



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



During the TLCF conference, students from Superior demonstrated their use of video in the classroom.

TLCF conference is a big success

This year's Technology Literacy Challenge Fund (TLCF) Conference was held April 30 and May 1 in Stevens Point. The Theme was *Achievement and Assessment with Technology*.

Six workshops provided learning opportunities and some hands on experiences for participants. Hands on workshops on the topics of MarcoPolo, spreadsheets, and BadgerLink were made possible by the donation of lab space from the Stevens Point Area School District. Another popular workshop dealt with e-portfolios for teachers, presented by Donna Behn, director of curriculum and instruction at Hartford Union High School.

Tom Carroll, from the U.S. Department of Education, delivered the Conference Keynote. He is the director of Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology (PT3), a \$75 million grants initiative in support of capacity building, implementation, and catalyst grants to develop technology-proficient future educators.

Please see TLCF conference—on page 6

School Library Media

Benson appoints task force

State Superintendent John T. Benson recently appointed a School Library Media Task Force with the charge of developing a new guide for school library media programs in Wisconsin.

These programs have a significant bearing on our students' academic and personal achievement. While *School Library Media Programs: A Resource and Planning Guide* has provided excellent guidance since 1987, it contains a great deal of dated information and may not reflect the current trends and mission of Wisconsin's library media programs. First and foremost, the new guide will need to be linked directly to Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Information and Technology Literacy which identify and define the knowledge and skills essential for all Wisconsin students to access, evaluate, and use information and tech-

nology. These new standards are the foundation for the teaching mission of the library media program and provide

Please see Task force—on page 7

Burmester soon will lead DPI

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

On April 3 Wisconsin voters elected Elizabeth Burmester their new State Superintendent of Public Instruction. She will replace John T. Benson who chose to retire after serving the citizens of Wisconsin with distinction through two very productive terms.

While the election for this office is in April, the winner does not assume office until the beginning of July—in this case, Ms. Burmester's first four-year term will commence July 2. The spring election puts the election activities for this office in amongst local and judicial nonpartisan contests. While the State Superintendent's race is not partisan, the two candidates in this year's election gave the voters a clear choice because their views



Elizabeth Burmester

Please see Burmester—on page 18

For National Library Legislative Day

11-member Wisconsin delegation visits D.C.

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

A record of more than 600 library advocates participated in the 27th Annual National Library Day in Washington, D.C., on May 1. An 11-member Wisconsin delegation was among this lobby effort and also was a larger group than that which had attended the past several events.

Our delegation included:

- Susan Brant from Nicolet College Library in Rhinelander;
- Thomas Brown, a South Central Library System trustee from Cottage Grove;



Cal Potter

- Lee Brown, a library friend from Cottage Grove;
- Karen Busch, a library trustee from Cuba City;
- Michael Gelhausen, director of the Hartford Public Library and president of the Wisconsin Library Association;
- Jeffrey Gelhausen, a student from Hartford Union High School;
- Madge Klais, library media services coordinator for the Madison Metropolitan School District and legislative chair for the Wisconsin Education Media Association;
- Mark Merrifield, director of the Nicolet Federated Library System;
- Cal Potter, administrator of the DPI Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning;
- Annette Smith, library media specialist with the Milton School District; and
- Tom Strange, director of the La Crosse Public Library.

Please see *Legislative Day*—on page 3

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Channel

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Channel (ISSN 0146-1095) is published every other month by the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

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Press releases of state and national library/media/educational organizations are printed when space allows and if they are considered to be of statewide interest. Back issues are available at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dlcl/eis/chnvol36.html

Deadlines are July 1 for the July-August issue, Sept. 1 for the Sept./Oct. issue, etc.

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Legislative Day—from page 2

A special thank you goes out to Sue Center, assistant director for public services at the University of Wisconsin Law Library, who for the second consecutive year scheduled the appointments with our congressional representatives. Appreciation also is due several library organizations that generously helped sponsor many of the delegates.

All office visits were made May 1, while the day before was spent in a full issue briefing sponsored by the ALA. Issues covered in the April 30 and May 1 Capitol Hill discussions included:

- Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA);
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act reauthorization, including the benefits of the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund;
- database protection legislation;
- copyright and distance education;
- public access to government information; and
- Universal Service Fund discounted telecommunications rates (E-Rate).

Each Congressional office was given two informational packets—one from ALA and the other compiled by DLTCL staff that included printouts of specific financial benefits received in each respective representative's district from federal library aid programs such as LSTA, E-Rate, and TLCF. This district impact adds a personal focus on the lobby effort and is always of interest to each office. **See page 19 for photos.**

The 11 attendees was up from six in 2000. This participation is a reflection on the concern held by these library advocates and their respective organizations for the issues facing our federal lawmakers and the important impact they have on library services. There is always ample room for more delegates, so if possible plan on joining the 2002 Washington, D.C., trip on May 6-7. These visits provide participants with a unique inside view of the operations in the many congressional office buildings surrounding our nation's Capitol. ■

9th Annual

Governor's Wisconsin Educational Technology Conference

October 29 - 31, 2001

KI Center and Regency Suites Green Bay

The Governor's

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Ginny Moore Kruse, Director	(608) 263-3720

