



A Newsletter of the Wisconsin Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning

DLTCL's Programs and Plans: 2001-2002

DPI emphasizes technology and resource sharing

As part of an ongoing assessment and planning process for using technology to enhance the sharing of library collections, Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) staff members have prepared this article. It focuses on the division's plans in four areas: WISCAT, linked systems, shared systems, and Internet access. This article is presented in the context of the statutory responsibilities the DLTCL has to foster library resource sharing, and it has been reviewed by the state's Library Information Technology Advisory Committee. Enhancing resource sharing is a key factor in realizing the vision of the Wisconsin Library Technology Strategic Plan that all residents have access to information. This access is facilitated by libraries participating in networks linking their various collections through the use of appropriate technology.

The Issues

The state's library community and the division must address many issues related to the use of existing technologies and evolving technologies to further resource sharing of library col-

lections. Some of these issues include:

- How to ensure that all libraries wishing to participate in resource sharing can do so?
- How to fund resource sharing programs and their

Enhancing resource sharing is a key factor in realizing the vision of the Wisconsin Library Technology Strategic Plan that all residents have access to information.

underlying technologies?

- How to make a timely transition to new resource sharing paradigms while not disenfranchising libraries that, for whatever reason, cannot make such a timely transition?
- How to evolve current ILL protocols to ensure the best use of what new programs and technologies can offer (e.g., Will li-

braries allow open, unmediated interlibrary loan by patrons?)?

- How to judge new resource sharing technologies under "real-world" conditions and in consideration of the resource sharing tools that already exist?

Another important election

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

The announcement by State Superintendent John T. Benson that he would not seek a third term set the stage for an important selection process for his successor.

Seven candidates filed nomination papers with the State Elections Board to have their names on the Feb. 20 primary ballot. When an incumbent is not seeking re-election, it is not unusual to have a large field of candidates. The two persons with the highest primary vote counts will face-off in the April 3 general election, with the new state superintendent assuming office July 1.

Wisconsin, being the only state in the nation not to have either an elected or appointed state school board, has vested educational leadership in the state's constitutionally created elective office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Because the office is nonpartisan, the election occurs in spring, along with judicial and local elections. Serving for a four-year term, the state superintendent provides the leadership and advocacy for K-12 education and libraries in Wisconsin. Those concerned with education and libraries in Wisconsin need to study the candidates and make an important election decision.

The Department of Public Instruction, over which the state superintendent is



Cal Potter

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WISCAT

The division's primary means of promoting resource sharing has been its development and support of WISCAT. The WISCAT project has two major purposes: to develop a resource sharing tool among libraries of all types and sizes; and to provide a cost-effective method for libraries to get MARC records for use in automated systems.

Since the first WISCAT was produced in 1982, the catalog has grown from 116 participating libraries and 1.2 million titles to 1,270 participating libraries and 6.7 million titles. One-hundred-sixty libraries use QuILL, a WISCAT interlibrary loan management program. Access to WISCAT has evolved from microfiche, to

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Chief Officers of State Library Agencies COSLA takes active role in library advocacy

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

When we think of national library issue advocacy, the American Library Association (ALA) naturally comes to mind. But there is another active worker and partner on the national scene—the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA).

COSLA is an independent organization whose membership consists of the state-level library agency heads from every state and several territories. Members gather quarterly (usually for two-day sessions), most often in close time and place proximity to the meetings of ALA, to dis-

cuss issues and determine organizational activities on behalf of libraries.

State-level library agencies vary greatly, with some being literally a large state library building or archive, to others that are almost exclusively library development oriented, with several, like Wisconsin, part of an education agency. Attendees at COSLA, due to this structural and organizational diversity, carry a range of titles including state librarian, director, commissioner, executive secretary, or possibly assistant superintendent. The array of responsibilities of state library agency chiefs ranges from taking care of the governmental, historical, or special records needs in a state, to others whose activities are more advocacy, regulatory, and consultative in nature. Some are very stand alone in their relationship to other libraries in their states (particularly those state library facilities that provide a full array of walk-in services to the public), while others are active service partnerships in helping to advance the needs of libraries in a state.

While there is great diversity in state library structure, the titles held by state library lead-

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Reader Connection

The top 10 things I really needed to know that I learned from riding a bicycle

(Excerpted from "Librarian of the Year" Acceptance Speech, 11/1/00)

by Rick Krumwiede, Director
Outagamie-Waupaca Library System

As I was riding my bike home from a meeting of OWLS library directors last August, I got to thinking about how much being a system director and riding a bike have in common. And, of course, that led to thinking about bicycling as a metaphor for life. However, it is entirely possible that while I'm riding very little oxygen actually gets to my brain.

So with apologies to Robert Fulghum and David Letterman, I'd like to conclude with my list of...The Top 10 Things I Really Needed to Know that I Learned from Riding a Bicycle.

10. You can take lots of different routes to get to the same place.
9. It's hard to read a map when you're moving.
8. You can ride farther and longer if you don't start too fast at the beginning.
7. There's no substitute for time in the saddle.
6. With the right attitude, and equipment, you can climb any hill.
5. A wider tire may not be as fast as a narrower one, but it doesn't go flat nearly as often.
4. Riding into a head wind with a group is always easier than doing it alone.
3. If you don't lubricate the chain, it will squeak, especially after it rains.
2. Be careful on downhills. It's easy to go too fast, lose control, and crash.



And the number one thing I really needed to know that I learned from riding a bicycle:

1. Don't ride with your mouth open. You never know what you might have to swallow. ■■

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COSLA—from page 2

ers, and the library services provided, COSLA members are unified in joining together to deal with the problems and challenges faced by state library agencies and those served by the agency. The organization's focus is to identify and address issues of common concern and national interest, further state library agency relationships with the federal government and national organizations, and initiate cooperative action on behalf of improved library services.

Meeting agenda topics typically include federal appropriations for library services, national library service programs, availability of government documents, improved library statistic programs, state library services, library systems and networks, use of new technologies, and services to handicapped persons. Work on these and other topics is aided



by three standing committees—the Legislative, Network, and Research and Statistics—as well as through liaisons to eight agencies or organizations. The Congressional liaison retained by COSLA

will find the 2001 session a particularly important and busy one as LSTA and ESEA, which includes TLCF, are up for re-authorization. The COSLA-adopted legislative agenda includes requesting substantially more funding for LSTA than the current appropriation of \$168 million. We all will be called upon in the months ahead to communicate with our federal representatives in support of these vital aid programs. What good things we could do, particularly in the area of library technology, if we had a new LSTA program with double the \$160-168 million annual appropriation Congress has been providing over the past few years.

Attaining the goal of more LSTA support will only occur if a strong needs-based case can be presented to our federal lawmakers. COSLA has had every state library agency complete a questionnaire focusing on how additional monies would be used in addressing library issues. In Wisconsin we found it an easy task to complete such an inquiry, as the library technology needs alone can easily use any increase over the approximately \$2.7 million we have been annually receiving under past LSTA allocations. Once the needs case is presented to Congress, it will be up to the library community to contact their representatives to illustrate a needy constituency in each state.

