Library circulation shows first decline in 25 years

Statewide library visits up nearly 2% to 27.7 million

by Alan Zimmerman, Consultant
Public Library System Administration & Finance

For the first time in 25 years, the total reported annual circulation for Wisconsin libraries showed a decline from the previous year. Total circulation fell 1 percent from 47.4 million in 1997 to 46.9 million in 1998 with nearly 60 percent of all public libraries reporting decreases. The same data, however, shows that libraries are still busier than ever.

Wisconsin's 381 public libraries annually provide information on their collections, funding, and activities, submitting reports each spring to the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL). Information provided for 1998 suggests that while public library circulation declined

- the number of library visits by users in 1998 increased to 27.7 million, an increase of more than 2 percent over 1997 levels;
- the number of reference questions submitted to librarians by library users increased by almost 1 percent to over 6 million reference transactions annually;
- attendance at library programs in 1998 increased 4 percent over 1997 to 1.25 million; and
- interlibrary loans—requests sent from one library to another for ma-

1998 Totals
(in millions)
Circulation – 46.9
Library Visits – 27.7
Reference Questions – 6
Interlibrary Loan – 2
Program Attendance – 1.25

terials not available locally but wanted by a library user—increased 13 percent over 1997 and approached the 2 million items loaned mark.

One possible explanation for the drop in circulation but increased use of public libraries may lie in the growing avail-

ability of electronic resources at libraries. Over 92 percent of all public libraries report having access to the Internet—70 percent of libraries have computers or workstations with Internet access available for direct use by the public, and another 22 percent make Internet access available through library staff. In addition to Internet access, 75 percent of all libraries report having locally provided access to electronic resources such as bibliographic or full-text databases or multimedia products. Libraries reported a 50 percent increase in electronically formatted materials in their collections and the availability of 2,750 public use computers or workstations, 1,100 of which provide Internet access. Unfortunately a national consensus on how to measure the use of these electronic resources in the public library has not yet developed.

Public libraries provide extensive service to children and young adults. Attendance at the 36,250 library programs in 1998 for children and young adults was over 1.1 million, an increase of nearly 4

Inside:
State Superintendent's Report on Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing

Library Collaboration

Aug. 19 meeting set the groundwork for expanding collaborative efforts

by **Cal Potter,** Administrator
Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning

In July 1998 the DLTCL sent invitations to the leaders of Wisconsin library groups inviting them to participate in the first of what has become approximately two- to three-month interval discussion group sessions on library issues (see article below). The goal in establishing such a dialogue was to facilitate interaction and sharing of information and ideas between the various groups that make up the library community. Participation was open to all library groups and each could send as many members as it wished. Reviewing

Cal Potter

the agendas of the past five meetings shows that a great variety of subject matters were covered, including:
• pending legislation with an emphasis on the state budget;
• joint group sponsorship of policy initiatives;
• library "Legislative Day" activities;
• discussion on problems facing libraries such as crossover borrowing or system funding;
• DLTCL updates on programs, projects, and committees (such as; BadgerLink, Linked Systems Project, the State Superintendent's Advisory Committee on the Delivery of Library Materials, library standards, librarian certification, teacher licensure rule changes, Youth with Special Needs Plan, Instructional Media and Technology Standards, changes in print and electronic Channel, and the Library Technology Strategic Plan);

• review of aid programs including LSTA, TLCF, E-Rate, TEACH, the Common School Fund, and library systems;
• school instructional media personnel shortages;
• library group sharing of their respective current and upcoming activities;

Effort underway to identify options for collaborative library activities

by **Carolyn Winters Folke**

In an effort to expand collaborative library activities statewide, Assistant State Superintendent Cal Potter brought together 38 representatives from 19 Wisconsin library organizations for a one-day conference to discuss the status of current efforts and to identify options for future collaborative activity.

The Aug. 19 meeting was the culmination of more than one year of informal discussion directed by the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL). During the same period a COWL Committee reviewed its

organization and in the subsequent report advocated the creation of a formal library group collaborative body.

It was noted at the outset that Wisconsin statutes speak specifically to inter-type library cooperation. The legislature declares its policy to "provide laws for ... interlibrary cooperation among all types of libraries." It further directs the state superintendent to "promote cooperation and resource sharing among public libraries, school libraries, other types of libraries, and related agencies." Potter called the conference as part of the DPI's responsibility for such promotion.

- group discussion on advocacy and communication strategies;
- COWL Review Committee recommendations; and
- initial plans for the Aug. 19 Library Group Collaboration Conference.

Meetings usually lasted approximately two hours and were held at the Reference and Loan Library. No officers were chosen nor other formal organizational framework established, but the DLTCL was the host chair of each meeting. Since the structure was informal, participating groups usually sent leaders/members whose schedules accommodated the time and date. The attendance varied from a high of 35 to a low of 14, with some library groups not sending anyone while others attended all meetings and sent several people. Most feedback on the value of the sessions, including that of DLTCL staff, was positive and that such group communication is valuable and some forum of this nature ought to continue.

During this same time period, a COWL Review Committee included in its recent reorganization recommendations the need to explore vehicles to better facilitate collaboration and communication among library groups. In order to reach a collective library community decision on the shape, form, continuation, and improvement of library group cooperation, communication, and collaboration, the Library/DLTCL Discussion Group decided at its June 10 meeting that a day-long meeting of representatives from all interested library groups take place.

On Aug. 19, at the Pyle Center on the UW-Madison Campus, representatives from 19 library organizations gathered for that dialogue. Carolyn Winters Folke served as facilitator and has compiled a summary article (see page 2) for this edition of Channel as well as the Conference Report sent to all delegates. The 100 percent participation from the various organizations was a wonderful response, with most sending two representatives. While this gathering proved to be a great opportunity for an exchange of ideas, the ongoing collaborative meetings and activities in the months ahead will be the long term benefit. In October, a follow-up committee created from volunteer conference delegates will meet to discuss how the provisions in the report can best be pursued. In November, the larger Library Discussion Group—including the conference delegates—will meet again. They will use the Aug. 19 work product as a guide for agenda formation.

It is clear that there is an appreciation and receptivity for a continued regular gathering of representatives from the many groups in the library community. Using past topics and input, as well as the recommendations from the Aug. 19 Library Group Collaboration Conference as a foundation, a preferred structure for organizational interaction has been expressed along with many agenda items. Strong participation in those future meetings will be the next needed ingredient as we collectively strive to improve group communication aimed at maintaining and enhancing Wisconsin's quality library services. ∎∎

Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning

Calvin Potter
  Division Administrator .... (608) 266-2205
Public Library Development Team
Larry T. Nix, Director 266-7270
Robert Bocher, Consultant
  Technology 266-2127
Margaret Branson, Coordinator
  Libraries Services and Technology Act 266-2413
Mike Cross, Consultant
  Public Library Administration and Funding 267-9225
Frances de Usabel, Consultant
  Specialized Services 266-0419
Jane Roeber, Consultant
  Public Library Youth Services 267-5077
Alan Zimmerman, Consultant
  Public Library System Administration & Finance 266-3939
Information and Instructional Technology Team
Neah J. Lohr, Director 266-3856
Stuart Ciske, Technology Consultant
  Instructional Technology Integration 267-9289
Patricia Stutz
  Library Services Assistant 267-1289
Kay Ihlenfeldt
  DPI Librarian/Searcher 266-3108
James Klein, Technology Consultant
  Information & Technology Literacy Standards 266-2741
Robert Roy, Technology Consultant
  Technology Literacy Challenge Fund 261-6332
Stephen Sanders, Education Consultant
  Instructional Technology Program 266-7112
Richard J. Sorensen, Consultant
  School Library Media Programs 266-1924
Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing Team
  2109 S. Stoughton Rd., Madison, WI 53716; fax 224-6178
Sally J. Drew, Director 224-6161
Circulation Desk 224-6169
Mary Clark, Head
  Resource Sharing Technology 224-6179
Loretta Harmatuck
  Government Services 224-6165
Mary Struckmeyer, Head
  Reference and Interloan 224-6168
Willeen Tretheway
  Audiovisual and Technical Services 224-6171
Terry Wilcox
  Interlibrary Loan Services 224-6163
WISCAT User Support (Stefanie Morrill) 224-6166
Cooperative Children's Book Center
  4290 Helen C. White Hall, 600 N. Park St., Madison, WI 53706
Ginny Moore Kruse, Director .... (608) 263-3720
  CBC is a research library and examination center for children's
  books. Noncirculating collection. Cosponsored by the Department
  of Public Instruction and the UW-Madison.

To send e-mail, use the following format (all lowercase letters):
firstname.lastname@dpi.state.wi.us

Library Statistics

Electronic resources changes library usage picture—*from front page*

percent over 1997. Circulation of children's materials represented about 40 percent of all 1998 public library circulation.

Collections & Circulation

Statewide, all categories of library collection materials increased over 1997. Print volumes held increased 2 percent to 18 million, although the number of titles and volumes added during 1998 decreased 2 percent from 1997. Audio materials held increased 4 percent to 684,000, video materials held grew by 15 percent to 580,000, electronic formatted materials held totaled nearly 23,000, and periodical subscriptions by public libraries increased 5 percent to over 56,000. Statewide total expenditures for public library materials increased 1 percent over 1997.

Total public library and system staffing increased by 3 percent to nearly 3,000 full time equivalent (FTE) employees. Of all staff, 650 FTEs held master's degrees from a program of library and information studies accredited by the American Library Association. Including those with master's degrees, nearly 1,200 FTE staff held the title of librarian and approximately 1,800 FTE were classified as support staff. The total annual public hours open for all public libraries, branches and bookmobiles increased 2 percent over 1997 to 970,000 hours. Total staff costs, including salaries, wages and benefits, increased 5 percent over 1997.

In 1998 public libraries were asked to include in their annual report a breakdown of circulation by the residency of the library user. Equitable reimbursement for nonresident use of public libraries has long been an issue for many Wisconsin public libraries. Recently passed legislation partially addresses this problem by requiring counties to pay libraries

> **More public library statistics can be found at**
>
> **www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/pld/lib_stat.html**

within the county a minimum of 70 percent of the cost of public library service provided to county residents without a local pubic library. Use is measured by circulation to those residents.

This year's circulation report indicates that statewide approximately one-third (32 percent) of all public library use is by persons residing outside the library's home community. Approximately one-fifth (19 percent) of all use is by residents from the library's county who do not have a local library. About 7.5 percent of all use is by residents who do have a local public library, but who choose to use another public library within the county. The remaining non-resident use is predominately by persons in neighboring counties or within the library's public library system area (4.5 percent). Statewide libraries reported that less than 1 percent of use was by other state and out-of-state residents, although libraries in tourist areas may experience relatively heavy use by these users.

Funding Sources

Public library service in Wisconsin is provided through cooperative efforts at the state, public library system, and county and local levels. Considering funding only at the public library level, about two-thirds (68 percent) of all operating revenue is from municipal government sources. Counties provide 20 percent of income, and the remaining 12 percent of public library funding is from state, federal, and other sources. The annual statewide average per capita local

and county tax support for public library service in 1998 was $24.56. Three-fourths of the state's population reside in communities with a local public library, and these residents paid an average of $28.47 per capita for public library service in 1998. However, the range of support varied greatly from under $2 per capita to over $60 per capita. The remaining population live in communities with no public library and pay a county tax for public library service. These residents paid an average of $13.20 per capita, with rates ranging from $1 to $30 per capita last year.

Total expenditures for public library service in Wisconsin, including expenditures at the municipal, county, and public library system level, were $146.6 million for 1998, an increase of 5.5 percent over 1997. Municipalities provided 62 percent of all operating income, counties contributed 20 percent, and state sources accounted for 10 percent. The remaining 8 percent came from federal grants, gifts, endowments, funds carried over from the previous year, and other income. Salaries, wages, and benefits accounted for 68 percent of all operating expenditures, library materials expenditures for 14 percent, and all other operating costs for 18 percent of the total expended.

Wisconsin residents are heavy users of public libraries. Wisconsin ranks fifth among states in public library visits per capita, eighth in circulation per capita, and 13th in reference transactions per capita. An estimated 55 percent of Wisconsin residents are registered public library users. ■■

Library Collaboration

Effort underway to identify options—*from page 2*

The conference focused on a review of current organizations, their missions, and structures. Based on material sent to the DLTCL by participating organizations, four categories of organizations were created:
- statutorily established;
- member organizations;
- affiliations of libraries; and
- others.

The main point of this discussion was to help attendees think of them as categories rather than as distinct organizations that compete with one another.

After reviewing current activities, attendees generated a list of those they felt should be expanded or extended. They also identified a list of new collaborative activities they would like to see.

Expansion or Extension of Current Programs and Activities
- State database licensing—extend BadgerLink and COWL licensing.