2001 Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Grant Recipients

Madison Metro. School District \$295,000 Middleton-Cross Plains School District, Sun Prairie Area School District	Richland School District \$130,000 Ithaca School District, Kickapoo School District, North Crawford School District, Seneca School District, Wauzeka-Steuben School District	District, Drummond School District, Glidden School District, Hayward School District, Hurley School District, Maple School District, Mellen School District, Northwood School District, Park Falls School District, Phillips School District, Solon Springs School District, South Shore School District, Winter School District.
Manawa School District \$125,000 Iola-Scandinavia School District	St. Croix Falls School District \$170,000 Baldwin-Woodville School District, Boyceville School District, Menomonie School District, Unity School District	Wautoma Area School District \$280,000 Adams-Friendship School District, Auburndale School District, Freedom School District, North Fond du Lac School District, Marshfield School District, Montello School District, Omro School District, Pardeeville School District, Portage School District, Westfield School District
Menomonee Falls School District \$170,000 Arrowhead Union High School District, Cedarburg School District, Hamilton School District, Pewaukee School District	Saint Francis School District \$18,000	West Salem School District \$290,000 Alma School District, Bangor School District, Galesville-Ettrick-Trempealeau School District, Holmen School District, La Crosse School District, Melrose-Mindoro School District, Onalaska School District, Royall School District, Sparta School District
Milwaukee Public Schools \$800,000	Salem J2 School District \$155,000 Silver Lake J1 School District, Trevor Grade School District, Wilmot Grade School District, Wilmot Union High School District	Weston School District \$100,000 Reedsburg School District
New Lisbon School District \$260,000 Necedah Area School District, Nekoosa School District, Pittsville School District, Port Edwards School District, Rio Community School District, Tri-County Area School District, Waupaca School District, Wild Rose School District, Wisconsin Dells School District	Sharon J11 School District \$155,000 Big Foot Union High School District, Fontana J8 School District, Linn J6 School District, Walworth J1 School District	Whitehall School District \$150,000 Alma Center School District, Arcadia School District, Blair-Taylor School District, Independence School District ■■
Nicolet Union High School District \$118,000 Fox Point-Bayside School District, Glendale-River Hills School District, Maple Dale-Indian Hills School District	Sheboygan Falls School District \$18,000	
Northland Pines School District \$200,000 Antigo School District, Merrill Area School District, Rhinelander School District, Three Lakes School District	Stoughton Area School District \$175,000 Albany School District, Evansville Community School District, Juda School District, Milton School District, Parkview School District, Wisconsin School for the Deaf	
	Washburn School District \$280,000 Ashland School District, Bayfield School	

Available from DPI Publication Sales DPI produces addendum to technology planning guide

The publication of *Wisconsin Educational Technology Plan PK-12* in 1996 signaled the start of a concerted effort in this state to examine the uses and impact

of instructional technology in Wisconsin schools. That plan sought to provide guidelines for state, regional, and local initiatives to prepare students for life in the 21st century. As we enter the 21st Century, Wisconsin's long and proud tradition of progressive public education, coupled with a commitment to equal educational opportunities for all children, has branched into a new area—educational technology.

Wisconsin is a leader in educational technology. *Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Information and Technology Literacy* are among the best in the nation. Our Governor's Wisconsin Educational Technology Conference

"Since the development of the original Wisconsin Educational Technology Plan PK-12 in 1996, we have made great strides to ensure that the technologies necessary for fostering student growth and achievement are available to urban, suburban, and rural children alike."

—John T. Benson, State Superintendent

(GWETC) attracts national speakers and presenters and serves over 2,200 PreK-16 educators each year. Since 1996 there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of technology

in schools and an increase in uses for technology. The proliferation of online resources for students and teachers increases daily. Technology competencies for teachers are now part of a revamped educator licensing process in Wisconsin, bringing the state in line with a policy already in place in many local school districts.

But for all we have accomplished, we must continue to look ahead. The rapid change in technologies and their uses makes the creation of an educational technology vision and plan more important than ever. The Wisconsin Technology

Please see Technology planning guide—on page 7

TLCF conference *from front page*

His topic, "If We Didn't Have Today's Schools, Would We Create Today's Schools," was very thought provoking.

Steve Dold, deputy state superintendent, gave remarks on the need to be involved in the budgeting process to ensure our elected officials continue programs like TLCF. He also presented each successful applicant for FY 2001 with a certificate of award for the project. This year 37 sub-grants were awarded.

The highlight of the conference was the poster session exhibit. Each of the 47 projects from FY 2000 was required to present information about their project and their participation successes and challenges. Some included students demonstrating the skills they learned as a result of their teachers' professional development activities funded through the grant awards.

For more information about the TLCF, visit the program website at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/imt/index.html. ■■



Captions—*Clockwise from top*

Spencer students explain their research of Eastern Europe.

Tom Carroll challenges teachers to "think outside the box."

Donna Behn talks about E-Portfolios.

More Spencer students and their research of Eastern Europe.



Task force—from front page

the connection between the library media program and the total educational program of the school.

Second, the new school library media program guide should, where possible, be consistent with standards at the national level. A new set of national standards that the task force will review is *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning* published by the American Association of School Librarians and the Association for Educational Communications and Technology. The contents of *National Educational Technology Standards for Students* published by the Inter-

national Society for Technology in Education is incorporated into *Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards for Information and Technology Literacy*.