The availability of federal revenues seems still to be healthy, but the competition for those dollars will be intense. Center stage will be the battle over federal tax cuts championed by more conservative members of Congress and the White House. Substantial tax cut enactment will naturally make the remaining budget pie to be divided that much more of a challenge. But throughout this upcoming debate, COSLA and ALA will be there carrying the direct story of need. Without the presence of COSLA and others actively working on the federal level, the library story would not be delivered as widely and effectively.

Stay alert for the call to action from our national library advocates as the new Congress tackles library legislation in the months ahead.

For more information about COSLA, visit the organization's website at <http://www.cosla.org/>. ■■

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The CCBC is a noncirculation children's & young adult literature research library and book examination center cosponsored by the Department of Public Instruction and UW-Madison.

DLTCL plans emphasize resource sharing—*from front page*

CD-ROM, to the current version freely available to library staff and the general public over the Internet.

The current contract with Brodart (the WISCAT vendor) has expired, and under mandatory state government procurement regulations the division must rebid the contract. In October 2000, as part of the rebid process, a WISCAT subcommittee was appointed under the sponsorship of the Library Information Technology Advisory Committee (LITAC). The subcommittee reviewed drafts of the WISCAT request for proposals (RFP), and LITAC also received a status report on the RFP at its December 2000 meeting. The RFP has been released, and responses were due from vendors on Feb. 9. An evaluation team, comprised of division staff and library staff from the field, will review the bids and recommend a vendor in April-May 2001.

The division plans to:

- negotiate a one-year contract for WISCAT with an option to renew for four additional years;
- retain maximum flexibility, by making a year-to-year commitment, to consider other technologies (e.g., linked systems) for resource sharing or to implement changes to WISCAT itself; and
- survey schools on their use of WISCAT (2001).

Linked Systems

Over the past several years there has been growing interest within the library community in linking automated systems to enhance resource sharing. The definition of a "linked system" is open to interpretation.

For the purposes of this article, linking is defined as: (1) the ability of staff to enter a single search query; (2) have that query search multiple (linked) library OPAC databases via Z39.50; (3) determine which libraries have the item and what its shelf status is; and (4) place a hold on the item following accepted ILL protocols.

In 1998 the division sponsored several meetings with librarians who expressed an interest in this subject. In early 1999 it appointed a Linked Systems Committee and received LSTA funds to implement a linked systems pilot project. In August 1999 the division released an RFP to link three shared automated systems. In late 1999, after thorough review by the evaluation team that included staff from libraries participating in the pilot project, the evaluation team unanimously recommended not to proceed with the project at the time. This decision was based on several factors: vendors were unable to meet key functional requirements; standards development was incomplete for the placement of holds on remote systems; and an unsettled marketplace would have resulted in commitments to questionable products. At the time this decision was made, the division stated its intent

to revisit this issue when the above factors had been addressed. Having recently reviewed the state of the technology, and through recent discussions with vendors, the division believes that 2001-02 provides another opportunity to revisit the linked systems issue.

The division plans to:

- create a Linked Systems subcommittee as part of LITAC (February 2001);
- review the linked systems issues with LITAC and the library community (2001);
- ask the LSTA Committee to allocate funds for a linked systems project (March 2001);
- develop linked systems specifications and an RFP (third-fourth quarter 2001);
- select a vendor and implement a linked systems project (first-second quarter 2002); and
- encourage libraries interested in linking to make their automated systems Z39.50 compliant (ongoing).



Shared Automated Systems for Public Libraries

Shared automated systems in public libraries are an excellent tool to enhance regional resource sharing. In the mid-1980s only two public library systems—Milwaukee County and South Central—had shared automated systems. While there has been a steady increase in shared system development throughout the state, 62 percent of the state's public libraries still are not in shared systems. This percentage increases to 76 percent for libraries in communities under 2,500 population. The division has allocated some LSTA funds for shared systems, but most costs have been borne by participating libraries and library systems.

The division plans to:

- advocate the continued development of shared automated systems in public libraries;
- make it a priority to continue LSTA funding for shared systems in 2002;
- work with TEACH and other programs (e.g., the State Trust Fund) to make more funding available; and
- encourage schools and other types of libraries to review the merits of shared automated systems.

Internet Access

WISCAT, linked systems, and shared systems all are predicated on ubiquitous, direct Internet connectivity in all types of Wisconsin libraries. Most advances in resource sharing technology, and use of web-based information resources like BadgerLink, re-

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Election—*from front page*

the chief executive officer, has as one of its four divisions that of Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning. The assistant superintendent position administering DLTC is an appointment of the state superintendent. The Division includes library-related services provided by the Public Library Development, Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing, Instructional Media and Technology, and Library and Statistical Information Center teams. The state superintendent reviews, advances, and advocates for the policy, program, and budget priorities of the DLTC.

In 1995, the office of state superintendent as an independent office and department came under intense examination as to where the state's educational leadership duties ought to rest; in the present office and organization, or in a newly created depart-

ment under the jurisdiction of the governor. By a 7-0 vote of the State Supreme Court, the justices reaffirmed the elected independence and constitutional basis of this office and declared unconstitutional the creation of the then newly proposed separate agency with a gubernatorial appointed secretary. The court clearly saw the office of state superintendent as the writers of our constitution did and the people of Wisconsin have for all its history, as an important one, independent from the partisan political activities of the governor's office and his executive branch agencies. The state superintendent's job, as a constitutional office, has direct accountability to the voters and not to another officeholder. The concept had great merit when it was first presented in 1848 and continues with the long success story of educational management in Wisconsin.

While education under the U.S. Constitution is a state function, each state has organized its delivery system for that service in its own unique manner. Wisconsin's model is to have an elected constitutional officer to head the education department, and then have state statutes facilitate the election of 426 local school boards. This state/local partnership model has been successful as Wisconsin's students perform well, both nationally and internationally, in numerous measures of achievement. This exemplary track record is a testament to the state's educational service delivery system and the quality of schools and libraries in Wisconsin.

The person elected to be state superintendent is thus handed a responsibility to continue our success story and be a strong and accomplished leader on behalf of libraries and schools, and high-performing students. And we can surmise that the position will continue to grow in responsibility as the educational field becomes even more complex with time, new knowledge, and more programs to administer. The new superintendent needs a multitude of talents to do the job to which he or she is elected.

During his eight years as state superintendent, John T. Benson has served Wisconsin with distinction, and been a good leader on behalf of libraries. His successor will have a big job to fill. The voters' big task is to study the candidates and their stand on the issues and in turn choose the person who is hopefully the best qualified, and up to the task of continuing the legacy of strong support for good libraries and schools. ■■

Plans—*from page 4*

quire direct Internet access for optimal use.