• More opportunities to come together—an extension of WLA activities such as the annual conference and the DLTCL sponsored discussion group.
• Equalize access to technology and resources—an extension of BadgerNet, TEACH, and Public Library System funding.
• Continue to build on legislative activity—an extension of current WLA/WEMA legislative committees and networks and the DLTCL sponsored discussion group.
• All libraries have access to reliable, rapid delivery—an extension of current Public Library System delivery services and the intended UW system delivery system.
• Coordinated library instruction for users, trustees, and professionals—an extension of WAAL standards and the many educational opportunities currently available. The re-institution of WISDOM may provide a "one stop shopping" place for library continuing education.

New Programs and Activities
• Develop statewide "last copy" program, including an off site depository.
• Statewide, universal access library card. In some ways this was considered an expansion of current cross system borrowing, a program which needs immediate attention.
• Extend access to online library systems statewide. DLTCL is funding a pilot project to investigate the linking of library systems.
• The ongoing needs assessment for all types of libraries. In part this is a communication of and possibly an expansion of the current library statistical program which is coordinated by DLTCL. This should also include an ongoing evaluation of major programs like BadgerLink.
• Recruitment and library career choice assistance was added to the list.
• Up-to-date list of state and national library legislation with an indication of current status.

Participants decided that efforts must continue to explore collaborative activities—both current and future. The group decided to have a small representative group from the conference attendees review the conference report and make recommendations to the larger group about the next course of action. The review group will include Potter; Milton Mitchell, System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin; Eugene Engeldinger, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; Sherry Freiberg, WEMA; Kathy Schneider, WILS; Bob Carmack or Ken Frazier, Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries; and a WLA representative.

A complete report of the discussion and recommendations will be available from DLTCL. ∎

Joint hearing set on library planning documents

The Council on Library and Network Development, the LSTA Advisory Committee, and the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning will hold a joint hearing on the following Wisconsin Library planning documents:
- State Superintendent's Report on Library Cooperation and Resource Sharing 1997-2001
- Library Services and Technology Act Plan for Wisconsin 1997-2002
- Wisconsin Library Technology Strategic Plan

The joint hearing will be held Nov. 11, 1999, at 10 a.m. at the Comfort Inn, 4822 E. Washington Ave. (near the intersection of I 90 and Hwy. 151), Madison.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments and recommendations from the library community on future activities and priorities in the areas of library cooperation and resource sharing; library technology implementation; and library services to targeted populations.

This five-year plan is required for Wisconsin to receive its annual LSTA grant from the Institute for Museums and Library Services. The plan needs to be reviewed to see if any amendments are needed. A copy can be obtained by contacting George Hall at (608) 267-9222 (george.hall@dpi.state.wi.us) or from the DLTCL website at http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlcl/pld/lstaplan.html. ∎

Among low-income children
Beloit Public Library works to increase literacy

Editor's Note: *This article is the third in a series that describe federally funded grants for youth with special needs. (Amery Public Library's "Storytime on the Road" project at a low-income housing complex was profiled in the March/April issue; the Winding Rivers Library System's "Resources for At-Risk Youth" in July/August.) Grant activities are presented within the framework of the "Public Library Services for Youth with Special Needs: A Plan for Wisconsin," with citations from the plan appearing in parentheses. We hope that the references to the plan will encourage you to turn to it as a source of ideas and information about serving children and teens from low-income families and those who have disabilities. Copies of the plan were sent to all public libraries in July, and the plan is available on the DPI website at http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/ysnpl.html.*

This article describes the Beloit Public Library's strategies for increasing literacy among low-income children. Beloit's municipal population is more than 36,000, making it one of Wisconsin's 20 largest cities, and almost one-third of its children live in poverty (29.2%). A happier statistic for the Beloit community is that its public library has received nine LSCA or LSTA grants to reach out to low-income children since 1990.

Kate FitzGerald-Fleck, the children's coordinator at the library, talks about the ability to read as a "boot strap" skill. Children can't succeed in school until they've mastered reading. The ability or inability to read also is integral to establishing self-esteem at a very early age. She said low self-esteem sets children up for failure in many areas of life.

Over the past decade, the Beloit Public Library has developed a half-dozen distinct outreach literacy programs for children, implemented on an ongoing basis as resources permit.

Mary Carter Smith has worked with the Beloit Public Library telling stories to children and adults. She also told stories at a banquet cosponsored by the library and the NAACP.

Summarizing the common elements of these programs, FitzGerald-Fleck suggests the following general strategies for librarians planning outreach services:

- Target neighborhoods with demographics that indicate at-risk children (Goal 1.1 - Public libraries identify where youth with special needs live in their communities);
- Go where children are already gathered (Goal 1.2 - Public libraries identify community services and programs for youth with special needs);
- Establish ties with groups and organizations working in these neighborhoods—community centers, churches, breakfast clubs, Boys and Girls clubs, urban 4-H, and Head Start (Goal 4.1 - Work with community groups such as churches, Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, youth centers, and domestic abuse shelters in providing services—e.g., story hours, homework assistance and deposit collections);
- Get kids excited about reading and then provide immediate access to the books;
- Tie your program back to the library; and
- Libraries are far more likely to connect with children in group settings than through individual families.

At least five of the library's ongoing youth programs focus on school-age children: Bookleggers, the Reading Road Show, book discussions, Reader's Theater, and Ride 'N' Read.

Bookleggers

FitzGerald-Fleck reports that she learned about the "Bookleggers" concept from the Brown County Library. In this program, library staff and volunteers go to each third-grade classroom in the school district. (Goal 1.1 - Contact the schools.) Third grade is chosen since it's a pivotal period in the development of reading skills. When they visit, the library

staff and volunteers booktalk six titles, leaving behind a classroom collection of five copies of each title for the children to use for independent reading during the month. (Goal 5.1 - Offer on-site collections of materials at agencies where youth with special needs are served.) Bus trips to the library for the classes that have booktalks are scheduled before summer vacation, an ideal time to promote the Summer Library Program, and children are encouraged to register for library cards. (Goal 2.2 – Encourage youth with special needs to obtain library cards.)

Volunteers for the "Bookleggers" program are recruited and have an initial training session at the beginning of the school year. Halfway through the year, an appreciation luncheon and training update is held, and at the end of the year the volunteer booktalkers receive an appreciation gift.

FitzGerald-Fleck believes that booktalking works on the same premise as the plate of samples in a grocery store. If you like what you taste, you'll try the whole thing. The third grade teachers are enthusiastic, observing that Bookleggers get their students to try reading more frequently. And since reading is a cumulative skill, the more you read the better you read.

Public library staff visits to elementary school classes is an activity that a library of any size can try, adapting the frequency of the visits and the availability of the classroom collections to fit within the library's resources. (Funds for the books in Beloit's outreach programs were originally provided through LSCA or LSTA grants, but are now contributed by the library's Friends group and other service organizations.) If staffing at the library makes it impossible to visit the schools, a variation would be inviting third-grade teachers to bring their classes to the library for booktalks, in much the same way as Head Start classes visit the library. If the library can't provide multiple copies of the titles for the children's use, copies of titles that are popular with third-graders could be made available for checkout.

Ride 'N' Read

"Ride 'N' Read" is free transportation on city buses to and from the library for youth up to age 18, using one's library card as a bus pass. (Goal 5.2 - Collaborate with schools, Head Start and other agencies to provide bus transportation.) This service is offered during all school vacation periods—winter, spring and summer. The library cooperates with the city transit department and the school district to carry out this program, and the library and school district jointly publicize this opportunity prior to the vacation periods. (Goal 6.1 – Public libraries work with their communities and their local media to publicize library services to youth with special needs.) During one spring break, a special entertainment program was held at the library to encourage families to take advantage of "Ride 'N' Read" transportation.

Other Programs

Three other programs that target elementary children are the

"Reading Road Show," book discussion groups, and Reader's Theater. The "Reading Road Show" is a before- and after-school program held at six community outreach sites in neighborhoods with high at-risk populations, among them a church-sponsored breakfast club, the Salvation Army, and an after-school "Y" program. The "Reading Road Show" combines paperback collections and readers advisory help along with "literacy entertainment"—Reader's Theater, storytelling, booktalks, and read-alouds spiced with magic tricks, riddles, silly songs, and games. (Goal 5.1 – Public libraries provide services when and where youth with special needs and their families can best use them.)

For the "Reading Road Show," sites are visited once a month except May and September. Library staff provide readers advisory service and programming, and volunteers help with transporting collections, check out, and crowd control. A local car dealership loans a van to the library for the week of the monthly site visits. A library new to this type of outreach or with fewer staff resources might want to get its feet wet by reaching out to a single community site and providing less ambitious programming.

The library began book discussion groups several years ago, loaning multiple copies of a title to after-school groups in the urban 4-H program. This is done four times during the school year, and the library staff then works with the groups on discussions and creative activities related to the book. The program ends with a trip to the library to perform a skit based on one of the books and find related titles for further reading. (Goal 4.1 - Work with community groups such as churches, Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, youth centers, and domestic abuse shelters in providing services—e.g., story hours, homework assistance and deposit collections.)

The "literacy entertainment" component of the Reading Road Show and the skits from the book discussion groups have evolved into Reader's Theater. In this program, kids at community outreach sites form groups and choose a script to perform from among boxes of scripts, arranged by reading level and subject, provided by the library. The young "actors" practice, using minimal props, and then invite their family and friends for a performance at the library, which has the added benefit of getting the kids and their families acquainted with the library. Children who don't want to be on stage can help with the props and distribute playbills so everyone has an opportunity to be part of the event. Bus transportation is offered from the community sites to the library. (Goal 3.3 – Involve youth with special needs and agency staff in program planning and production.)

Although Beloit's population is almost 16 percent African-American, not many black families attend programs at the library. (Goal 1.1 – Know your community.) In an effort to raise awareness and acceptance of the library in the African-American community, the library worked with various black organizations (NAACP, Black Educator's Caucus, Emmanuel

DRAFT
State Superintendent's Report on
Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing

1997-2001

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
John T. Benson, State Superintendent
October, 1999

I. Introduction

The State Superintendent, Department of Public Instruction (Department), is required to report on interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing each biennium. Specifically, Wis. Stats. 43.03(3)(d) says the state superintendent shall summit to the council on library and network development a biennial report which describes the programs and policies to promote cooperation and resource sharing among all types of libraries and to plan, coordinate, evaluate and set statewide priorities for the development of networks to enable interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing, carried out in the preceding biennium and the programs and policies to be carried out in the succeeding biennium.

This report focuses primarily on the activities of the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (Division) in the previous and the current biennium relative to the state superintendent's responsibilities to promote cooperation and resource sharing among all types of libraries in Wisconsin.

The 1997-1999 biennium proved to be more stable than the previous four-year period. There were some increases in public library system funding and the state level interlibrary loan and other contracts, and there were no major cuts in Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning staffing and programs.

The 1999-2001 state biennial budget request included increases in funding for public library systems, the state level interlibrary loan and other contracts, the new BadgerLink full-text database program, Newsline for the Blind, restoration of the Common School Fund which provides funding for school library collections, and funding for academic library collections.

II. Planning for Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing

The Division works with a variety of library groups, organizations, and associations to plan and carry out library programs in Wisconsin. During the last year, Division Administrator, Cal Potter, convened representatives of approximately 15 library groups to share ideas on the development of statewide library programs and to plan legislative strategy during the 1999-2001 biennial budget process. The Division has in

the past and continues to appoint representatives from all types of libraries to advisory committees, task forces, and other groups for the purposes of planning for interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing. The Division publishes *Channel*, a print newsletter, and *Channel Weekly,* an electronic newsletter, and distributes these publications to libraries and individuals throughout the state.

The Department and the Division dramatically increased the amount of information available to all types of libraries on the Internet and websites, including creation of the BadgerLink page which consolidates access to full text information, WISCAT, government information, additional information on library technology and links to other websites. Division staff manage a number of Internet discussion lists (i.e., WISCAT-L, WIPUBLIB, WEMA-L) on behalf of different library interest groups and projects.

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program, administered by the Division, continued to fund a number of major state level resource sharing programs in Wisconsin, including some of the projects described in this report, as well as local library and public library system resource sharing programs. The Division has published a five-year plan that outlines goals and objectives for use of LSTA money for the years 1997-2002. The purposes of the LSTA program are to improve library services through the use of technology, encourage libraries to establish consortia and share resources, and to target library services to persons having difficulty using a library.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is required under 43.03 to prepare this report concerning its activities in relation to its statutory authority to:

a) Promote cooperation and resource sharing among public libraries, school libraries, other types of libraries, and related agencies.

b) Plan, coordinate, evaluate and set statewide priorities for the development of networks to enable library cooperation and resource sharing within this state and between this state and resource providers in other states.