Finally, Wisconsin's schools have witnessed a significant influx of instructional technology since the publication of the 1987 school library media guide. The task force will address how this influx of new technology and networks, especially into individual classrooms, has altered the mission of the library media program and the role of the school library media specialist. New thinking and new structures may be

needed for the library media program to retain its relevancy to students, teachers, and the school curriculum in a society changing rapidly because of advancing technologies.

Following is the list of task force members representing various state organizations and associations and also reflective of education levels. Rosalynn Kiefer, director of curriculum and instruction in the Fox Point-Bayside School District is chair of this task force. Jim Klein, former library media technology director and curriculum coordinator in the Appleton School District has volunteered to assist DPI in completing the work of this task force and to follow through on publishing the document.

- Rosalynn Kiefer, task force chair (WASCD), Fox Pt-Bayside School District;
- Jim Klein, volunteer leader ;
- Wayne Anderson (WASDA), Mount Horeb School District
- James Bowen (WEMA), Green Bay Public Schools;
- Bob Carmack (UW), UW-Superior;
- Jo Ann Carr (UW), UW-Madison School of Education;
- Neil Duresky (WASB), La Crosse;
- Jean Elvekrog (CRIS), St. John's School, Waunakee;
- Sue Fulks (CESA Administrators), CESA 5;
- Becki George, Rice Lake Middle School;
- Lynn Handler (WEMA), Menomonee Falls High School;
- Patricia Hill (WEAC), Mead Elementary School, Wisconsin Rapids;
- Pam Kuck, CESA 8, Gillett;
- Pam Penn, Milwaukee Public Schools;
- Karen Reusch, Cuba City High School; and
- Mel Selle (retired), Neenah School District.

For more information about the work of the task force, contact Jim Klein at (608) 266-1924 (jimklein@jvl.net.com). ■

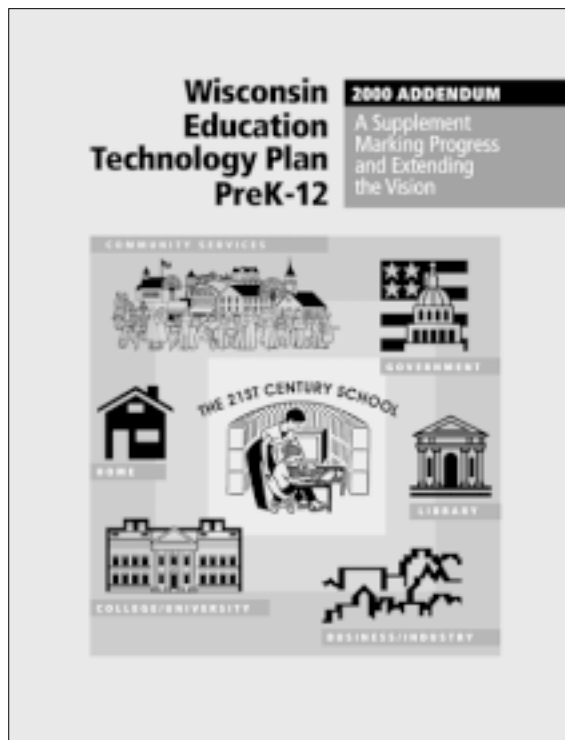
Technology planning guide

from page 5

Task Force worked collaboratively over the past nine months to review where we have been, examine data collected since 1996, and determine the next steps Wisconsin must take to achieve its educational technology vision. Its result is the *Wisconsin Educational Technology Plan PK-12: 2000 Addendum*.

Emphasis in the *Wisconsin Educational Technology Plan PK-12: 2000 Addendum* is on continued collaboration among state, regional, and local entities to build on the many good practices and policies implemented since 1996. It also identifies areas in which the state needs to invest to ensure that the current level of hardware, software, technology integration, teacher professional development, and infrastructure continues to evolve and does not stagnate.

To order the new guide, visit the DPI Publication Sales website at www.dpi.state.wi.us/pubsales, or call (608) 266-2188 or (800) 243-8782. ■



AV Notes

Videos available for librarians, teachers

by Willeen Tretheway, Audiovisual Services Librarian
Reference and Loan Library

Library services for young adults, test preparation, books and reading, libraries and literacy, and teams in a library setting, are topics of programs on videocassette now available for loan from the Reference and Loan Library.

Two programs produced by the North State Cooperative Library System (California) are training videos for librarians providing young adult library services. They were written and hosted by consultant and former Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) President Michael Cart. Both programs were produced in 2000, and are accompanied by handbooks. They offer practical guidance in two of the seven core competency areas for young adult services librarians that were developed by YALSA to aid library educators.

- *Knowledge of Materials* (58 minutes)—also titled *Collection Development: Knowledge & Selection of Materials*—introduces librarians to the principles and practices of materials selection and collection development for young adults (VHS V-7229 (025689)).

- *Programming for Young Adults* (54 minutes) presents a comprehensive, step-by-step introduction for planning, implementing, and evaluating programs for young adult audiences based on their needs and interests (VHS V-7230 (025690)).

Two recent professional development videos from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) are “how to” programs on teaching test-taking skills.