In 1994 the division issued an "Internet Policy Statement and Plan." At the time, 6 percent of public libraries and about 10 percent of schools had Internet connectivity, most through a single dial-up line. The goal of the 1994 policy statement was for all the state's public libraries and public schools to have with direct Internet access by 2000. We have not yet reached this goal. Currently, 98 percent of the state's public libraries have Internet access, but only 63 percent have direct access. Schools are much closer to the goal, with 97 percent now having direct access and 85 percent of all individual classrooms now connected.

Approximately \$800,000 in LSTA funds has been allocated in the past six years for public library Internet access, and school access has been facilitated by TEACH block grants. The major financial incentive for libraries to get direct access has been the TEACH program's provision of a DS1 line for every public library in the state at \$100/month. At present, 273 libraries have TEACH subsidized data lines. The TEACH discounts have dramatically increased direct Internet connectivity and have fostered the parallel development of library system WANs both for Internet access and for transmitting shared automated system data.

The division plans to:

- continue using LSTA funds to promote direct Internet access by public libraries;
- encourage the further development of library system WANs as an economical means of providing direct Internet access to member libraries; and
- continue working with TEACH, our library systems, and federal programs like the E-rate to reach the goal that all Wisconsin public libraries and schools have direct Internet access.

Summary

The division will continue to work in close coordination and cooperation with the Wisconsin library community to help ensure the most efficient and economical ways of enhancing resource sharing for all Wisconsin libraries. In the coming months the division will be discussing resource sharing issues with the state library technology committee (LITAC), and it will hold a public hearing on this issue later in 2001.

Comments on the division's plans in the area of technology and resource sharing as outlined in this paper should be directed to Bob Bocher at (608) 266-2127 (robert.bocher@dpi.state.wi.us). ■■

Reflections at Retirement

Sorensen's 28 years at DPI have been rewarding

by Richard Sorensen, Consultant
School Library Media Programs

When I joined the Division for Library Services in 1972, multitype library cooperation was a new priority, and OPAC probably stood for "Old Pile of Accession Cards." Today, most school library media programs have an Online Public Access Catalog, and WISCAT enables libraries of all types to identify titles held throughout the state.

While the results of the 2001 School Library Media Program Survey have not yet been compiled, some trends in professional practice in Wisconsin schools can be discerned. For example, the number of certified library media specialists working in district- or building-level library media programs is getting smaller. There were 1,430 this fall, down 15 from last year's 1,445. A combination of revenue caps and fewer people entering the profession is often credited for the decrease.

Those currently employed are busier, however. The range of duties has increased as newer technologies have added to rather than replaced information resources. The multimedia concept of library media centers has expanded consid-



Co-workers from throughout the Department of Public Instruction gathered to wish Dick Sorensen well as he moved into retirement. He worked at DPI for 28 years.

erably beyond printed and audiovisual materials. Library media specialists frequently find themselves functioning as technology coordinators or technology integrators, even if their official position description does not list it.

There are more library media centers today, thanks largely to major incentive funding programs like the ESEA Title II program in the early 1970s and '80s. Our collections of printed, audiovisual, and electronic resources have grown through the years, due to Wisconsin's Common School Fund. The Library Aid subsidies have increased from \$1.23 per public school pupil in 1971 to over \$25 in 2000.

The instructional role of today's library media specialist is better recognized and practiced than it was a quarter century ago. Library media centers still make large collections of varied media available for self-selection, but the library media specialist is of-

ten found in classrooms. The ability to connect concepts from various disciplines in a theme-based project makes the library media specialist an effective teaching partner.

Access to information has improved greatly. Students and teachers today can find information and identify resources much more easily and quickly than they could in the 1972. Online catalogs, electronic reference tools, WISCAT, Badger-Link, and direct Internet connections bring the universe of information to every student's fingertips.

Our reading instruction and reading incentive programs have been successful. More people are reading today. Even as cable channels and Internet sites multiply, bookstores are growing larger and more numerous.

There are some words of caution, however.

- I have heard too often "The architect says that we will not need as large a library media center in our new building because of electronic access." The truth

Please see Sorensen—on page 7



Dick is pictured with his wife Millie and daughter Becky. He joined the DPI in 1972, where he worked in the Division for Library Services.

In Green Bay
Presentations sought for GWETC 2001

New for 2001, applications to present at the Governor's Wisconsin Educational Technology Conference (GWETC) 2001 will be received 'online only' this year at the GWETC website (www.gwetc.org) beginning February 12.

This year's conference will be held at the newly remodeled KI Center and Regency Suites in Green Bay, Oct. 29-31. GWETC 2001 is expected to draw more than 150 presenters from the educational, business, and government communities.

GWETC presentations will be divided into six tracks:

- Curriculum Integration;
- Distance Education;
- Emerging and Future Technologies;
- Policy/Administration;
- Professional Development; and
- Technology Infrastructure.

Plan now to consider one of these areas and submit your application to present

online no later than March 17, 2001.

The popular pre-conference labs and workshops, for both higher education and



PK-12, will be featured again this year. Labs and workshops are made possible through the generous donation of facilities and equipment from educational organizations in the Green Bay area.

GWETC offers exemplary presenters from diverse educational institutions and

private businesses, as well as the highest-quality statewide and national vendors. Combined with the recreational, cultural, and civic resources that Green Bay has to offer as host city, GWETC 2001 will be a stimulating and rewarding experience for all who use the tools of technology to support teaching and learning.

Now in its ninth year, GWETC has continued to grow in both quality and attendance. The 2000 conference attracted nearly 1,800 participants. Building on past successes and with the support of hosting partners, conference organizers expect that 2001 will be another record-breaking year for GWETC.

GWETC is co-sponsored by the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, the Educational Communications Board, TEACH Wisconsin, the Technical College System, and the University of Wisconsin-Extension. ■

Sorensen retires from DPI—*from page 6*

is that the library media centers that have connected classrooms to the online catalog and electronic library resources have seen more students rather than fewer. As students and their teachers realize the scope of available resources, they take greater advantage of it. Architects and school administrators must be made aware of the very wide range of learning activities a library media center should support.

- The shortage of certified library media specialists might become even more serious. Our universities are developing new and more convenient approaches to licensing programs. We should encourage high school graduates and even teacher colleagues to consider a career in Librarianship.

- With the growing burden of professional responsibilities, library media specialists can easily burn out from trying to be all things to all persons. It is more important than ever to develop, with a site-based team, a long-range plan for the library media program, based on the realities of human, physical, and financial resources. The plan should be built

on a clear philosophy of service that is tied visibly to the mission of the school. It should have clearly defined goals, objectives, and priorities, and should give rise to job descriptions consistent with those priorities that list logical expectations for professional and support staff. If such a plan has the support of library media staff, teachers, administrators, and the school board, the resulting library media program can be educationally sound and personally rewarding.

I have enjoyed my work during these past 28 years. Librarianship is by its nature a personally rewarding profession, with its emphasis on helping people find information and inspiration so that they might grow in knowledge and spirit. I have been privileged to work with dedicated professionals and people of great character in this department and in schools and libraries throughout our state. As I retire from active professional practice, I will treasure the friendships I have made and value the lessons I have learned. ■

LSTA Grants Announced for 2001

\$2.8 million approved for Wisconsin projects

by Peg Branson, Consultant
LSTA and Continuing Education

Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program grants totaling \$2,850,000 were announced in December, with the projects to take place from January through December 2001. The funds are administered at the federal level by the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences.