Council on Library and Network Development (COL-AND). According to Stat. 43.07, the state superintendent and the Division shall seek the advice of and consult with the

Council on Library and Network Development in performing their duties in regard to library service... The council shall:

(2) Advise the secretary in regard to the general policies and activities of the state's program for library development, interlibrary cooperation and network development.

(4) Hold a biennial meeting for the purpose of discussing the report submitted by the state superintendent under s. 43.03 (3)(d). Notice of the meeting shall be sent to public libraries, public library systems, school libraries and other types of libraries and related agencies. After the meeting, the council shall make recommendations to the state superintendent regarding the report and any other matter the council deems appropriate.

The Division has introduced legislation to expand the membership of the Council to include a larger number of members representing different types of libraries and to limit the number of terms a person can hold in order to encourage wider participation on this group.

COLAND goals for 1999-2001
To provide leadership to the state and the library community on improving library services and cooperation by:

1. Monitoring and actively supporting library legislative initiatives endorsed by COLAND.
2. Reviewing, monitoring and actively supporting the implementation of the *Wisconsin Library Technology Strategic Plan*.
3. Holding a joint hearing on the *State Superintendent's Report on Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing* 1997-2001 and other major library planning documents, and providing advice on the revision of these documents.
4. Providing advice on the development of budget and legislative initiatives related to library development and networking for 2001-2003.
5. Reviewing, providing advice, and taking action on revised *Wisconsin Public Library Standards.*
6. Reviewing, providing advice, and taking action on revisions in the Administrative Code relating to public librarian certification.
7. Inviting individuals with special knowledge of issues and programs of current and potential significance to Wisconsin libraries to make presentations at COLAND meetings.
8. Actively cooperating with other library groups in planning, advocacy, and sharing information for the improvement of library service to Wisconsin residents.
9. Monitoring the BadgerLink program and its evaluation, and providing advice on improving the program.
10. Reviewing issues relating to public library systems and nonresident borrowing, and providing advice on potential solutions.
11. Reviewing issues relating to school library media centers, and providing advice on potential solutions.
12. Reviewing, providing advice, and taking action on other library-related initiatives, programs, policies, and problems which are brought to the attention of COLAND by the DLTCL staff or the Wisconsin library community

Council of Wisconsin Libraries (COWL) review committee. In 1998, the Council of Wisconsin Libraries appointed a committee to review the future organization and structure of COWL. The committee gathered information from library groups, sent a questionnaire to members, held focus groups, gathered information from other states, and compared their strategic plan to that of the Division. The committee recommended creating a new name for the organization that would be the same for the governing board and the service, changing the composition of the board, and revising the mission. The committee made the observation that a number of the people interviewed expressed concern that COWL and the Division have operated as two separate organizations and that it would be beneficial if the working relationship between the two bodies could be better integrated or coordinated. The committee recommended that COWL and the Division explore the possibility of creating a new entity "to bring about better coordination and communication among the various segmental agencies and their missions."

The Division convened representatives of sixteen library interest groups on August 19, 1999, to discuss issues related to interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing and to make recommendations for improving communications. The group identified 15 activities that need ongoing attention and improvement. This group also discussed the need to create another formal coordinating group, and the consensus was that there was not a need to do this. Suggestions were made for continuing to improve communications and cooperation.

Library technology planning. In April 1997, the state Legislative Council's Special Study Committee on Public Libraries recommended that the Department, in cooperation with the Department of Administration (DOA), hold a Library Technology Planning Conference with participation by all types of libraries. The conference cosponsored by these two agencies was held February 23-24, 1998, and included 84 participants from all types of libraries.

At a Library Technology Planning Conference held in 1998 and discussed further in this report, the library community developed a vision that the Division hopes will serve as a catalyst for planning and cooperation in the future. The ultimate goal is to realize the vision that:

All Wisconsin residents have equitable, convenient, and universal access to the information and knowledge resources they need to meet personal, work, educational, and community goals. This is facilitated by the partici-

pation of Wisconsin libraries in statewide networks linking library resources through appropriate technology and technology standards.

The conference used the motto **"Access - for anyone, from anywhere, at any time."**

The conference participants addressed five issues through group process and priority setting exercises. Participants developed ideas and priorities concerning "Features of Statewide Electronic Networks" and then, working in smaller groups, discussed four other issues: 1) training, 2) technical assistance, 3) document delivery, and 4) educating decision makers.

The Division published two documents following the conference. *The Library Technology Planning Conference Report* was authored by facilitator Debra Wilcox Johnson and contains a full summary of conference activities, ideas and priorities. *The Wisconsin Library Technology Strategic Plan* was authored by Bob Bocher and contains the following five goals which will serve as a blue print for activities in the remainder of the 1997-1999 biennium and for the 1999-2001 biennium.

- All state residents have access to a statewide library network that provides access to information from libraries and other locations.
- Libraries have collections that meet the needs of their primary clientele and are also available to other Wisconsin residents through a statewide library network.
- A comprehensive materials delivery system supports the sharing of library materials throughout the state.
- Training for library staff and patrons is incorporated at every level of a statewide library network.
- The Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning leads and facilitates implementation of a statewide library network.

Division technology planning activities for 1999-2001
1. Convene a group of representatives from all types of libraries to review the goals in *The Wisconsin Library Technology Strategic Plan*, evaluate progress toward those goals, and recommend actions and activities for the next three to four year period.

III. Impact of Technology on Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing

Technological developments provided libraries with increased opportunities for expanding access to knowledge and information resources for the state's residents. Libraries of all types moved forward to embrace these new technological opportunities. Access to the Internet improved for all types of libraries and the development of BadgerLink provided a major new source of information for libraries, schools, universities, businesses, and Wisconsin residents.

BadgerLink. BadgerLink, initiated by the Division in July 1998, includes World Wide Web (WWW) access to full text articles in magazines and newspapers, WISCAT, state and federal government information, other DPI resources, and links to other websites. The Division hopes to expand BadgerLink to include a larger information network that links various kinds of information at the state, system, and local level.

The Division allocated $2.1 million in LSTA funding for the period July 1998 through December 1999 to provide access to full text information. The Division appointed a committee to help select a vendor or vendors to provide full text information services. The committee assisted staff in setting goals for the project, developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the service, evaluating the vendors, selecting vendors, and developing training and publicity plans and will also assist with evaluation plans.

The Division selected two vendors to provide full text information services: EBSCO provides access to over 5,000 magazines, journals, and other reference materials, and Bell and Howell (UMI) provides access to over 40 newspapers including 13 Wisconsin papers.

The Division made these services available to libraries, schools, businesses, other organizations, and to Wisconsin residents at home, in the office, or in other locations. Between July 1998 and June 1999, Wisconsin library staff and residents made over 7 million searches using BadgerLink full text resources. EBSCO, UMI, and Division staff provided over 142 training sessions to library staff between August 1, 1998, and July 31, 1999. Reference and Loan Library staff have registered IP addresses for over 170 Internet Service Providers. Approximately 1,100 libraries have currently registered for BadgerLink use. Publicity materials were provided for library staff to use in promoting the service. A directory of libraries using the system has been developed and a discussion list for those libraries was created in order to provide library staff updates for the project. A few libraries have set up local authentication through local automated systems. The Division registered BadgerLink as a trademark. A half-time staff person was hired in October 1998 to assist in the process of IP registration, provision of technical support, assessment of statistics on use, and other project activities.

The Division has also signed a group contract for local library purchase of services with Grolier, Inc. for access to three encyclopedias: The New Book of Knowledge Online, The Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia Online, and the Encyclopedia Americana Online. The Division continues to manage group contracts with DIALOG, OVID, and WILSONLINE. The Division also arranged for a 15% discount for STAT!Ref, a database of medical reference books.

The DPI submitted a budget request for $2.5 million to maintain the BadgerLink program for the 1999-2001 budget years. The Wisconsin Legislature approved this request with the funding coming from the Universal Service Fund. The Division has contracted with the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee to evaluate BadgerLink use during the first year.

The Division has also brought together a small group of people representing state government agencies, the State Historical Society, the University of Wisconsin and the Scout Project to discuss the need for digitizing additional information and the possibility of applying for grant funds for a state digitization project.

Division BadgerLink activities for 1999-2001
1. Complete the evaluation of BadgerLink.
2. Assess the need to contract for further full text resources on a statewide basis.
3 Assess ways to further advertise BadgerLink to Wisconsin residents.
4. Implement additional methods of authenticating users to assure the widest possible participation for libraries and Wisconsin residents.
5 Create additional web links of interest to library staff on the BadgerLink page.
6. If feasible, apply for grant funds for a state digitization project.

The Internet and Telecommunications. In 1999, the Department of Commerce issued the third report in its series of reports titled "Falling through the Net." The report provides information on the technology gap in the United States. The report states that approximately one-third of all Americans have Internet access from some location, either at home or outside of the home. The public library remains the most popular access point for those who do not have access at home or work. Income level and education level were the best predictors of whether or not people had access to the Internet. Substantial progress has been made in extending affordable telecommunications and Internet access to Wisconsin libraries. A total of 85% of the state's public libraries had Internet access as of 1998. This was an increase from just 6% in 1994. The Division provided Library Services and Construction Act grants to public library systems between 1997-1999 for the purpose of providing Internet access for public libraries in their system areas.

In the 1997-99 budget, the governor and the state legislature proposed the TEACH program (Technology for Educational ACHievement) which provides funding for educational technology and telecommunications access for eligible organizations. The program was designed to accelerate the use of technology by K-12 schools, libraries and higher education. The program includes $210 million over the biennium in block grants and loans to schools. Department staff assisted TEACH and schools by providing temporary staff during the start-up phase, providing a liaison to the program, and continuing to provide consultation about the program to school districts.

One of the major TEACH programs that has proved very popular is the ability for every public library and high school in the state to get a high-speed T1 data line for just $100 a month. For many libraries and schools this represents a dis-

count of over 80% compared with paying for a T1 line on the open market. One hundred seventy public libraries and over 300 schools now have TEACH supported T1 lines. The lines are used primarily for Internet access and as wide area networks (WANs) for libraries that participate in shared automated systems. The availability of these inexpensive lines has spurred interest among libraries in more rural areas of the state to consider shared automated systems. In two library systems, Indianhead and Northern Waters, the TEACH lines have been instrumental in helping the formation of three shared automated systems.

In 1996, the federal government passed legislation that allocated funding from the Universal Service Fund for libraries and schools to subsidize telecommunications services. The program, popularly referred to as the E-rate (Education-rate), is designed to provide K-12 schools and public libraries with discounts from 20-90% on costs related to telecommunications, Internet access, and internal connections. Division staff informed libraries and schools about the details and procedures of the E-rate program and provided major assistance in applying for this funding. Wisconsin schools and libraries received a total of $37,023,431.21 in E-rate discounts between January 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999. This represented about 2.2% of the total $1,660,008,866 funded nationwide. There were 948 E-rate applications funded in the state. Thus far over 80 state schools and libraries have received letters stating that their E-rate discount application has been approved for Year Two funding, which started July 1, 1999. The total funding committed for state schools and libraries in Year Two is $6.6 million. TEACH also assisted in applying for E-rate funding by filing a statewide application on behalf of 594 schools and libraries in 1999. This was the largest single E-rate application in the country.

As part of the federal E-rate program and the TEACH Wisconsin program, all participating public libraries in the state must have their own certified technology plan. The division is the official technology plan certification agency for Wisconsin's public libraries and public schools. Division staff worked closely with federal E-rate staff and TEACH Wisconsin staff in developing six technology planning criteria that must be addressed in the individual library technology plan. Division staff held several technology planning workshops around the state over the past year. A technology planning guide was also developed by staff and distributed to libraries in both print format and on the Web. As of September 1, 1999, over 95% of the state's 426 school districts had certified technology plans and 65% of the state's public libraries had certified plans.

Division Internet and telecommunications activities for 1999-2001
1. Continue to work with TEACH staff to promote their program to schools and libraries.
2. Introduce bill in state legislature to expand the TEACH

loan and telecommunications program.

3. Assist federal E-rate staff by serving as formal statewide E-rate coordinators.

Linking Automated Library Systems. In January 1999, the Division allocated $238,000 in LSTA funds to demonstrate a multitype library model for linking shared automated systems, WISCAT, and interlibrary loan systems. A committee was appointed with representatives from all types of libraries to oversee this project. The committee met three times in 1998 and 1999 to outline the goals and objectives of the project, develop criteria for participation by libraries in the process, evaluate product demonstrations made by potential vendors, and review the RFP process.