- *How to Prepare Students for Standardized Tests* (2001; 25 minutes) examines several areas in which teachers can help students get ready to take standardized tests. It shows how to effectively integrate test preparation into daily instruction covering such things as encouraging a positive attitude toward testing; improving vocabulary and editing skills; enhancing math and problem solving abilities; and “test-wiseness.” (VHS V-7224 (025684))

- *How to Prepare Secondary Students for High-Stakes Tests* (2001; 25 minutes) explains that local standards and learning exams vary, but that certain strategies for helping a student succeed are universal. The program shows how some teachers are helping high school students prepare for high-stakes tests by teaming with other teachers to review and develop curriculum in view of required standards; giving students test-taking practice; and having a process for assisting students who need extra help. (VHS V-7225 (025685))

BookWars (Jason Rosette/Camerado, 2000, 79 minutes) is a documentary by filmmaker and fellow bookseller Jason Rosette, who sets out to discover what life is like for street booksellers in New York City. He presents an artistic and personal examination of the culture of curbside book vendors and looks at their nontraditional role in the distribution of printed materials and encouragement of reading. (VHS V-7215 (025671))

CCBC Choices 2001, produced by the Friends of the CCBC, is a two-part live videorecording of the Cooperative Children’s Book Center’s (CCBC) annual special event held March 10. At this program, CCBC Director Ginny Moore Kruse, and staff members Kathleen T. Horning and Megan Schliesman, introduced the annotated bibliography “CCBC Choices 2001,” and discussed some of the books published in 2000 that are recommended by CCBC’s professional staff. Part one is “CCBC Choices for Older Readers” and part two is “CCBC Choices for Younger Children.”

Each part is approximately 90 minutes long. Copies of the printed publication accompany the videocassettes. (VHS V-7223 (025683))

How to Do Research in the Library (Teacher’s Video Company, 1999, 45 minutes. This tape has Home Use Only viewing rights) describes features of the library including the stacks, search tools, and the reference, periodical, audiovisual, and young adult and children’s sections. Student presenters do the teaching using entertaining skits, graphics, humor, and repetition.

They cover the Dewey Decimal Classification system, card and computerized catalogs, indexes, periodicals, microforms, databases, encyclopedias, dictionaries, almanacs and atlases, and more. The program illustrates how to do a sample high school student research project. (VHS V-7210 (025666))

Literacy and the Media (Reading Is Fundamental/RIFNet, 2000; 60 minutes with guides; closed-captioned) is a program in the “RIF Exchange” videoconference series that says some children’s television programs are excellent and are directly linked to literacy by focusing on reading or introducing and reinforcing literacy-based skills. A panel of experts discusses how good television programming can support children’s literacy and how to use television as a learning tool. The program also introduces a new literacy-based television series for young children, and explores how public libraries and Reading Is Fundamental Inc., join together to provide literacy-rich opportunities for children and adults. (VHS V-7152 (025594))

Teamwork Basics (Library Video Network, 2000; 15 minutes; closed-captioned) introduces teamwork as an effective manage-



Please see AV Notes—on page 9

CCBC has information service you hope you never need to use!

by Ginny Moore Kruse, Director
Cooperative Children's Book Center

Do you know there's a Wisconsin library you can contact if there's a complaint about a children's or young adult book in your library? That library is the Cooperative Children's Book Center at the UW-Madison. The DPI contracts annually for children's and young adult literature information services from the CCBC, and this information service is one of them. It's a priority for the CCBC to serve Wisconsin librarians and teachers in this way, but it's a service you hope you'll never need to use.

What kind of information service could this possibly be? Well, if you have received a formal written complaint—or even the rumor of a complaint—about a library book or books for anyone of minor age, you may phone or send e-mail to the CCBC for in-depth information about the book.

The CCBC staff will compile information about professional evaluations of the book, such as reviews at the time of its publication, and its inclusion on professional lists of the "best." The CCBC will locate information about age appropriateness of the theme or topic for you, as well as providing general information about consulting and support resources from DPI and professional organizations such as WLA and WEMA.

You don't need to be in dire straits to use this specialized information service. Experiences with public and school librarians over more than 20 years have shown the CCBC professional staff that it's helpful to librarians to have this information even if there's only a rumor of a book complaint in a library. Receiving a thick packet of information within a day of calling the CCBC makes it possible for the librarian to digest the material in context. Having the information, even if it might not actually be needed, can ease a librarian's or teacher's mind, or at least lower the stress level. The librarian or teacher will be prepared to discuss a complaint, if one is made.

This service also is available for books published for a primarily adult audience but being read or checked out by an under-age client. The service is available only to Wisconsin library personnel and schools, and there is no charge. Individuals requesting assistance will receive a cover memo indicating the costs of postage and photocopying, but this is not a billing invoice.

The CCBC staff does not tell Wisconsin librarians what to do about the book or books in question. The staff doesn't pass judgement on the worth or value of the book. They handle this request for information in a nonjudgmental way, just as librarians everywhere handle all kinds of requests for information. Because the CCBC is a specialized children's and young adult literature library, the staff is steeped at all times in this content. They have access to

unique sources of information, and they are practiced in thinking how to locate information to support a book in a public or school library collection or classroom.

What information should you provide when you contact the CCBC by phone or e-mail? Be ready to give the title, author, publisher and date of the book, along with a brief summary of the nature of the complaint and what has happened so far.

Like all library staffs, the CCBC staff observes the ethic of confidentiality. No information will be given to others as to who has asked for information, which book or books are being questioned, or any other information about the transaction.