Among the LSTA projects to be funded in 2001 are projects involving technology, delivery service for library materials, a statewide digitization demonstration project, and projects to improve services to youth with special needs and youth with disabilities.

LSTA funds were awarded across four broad project groups:

- technology—\$1,621,400
- resource sharing—\$264,700
- targeted services—\$861,900
- program administration—\$102,000

Wisconsin's 2001 LSTA funds were included as a part of the federal Labor, Health and Human Services, Education appropriations bill for 2001, which Congress passed Dec. 15. According to the American Library Association (ALA), the appropriations bill included \$207,219,000 for LSTA, a significant increase from the FY 2000 level of just over \$166 million. However, included in the \$207 million is over \$39 million in set-asides, so the \$168 million left for Wisconsin and other states is just slightly over the current level. The set-asides are

projects specifically targeted by members of Congress for funding.

The appropriations bill passed by Congress also includes an Internet filtering requirement for libraries and schools receiving LSTA or E-rate funds. The language in the bill requires technology that blocks or filters Internet access to material or content harmful to minors. This requirement will not affect libraries receiving LSTA funds until FY 2002 (Wisconsin projects that will begin January 2002). For more information on this Internet filtering requirement, please see "Internet filtering and LSTA: An update" on page 10.

A complete list of LSTA grant awards to individual libraries, systems, and other agencies, follows. For more information, contact Peg Branson at (608) 266-2413. ■

Applicant Agency	Project Title	Amount Awarded
A. Technology		
Category: Statewide Technology		
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Library Development	\$119,200
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Reference and Loan	\$241,000
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	WISCAT	\$678,100
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Digitization Project	\$88,000
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	State Technology Committee	\$12,000
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Electronic Forms Development	\$37,500
Category: Library System Technology Projects		
Arrowhead Library System	Internet Access and Training	\$7,400
Eastern Shores Library System	Internet Access	\$8,500
Indianhead Library System	Direct Internet Access for IFLS Member Libraries	\$23,100
Kenosha Public Library	KCLS / Community Library Web Page	\$6,600
Lakeshores Library System	Expansion of the Lakeshores Wide Area Network	\$10,500
Manitowoc-Calumet Library System	Internet Connections	\$6,600
Mid-Wisconsin Library System	TIGER II: A Z39.50 Upgrade for Our Libraries	\$12,400
Milwaukee County Library System	Software Services re: Hardware Conversion	\$27,900
Nicolet Library System	Improvement of Automation System Infrastructure	\$19,800
Northern Waters Library Service	Merlin Shared Automation System and Wide Area Network	\$16,900
Outagamie Waupaca Library System	Cooler by the Lake Website Enhancement	\$10,000
South Central Library System	SCLS Technology Projects 2001	\$28,400
Southwest Wisconsin Library System	System Technology Project	\$10,500
Waukesha County Library System	Wireless Mobile Training Lab	\$12,400
Winding Rivers Library System	West Central Shared Automation, Phase 3	\$16,000
Winnefox Library System	Internet Access for Winnefox Libraries	\$13,700
Wisconsin Valley Library Service	V-Cat Goes GUI	\$19,300
Category: Shared Automation Systems		
Cobb Public Library	Shared Automated Library Information Systems	\$9,741
Eastern Shores Library System	Shared Library Automation Network	\$40,000
Manitowoc-Calumet Library System	Adding Libraries to LARS: Shared Automation	\$20,000
Northern Waters Library Service	Merlin Expansion Project	\$40,000

Applicant Agency	Project Title	Amount Awarded
Rock Springs Public Library	Rock Springs Project to Join LINK	\$10,000
Winnefox Library System	Adding Libraries to the Shared Automation System	\$30,000
Wisconsin Valley Library Service	Continuing to Grow V-Cat	\$30,000

B. Resource Sharing

Category: Statewide Resource Sharing

Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Communication and Planning	\$38,000
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Reference and Loan	\$176,200
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Statewide Delivery Committee	\$5,500
Northern Waters Library Service	Delivery Demonstration Project	\$25,000
South Central Library System	Statewide Delivery Service Support	\$20,000

C. Targeted Services

Category: Statewide Targeted Services

Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Library Development	\$161,900
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	Trustees Handbook Project	\$15,000
Department of Corrections	Coordination of Institution Library Services	\$30,000

Category: Special Needs Youth—Systems, Department of Corrections, Milwaukee Public Library

Arrowhead Library System	Library Express—Year 2: An Outreach Reading Project	\$10,600
Department of Corrections	Services to Institutionalized Children and Teenagers	\$25,000
Eastern Shores Library System	Services for Youth with Special Needs	\$8,700
Indianhead Library System	Including Families of Children with Special Needs	\$22,000
Kenosha Public Library	Special Needs Storymobile, Year 2	\$10,900
Lakeshores Library System	Programming and Services for At-Risk Youth	\$15,000
Manitowoc-Calumet Library System	Improving Services for At-Risk Teens	\$7,400
Mid-Wisconsin Library System	Project Pathfinder II: Linking Resources to Youth	\$9,900
Milwaukee County Library System	English as a Second Language Grant	\$14,100
Milwaukee Public Library	Books on the Go—Outreach to Milwaukee Preschoolers	\$74,900
Nicolet Library System	Planning, Awareness, Collaboration and Training	\$20,000
Northern Waters Library Service	Open Minds, Open Hearts—Year Two	\$14,900
Outagamie Waupaca Library System	Implementing Library Services	\$11,600
South Central Library System	Serving Children with Special Needs, Year 2	\$27,600
Southwest Wisconsin Library System	Libraries are for Every Child	\$9,800
Waukesha County Library System	Library Services for Youth with Special Needs	\$8,700
Winding Rivers Library System	Resources for Students and Families	\$16,800
Winnefox Library System	Support for New Readers	\$14,400
Wisconsin Valley Library Service	Library Services for At-Risk Teens, Part III	\$17,700

Category: Special Needs Youth—Public Libraries / State Institutions

Brown County Library	Books to Grow On	\$19,950
Dane County Library Service	Motheread/Fatheread: Family Literacy Program	\$18,356
Drummond Public Library	Check It Out! Program	\$7,655
Grantsburg Public Library	Word Play: Reading Enhancement Program	\$12,321
Greendale Public Library	Materials for Adults Assisting Youth with Special Needs	\$3,900
La Crosse Public Library	Youth Outreach Direct Access Van	\$16,907
Lake Geneva Public Library	America's Parallel Culture: The Invisible Latino	\$32,800
Manitowoc Public Library	Math is in Books	\$24,242
Odanah, Bad River Public Library	Tribal Libraries Consortium Youth Project	\$35,000
Prescott Public Library	Service to Older Children with Special Needs	\$7,270
Racine Public Library	Stories on Wheels: Early Childhood Resource Center	\$68,411
South Milwaukee Public Library	Open Doors Project	\$57,563
Spooner Memorial Library	Audio and Book Kits for Middle School Students	\$10,625

D. Administration

Category: LSTA Administration

Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning	LSTA Administration	\$102,000
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Second Trustee Training Module now available

New Public Library Policy Resources web page online

by Mike Cross, Consultant
Public Library Administration and Funding

The Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) now has a Library Policy Resources web page that provides resources and tools to help with the development of local library policies. Resources on this web page include links to the policies of many Wisconsin public libraries. This web page is available at <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/policies.html>.