This project will provide an opportunity to determine if linking library and information systems is a viable means to enhance resource sharing to help meet the information needs of Wisconsin residents. The goals of the project are (1) to plan and initiate a limited demonstration project linking automated library systems and information systems and (2) to review the broader, long-term impact of implementing such a project on a wider, statewide basis.

Seven public library systems or libraries submitted letters indicating that they were interested in participating in the project and were included in the RFP. The RFP was mailed at the end of August and Division staff anticipate completing contract negotiations by the end of December 1999.

Division linked system activities for 1999-2001
1. Complete vendor selection through an RFP process.
2. Link WISCAT with local or shared automated system(s).
3. Link a minimum of three library systems that have automated systems so that staff in those libraries can place holds for library materials through the other participants' automated systems (extended circulation). Allow staff in one public library system to do a broadcast search against one or both of the other public library systems' automated systems.

WISCAT. WISCAT is Wisconsin's statewide bibliographic database of library holdings. As of January 1999, the database contains 6.1 million titles and 29 million holdings identifying materials in 1,255 Wisconsin libraries of all types (386 public, 91 academic, 652 school, and 126 special libraries). WISCAT is funded through LSTA funds. The Division negotiates and manages the contract for the production of WISCAT and provides technical support to WISCAT users for installation and use of the CD-ROM and online versions of WISCAT.

In January 1997, the online version of WISCAT was made available to all libraries using funding received through the Telecommunications Information Infrastructure Assistance Program (TIIAP). Because there were insufficient funds available to pay for the online licensing fees on an ongoing basis, libraries were charged for the use of WISCAT in 1997.

In January 1998, WISCAT was made available for free so that both library staff and Wisconsin residents could use the software. The WWW version of the WISCAT database provides "read only" access.

Division staff has worked with Brodart Automation, a national library automation vendor, to completely redesign the WISCAT database structure and access software. Brodart has developed client software that allows library staff to update holdings to the database and create interlibrary loan requests. An interim version of the client software was released to library staff in June 1998. The interim client replaced WisCon software for online users. A Windows version of the client software was released for testing in 1999.

The revised database structure, also expected to be available in 1999, will allow records to be added to the database more frequently, and the Division intends to update WISCAT records and holdings on a monthly basis. Library staff using the client software will be able to interactively update the database as they add, change, or delete holdings. The database structure will comply with the Z39.50 standard that allows linking of bibliographic databases.

Staff also began work in 1997 on a union list of serials, which was issued as a separate CD-ROM disc and made available as a part of the online version of WISCAT in 1999. The OCLC archival tape subscription was transferred from Wisconsin InterLibrary Services (WILS) to the Division and changed from quarterly to monthly. The CD-ROM version of WISCAT will be discontinued in December 1999.

Division WISCAT activities for 1999-2001
1. Implement the restructured online database.
2. Release Windows client versions of the online software that will allow libraries to update the database and create interlibrary loan requests.
3. Provide training sessions in a classroom or laboratory setting for WISCAT users.
4. Update the union list of serials.
5. Relocate the WISCAT server for the online database from Pennsylvania to Wisconsin at WiscNet in order to improve response time and provide 24 hour-per-day service 365 days per year.

QuILL Automated Interlibrary Loan System. QuILL allows libraries to access the WISCAT catalog to create interlibrary loan requests, send these requests directly to other libraries, a system clearinghouse, MINITEX and other libraries, and maintain records on the status of requests and statistics. Libraries have experienced faster access to library materials and increased productivity as a result of the use of QuILL. As of August 1999, 127 libraries are using QuILL, including all public library system clearinghouses. Nine systems are using QuILL within the system area with one or more local libraries. The statewide interlibrary loan bulletin board system was discontinued in 1997.

The WISCAT client allows users to create interlibrary loan

requests that can be processed by QuILL. CrossTalk, the telecommunications software currently used with QuILL will be discontinued in December 1999 and will be replaced by use of TCP/IP telecommunication protocols for sending and receiving QuILL requests.

Division QuILL activities for 1999-2001
1. Create Windows versions of QuILL local site and processing center programs.
2. Improve statistics management features in QuILL.
3. Replace CrossTalk with TCP/IP protocols for telecommunications.

UW System online catalog and circulation system. In 1998, the University of Wisconsin libraries selected the Endeavor online catalog and circulation system to replace the NOTIS and NLS automated systems. The vision for the automation project is that students, faculty, and staff will have barrier free and timely access to UW library materials. The project has three components 1) development of the bibliographic database, 2) integration of interlibrary loan and circulation systems, and 3) delivery of library materials to libraries statewide. Installation is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1999. Each campus will have its own Z39.50 web server with the campus bibliographic database. Broadcast searches will be made among campuses, a universal index will facilitate response time, and duplication in search results will be eliminated. The servers will also be able to search other Z39.50 servers. The Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries (CUWL) is developing plans for unmediated interlibrary loan and circulation transactions among campuses. The interlibrary loan system will be International Organization for Standardization (ISO) compliant.

Division activities for 1999-2001
1. Monitor the impact of the University of Wisconsin circulation system and online catalog project on interlibrary loan patterns and procedures in the state.

State agency and Reference and Loan Library online catalog and circulation system. The Reference and Loan Library worked with library staff in four agencies (Departments of Public Instruction, Health and Family Services, Workforce Development, and the Public Service Commission) to plan and implement an online catalog/circulation system for these agencies. A cooperative online catalog/circulation system called SALCAT (State Agency Library Catalog) was implemented in September 1998 and the Reference and Loan Library began circulating materials using the automated system in February 1999. This shared catalog allows library staff in the agency to see what each agency has and to further facilitate interlibrary loan among the agencies.

Division activities for 1999-2001
1. Continue barcoding and record cleanup at the Reference

and Loan Library and in other agencies.
2. Convert the catalog to Windows-based software.
3. Communicate with other state agency libraries to determine if any other agencies want to join SALCAT.

IV. Impact of Interlibrary Loan and Reference Services on Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing Interlibrary loan services. The Reference and Loan Library continues to operate a clearinghouse for interlibrary loan requests and handles approximately 90,000 requests per year. About 10,000 requests per year are referred to libraries outside Wisconsin. The Division contracts with Wisconsin Interlibrary Services and Milwaukee Public Library for state level interlibrary loan services. Many public library systems continue to provide interlibrary loan, reference referral, and delivery services for various types of libraries in their system areas.

Division interlibrary loan activities for 1999-2001
1. Review the procedures for balancing interlibrary loan traffic among libraries.
2. Update interlibrary loan guidelines as needed to reflect changes caused by technology, delivery services, and funding patterns.

Reference services. To cope with diminishing budget allocations for print and nonprint materials, Reference and Loan Library staff began evaluating all prospective purchases on the basis of how items would be used to fill subject requests. Staff also visited and made arrangements with the University of Wisconsin-Memorial Library and Madison Public Library to do on-site reference work, using these local collections when information needed could not be located at the Reference and Loan Library.

In addition to cultivating relationships with other information providers, Reference and Loan Library staff took steps to improve communication with their customers. A section of the library's web page was devoted to reference services. Descriptions of procedures for handling specific types of reference requests—such as medical and legal requests—were published at this website. Direct service for rush requests was offered to staff at public library systems when information was needed on short notice or when a database search was identified as the best resource available. Reference staff also provided telephone consultation to system reference staff needing advice on how to handle specific requests. Direct service was also offered to K-12 school personnel seeking information on educational policy and research.

A customer satisfaction survey was drafted and sent to local library users during spring of 1998 to determine how the information supplied by the Reference and Loan Library is used and whether materials supplied are meeting users' needs.

The Reference and Loan Library improved access to its videocassette collection by placing the title list of videocas-

settes on the Department's web page. The list can be searched by keywords and libraries of all types can book materials for specific dates or place requests directly for materials. The list includes those titles contributed by the Bureau of Audio Visual Instruction which have not yet been added to WISCAT.

A toll free number (1-888-542-5543) was established so that users could more easily contact the Reference and Loan Library staff.

Division reference service activities for 1999-2001
1. Review online database resource currently used by the Reference and Loan Library in addition to BadgerLink and determine which resources should be retained and which new resources should be purchased.
2. Explore setting up a reciprocal reference agreement with MINITEX.
3. Investigate the feasibility of putting the song index on the BadgerLink web page.
4. Develop a plan for cataloging state government documents on web pages, archiving electronic documents, and making state government document information more accessible electronically.

Statewide delivery services. The Division appointed a short-term committee in 1996 to discuss how delivery services could be improved and to develop a Request for Proposal to hire a consultant to gather information about the current status of delivery services and develop models for service delivery and cost sharing. In 1997, the Division hired Ruth Bessant, a consultant, who worked with the committee, gathered information from Wisconsin and other states, and issued a report on her findings. The report, *Delivery of Library Materials in Wisconsin,* was published in September 1997. Ruth Bessant made presentations to a wide variety of groups about the findings of the study.

In 1998-1999, the Division awarded a grant to the Northern Waters Library Service to demonstrate and evaluate the impact of providing a van delivery service to that area. The Division appointed a permanent advisory committee to develop suggested guidelines for system delivery services, develop models for cost sharing of the intersystem delivery service and to evaluate the results of the grant awarded to Northern Waters Library Service.

The Delivery Service Advisory Committee discussed the need for additional information and recommended that Reference and Loan Library and South Central Library System staff conduct two small studies to supplement the information contained in the 1997 report prepared by Ruth Bessant. Approximately, $10,000 in LSTA funding was made available for these studies. The committee recommended that the 1993 study, which measured transit time for materials delivered, be replicated so that the information could be compared over time. They also recommended that the delivery service patterns be analyzed in the northern part of the state

where a separate commercial courier is used.

A route study is being conducted in Indianhead Library System, Northern Waters Library Service, Wisconsin Valley Library Service, and Nicolet Federated Library System. All four systems use Waltco, Inc. for their internal system delivery services. For the purposes of the study, the four systems will be considered as a single geographic area. Hubs for sorting may be set up at locations other than public library system headquarters. The study will set up hypothetical routes and recommend changes if appropriate. This study is scheduled for completion by December 1999.

The University of Wisconsin is developing an RFP to select a vendor to provide improved service that will include five-day-a-week delivery for all campuses, direct service to library buildings, and handling of archival materials as well as traditional library materials. Connections could also be made with private academic, technical colleges, and public libraries served by the South Central Library System.

Division delivery service activities for 1999-2001
1. Complete statewide transit time study and route study.
2. Develop funding recommendations for a statewide delivery service.
3. Review methods of improving the transit time for delivery of library materials.
4. Monitor the impact of the University of Wisconsin selection of a delivery service vendor.

Newsline for the Blind. Beginning in 1998, The Reference and Loan Library worked with the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to provide access to the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) *Newsline* service. This service allows blind individuals to dial in to a server and listen to the three national newspapers being read by an electronic voice. The newspaper text is digitized each day by the NFB and downloaded to servers in Madison and Milwaukee.

Division Newsline activities for 1999-2001
1. Add the Wisconsin State Journal, The Capital Times, and the Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel to the newspapers available on Newsline.
2. Add an 800 line so that the service can be used by blind residents throughout the state.

Child Care Information Center (CCIC). The CCIC operates a mail order library and a clearinghouse for information on child care topics. The CCIC serves a wide range of child care providers, teachers, hospital staff, educators, and staff in public, school, academic, vocational technical college, and other libraries. The CCIC has a web page and its materials will soon be listed in WISCAT. Staff produce a quarterly newsletter mailed to about 11,000 users.

Child Care Information Center activities for 1999-2001

1. Encourage CCIC users to use WISCAT to identify information needed.
2. Increase information on the CCIC web page.

Cooperative Children's Book Center. The CCBC staff of three professional librarians works closely with the University of Wisconsin, libraries of all types, and schools across the state to provide a wide range of information services about children's and young adult literature. The Division pays for a portion of the CCBC operations through a contract with the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

With the increased importance of literacy efforts and public libraries serving as the "preschool door to learning," the CCBC has developed a national award for outstanding writing in a picture book for very young children. In 1998, the CCBC planned and presented the first annual Charlotte Zolotow Award to the book *Lucky Song* by Vera B. Williams (Greenwillow, c1997). The 1999 Zolotow Award will be presented to Uri Shulevitz for the book *Snow* (Farrar, 1998) in October.

As a follow-up to the hugely successful joint DPI/CCBC publication *Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults*, the CCBC staff presented an orientation session about selecting and using multicultural books during the fall semester for Mimi Block's "SHAPE" undergraduate student tutors that work in Madison schools. The CCBC conducted four workshops on multicultural literature topics during October and November 1998. The CCBC cooperated with the Division to present the 1998 Wisconsin Family Read-in. A list of selected, recommended new books for preschoolers, children and young adults was created by the CCBC staff to be sent by DPI to approximately 4,000 children who mailed in a book review. Throughout 1998, the CCBC planned and conducted 44 workshops or presentations for teachers and librarians at the CCBC or elsewhere in Wisconsin. The participants were connected with organizations such as CESAs, reading councils, the Wisconsin Educational Media Association, the Wisconsin Library Association, and public library systems.

