- 10 Library Legislative Day.** Madison. Sponsored by Wisconsin Library Association. Contact Lisa Strand, (608) 245-3640.
- 27-28 WEMA Board of Directors meeting.** Milwaukee. Contact Helen Adams, (715) 677-4011, (715) 592-4614, hadams@coredcs.com, or Sherry Freiberg, (414) 929-2780.

March

- 1-31 Music in Our Schools Month.** Contact Music Educators National Conference, 1806 Robert Fulton Drive, Reston, VA 22091; (800) 336-3768.
- National Nutrition Month.** Contact American Dietetic Association, 216 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606; (312) 899-0040, ext. 4653.
- National Women's History Month.** Contact National Women's History Project, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492; (707) 838-6000.
- Youth Art Month.** Contact Council for Art Education, 100 Boylston Street, Suite 1050, Boston, MA 02116; (617) 426-6400.
- 8 International Women's Day.** Same day every year. Contact National Women's History Project, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492; (707) 838-6000.
- 10-11 Children's Book Fest.** Holiday Inn, Rhinelander. Ginny Moore Kruse, K.T. Horning and Megan Schliesman talk about the best books of 1997. Evening presentation (3/10) sponsored by Headwaters Reading Council. Contact Joan Belongia Mode, (715) 362-5111. Day presentation (3/11) sponsored by Rhinelander School District and Rhinelander District Library. Contact Kris Adams Wendt, (715) 365-1050. Registration for both required by 3/6.
- 10-14 Public Libraries: Vital, Valuable, Virtual.** Seventh national conference. Kansas City, MO. Sponsored by the Public Library Association. Contact (800) 545-2433, extension 5PLA, <http://www.pla.org>.
- 27 It Takes a Vision.** Video teleconference for library support staff. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Madison Area Technical College. Sponsored by South Central Library System

and MATC. Sessions are free to members of library systems that have intersystem agreements with SCLS; \$20 (others). Registration materials mailed to all Wisconsin library systems. Contact Donna Hussin, (608) 246-5613, dhussin@scls.lib.wi.us.

April

- 1-30 National Media Month/School Library Media Month**
- 1-3 Wisconsin Educational Media Association.** Spring conference. Grand Milwaukee Hotel, Milwaukee. Contact Mary Lou Zuege, (414) 255-8444, or Pamela Penn (414) 475-8128.
- 2 International Children's Book Day.** Celebrated on Hans Christian Andersen's birthday to help young children develop an understanding of other cultures through literature. Contact U.S. Board on Books for Young People, c/o International Reading Association, 800 Barksdale Road, P. O. Box 8139, Newark, DE 19714-8139; (302) 731-1600, ext. 274 or 229.
- 3 WLA Young Adult Services Section.** Spring conference. Stevens Point. Contact Elizabeth Vollrath, Portage County Public Library.
- 7 World Health Day.** Commemorates establishment of the World Health Organization in 1948. Contact American Association for World Health, (202) 466-5883.
- 19-25 National Library Week.** Contact American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.
- 26-28 The Wright Place at the Right Time: Positioning the Library for Maximum Impact.** Wisconsin Health Science Library Association annual meeting. Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison. Contact Mary Janeck, (608) 358-6532, mjaneck@ssmhc.com, or Robert Koehler, (608) 267-6234, rkoehler@meriter.com.
- 30 You Deserve a Break Today: A Special Workshop for Library Support Staff.** Eau Claire, sponsored by Indianhead Federated Library System. Presenter: Dr. Deb Johnson. Contact: Sandy Robbers (715) 839-5082 or robbers@ifls.lib.wi.us. Credit available. Register by: April 23, 1998.

May

- 7-8 Wisconsin Association of Public Librarians (WAPL) Spring Conference.** Wausau. Contact: Linda Orcutt, (715) 847-5554 or lsorcutt@wisvalley.lib.wi.us. ■



**December 1997-January 1998
Volume 33, Number 4**

Channel (ISSN 0146-1095) is published monthly, except in July, by the Division for Libraries and Community Learning, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (<http://www.state.wi.us/agencies/dpi/dlcl/>). Its primary purpose is to provide information about the state library agency and on Wisconsin's administration and use of Library Services and Technology Act funds, some of which partially support *Channel* publication.

Unsolicited articles are not accepted. Press releases of state and national library/media/educational organizations are printed when space allows and if they are considered to be of statewide interest.

Deadlines are January 1 for the March issue, February 1 for the April issue, and so on. To be considered for publication, calendar listings and press releases that mention specific deadlines or event dates must be received three months in advance of those dates.

Send comments about bylined articles to the authors. Direct other content inquiries to editor Mark E. Ibach at the division address, at (608) 266-3374, or at ibachme@mail.state.wi.us. **Mailing list changes** and requests for subscriptions or extra copies should be submitted to Karen Nowakowski at the division address, (608) 267-9219, or nowakkj@mail.state.wi.us.

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