This web page also has links to the sec-

Wisconsin Information Portal

by Sally Drew, Director
Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing Team

Gov. Tommy Thompson announced the development of a state government web portal in September, an order that directed the Department of Administration (DOA) to organize and facilitate the delivery of state government services to Wisconsin citizens. The order indicated that this would be accomplished by creating an Internet-based service center—using secure and reliable access to core state services—that would be expandable to include local government as well as state operations.

The Deputy Secretaries representing state government agencies serve as the core advisory committee to the project. This group determined that initial work would be concentrated on the following topics: Education, Jobs, Licenses and Permits, Business Resources, Consumer Protection, and Health Services-Consumer Information. DOA's Info-Tech Services operates a search engine that collects information from each agency website and allows users to search the pages using keywords. DOA has issued a standard for agencies to use when assigning metatags to state agency web pages. Agencies will be encouraged to use the Dublin Core Standard, plus three non-Dublin core tags for use by those search engines that do not recognize Dublin Core.

Please see Information portal—on page 11

ond Wisconsin public library trustee training module. This new module covers the development of essential library policies. Wisconsin library boards have the ultimate responsibility for approving local library policies. The decisions made in the development of library policies have a great impact on the internal operations of the library, the public image of the library, and the value of the services provided to the public. The new trustee training module provides guidance to help libraries develop new policies and review existing policies.

The DLTCL trustee training modules are provided as one tool that can be used to

support trustee training and trustee continuing education. The modules are short (the new one has 16 slides) so they can be used during a library board meeting for a brief review of issues of importance to library trustees, or they can be used for one-on-one or self-directed training.

A PowerPoint version of this new module is also available for downloading from <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/ppt/policies.ppt>.

Feel free to print and copy the modules for trustee training as well. Questions concerning these modules should be directed to Mike Cross at (608) 267-9225 (michael.cross@dpi.state.wi.us). ■

Internet filtering and LSTA: An update

Based on written information and informal contacts with representatives of the American Library Association (ALA) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the new Internet filtering requirement (known as the Children's Internet Protection Act or CIPA) will not affect libraries receiving LSTA funds until FY 2002. In Wisconsin, those projects will begin in January 2002.

For this reason, the DLTCL is not developing any policies and procedures on this issue for current LSTA grant recipients and there is no need for grant recipients to take action at this time. Also, the Internet filtering language for LSTA specifies that libraries receiving LSTA funds fall under the filtering requirement if they use LSTA to purchase computers for Internet access or to pay for Internet access. The requirement does not affect all LSTA project recipients.

LSTA recipients also may be E-rate recipients and will need to comply with the CIPA as it relates to that program. For more information on this legislation from the E-rate perspective, please see the information below on the FCC Filtering Rules.

FCC releases notice on filtering rules

In January the FCC released its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding the Children's Internet Protection Act. The notice did not have the actual draft rules, but instead the FCC was asking for comments in several specific areas before it drafts rules on this legislation. The notice was published in the Federal Register and comments were due by Feb. 10.

The DPI's issues on this legislation are outlined at <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/pld/erate.html#filter>, in the section titled "Issues from State Education and Library Agencies." Issues #2, #3, and #4 are especially critical to schools and libraries.

Updates on CIPA and related federal regulatory activities will be posted to Channel Weekly, the DPI's education and library e-mail lists, and the above website. ■



Information portal coordinates government Internet services

from page 10

The Reference and Loan Library is working with DOA to improve the access provided by the state's UltraSeek search engine. The Reference and Loan Library currently is responsible for managing the Wisconsin Document Depository Program and is responsible for distributing documents and records about state government documents to depository libraries and also ensuring access to state government documents, including electronic documents, for Wisconsin citizens. The Reference and Loan Library will receive approximately \$62,000 from DOA through June 2001 to carry out the following activities.

- Initial development and management of a "controlled vocabulary" or thesaurus of terms used to describe state government services.
- Entry of thesaurus terms and connec-

tion directions into the UltraSeek Search Engine topical index software.

- Hire, train, and provide work space for LTE staff who will assist in metatagging state agency web pages.
- Develop training materials for state agency staff and conduct training sessions.
- Select, configure, and disseminate software for use by state agency staff to create and modify metatags.
- Experiment with metatagging of PDF and other types of files and determine the best way to handle metatagged records for these items.
- Catalog state government documents and experiment with a "crosswalk" to Dublin Core metatag structure.
- Monitor best practices in other states and share this information with state agency staff. ■■

Designation of 211 telephone number

by Sally Drew, Director
Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing Team

In July 2000 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved a plan to set aside the number 211 for users to obtain information about human service agencies and programs. The ability to dial a universally recognizable number will allow callers to make critical connections with community-based organizations and government agencies. Rather than searching for telephone numbers for human services organizations such as after-school programs, food banks, home health care, or crisis intervention, callers will be able to get information from specially designated 211 call centers.

The Public Service Commission held a technical conference in December to gather ideas on whether and how the Commission should designate the telephone number 211 in Wisconsin as a non-emergency information and call referral number related to health and human services matters. The Metropolitan Milwaukee 211 Stakeholders Council and the United Way of Dane County both have petitioned the Public Service Commission to be allowed to use the 211 number for this purpose.

Participants at the proceeding were asked to address the creation of appropriate procedures to implement 211 in Wisconsin. Mary Struckmeyer attended the proceeding for the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning, and Paul Nelson attended on behalf of the Wisconsin Library Association. Libraries in some communities have been involved in local efforts to establish and take part in information and referral services. For example, the Oshkosh Public Library and the Oshkosh Area United Way have worked together to provide information and referral services in the Oshkosh area.

Sally Drew and Mary Struckmeyer will continue to take part in discussions and planning to determine if 211 service will be available statewide and how libraries may be able to best participate. ■■

Trustee Corner

Bylaws can't set members' term limits

Can our library board's bylaws establish term limits for library board members?

No. A library board's bylaws are the rules established by the library board to govern *itself*. By statute, appointments to the library board are made by the appointing authority of the governing municipality, municipalities, or county. Wisconsin statutes determine the number, requirements and qualifications of library board appointments. Library board bylaws have no effect on the legal authority provided in the statutes to make library board appointments.

If your library board believes that limited board terms are desirable, the *recommendation* can be made to the appointing authority that terms be limited to a certain number of consecutive terms. It is also acceptable for the library board to make recommendations of possible good candidates for appointment to upcoming library board vacancies.