The CCBC Intellectual Freedom Information Services were honored in two ways during 1998 and 1999, through the American Library Association's publication about Intellectual Freedom and through the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English 1999 Lee Burress Award to the CCBC and to the CCBC director. The CCBC responded to 94 requests for information related to intellectual freedom issues during 1998.

Cooperative Children's Book Center activities for 1999-2001
1. Conduct distance streaming on the WWW throughout October 1999 of the main speeches during the conference CCBC will sponsor on October 8-9 for the United States Board on Books for Young People.
2. Conduct distance education inservices for the Four

Lakes Consortium.
3. Continue to improve the CCBC web page accessibility (www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/).

Combined school public libraries. The Division staff worked with the Council on Libraries and Network Development to revise the publication *Combined School & Public Libraries: Guidelines for Decision Making*. The new publication was distributed in 1998, and is available on the Division's website.

V. Division Publications Related to Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing

Creating a Shared Vision for Library System in Wisconsin: A Report On the Listening and Learning Meetings, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1995.

Delivery of Library Materials in Wisconsin, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1997.

Designing Schools to Accommodate Technology, Department of Public Instruction, 1996.

Instructional Telecommunications: A Resource and Planning Guide, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1995.

Internet Policy Statement and Plan, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, September, 1994.

Legislative Proposal from the Division for Library Services for Multitype Library Cooperation at the System Level, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, February, 1990.

Library Services and Technology Act Plan for Wisconsin 1997-2002, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1997.

Library Services and Technology Act, LSTA Information and Guidelines for Wisconsin, 1999, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1998.

Multitype Library Cooperation at the Area/State Level in Wisconsin: A Report Issued by the Council on Library and Network Development to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, February, 1990.

Reference Services in Wisconsin Libraries, Focus Group Summary, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1994.

Report of the Interlibrary Loan Task Force, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1996.

Report of the WISCAT Task Force, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1993.

Technology Literacy Challenge Fund, Fiscal Year 1998 Application Guidelines, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1998.

Wisconsin Interlibrary Loan Guidelines, 1996, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1996.

Wisconsin Educational Technology Plan PK-12, Department of Public Instruction, 1996.

Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Information and Technology Literacy, Department of Public Instruction, 1998.

'Down Under & Over Here' celebrates Australian, U.S. books

From Nov. 13, 1999, to Feb. 20, 2000, a fascinating exhibit will be on display at Wausau's Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum. "Down Under & Over Here: Children's Book Illustration from Australia and America" is the fruit of a dynamic collaboration between the museum and the Marathon County Public Library.

The exhibition includes 60 original illustrations created for 21 Australian and 30 American favorite books. Titles range from classics like "Blinky Bill," "Possum Magic," "Make Way for Ducklings," and "The Little House" to contemporary classics-in-the-making such as "Rose Meets Mr. Wintergarten," "Sign of the Seahorse," "Quail Song," and "Josefina."

To complement the "Down Under & Over Here…" illustrations, there will be a variety of educational programs and special events for children and adults at both the library and the museum. These include school class 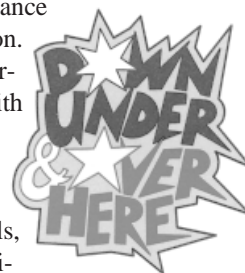visits, and some 200 teachers will make use of specially prepared "Down Under & Over Here" story boxes in their classrooms. A website (www.downunderoverhere.org) also will enhance acquaintance with the exhibition. It will offer opportunities to link with authors and illustrators and to explore the geography, food, animals, history, and multifaceted cultures of both Australia and the United States.

"Down Under & Over Here" received one of only 12 grants awarded by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services in the competitive category Model Programs of Cooperation. Kudos to Sonja Ackerman, head of the children's division at Marathon County Public Library, her library colleagues, and the staff of the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum!

Bob Graham, the Australian author/illustrator of "Rose Meets Mr. Wintergarten," will be in Wausau for the exhibition's opening. He will return in late January along with American author/illustrator Vera Williams ("A Chair for My Mother"). ■■

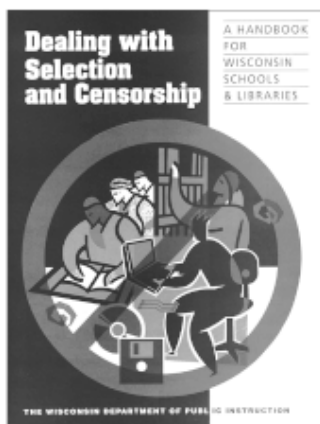Children's Book Illustration from Australia and America

New DPI publication addresses censorship

Dealing with Selection and Censorship

A HANDBOOK FOR WISCONSIN SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES

THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Today, schools and libraries not only house collections of resources such as books, magazines, and audiovisual items but also provide access to electronic resources through the Internet and other online sources.

A new publication from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI)—"Dealing with Selection and Censorship: A Handbook for Wisconsin Schools & Libraries"—provides information and resources that will help librarians and educators establish policies and procedures to guide them as they develop collections, provide Internet access, and handle challenges to resources. It also focuses on intellectual freedom as it relates to school library media centers and public libraries.

The handbook is available for $14 in Wisconsin (plus shipping and tax) and $21 outside the state (plus shipping and tax). To order a copy, contact DPI Publication Sales at (800) 243-8782. ■■

Beloit literacy efforts target low-income youth—*from page 7*

Baptist Church) to bring minority children's book authors to speak in Beloit. (Goal 2.4 – Public libraries offer programs about the cultures and history of groups in their communities.) Among other book creators, Patricia and Fredrick McKissack and Ashley Bryan have given memorable presentations, but FitzGerald-Fleck thinks that the real value of these events is the cooperation that takes place between the library staff and pivotal individuals in the black community in planning these visits. (Goal 4.2 Public libraries partner with community agencies in joint ventures, including sharing resources and cosponsoring programs and Goal 6.3 - Promote different celebratory days and weeks—e.g., Deaf Awareness Week, Black History Month.) The library and the black community now have ties and feel comfortable to call on each other for assistance whenever needed.

This column has focused on the Beloit Public Library's outreach to school-age children, although the library also serves Head Start and works with family day care providers. Even with this specialized focus, it's not possible to describe the innovative programs the library offers to school-age children in the detail they deserve. If you'd like copies of representative grants that the library has carried out during the past years, contact Frances de Usabel at (608) 266-0419 (frances.deusabel@dpi.state.wi.us). For firsthand information about the projects, contact Kate FitzGerald-Fleck at (608) 364-2909 (kateff@als.lib.wi.us). ■■

CESA 11 projects see success with TLCF

by Rob Roy, Consultant
Technology Literacy Challenge Fund

School districts in CESA 11 have found success integrating technology into the curriculum through Technology Literacy Challenge Fund (TLCF) subgrant projects. These projects pair students and teachers to develop lessons and activities making technology an integrated part of the curriculum. Two consortia from CESA 11 were successful in obtaining subgrants for their unique projects.

The Siren Virtual District project (districts of Prescott, St. Croix Central, Siren, and Spoorer) is in its second year. Building on last year's foundation, this project will involve teachers, administrators, school board members, and students learning technology skills and how they relate to the state's new information and technology literacy standards.

The Unity Curriculum-Based Technology project (districts of Frederic, Rice Lake, Somerset, and Unity) is modeled after the success of last year's Siren project. This project will develop a learning community of teachers and students working together to improve technology expertise and to integrate information and technology literacy standards into the curriculum.

Both projects began in July with three-day workshops to train teachers and students to make better use of technology tools in the classroom. Teams from each district in the consortium made up of teachers and students attended the workshops. After some investigation and training related to new equipment, the groups examined the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Information & Technology Literacy. They looked for ways to incorporate the standards and the new

Teams of students and teachers learning to create webpages for classroom use.

technology tools into the curriculum. Each teacher/student team began the development of new lessons and activities for the classroom. There will be follow-up workshops throughout the school year to continue this process. Teachers and students said they were excited about the opportunity to work together to make meaningful change in the curriculum. ∎

Working with Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Information & Technology Literacy.

For more information about TLCF grants and projects, visit the DPI's website at:

www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/ imt/tlcfover.html

For a list of 1999 TLCF grant awards, visit

www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/ imt/tekgrnt.html

AV Notes

New videos highlight Wisconsin's history

Each year, excellent new media programs about Wisconsin are released, but the state's sesquicentennial seems to have stimulated an extra abundance of production. Last year's long list of titles has been augmented with additional notable programs and music documenting and celebrating life in the state.

The programs cited here look at aspects of Wisconsin's past, at some of its people and their activities, and at the land itself. As they describe history, the variety and strength of ethnic heritages, work, achievements, and recreation, they at the same time reflect part of the spirit and uniqueness of the state.

A brief, nonevaluative description is provided for each title. All of these materials are available for free loan from the Wisconsin Reference and Loan Library. Call numbers and booking system numbers have been included in the descriptions as identifiers for the convenience of borrowers. The addresses of producers or distributors are provided for those wishing to inquire about availability for purchase.

Libraries and media centers of all types, organizations, teachers at kindergarten through 12th grade schools, faculty and staff at academic institutions, and state agency employees may call or send requests for videocassettes directly to the Reference and Loan Library, or they may send them through regular interlibrary loan channels. The telephone number for direct requests is (888) 542-5543 or (608) 224-6169. The fax number is (608) 224-6178. Other users, including individual borrowers, should request materials on interlibrary loan through their public library.

Aldo Leopold: Learning From the Land: A Daughter Recalls the Story of the Leopold Family and Their Wisconsin "Shack" Experience. Through the personal recollections, family photographs, and excerpts of readings from "A Sand County Almanac," Nina Leopold Bradley recounts the life of Wisconsin environmentalist Aldo Leopold and the Leopold family. She tells how the family's weekend retreat known as the "Shack" was the place where they came to know and love the land. The program is appropriate for 4th grade to adult, for studies in history, social studies, science, and language arts, and may be shown in two segments for convenient use. (1998. 51 minutes; with teacher's guide) (VHS V-6675 (025107)) (Aldo Leopold Nature Center, 300 Femrite Dr., Monona, WI 53716; (608) 221-0404).

Two recent segments in the *Emphasis Wisconsin* television series look at some places in Wisconsin. The programs were produced by Milwaukee Public Television and McCullough Productions, and were originally broadcast on the Wisconsin Public Television Network.

Emphasis Wisconsin: Ghost Towns explores the character of three Wisconsin ghost towns, and tells why their fortunes rose

and fell, and how they made an imprint on the state's history. Port Ulao on Lake Michigan in Ozaukee County was once the site of a busy refueling stop for steamships on the Great Lakes. Jones Island on the Milwaukee waterfront was a fishing village and home to immigrant Kaszubes from the Polish region of Europe until the city needed the land for a sewage treatment plant and other industrial necessities. And the farming community of Pleasant Ridge in Grant County was home for families of former slaves and, during the 1870s, was the site of Wisconsin's first integrated school. (1999. 58 minutes) (VHS V-6764 (025197))

Emphasis Wisconsin: Up North says that the original attraction of the northern counties of Wisconsin were tranquility and natural beauty, and looks at what needs to be done to preserve it for future generations. It tells of the impact of recent environmental, economic, and landscape changes, and includes segments describing tourism in northern Wisconsin, lumbering history, the resort business and tradition, the real estate market, forestry and horse logging, and the cranberry and mining industries in the area. (1998. 58 minutes) (VHS V-6724 (025180)) (WMVS/WMVT, 1036 N. 8th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233; (800) 811-2216)

Jens Jensen: A Natural History. A biographical program telling of the life and work of Danish-born landscape architect Jens Jensen. Jensen is described as an environmentalist, conservationist, visionary, poet, philosopher, artist, and teacher. The concept and development of his school in Ellison Bay, Wisconsin, called The Clearing, is explained. Written and produced by William H. Tishler. (1998. 55 minutes) (VHS V-6763 (025196)) (The Clearing, PO Box 65, Ellison Bay, WI 54210; (920) 854-4088)

Two programs from Wisconsin Public Television provide capsules of historical information about Wisconsin.