Each year a growing number of public librarians phone the CCBC for this service. Calls often come from school library media specialists who request information about a book or books in one of school district's library collections or classrooms.

Six months after completing the information request, the CCBC staff will send a questionnaire asking what happened and inquiring to see if there is anything else the CCBC can do to be of assistance. Most library and school personnel report that the book in question either did not receive a formal written complaint or that the complaint was resolved by keeping the book in the collection or curriculum. Occasionally a book might be moved to a more appropriate collection in the library or place in the school curriculum. It's very rare that anyone contacting the CCBC for this service reports that a book has been removed from the library or the curriculum or that access to it by its intended readers has been restricted.

Contact the CCBC if you have a rumor of book complaint or a formal complaint. Call (608) 263-3720 (send e-mail to ccbinfo@education.wisc.edu). This is the CCBC information service you hope you never have to use. But it's one about which you need to know. Just in case. ■

AV Notes—from page 8

ment style and describes basic teamwork components. The program explains that teamwork should have a prominent role in library management, and presents a very brief review of the basic concepts and roles in teamwork. Project-oriented and ongoing teams are described, both types of which are subject to the same guidelines and policies. Aspects covered include following team rules, having clear goals and objectives, involving all staff, rotating roles, and keeping focused. (VHS V-7151 (025593))

Libraries and library media centers of all types may call or send requests for videocassettes directly to the Refer-

ence and Loan Library (R&LL) 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 may contact R&LL directly or send interloan requests through their libraries. For direct requests the R&LL phone number is (608) 224-6169 or (888) 542-5543, and the e-mail address is rlill@dpi.state.wi.us. Other users, including individual borrowers, should request materials on interlibrary loan through their public library. The title numbers included in the above descriptions may be cited when requesting the materials. ■

Benson approves 2002 LSTA grant program, budget

by Peg Branson, Consultant
LSTA and Continuing Education

State Superintendent John T. Benson has approved the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant program and preliminary budget for 2002. The LSTA funds will, once again, facilitate experimentation, demonstration, and enhanced library services in Wisconsin.

One priority of the LSTA funds in 2002 will be improved library services through the use of technology. LSTA funds will support direct Internet access for the approximately 80 public libraries in the state that still have dial Internet access or have no Internet access. DPI and TEACH Wisconsin are collaborating on this program.

The LSTA program for 2002 also calls for funds to be awarded to public library systems on a noncompetitive formula basis for technology projects. This year the funds in this category can be used to improve access to technology for people with disabilities. Additional funds will be set aside for a competitive grant category to help public libraries and systems develop new shared automated systems or add libraries to existing shared systems. Funds also will be available to experiment with linking shared automation systems in selected areas of the state.

Another LSTA funding priority in 2002 will be improved library services for youth with special needs. The funds will help public libraries, state institution libraries, and public library systems plan and implement programs that will serve disadvantaged youth and youth with disabilities. Funds will be set aside for distribution on a noncompetitive formula basis to public library systems for this purpose. In addition, there will be a competitive grant category for individual public libraries and selected state institution libraries to develop programs for youth with special needs.

LSTA applications are due Sept. 6. The LSTA funds available for selected grant categories is as follows.

- Library System Technology Projects—\$345,000

- Shared Automated Library Information Systems—\$260,000
- Direct Internet Connections—\$100,000
- Linking Shared Systems—\$150,000
- Special Needs Youth for Systems, DOC, Milwaukee Public—\$340,000
- Special Needs Youth for Libraries—\$215,000
- Special Needs Task Force—\$8,500
- Delivery Services—\$70,200

For additional information on the LSTA program for 2002, see the LSTA website (www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/pld/lsta.html) or contact Peg Branson, LSTA program coordinator, at (608) 266-2413 (peg.branson@dpi.state.wi.us).

LSTA Federal Budget FY 2002

On April 9, President George W. Bush released the specific numbers for his FY

2002 budget. The budget can be accessed online at w3.access.gpo.gov/usbudget/fy2002/maindown.html.

According to the American Library Association, the proposed funding level for FY 2002 for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program would be \$168,078,363. The total level of funding for LSTA is down from the FY 2001 funding level of \$207,219,000. However, included in the \$207 million this year is over \$39 million in set-asides—projects specifically targeted by members of Congress for funding—so the \$168 million, excluding the set-asides, is comparable to the FY 2001 amount. The Senate and House are considering the federal budget, including funds for libraries. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the agency that administers the Library Services and Technology Act program at the federal level. ■

Results of the 2000 annual report on accessible workstations

by Barbara Huntington, Consultant
Public Library Youth and Special Services

In January 2001, the ALA Council, which is the governing body of the American Library Association, unanimously approved a policy for Library Services for People with Disabilities. The policy was written by the Americans with Disabilities Act Assembly, a representative group administered by the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA), a division of the American Library Association.

The policy states that libraries can play a “catalytic role” in the lives of people with disabilities and should facilitate their full participation in society. The policy encourages libraries to use strategies based upon the principles of universal design to ensure that local policies, resources, and services meet the needs of all people. ALA wants to encourage libraries to “eradicate inequities and improve attitudes toward and services and opportunities for people with disabilities.”

The Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) also initiated a survey in January related to services for people with disabilities. The survey questions were part of the Annual Report for the year 2000 that all public libraries complete. Public libraries provided information on several special features related to accessible computer workstations. The response rate to this survey was 97 percent.

Results indicate that 83 percent of Wisconsin’s libraries have a cart or table that is accessible to people who use wheelchairs. While it is encouraging to know that libraries own adjustable computer carts and tables, only about 15 percent of them seem to offer any computer accommodations that would make it easier for people with certain types of disabilities to use the computers at these accessible stations.

Please see Annual report—on page 11

Annual report—from page 10

In the future the DLTC hopes to have additional information on the number of libraries that have accessible entrances. People who use wheelchairs and have other mobility issues must be able to get into the building before accessible workstations are of use to them.

Off-site access to circulation systems is another way public libraries can make their online collections and services more accessible to people with disabilities. Such access varies in Wisconsin, depending on the type of automated circulation systems an individual library or consortium is using.

Of the responding libraries, 22 percent indicated they have a 19-inch or larger monitor. The larger monitor makes it easier to use the built-in features most new computers have that allow the user to adjust the size of the print and change the background and foreground. A larger monitor also allows libraries to more effectively use special software that enlarges the text and/or reads it aloud. More features are being added to the basic design of computers that include ways to adjust them for various types of vision difficulties and to read the text. These trends are certainly something the DLTC will be following closely and sharing with public libraries.

Eighteen percent of the responding libraries have software that enlarges and/or reads the text. The obvious benefactors of this feature are people who have moderate to severe vision problems, but who retain some sight. A second group of people who also may find these features very helpful are those who have learning disabilities. The larger print often is useful because the person has to spend less time focusing on the individual letters and words. The feature that highlights and reads the text—either one word or one line at a time—also is helpful to people with learning and reading disabilities. These same features also are very helpful to people who are learning English for the first time. Libraries may find that providing earphones when this feature is being used will help avoid distractions for other users.

Fifteen percent of the responding libraries indicated they have a trackball as an alternative to a mouse. People with limited mobility of their hands and/or arms may find it easier to use a trackball. Newer computers often can be set up with a splitter cord so the trackball and mouse both can be attached to the keyboard at the same time, and the user can choose either one.

Surprisingly, only 56 libraries in Wisconsin (approximately 15 percent of those responding) have an accessible website. Website design that allows access to people who are blind is important, and there is no extra cost involved in designing a website that is accessible. Free assessment for accessibility of websites is readily

available, such as the Bobby site at www.cast.org/bobby/. A Website Accessibility Training page with numerous resources for making web pages accessible is maintained by the state of South Carolina at www.cofc.edu/~elainem/accessibilitytraining/.

The 2002 LSTA guidelines for the Library System Technology Projects allow funds to be used to purchase and provide training for “adaptive devices to assist patrons with disabilities to use technology.” Large screen monitors, software to enlarge the text on a screen or read it, trackballs, long keyboard cords, and accessible tables or carts are examples of what can be purchased with these funds. All adaptive equipment must be placed on a computer workstation that is accessible to people who use wheelchairs. The funds can only be used in libraries that have accessible entrances, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The same type of items also are allowed in the Special Needs Youth-Public Library Systems and SPY-Public Library categories.

The building must be accessible, and the library must work with a local partner to demonstrate the use of the equipment to children with disabilities and/or their parents and teachers.

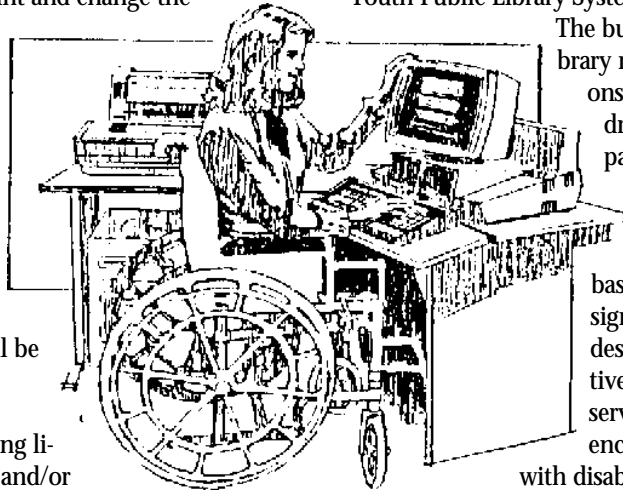
The ALA policy encourages libraries to use “well-planned technological solutions and access points, based on the concepts of universal design.” These technologies and universal design elements are “essential for effective use of information and other library services by all people.” The ALA policy encourages libraries to work with “people

with disabilities, agencies, organizations, and vendors to integrate assistive technology into their facilities

and services to meet the needs of people with a broad range of disabilities, including learning, mobility, sensory, and developmental disabilities. Library staff should be aware of how available technologies address disabilities and know how to assist all users with library technology.”

Although the accommodations are intended to address the needs of patrons with disabilities, libraries in Wisconsin that do use them report that some patrons prefer to use the workstation that has large print, although they are not vision impaired. Some patrons who did not have restricted mobility prefer a trackball to a mouse. These same libraries do get some complaints from patrons who dislike the adaptive features. The more flexibility the library can offer in terms of allowing patrons to easily turn on and off the features, the better. Good signage and marketing is critical to the use of the adaptive features. If patrons don’t know the features are available, they will not be able to take advantage of them.