Your library board *does* have the authority to establish, via its bylaws, term limits for library board officers. Sample bylaw language to establish term limits for library board officers is: "No member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office."

Sample public library board bylaws are available at <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/bylaws.html>. These sample bylaws can be customized for use by your library board.

Further questions can be directed to your library system staff or to Mike Cross at (608) 267-9225 (michael.cross@dpi.state.wi.us). ■■

Wisconsin's prison libraries

Facilities provide comprehensive patron services

by Vibeke Lehmann, Library Services Coordinator
Wisconsin Department of Corrections

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) operates libraries for the inmates in its adult and juvenile institutions. Those relatively few persons from the "outside" who have had the opportunity to visit these libraries behind the walls are often astounded by the comprehensiveness of services available to the incarcerated patrons. Visitors also are surprised by the similarity of the adult prison library to the typical small/medium sized public library in the community. Likewise, the juvenile institution libraries operate very much like typical school library media centers.

In total, there are 17 professionally staffed libraries for adult offenders and four for juvenile offenders. In addition, the Wisconsin Correctional Center System (WCCS) provides small reading areas and collections in its minimum security centers (formerly camps), all managed by the inmates. DOC also plans to open five more libraries in the next two years. Currently the library staff includes 24 (FTE) librarians, 10 library services/teacher assistants, seven teachers with 50 percent library assignments, four library security officers, and one central library services coordinator (consultant). Each adult institution also employs three to 10 inmate library clerks, who perform most of the technical and clerical functions.

Library services are aimed at the inmate patrons, although staff also may use the library. There are approximately 22,000 offenders incarcerated in the state prisons (20,650 adults, 1,350 juveniles). The average adult inmate is 35-36 years old, and the proportion of older inmates is increasing, due among other things to longer sentences, drastic reduction in the use of parole, and prevailing "get tough on crime" attitudes. The prison population is overwhelmingly male (92 percent male, 8 percent female). Other important offender characteristics are:

- disproportionately high rate of minorities;
- lack of educational attainment (50 percent to 60 percent have not completed high school);
- high level of functional illiteracy (approximately 30 percent);
- insufficient vocational and employability skills (65 percent

to 70 percent);

- mental health and emotional problems (approximately 65 percent); and
- drug and alcohol abuse problems (65 percent).

The juvenile demographics mirror those of the adult population. The academic school program in the juvenile institutions is of utmost importance, and all young offenders must attend school. The correctional school programs must meet the same standards as regular public schools.

The many severe problems of the inmates, coupled with the fact that these persons are separated from their families and community support resources, make for a very needy popula-

tion. This then translates into a high demand for all types of information—i.e., the need for a high-quality prison library.

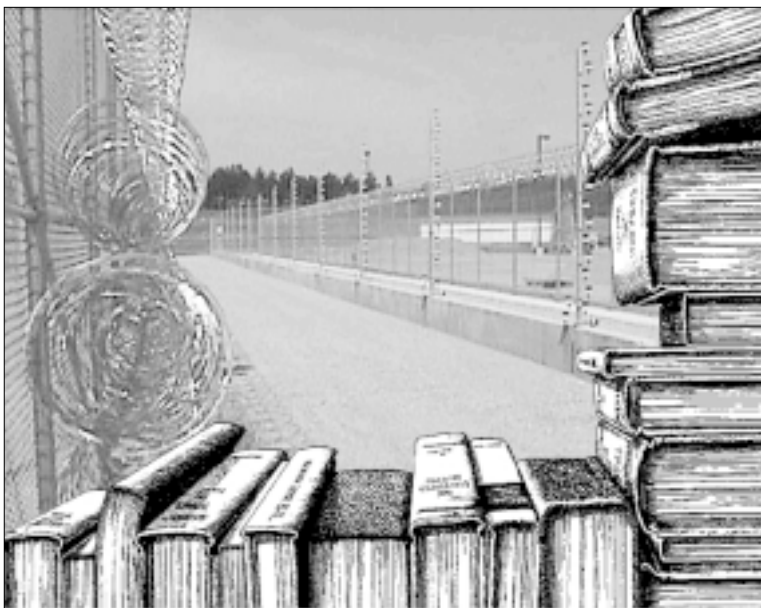
Library Collections

Size and Composition: The general collections (excluding legal materials) range in size from a low of 5,500 to a high of about 30,000. The circulating collection resembles that of a small public library, with extra emphasis on curriculum support materials. The collection is composed almost equally of fiction and non-fiction, primarily print ma-

terials, but includes increasingly more nonprint items (multimedia, videos, music recordings, audio books, educational games—even typewriters and calculators). Reference materials are very similar to the basic core collection found in a public or school library.

Circulation and In-library Use: Circulation statistics are very impressive, averaging 50-60 items per person per year. Approximately 70 percent of the adult inmates are library users, with an average of 45 visits to the library each year. In-library use of materials also is high, averaging 55 items per person per year, mainly periodicals and newspapers, but also recordings for listening and reference materials. The item turnover rate ranges from 1.8 to 4.7. Reference transactions have reached a high of 26,000 per year in a large institution, but normally runs between 10,000 and 15,000. The prison libraries participate in the state interlibrary loan system and reached a high of 31,000 ILL transactions in 1999. With most prison library holdings in the WIS-

Please see Prison libraries—on page 13



Prison libraries—*from page 12*

CAT catalog, the libraries are increasingly more able to fill ILL requests from the outside community.

Automation and Information Technology

Efforts to automate the circulation and catalog functions began in 1985, with inmates performing most of the work involved in the conversion of bibliographic records. Today the prison libraries are operating their “second generation” system, the Winnebago Company’s SPECTRUM.

All new prison libraries opened since 1990 have been carefully planned to incorporate information and systems technology from the first day. At first, the systems were small self-contained library LANs, but since 1998 the new institutions have been installing integrated library/education networks on NT servers. DOC is converting all older facilities with education and library programs to this state-of-the-art network standard that will guarantee access to a wide range of educational and informational resources. This project also includes the conversion of the print-based law libraries to CD-ROM. These installations should be completed by mid-2001.

At the same time, library staff members are getting Internet access. This has been a very controversial issue, since extreme security measures must be taken to prevent inmates from communicating “live” with the outside. A determining factor in granting library staff Internet access was the elimination of the CD-ROM WISCAT. When WISCAT moved to the web, the choice was to go along or totally eliminate interlibrary loan. Since the latter was not a viable option, DOC took steps to have the libraries use the WISCAT client and become QuILL sites. This step has necessitated a major change in internal procedures and work assignments, since the inmate workers can no longer handle ILL.

Services and Programs

During 1997-98, the prison libraries developed strategic long-range plans. Based on thorough needs assessments, they selected primary and secondary roles, developed new mission statements, and appropriate goals and objectives. The adult institutions found that their primary roles were those of popular materials center and legal information center. The support roles of independent learning center and community information center also were important. The juvenile libraries saw their primary roles as formal education support center and popular materials center.