Sesquicentennial Minutes. Interviews, historical manuscripts, and archival images and film are used to present a collection of 52 one-minute stories about people, places, and events in Wisconsin's 150 year history. Just a few of the wide range of topics are "Traveling Library," "Underground Railroad," "First Alice in Dairyland," "Black Hawk War," "One Room Country School," "Great Lakes Steamers," and "Father Mazzuchelli." Produced by Wisconsin Public Television and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. (1998. 52 minutes. Closed captioned) (VHS V-6717 (025150))

Wisconsin Minutes 1988: History "Minutes" 1-13. An earlier production which presents thirteen 2- to 4-minute segments about people, places, and events in Wisconsin's history. Topics include Old Abe, the War eagle, the Peshtigo fire, Camp

Randall, Oneida Indians, Door County cherries, Interstate State Park, and more. (1988. 38 minutes) (VHS V-6718 (025151)) (Wisconsin Public Television Program Marketing, 821 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706; (608) 263-4575)

Stand the Storm. A documentary which tells the story of runaway slave Joshua Glover and Milwaukee abolitionist Sherman Booth and the role they played in Wisconsin's 1854 fugitive slave case, *Ableman v. Booth*. It explains how the doctrine of states' rights was invoked to protect runaway slaves and tells that direct action and civil disobedience were used by antislavery protestors in pre-Civil War Wisconsin. Produced by Wisconsin Public Television in cooperation with the Wisconsin Supreme Court. (1998. 30 minutes. With bibliography and timeline sheet) (VHS V-6713 (025146)) (Wisconsin Supreme Court, PO Box 1688, Madison, WI 53701-1688; (608) 266-1298)

Wisconsin: An American Portrait. A program which tells the story of Wisconsin and its people, a story rooted in a love of the land and a work ethic that goes back generations. The beauty of the state and the respect for native roots and the traditions of faith, family, and community that arose from the pioneer spirit are described. This is an affectionate portrayal of Wisconsin which blends historical photographs, current videography, narrative, and excerpts from old writings. The program is suitable for audiences grade 4 to adult. A compact disc recording of the soundtrack is also available (see below). A production of the Duncan Group, the American Visions Group, and Milwaukee Public Television. (1998. 60 minutes) (VHS V-6756 (025189)) (American Vision Group/Stamats Communications, 615 5th St. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401; (800) 553-8878)

Wisconsin Cranberries: Growing Strong. Presents a brief history of cranberries in Wisconsin and their contribution to the state's economy and environment, and tells how they are grown and harvested. The program says that cranberries are Wisconsin's number one fruit crop and that there are about 200 growers in the northern and central counties of the state. Comments from some growers about the work and the way of life are included. (1997. 6 minutes) (VHS V-6755 (025188)) (Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association, PO Box 365, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-0365; (715) 423-2070)

Wisconsin Folks. Documents the participation of Wisconsin as the featured state in the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C., in June 1998, during the state's sesquicentennial celebration. Scenes of the festival are shown where Wisconsinites representing the diversity of cultural life in the state demonstrate ways of expressing their heritage through work, crafts, food, music, and recreation. A production of Wisconsin Public Television. (1998. 59 minutes. Closed-captioned) (VHS V-7008 (025441)) (Ootek Productions, S12229 Round River Trail, Spring Green WI 53588; (608) 544-5662)

These are three new programs in *The Wisconsin Gardener* series produced by Wisconsin Public Television. Each program is hosted by master gardener and gardening enthusiast Shelley

F. Ryan, features guest experts on the topics covered, and presents information geared specifically to gardening in Wisconsin. "Back to Basics" gives information and advice on preparing and amending soil, insect control, and tips for planting tender vegetables, herb gardening, and dividing plants. (1998. 28 minutes. Closed-captioned) (VHS V-7009 (025442)). "The Heirloom Garden" includes visits to the Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, Iowa, which is dedicated to the preservation of heirloom varieties, and to a nineteenth century garden at Old World Wisconsin. Demonstrations of the use of heirloom fruits and vegetables in recipes are shown. (1999. 42 minutes. Closed-captioned) (VHS V-7011 (025444)). "Too Cold to Garden" addresses the care of orchids and indoor holiday plants, the use of integrated pest management (IPM) at home and in the greenhouse, and how to control creeping Charlie, and shows a native Wisconsin prairie in winter. (1998. 28 minutes. Closed-captioned) (VHS V-7010 (025443)) (Wisconsin Public Television Program Marketing, 821 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706; (608) 263-4575)

The World's Greatest Showmen. Tells the history of the circus in the United States and in Wisconsin, and of the showmen who made the circus great. The program explains the impact of the development of the canvas tent on the ability of the circus to move, and describes Wisconsin as a home for circuses. It includes descriptions of the Ringling Brothers' World's Greatest Shows and P.T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth. Produced by Wisconsin Public Television and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin's Circus World Museum. (1998. 77 minutes. Closed-captioned) (VHS V-7007 (025440)) (Ootek Productions, S12229 Round River Trail, Spring Green WI 53588; (608) 544-5662)

Wisconsin architect Frank Lloyd Wright was a prolific designer. The production of materials about him and his work has also been abundant, and these are two new titles.

Frank Lloyd Wright. Presents a biography of architect Frank Lloyd Wright who designed over 800 buildings including Fallingwater, Taliesin, the Johnson Wax Building, and the Guggenheim Museum. A combination of live cinematography, interviews, and archival footage is used to tell about his colorful, sometimes scandalous, personal life, and to describe his philosophy, work, and lasting influence. A Florentine Films production written by Geoffrey C. Ward and produced by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Peter Miller. (1998. 165 minutes on 2 videocassettes. Closed-captioned) (VHS V-6765 (025198)) (PBS Video, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314-1698; (800) 344-3337)

Wright Again: Frank Lloyd Wright's Monona Terrace. Documents the construction of the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin. The program describes the original concept and plans by architect Frank Lloyd Wright, the longtime controversy over the project, the eventual building process, and the grand opening ceremony and events. Included are comments from principal

Library Aid Payments

School library aid may increase with new state budget

by Richard Sorensen, Consultant
School Library Media Programs

The proposed state budget bill contains a provision that could increase the Common School Fund's School Library Aid allocation to school districts from $14.3 million to $28.2 million. If the budget bill is passed and signed by Gov. Tommy Thompson in its current form, this amount could be distributed as School Library Aid this school year.

This would mean the amounts distributed to school districts for library materials on a per child basis next year could almost double, increasing from $11.64 to an estimated $22.96 per child (using last year's count of children aged 4-19). The statewide average per student actually enrolled in the public schools statewide could increase from $16.26 to $32.06.

Important cautions should be observed, however, when planning budgets for the 1999-2000 school year and after.
• Depending on when the budget bill is passed and signed *and* when the calculations and appropriations are made, the amount could be $28.2 million.
• Because of another previous statutory language change, the entire School Library Aid allocation will be distributed in *June* from now on rather than January (or split between January and June as last year).
• The $28.2 million is unusually high *this year*, because the combined School Library Aid and TEACH Block Grants fixed distribution amounts did not use up all the earnings available in the Common School

Income Fund. Distributions in succeeding years will be lower.

Because of the statutory changes in the 1997-99 state budget, school library aid fell from an annually increasing amount that fairly approximated the rate of inflation to a fixed $14.3 million. In his budget for the 1999-2001 biennium, the governor proposed maintaining the $14.3 million cap on School Library Aid and moving $5 million from the Common School Income Fund into the TEACH Wisconsin Block Grants. However, the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance changed the governor's proposal by providing that the full amount of income from the Common School Fund would be appropriated to the School Library Aid through a continuing appropriation, the arrangement that existed prior to the 1997-99 state budget.

These increases will be especially welcome after two years of level funding and steadily rising costs of books and electronic media. Restoring the Common School Income Fund gives local library media specialists the discretion to develop a balanced collection including traditional and electronic resources. In addition, because School Library Aid is included in the calculation of the state's two-thirds share of funding school costs, this increase in Common School Fund income reduces the amount of general purpose revenue (GPR) needed for school equalization aid.

School Library Aid may be spent only for "library books and other instructional materials for school libraries," according to chapter 43.70(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes. It comes from the interest earned on loans made from the Common School Fund, and it resides in the Common School Income Fund until it is distributed to school districts each year.

For information about the Common School Library Aid distributions, contact Richard Sorensen at (608) 266-1924 (richard.sorensen@dpi.state.wi.us). ∎

School library media specialist shortage addressed

The June 1999 *School Library Media Journal* carried a short article describing the nationwide shortage of certified school library media specialists. Wisconsin also is experiencing a shortage, which has been documented in the Department of Public Instruction's (DPI's) annual Supply and Demand Studies. School administrators, school library media educators, and DPI consultants are concerned about filling present and future vacancies.

Faculty from Wisconsin's school library media preparation programs met regularly during the past six months to examine the nature and extent of the problem and identify practical measures for increasing the supply of well prepared and appropriately certified school library media professionals. Dana Nelson, academic planner from the UW System Administration, facilitated the meetings, and staff members from the DPI's Teacher Licensing Office and Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) lent support.

The outcome was a proposal by professors Anne Zarinnia and Eileen Schroeder of UW-Whitewater and Gyneth Slygh of UW-Eau Claire, which was awarded funds from the UW System PK-16 Initiative to enable development of a "Virtual Library, Information and Instructional Technology Program." This program would consist of faculty from Wisconsin universities that offer programs to prepare school library media specialists. It will use web-based technologies and non-

AV Notes—*from page 11*

architect Anthony Puttnam, historian William Cronon, historians and authors David Mollenhoff and Mary Jane Hamilton, and others. Produced by Wisconsin Public Television. (1999. 60 minutes. Closed-captioned) (VHS V-6766 (025199)) (Wisconsin Public Television Program Marketing, 821 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706; (608) 263-4575)

Wisconsin In Music

Wisconsin: An American Portrait. A compact disc recording of the music soundtrack from the video program of the same title. It features instrumental music written and performed by composers Peter Buffett, Randy Sabien, Bill Camplin, and Sam Pacetti. (1998. Don't Records # DON 30) (CD-1731) (Don't Records, PO Box 11513, Milwaukee, WI 53211 or American Visions Group, 615 5th St. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401; (800) 553-8878)

The Wisconsin Story: A New Musical Celebrating the People and the History of Wisconsin. Music and lyrics are by Phil Martin. This title is available as an original studio recording on compact disc (CD-1732), as a songbook of vocal selec-

tions (M1508.M379x W5 1998) and as a script (ML50.M385xW5 1998). The musical presents vignettes documenting and celebrating people and events in Wisconsin's history, including the landing of Nicolet, the exploration of Marquette and Joliet, pioneer life, the lead miners, statehood, and the stories of Joshua Glover and Belle Case LaFollette. The work was first performed in the summer of 1998 as part of the state's sesquicentennial festivities. (Gateway Productions, 7121 Lindfield Rd., Madison, WI 53719)

Libraries and media centers of all types may call or send requests for videocassettes found in the "VHS Videocassette Loan Catalog" directly to the Reference and Loan Library or they may send them through regular interlibrary loan channels. Organizations and businesses, teachers at kindergarten through 12th-grade schools, faculty and staff at academic institutions, and state agency employees also may choose between contacting R&LL directly or sending interloan requests through their libraries. The Reference and Loan telephone number for direct video requests is (888) 542-5543 or (608) 224-6169. The fax number is (608) 224-6178. All other users, including individual borrowers, should request materials on interlibrary loan through their public library rather than contacting Reference and Loan directly. ∎∎

Library media specialist shortage—*from page 12*

traditional time formats—such as weekend meetings—to make it possible to take courses without much travel. The program will target practicing teachers who wish to become library media specialists.

The first major activity took place the first week of October, when faculty from participating universities met for three days with practicing library media specialists and staff from the DPI. In this initial meeting, the group
• identified the essential knowledge, dispositions, and abilities needed for professional practice as school library media specialists;
• identified appropriate performances; and
• outlined specific courses and experiences that would make up the program.

Full development of the program will take several years, but the first courses should be ready for delivery in fall 2000.

Precedents for such a program exist in the University System's collaborative nursing education program and in the col-

laborative school library media distance program available through UW-Whitewater and UW-Eau Claire. The "Virtual Department" is nearly a year away from accepting students, but the project is well on its way. More details will be available in the future.