The DLTC will continue to collect and share data on accessibility issues in public libraries and to encourage libraries to ensure that people with disabilities have access to the technologies and information libraries already have, and that their needs are considered in future technological planning processes. ■



Information and technology literacy A year's reflections

by Kathy Boguszewski, Technology Consultant
Information and Technology Literacy Standards and Integration

Taking time to reflect. Taking time to evaluate and assess. Taking time to communicate to others. This has been a year to do just that. After visiting many regions of the state—whether virtually through the distant learning network or personally through travel to CESAs, districts, university classes, and conferences—I have observed quality leadership and a desire for continued learning among the educators of Wisconsin. The themes of these staff development opportunities were varied but a similar thread permeated the energy of the college students and district educator teams in attendance—the desire to learn and lead their colleagues into the age of information and technology.

Titles of the staff development inservices included:

- Utilizing the Matrix for Quality Project-Based Learning;
- Communication Tools: Exemplary School Web Pages;
- Integrating the Information and Technology Literacy Standards: Tools for Collaboration;
- Technology Issues in Schools and Library Media Centers;
- Strategies for Teaching Students Internet Information Literacy Skills;
- Looking for Quality Information? Educational Internet Portals;
- Designing Quality Project-Based Learning Units;
- Learning with Technology: We Have Come a Long Way; and
- Vision, Collaboration and Engaged Learning: The Technology Connection

There also was an Internet Literacy series with Bob Bocher, DPI public library technology consultant, in cooperation with the CESA 10 Distance Education Network. Titles were:

- Effective Searching on the Internet;
- Evaluation of Websites; and
- Safe Surfing: Privacy, Security, and Child Safety on the Internet.

In all, 43 training opportunities were offered, with overall attendance of 2,962. Seems amazing when I reflect. So was it quantity or quality that impacts my pondering over these connections with professionals in our state? Most decidedly it is quality.

I was humbled and honored to participate in thought-provoking discussions with workshop participants on the educational technology issues that are facing our schools in a rapid age of change. Teachers are recognizing their evolving roles as facilitators of subject matter learning. They are more involved in establishing their district's vision for learning as well as participating in the strategic plan that will place "learning with technology" ahead of "learning the technology." These teachers also recognized that multidisciplinary teaching strategies that will reach the multiple intelligences of their students in an information and technology rich learning environment will motivate students to higher achievement on their projects, and hopefully on their standardized tests.

How will we proceed next year with our efforts to strengthen the professional practices of our teachers? We will certainly offer the same workshops to teachers who were unable to attend the first series. We also will offer a series on "Curriculum Mapping: Aligning the Information and Technology Literacy Standards," as well as "Teaching Thinking in a Technological Age." We encourage teams of educators to attend.

Our roles are collaborative in nature. Our goals are to improve student learning. Contact your CESAs for workshops in your region or visit us online at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/imt/index.html for a posting of these workshops in late August. ■

Library Issue Discussion Group

With the Wisconsin legislature busy working on the state's biennial budget and Congress working on the federal budget, the May 10 meeting of the Library Issue Discussion Group presented a timely opportunity for various Wisconsin library groups to share information on legislative agendas, activities, and contacts. Decisions will be made in the coming weeks and months at both the state and federal levels with significant implications for Wisconsin library service.

The Library Issue Discussion Group is an informal group that met meets four to six times a year and brings together leaders of various library and related organizations in Wisconsin to discuss issues affecting Wisconsin libraries. The group also works to develop consensus around statewide initiatives.

At the May 10 meeting, representatives of WLA, WEMA, and the University of Wisconsin discussed their legislative activities. Priority issues for these organizations at the state level include library system funding, BadgerLink funding, support for the school library media consultant position at the DPI, and opposition to UCITA (the Uniform Computer Information Transaction Act).

Attendees to the ALA Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., including WLA President Mike Gelhausen and Cal Potter, reported on their discussions with Wisconsin's congressional delegation. Priority federal legislative issues include LSTA reauthorization and ESEA reauthorization. Cal Potter also reported on activities of COSLA (the Chief Officers of State Libraries Association). In addition to LSTA and ESEA reautho-

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Spring Conference Reports—WAAL, WAPL, WEMA

Editor's Note: *The following reports were submitted by Kathy Boguszewski (WEMA), Mary Struckmeyer (WAAL), and Peg Branson (WAPL).*

Spring is a time when library and media associations sponsor conferences for their members, providing opportunities for members to learn from one another, discuss the issues that affect their daily lives, and hear thought-provoking speakers. The Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians (WAAL), a unit of the Wisconsin Library Association (WLA), met in La Crosse April 18-20. The Wisconsin Educational Media Association (WEMA) held its conference in Green Bay March 28-30. And the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) met in Wisconsin Rapids May 3-4. Conference highlights follow.

WEMA Conference Highlights

Highlights of the WEMA Conference held in the Green Bay KI Convention Center March 28-30 were as varied as the presenters and the opportunities. "2001: A Cyberspace Odyssey" was an exciting blend of cyberspace and the print publishing world—including an author festival and keynote speeches from a Newbery Award Honor Book author and the Executive Director for NASA's Earth Observing System (EOS) Education Project at the University of Montana. Thursday evening included an awards banquet that honored the leaders in our profession who are truly making a difference with children K-12, as well as with the education of future professionals who impact the learning of these young

Discussion group—from page 12

rization, COSLA discussed the need to collect better statistics on the use of electronic resources through libraries nationwide, the threat posed by UCITA, and a proposal sponsored by Senators Orrin Hatch and Patrick Leahy to modernize the U.S. copyright laws as they apply to distance education.