Most services of a popular materials center are offered to the inmate patrons: access (as far as budgets permit) to current popular fiction and nonfiction, many magazines and newspapers, a lot of genre fiction, “how-to” books, reader’s guidance, pathfinders, music listening, book discussions, art exhibits, and literary contests. Some of these activities are initiated and directed by the inmates themselves.

The role of legal information center ranks high because of a constitutional mandate that requires prisoners to have “access to the court”, i.e., the ability to appeal their sentences, conduct legal research, and sue over illegal or inhumane treatment. The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) has developed

guidelines on what constitutes an “adequate” prison law library. The prison librarians must be familiar with legal reference and research and must be able to train inmate library clerks to assist other inmates in the use of the legal materials, both print and electronic.

In their role as independent learning center, the libraries provide the inmates with many materials and tools for self-selected and self-directed learning and self improvement—usually referred to as “lifelong learning.” Most are interested in learning new skills, improving existing knowledge and skills, making a contribution to others, and preparing themselves for a successful life after release from prison. Library staff members try to act as motivators in this effort, knowing full well that constructive use of time means fewer problems for both inmates and staff and helps the inmates survive and cope with the prison environment. We have examples of inmates developing their artistic and musical skills, learning to read, mastering a foreign language, writing and publishing stories and poetry, studying for a driver’s license, learning computer skills, taking correspondence courses, and participating in various prison volunteer programs.

Several DOC librarians are certified LVA tutor trainers, who train inmates to tutor other inmates. The library also provides space and materials for the program, which accepts both English and non-English speaking students. Another library volunteer program is the transcription of textbooks to audiotape—inmates do the recording—and the production of Braille texts. Both of these media are for the use of visually handicapped students in the community and those with reading/learning disabilities. These volunteer programs create positive publicity for the prison library and give the inmates a sense of self esteem and accomplishment.

For those who want to stay in better touch with their children and be better parents, the prisons have a program called “Fathers Sharing Books.” The library collects children’s books and the inmates learn techniques for reading aloud to their children. Those accepted in the program are allowed extra visiting time with their children, and the library supplies the visiting room with books and educational toys. The fathers also are allowed to make videotapes of themselves reading and may send the tapes to their children. This program is very successful and has a long waiting list.

The libraries also are busy in their role as community information center. The inmates want to keep informed about happenings in their communities and prepare themselves for release and employment. In cooperation with the social workers and employment counselors, the libraries provide career and job information, help the inmates write job applications and resumes, and practice job interviews. The libraries also act as a referral center to social service agencies on the outside. With the help of LSTA funds, 17 libraries have established job/career information centers. The services include use of interest and ability assessment tools, videos about a wide range of careers, and the preparation of a personalized pre-release checklist of skills and tasks that the inmate must master or perform before leaving prison.

Please see Prison libraries—on page 14

COLAND adopts goals

New members join Council on Library and Network Development

by Phil Sawin, Chair
Council on Library and Network Development

The newly expanded 19-member Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND) met in Madison in November. Joining the council for their first meeting were new members appointed in October by Gov. Tommy G. Thompson. New library appointees are: Kate Bugher (Madison Memorial High School), Eugene Engeldinger (Carthage College), and Janean Miller (Boscobel Public Library). New public members are John Foster (School District of New London), David Huebsch (Village of West Salem), and Barbara Manthei (Office of the Governor).

COLAND members expressed appreciation to Ileen Sikowski of Crivitz and Paul Dietz of Menomonee Falls whose council terms ended. A resolution was made and forwarded to each of them thanking them for the service they have given to the

council. A plaque was presented to Tim Laatsch for his many years as the chair of COLAND.

Ken Frazier, director of the General Library System of the UW-Madison, gave a presentation on digitizing information for record retention and making it available on the web. The university has developed a program to digitize various records, including some very rare books and old records. Digitization services are available to other libraries wishing to digitize collections, but does carry some cost. Ken said he has several units working on different digitization methods and he hoped that in the future it would be possible to

drive the costs down. Sally Drew said that the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning plans to work with UW-Madison on an LSTA-funded project to digitize information in a variety of formats on Great Lakes Marine History.

COLAND goals for 2000-2001 were presented by Eugene Neyhart and adopted. The Council will review them monthly. Goals adopted are listed below.

A hearing on the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program also was held in conjunction with the Wisconsin LSTA Advisory committee. Communications were read and the LSTA

Please see COLAND—on page 15

COLAND finalizes goals for 2000-01

To provide leadership to the state and the library community on improving library services and cooperation by:

- Improving the knowledge and understanding of COLAND members regarding key issues and programs of significance to Wisconsin libraries by inviting individuals with special knowledge of these issues and programs to make presentations at COLAND meetings and by holding hearings when appropriate.
- Reviewing that portion of the 2001-2003 budget of the Department of Public Instruction relating to library service and making recommendations to the State Superintendent, the Governor, and the Legislature in regard to that portion of the budget.
- Monitoring and actively supporting library budget and legislative initiatives endorsed by COLAND.
- Reviewing the work of other advisory groups to the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning, and take appropriate action. These groups include among others:
 - the Library Information Technology Advisory Committee
 - the Technology Task Force that is revising the Wisconsin Educational Technology Plan PK-12
 - the work groups for Library Media Specialist, Library Media Supervisor, and Technology Coordinator relative to the new PI34 rules for certification and licensing
- Actively cooperating with other library groups in planning, advocacy, and sharing information for the improvement of library service to Wisconsin residents.
- Monitoring the BadgerLink program and its evaluation, and providing advice on improving the program.
- Monitoring and actively supporting the efforts of the federal Technology Literacy Challenge Fund (TLCF) program in Wisconsin.
- Monitoring issues relating to public library systems and nonresident borrowing, and providing advice on potential solutions.
- Reviewing issues relating to school library media centers, special and academic libraries, and providing advice on potential solutions.
- Reviewing, providing advice, and taking action on other library-related initiatives, programs, policies, and problems that are brought to the attention of COLAND by the DLTC staff or the Wisconsin library community. ■■

Prison libraries

—from page 13

Job agency staff and potential employers also have been invited to give talks and conduct “mock” interviews.

Conclusion

It is obvious that a well established prison library can meet a wide variety of needs and can be very influential in the overall prison operation. The Wisconsin prison libraries have become very busy places, and both old and new facilities are struggling to meet demands because of space and staff limitations. There are times when the library has standing room only and must turn away patrons. Some patrons can get service by appointment only. Admittedly, prison libraries have a “captive” audience—but they are definitely very popular and provide a much needed service. ■■

Library Issue Discussion Group report

The Library Issue Discussion Group met in November to discuss issues affecting Wisconsin libraries and to develop consensus around statewide initiatives. The group meets four to six times a year and brings together leaders of various library and related organizations in Wisconsin. Among the topics discussed were legislative and budget issues, activities of library organizations, access to technology and resources, and 24-hours-per-day/seven-days-per-week reference service.