Participants in the grant activities include:

UW System Personnel

Dana Nelson, academic planner, UW System Administration

Carrie Lencho, UW-Whitewater, Graduate College

Bob Carmack, UW-Superior, Library Science, chair

Penny Garcia, UW-Oshkosh, Classroom Integration of Technology

Dianne McAfee Hopkins, UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies

Louise Robbins, UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies

Eileen Schroeder, UW-Whitewater, Educational Foundations, Library Media

Gyneth Slygh, UW-Eau Claire, Educational Foundations, Library Media

Anne Zarinnia, UW-Whitewater, Educational Foundations, Library Media

K-12 Personnel

Erlene Bishop Killeen, library media director, Stoughton School District

Jody Goswitz, library media director, Kettle Moraine School District

Madge Klais, acting coordinator, Library Media and Technology, Madison Metropolitan School District

Myragene Pettit, library media director, Arrowhead High School

Sherry Freiberg, supervisor for Instructional Technology/Information Management, Fond du Lac School District

Department of Public Instruction

Richard Sorensen, school library media consultant

Facilitator

Jan O'Neill, Quantum Learning Dynamics. ∎∎

Library Standards

Summary of Public Library Standards Task Force efforts

Voluntary standards help libraries plan service improvements

by Mike Cross, Consultant
Public Library Administration & Funding

The Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) currently is reviewing and updating the Wisconsin Public Library Standards. In the five years since this document was last updated, many significant changes have occurred in the public library environment. Consequently, State Superintendent John T. Benson appointed a task force to review and update the standards during 1999. The goal is to develop an easy-to-use document that promotes quality library service throughout Wisconsin.
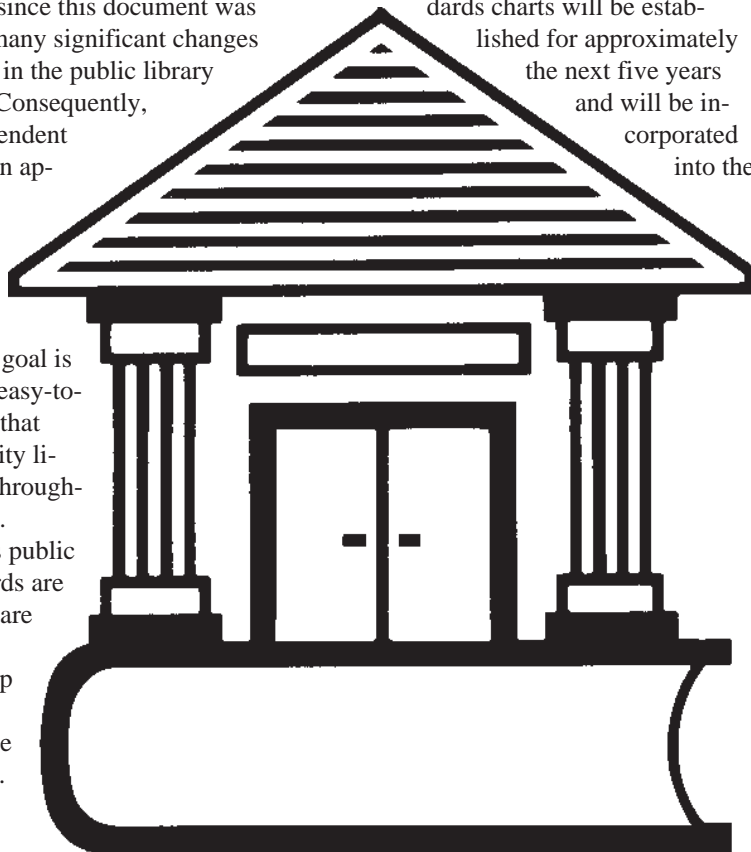
Wisconsin's public library standards are voluntary and are established as one tool to help local libraries plan for service improvements. Wisconsin's public library standards are not related to a library's status as a legal public library and are not related to library system membership requirements.

As in previous editions of the Wisconsin Public Library Standards, the new edition will establish certain quantitative standards for public libraries based on both the municipal and the service population of the library. Service populations reported in future Library Service Record editions would more accurately reflect actual total library service populations because they will be calculated based on county nonresident usage.

Quantitative standards charts no longer will be recalculated annually and printed in the Wisconsin Library Service Record. Instead, the quantitative standards charts will be established for approximately the next five years and will be incorporated into the standards document. This should make the standards easier to use and will allow libraries to plan for hitting a fixed, rather than a moving, target. A draft of the new quantitative standards charts will be available this fall.

The task force established tentative "absolute minimum" standards for all libraries regardless of size of community or library service area population. These standards generally apply only to libraries in the smallest communities. Updated absolute minimum standards are tentatively as follows:

- the library is open no fewer than 25 hours per week;
- a certified library director is paid to perform director duties for no fewer than 25 hours per week;
- total library staff FTEs (full-time equivalents) is no fewer than 1 FTE;
- the library provides the library director with at least 20 contact hours per year of continuing education;
- the library provides key full-time library staff (other than the director) with at least 10 contact hours per year of continuing education (prorated for part-time staff);
- total book volumes is at least 8,000;
- total print periodical titles is at least 30;
- total local expenditures on collection (including electronic resources) is at least $6,000; and
- at least 5 percent of the collection is withdrawn annually (this standard may be set at a lower level for larger libraries).

A new standard for libraries of all sizes may be established at the next meeting for total collection size (including all formats of materials). On the other hand, the task force plans to remove the current quantitative standard for "acquisitions as percent of holdings (print)."

Tentative new technology standards include:

- the library has a dedicated Internet connection;
- the library has at least one public access workstation with graphical Internet access;
- the library has at least one worksta-
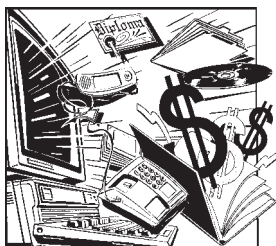
Library standards—*from page 14*

tion with Internet access available for staff use only;

• the library has an online catalog (or is part of a shared system);

• the library's catalog is available via the Internet with the use of a web browser and is accessible 24 hours per day, seven days per week;

Questions on E-rate Discounts

The SLD has been contacting some libraries seeking clarification on the calculation methodology they used to determine their E-rate discount.

The school lunch figures previously posted on the DPI E-rate page (http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/pld/erate.html) were accurate but, according to the SLD, they did not provide enough specific information to enable all libraries to determine a properly weighted average discount.

No library's E-rate application will be denied solely for discrepancies in the discount calculation. If SLD staff see a discrepancy between the discount figure they have calculated vs. the figure on your application, they will contact you to discuss the issue. If this occurs, DPI staff recommend you accept the SLD discount figure so that you do not delay any further processing of your application.

For Year Three E-rate applications, each library will have to contact their local school district to get the necessary lunch figures to properly calculate their weighted E-rate discount. If you have any questions on this issue, please contact Bob Bocher at (608) 266-2127 (robert.bocher@dpi.state.wi.us). ∎

• the library has a sufficient number of workstations to accommodate patrons with minimal wait times (a general rule of thumb is one terminal per 35 average visits per day);

• the library maintains a web page with basic information about the library and links to local and other information helpful to library patrons;

• key staff have e-mail accounts and workstations with dedicated Internet connections;

• the library has trained staff to assist patrons with the use of technologies necessary to access nonprint resources;

• the library has staff or outside consultants available to resolve technology problems;

• the library supports patron training in use of technologies necessary to access electronic resources;

• the library maintains and/or participates in a multiyear library technology plan that addresses library needs and necessary funding to meet those needs, and reviews the plan annually; and

• the library budgets sufficient funds to maintain, upgrade and replace needed library equipment and software on an ongoing basis.

The standards task force plans to complete work on a preliminary draft document by October and complete a final document by the end of the year. The preliminary draft document will be discussed at a WLA conference session Oct. 22.

For more information, contact Mike Cross at (608) 267-9225 (michael.cross@dpi.state.wi.us). ∎

Calendar

10/19-22	Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) Annual Conference, La Crosse.
11/10-11	Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Committee Meeting.
11/10-14	American Association of School Libraries (AASL) Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL.
11/11	Council on Library and Network Development Meeting, Green Bay

2000

1/14-19	American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting, San Antonio.
2/16-20	Association of Educational Communications and Technology Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA.
3/28-4/1	Public Library Association (PLA) National Conference, Charlotte, NC.
4/2-4	Wisconsin Educational Media Association (WEMA) Spring Conference, Middleton.
4/9-15	National Library Week.
4/12-14	Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians (WAAL) Spring Conference, Fond du Lac.
5/1-2	National Library Legislative Day, Washington, D.C.
5/11-12	Wisconsin Association of Public Librarians (WAPL) Spring Conference, Middleton.
7/6-13	American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
10/10-12	Governor's Wisconsin Educational Technology Conference (GWETC), Madison.
10/31-11/3	Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference, Green Bay. ∎

Frequently asked questions about libraries and Wisconsin's public records law

by Mike Cross, Consultant
Public Library Administration & Funding

Public libraries across Wisconsin have been receiving requests for copies of written records concerning patron or staff complaints about patrons accessing inappropriate materials on public Internet terminals. In response to library questions about Wisconsin's public records law, the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) has prepared the following questions and answers.

Wisconsin's public records law provides that almost all records of state and local government (including public libraries) are available to the public. The policy of Wisconsin's public records law is summarized by the following statutory declaration of policy.

"In recognition of the fact that a representative government is dependent upon an informed electorate, it is declared to be the public policy of this state that all persons are entitled to the greatest possible information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those officers and employees who represent them. Further, providing persons with such information is declared to be an essential function of a representative government and an integral part of the routine duties of officers and employees whose responsibility it is to provide such information. To that end, s. 19.32 to 19.37 shall be construed in every instance with a presumption of complete public access, consistent with the conduct of governmental business. The denial of public access generally is contrary to the public interest, and only in an exceptional case may access be denied." (Wis. Stat. s.19.31)

Must we respond to all public records requests? And, how quickly do we have to respond?

You must respond to all requests to view or copy public records made by any person (except most requests from individuals who are committed or incarcerated). The requester

Wisconsin Public Records Law

Q&A

need not be a resident of the state and generally cannot be required to give their name or the purpose of the request. Acceptable identification may be required only when necessary for security reasons or when required by federal law or regulation.

Public records requests must be responded to "as soon as practicable and without delay." Any denial of a written request for records must include a written statement of the reasons for denying the request, and must inform the requester that the determination is subject to review by mandamus (a writ from a court ordering performance of an act) or upon application to the attorney general or district attorney.

What records must be made available for viewing or copying?

Except as otherwise provided by law, any requester has the right to inspect or receive a copy of any public record. This applies to records in any format.

An important exception to the public records law for libraries is the statutory prohibition on release of records that identify an individual who uses a publicly funded library (Wis. Stats. s. 43.30). Therefore, any record produced in response to a public records request must be edited to remove any information which could identify an individual as a library patron, such as a patron's name or address. This information can only be released with the consent of the individual, by court order, or (under certain circumstances) to other libraries for interlibrary loan purposes.

Common law (judge-made law) allows the denial of certain requests for access to public records if the balance of interests

favors nondisclosure. Some of the cases in which the courts have upheld nondisclosure involve certain personnel records of public employees; however, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has also held that personnel records are not automatically excluded from disclosure. A 1999 Wisconsin Supreme Court decision held that a public employee whose personal interests are implicated in the potential release of records must be given the opportunity for judicial review before the records are released.

Who determines which records are subject to disclosure under the public records law?

TEACH has received 40 "Standard Start" loan applications totaling $5 million.

Pending 1999-2001 state budget outcomes, the TEACH Technology Training and Technical Assistance grant program will provide $4 million annually over the next biennium to Wisconsin's schools, libraries, library systems, and CESAs. The need for professional development in technology, often cited as the most critical challenge facing schools and libraries, is evident in the response to programs' request for proposals for fiscal year 1998-99: 84 percent of public school districts and 80 percent of public libraries in Wisconsin submitted project ideas. A statewide review panel of educators, library staff, and technology specialists awarded $7 million to 27 awardees. With preference given to those consortia that included public libraries, 272 libraries, with over 1 million patrons, are represented among the 1999 award recipients.

In recognizing the importance of strong partnerships between Wisconsin's educational agencies, the TEACH Wisconsin Board established the Collaboration Committee comprising leaders of the University of Wisconsin System, Technical College System, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Department of Public Instruction, Educational Communications Board, and TEACH. Over the past year, this group has identified the key issues facing education and ways in which K-12, higher education, and other educational agencies can work together to provide statewide direction. With professional development as the key focus for the future, the Collaboration Committee is organizing efforts to provide training in technology integration for pre and inservice teachers, and library and administrative staff.

For more information and assistance in educational technology planning, TEACH staff can be reached by calling (608) 261-7437. Visit the TEACH website at http://www.teachwi.state.wi.us. ∎

Every organization subject to the public records law must designate in writing one or more legal custodians to respond to public records requests. In the absence of such a designation, the authority's highest ranking officer and the chief administrative officer (most likely the board president and the director, in the case of a public library) would serve as legal custodians. The mayor, village president, or town chair of your community has the option of appointing the legal custodian for library records. The custodian(s) also shall designate one or more deputies to act in his or her absence. If you have concerns about the release of certain records, it may be advisable to consult with the municipal attorney.

Every organization subject to the public records law also must adopt and prominently display a notice identifying the legal custodian and establishing the time, place, and method for requesting records, and indicating any copying costs. Generally, records must be available for inspection during all regular office hours.

Can we charge for copying and other costs?

You may charge a fee not to exceed "the actual, necessary and direct cost" of reproduction and mailing. A locating fee may be charged only if the "the actual, necessary, and direct cost" of locating the records exceeds $50.

How long do we need to retain public records?

Municipal and county governing bodies can adopt ordinances that provide for the destruction of obsolete public records. However, the period of time for retention provided by these ordinances may not be less than 7 years for most records. Library system official records need to be retained at least 10 years, as required by the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Tape recordings of meetings may be destroyed 90 days after the minutes have been approved and published if the purpose of the recording was to make written minutes of the meeting.

Prior to destroying public records, you must give the State Historical Society at least 60 days written notice. The Historical Society may, upon application, waive this notice requirement. The Historical Society will preserve any records it determines to be of historical interest.

Can we be penalized if we violate the public records law?

Yes! An organization or legal custodian that improperly denies or delays a request may be ordered to pay the requester's attorney fees, damages of not less than $100, and other actual costs. In addition, an organization or legal custodian that arbitrarily and capriciously denies or delays response to a request, or charges excessive fees may be required to forfeit not more than $1,000 in punitive damages.

If you have other questions about Wisconsin's public records law, please contact Mike Cross at (608) 267-9225 (michael.cross@dpi.state.wi.us). ∎

Technology

Public library technology statistics from annual report

by Robert Bocher, Technology Consultant
DLTCL Public Library Development Teamt

   The Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) annually collects statistics from the state's public libraries. The statistics collected in early 1999 included several related to automated systems and Internet access.

   It is important to note that there are time gaps in the statistics (see graph) because surveys were not done in all years and the types of survey data collected differed from year to year.
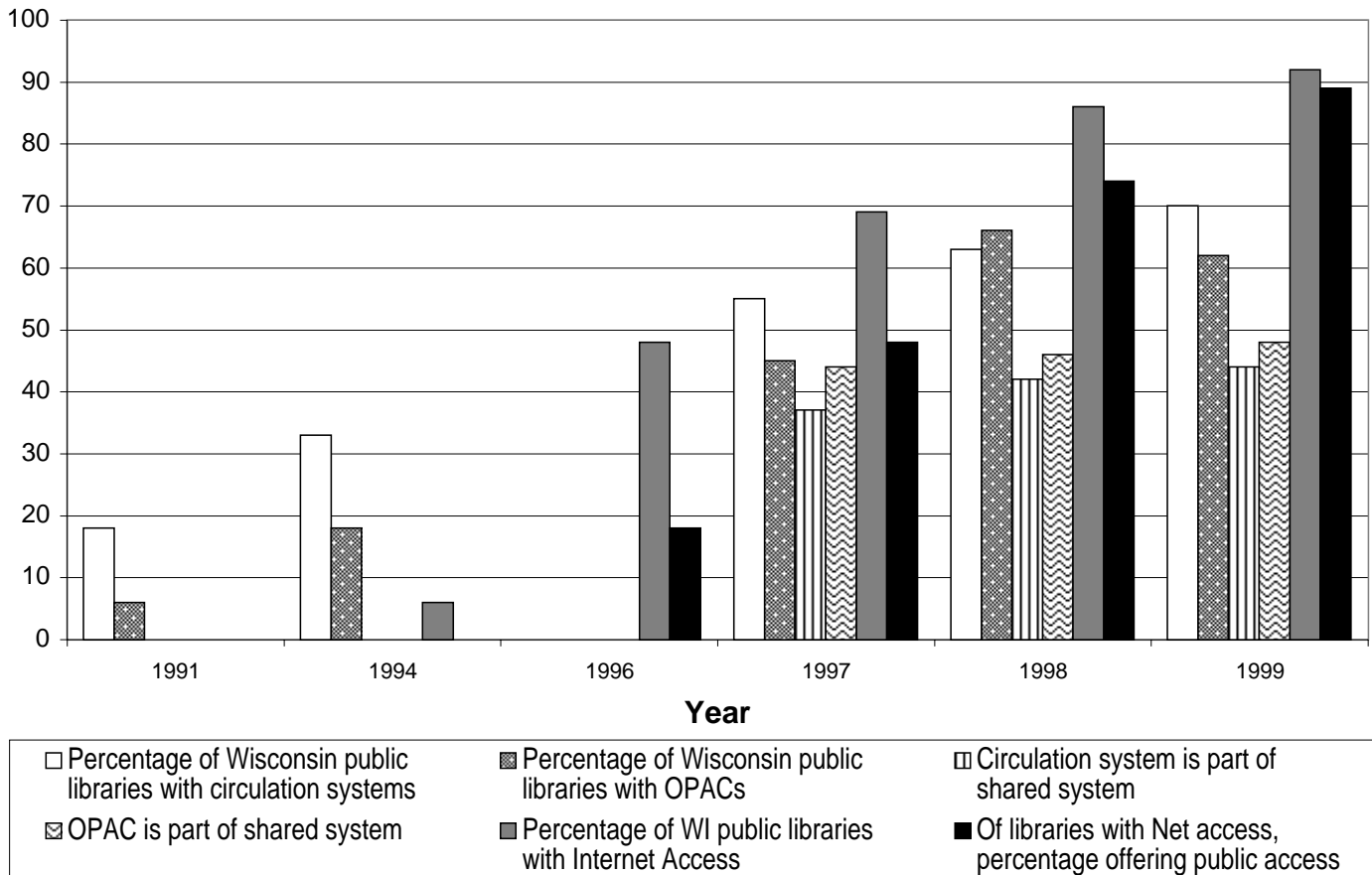
Circulation and Online Catalogs

   The state's public libraries have made significant progress installing circulation systems over the past decade. With just one exception, all 80 libraries in municipalities with populations over 10,000 have automated circulation systems. On the other end of the spectrum, of the 80 libraries in communities with pupulations under 1,000, just 29 (or 36 percent) have automated circulation systems.

   These statistics show the steady increase in the number of libraries participating in shared automated systems. In the past, one factor working against the creation of shared systems, especially in rural areas, was telecommunication cost. However, the TEACH program's provision of inexpensive high-speed telecommunication lines to any public library in the state is causing renewed interest in implementing shared systems in some rural areas of the state. For example, there are three new shared systems starting in the Indianhead system and one in the Northern Waters system. With these new systems and several others in the state, the percentage of libraries participating in shared systems will probably be over 50 percent by spring 2000.

Public Library IT Information

Legend:
- ☐ Percentage of Wisconsin public libraries with circulation systems
- ▨ Percentage of Wisconsin public libraries with OPACs
- ⊞ Circulation system is part of shared system
- ⊠ OPAC is part of shared system
- ▤ Percentage of WI public libraries with Internet Access
- ■ Of libraries with Net access, percentage offering public access

TEACH WI enters second full year

With the start of the 1999-2000 school year, Technology for Educational ACHievement in Wisconsin (TEACH WI) enters its second full year of statewide program implementation. Since Gov. Tommy Thompson signed the initiative into law in Oct. 1997, schools and libraries statewide have participated in TEACH programs for educational technology development and training. Designed to support the full range of technological and communications resources to improve teaching and learning, TEACH's unique approach includes:

- **educational telecommunications access** to the Internet and distance education connections on Wisconsin's BadgerNet network system;
- **wiring loans** to schools and public libraries for installing and upgrading computer network wiring and upgrading electrical wiring;
- **competitive training and technical assistance grants** to consortia of public schools, public libraries and CESAs with preference given to consortia which include libraries; and
- **noncompetitive block grants** to public school districts for any educational technology purpose excluding employee salaries or benefits.

On behalf of eligible TEACH-funded recipients, TEACH coordinates with the State Department of Administration for purchases of educational technology materials, supplies, equipment, and contractual services.

In the area of telecommunications access, TEACH subsidizes T-1 data lines and DS-3 video links to public school districts, public library boards, CESAs, private K-12 schools, private colleges, tribal colleges, and technical college districts. Recipients pay a maximum price of $100 per month for a data line or a maximum $250 per month for other types of data lines and video links.

During 1998-1999, TEACH funded 372 data lines, 170 of which were in-stalled in public libraries, 169 in public school districts, 23 in private K-12 schools, eight in private colleges, and two in CESA locations.

During the same period, 100 subsidized video links were installed in state schools and CESAs—69 in public school districts, 16 in technical college districts, seven in private colleges, five in private K-12 schools, two in CESAs, and one in a tribal college.

Looking ahead to 1999-2000, TEACH projects the installation of 108 subsidized data lines throughout state educational agencies. The majority of these (86) are being requested by public library boards with the remaining requests from private K-12 schools and private colleges. These installations bring data line installations to 256 among public libraries for 1998-2000.

The TEACH Wiring Loan program provides loans to school districts and public libraries to install and upgrade computer network wiring and upgrading electrical wiring in buildings existing on or before Oct. 14, 1997. TEACH subsidizes approved wiring loans so recipients repay only 50 percent of the loan principal and interest, with the state paying the remainder. The program initially provided "Fast Start" loans to 99 school districts and public libraries that were prepared to begin local wiring projects. These loans totaled nearly $24 million.

Technology statistics
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With 33 percent of the state's public libraries, Dynix (Ameritech Library Systems) was the most popular vendor of public library automated systems in 1999. This parallels the national statistics where Dynix is also the leading vendor. The Winnebago system, popular in many smaller libraries, was in use by 23 percent of the libraries.

Internet Access in Public Libraries

There also has been a substantial increase in the number of public libraries with Internet access since 1994. Over 80 percent of Wisconsin public libraries offer Net access to the public.

More than 85 percent of the school districts have direct Net access but only 48 percent of the public libraries report having direct access. The 48 percent figure is an increase over the 37 percent that reported direct access in 1998. Much of this increase is a result of TEACH subsidized T1 lines. As of June 1, 1999, 169 libraries in the state had subsidized T1 lines for Internet access.

Complete results of the technology surveys for each public library in the state can be found on the Public Library Development Team's page on technology statistics at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/netauto.html. ∎

Around Wisconsin

People

Brooke Anson retired last spring from her position as reference librarian at the UW-Stout Library Learning Center in Menomonie.

Pamela Gardow is the new high school library media specialist at the Durand Community Library.

Colleen Gifford is the new library media specialist for the Elmwood School District.

Marlene Gustafson recently retired from her position as Head of Technical Services at the Pauline Haass Public Library, serving Sussex and Lisbon (Waukesha County).

Brenda Haines is the new marketing/community relations coordinator at the Winnefox Library System. Before coming to Winnefox she spent three years as a reporter at FOX 11 News.

Judy Lefeber is the new library media specialist at Greenwood Elementary, River Falls School District.

Holly Otts is a new cataloger with the Outagamie Waupaca Library System.

Kris Sauve is the new library media specialist at Arkansaw Middle School and the Caddie Woodlawn Elementary (Durand School District).

Lori Slover is the new library media specialist at River Falls High School.

Janet Soofi is the new Head of Technical Services at the Pauline Haass Public Library serving Sussex and Lisbon (Waukesha County). She was formerly the reference/technical services librarian at the Frank L. Weyenberg Library in Mequon.

Carol Toepke is the new director of the Neuschafer Community Library in Fremont.

Awards

"Print Culture in a Diverse America" (University of Illinois Press, 1998), edited by **James P. Danky** (newspaper and periodical librarian, State Historical Society of Wisconsin) and **Wayne A. Wiegand** (professor, School of Library and Information Studies, UW-Madison) recently won the 1999 Carey McWilliams Award "for an outstanding scholarly or literary work…on an aspect of the U.S. experience of cultural diversity." The award is given annually by Greenwood Press's *Multicultural Review*. Danky and Wiegand also are co-directors of the Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America, a joint program of the State Historical Society and UW-Madison.

Sen. Kevin Shibilski (D-24th District) recently received the Public Official of the Year Award from the South Central Library System for his significant contributions to libraries.

South Central Library System (SCLS) Trustee of the Year Awards went to a system trustee and trustees from five of the system's seven member counties—Columbia, Dane, Green, Sauk, and Wood. Honored were **Judy Wehler** of Plain of the SCLS Board; **Steve Stuelke** of Wisconsin Dells in Columbia County; **Jennifer Frickelton** of Deerfield in Dane County; **Ramona Loughan** of Monticello in Green County; **Jim Staff** of Sauk City in Sauk County; and **James Quinn** of Wisconsin Rapids in Wood County. The **Monticello** and **Sun Prairie** Public Libraries received the system's Public Library of the Year Awards for innovative library service. The SCLS also presented special awards to the **Friends of the Sun Prairie Public Library** and **Culver's Frozen Custard Restaurants** for their volunteer services and support of libraries, respectively. ▮▮

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