The legislative and budget update included reports and discussion of the DPI state budget request, the WLA, WEMA, and University of Wisconsin legislative agendas, a UCITA (Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act) update, and a summary of federal legislative issues, including proposed Internet filtering requirements and LSTA reauthorization. Attendees provided feedback on meetings with state officials regarding 2001-2003 state budget proposals. WLA is working to form a coalition to deal with the possible introduction of UCITA legislation in the Wisconsin Legislature. LSTA needs to be reauthorized by 2002 and national organizations would like to see the appropriation for LSTA doubled at that time to improve access to technology nationwide. Reauthorization of ESEA for schools was postponed by Congress and will be taken up again in 2001.

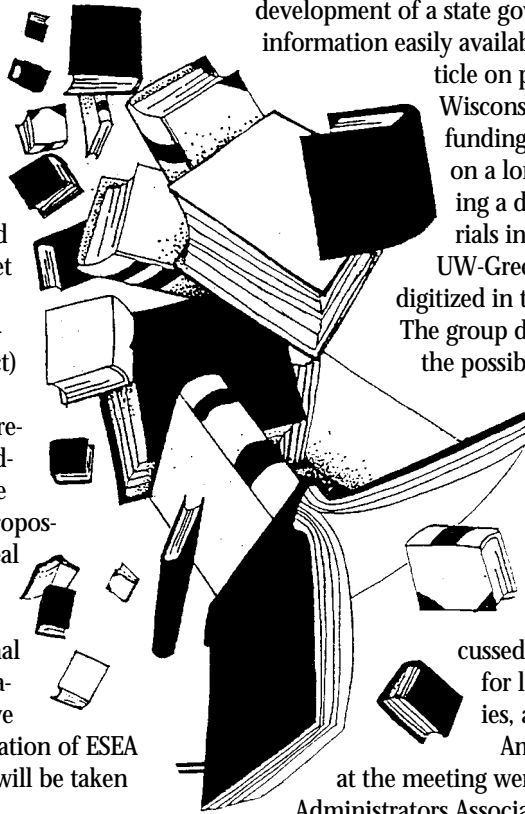
The group heard reports on the work of the State Superintendent's Library Information Technology Advisory Committee, digitization projects, and state and federal grant programs, including TEACH, LSTA, E-rate, and WATF. The state superintendent's library technology committee is dealing with a variety of technol-

ogy issues, some through a subcommittee structure. The point was made that the technology needs of libraries in the state are great and librarians and others must state their case and look at the possibilities for funding from various sources. The Governor is supporting the development of a state government information portal to make information easily available to the citizens of the state (see article on page 10).

The Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries is looking at the issue of funding and sustaining digitization projects on a long-term basis. The council is supporting a demonstration project to digitize materials in a Belgian-American collection in the UW-Green Bay archives. The materials will be digitized in the UW-Madison digitization lab.

The group discussed 211 telephone service and the possible role of libraries in this service (see article on page 11). 211 is a new national number for access to information related to human services. The PSC will discuss whether and how it should designate the telephone number 211 in Wisconsin as a non-emergency information and call referral number. The group also discussed 24x7 reference service and the issues for local libraries, system resource libraries, and state-level libraries.

Among the group activities reported on at the meeting were the System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) retreat and feedback process, September and November meetings of the Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND), a meeting of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), and the WLA annual conference 2000. ■



COLAND—from page 14

projects were discussed. The LSTA committee had just completed its November meeting at which recommendations were made for projects to take place from January through December 2001.

Staff reports were given, among which were a digitizing grant from LSTA funds, Library Information Technology Advisory Committee (LITAC), WISCAT, an update on the DPI budget, and E-rate, LSTA, TLCF and TEACH updates. ■

Calendar

2001

- March 1 Information and Technology Literacy Standards Matrix Workshop, Tomahawk.
- March 6 Information and Technology Literacy Standards Matrix workshop, Milwaukee Public Schools.
- March 9 Council on Library and Network Development meeting, Madison.
- March 9 Information and Technology Literacy Standards Matrix Workshop, New Holstein.
- March 12-13 LSTA Advisory Committee meeting, Madison.
- March 28-30 WEMA Conference, Green Bay.
- April 4 Information and Technology Literacy Standards Matrix workshop, Milwaukee Public Schools.
- April 18-20 Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians Spring Conference, La Crosse.
- April 23 Library Services and Technology Act workshops, Educational Teleconference Network Sites.
- April 30-May 1 Technology Literacy Challenge Fund conference, Stevens Point.
- May 2-4 Wisconsin Association of Public Librarians Conference, Wisconsin Rapids.

For more details about specific meetings, see the WISDOM calendar at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/pld/wisdom.html.

'Reading Road Trip U.S.A.' Summer Library Program update

by Barbara Huntington, Consultant
Public Library Youth & Special Services

2001 is a year that marks a change in many ways for Wisconsin's summer library program.

This year (for the first time ever) Wisconsin joined a 12-state consortium in sponsoring a program called "Reading Road Trip U.S.A." This new collaboration resulted in some exciting artwork by children's illustrator Kevin Hawkes and incentive items that Wisconsin has never before offered. Public libraries could order stickers, notepads, pencils, tote bags, post cards, key chains, kites, sunglasses, and teddy bears with the summer theme on them. The traditional rubber stamps, buttons, bookmarks, and tee shirts also were available.

Because Wisconsin did not write its own manual this year, the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) had to devise a new way to provide libraries with information on children's performers, which has always been part of the manual. Staff time freed from the task of producing a manual was used to develop a new performer web page, which was posted in January and has been updated and expanded since. The address for the site is <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlcl/pld/performers.html>.

This site may be useful to schools interested in hiring children's performers for special events such as school carnivals, all school parties, parent group events, fund-raisers, lock-in events, proms, artist-in-residence programs, etc. The DLTCL does not endorse any of the performers and strongly recommends any

agency using the list check references carefully.

This year the DLTCL also is offering public libraries a choice of up to three reading incentives. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin and Circus World both are offering free passes for young readers. They are intended for use by individual families and are not valid for bus or large groups this summer. The Historical Sites passes require that one paying adult accompany each child. Circus World does not require the one child per paying adult. The passes for both agencies are valid for children age 5 through 12 (children under 5 are free).

The Historical Site passes will be valid through the 2001 season, but actual closing days vary from site to site. There are special days—such as Children's Day and Civil War Enactment Days at Old World Wisconsin—which require special tickets at different prices, and the free passes will not be valid for these special events. Circus World passes will be valid through Sept. 3, 2001.

The passes for the Wisconsin State Fair do not require a paying adult, and the Fair welcomes bus groups. The passes are valid for ages 6-12 (children under 6 are free). The incentive coupons for the State Fair will consist of a card that the parents fill out for the child and send in to the Fair to redeem them for the actual youth passes. The coupons the library gives the children will not be valid or redeemable at the gate, and they must be redeemed by July 23. The State Fair runs from Aug. 2-12. The State Fair is working on special ways to recognize summer readers, and some children may be invited to ride the Fair Trolley in the daily Fair Parade. Information on how to sign up to be in the parade and a list of special children's activities will be sent to the children with their free passes. ■



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