The group also discussed progress on the development of digital libraries. Ken Frazier, director of the UW-Madison General Library System, reported that the UW-Madison libraries and the UW System libraries have agreed to cooperate in the creation of a Wisconsin digital library. Those two organizations will be seeking further partnerships for this project. Sally Drew reported that the DLTCL Great Lakes maritime history digitization project will be using the services of the UW-Madison digitization laboratory. It is hoped that this project can serve as a model for future library digitization projects in Wisconsin.

Additional topics of discussion included Internet filtering requirements, the State Superintendent's Library Information Technology Advisory Committee (LITAC) activities, LSTA Advisory Committee recommendations for 2002 funding categories, TEACH projects and budget, and activities of the Wisconsin Public Library E-Book Consortium. ■

people in our state.

The professional development sessions were endless in the technology applications arena. There also were many opportunities to learn about teaching strategies in the age of information and technology literacy. Not to be lost in the cyberspace maze, many participants attended the standing-room-only presentations from the staff of the Cooperative Children's Book Center. "CCBC Choices 2001" as well as a session titled "What's the Big Harry Deal?" gave participants insights into the best current children's literature as well as the popularity and impact of the Harry Potter phenomenon.

As usual, the awards banquet reminded us of why we chose a profession that is dynamic and so vital to the education program of our schools. Sherry Freiberg, retired from the Fond du Lac School District and former WEMA president, received the Award of Excellence in recognition of her significant contributions to WEMA and the library profession. Three higher education professors received the Special Service Recognition Award—Eileen Schroeder and Anne Zarinnia from UW-Whitewater and Gyneth Slygh from UW-Eau Claire were recognized for their unique collaborative distance education project that addresses the shortages and professional development of certified library media specialists. Dana Nelson received the Administrator of the Year Award for her leadership role in facilitating the UW-System School Library Education Consortium (visit at <http://facstaff.uww.edu/libmedia/uwsslec/>). The Media Professional of the Year was Lynn Handler, library media specialist for Menomonee Falls High School. The WEMA/Highsmith Innovation Award was given to Mary Brown, library media specialist from Oconomowoc High School.

Another innovative aspect of the conference was the introduction of WEMA's first Virtual Conference. Approximately 120 people who either could not attend the conference in person or could not attend all sessions at the conference registered on the Leadership Online's website and attended virtual sessions. All handouts were available and participants were able to enter a threaded discussion on questions proposed by the presenters. When the website expired the participants were sent a CD-ROM of all PowerPoint presentations, handouts, and discussion threads. If you have questions regarding offering a Virtual Conference, contact Steve Lanphear (lanphear@tds.net).

WAPL Conference Highlights

Over 300 public librarians and trustees attended the WAPL session in Wisconsin Rapids. Attendees were treated to sessions on a variety of topics, including Internet filtering, health reference resources, trustee training, document digitization, materials selection, public relations, and Ebay 101.

Keynote speaker Richard Sweeney, University Librarian of the New Jersey Institute of Technology, challenged the audience to consider public library services through the eyes of a new gen-

Please see Conference reports—on page 14

Conference reports—*from page 13*

eration—Generation Y. Sweeney highlighted some of the characteristics of Generation Y and said librarians must create excitement and passion for public libraries. The future prosperity of the public library depends upon creating passion through a clear, unique, essential, compelling vision that is a real public good, and providing attractive services of value to a larger percentage of the potential user population. Following the keynote address, Sweeney conducted a mini-focus group session with students from the UW-Stevens Point. The students responded to questions from Sweeney and the audience about their lives and the factors influencing them. They also offered comments and suggestions for public library services.

State Superintendent John T. Benson was a luncheon speaker at WAPL. Benson said the WAPL conference was one of the first conferences he addressed after his election eight years ago, so it was fitting for him to use the occasion to say good bye to the public library community. He thanked everyone for his or her coopera-

tion and support during his two terms in office. Benson said that during the period he served as state superintendent the biggest transformation in public library service related to the implementation of technology. He said he took pride in the leadership that DPI and the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (DLTCL) exhibited in this area. He said it was hard to believe that as recently as seven years ago, only 6 percent of Wisconsin's public libraries had access to the Internet. Today, 99 percent have access. He also indicated how pleased he is with the success of BadgerLink and the resources it makes available to citizens throughout the state. He expressed concern that public library system funding, on the other hand, has not been a success story and that the state is not upholding its share of the local-state partnership that is essential if we are to provide quality library service to all of the state's residents. He said this is one of the priority budget items DPI staff has been addressing.

Mike Gelhausen, president of WLA, presented Benson with an honorary lifetime membership in WLA in recognition of his dedication and efforts to improve services in all types of libraries during his eight years as state superintendent. Paul Nelson presented Benson with a giant card, signed by conference attendees, extending Benson best wishes in his retirement.

DLTCL staff members were involved in a number of presentations at the conference, including: FutureGeek: Evolving Technologies and Where They are Taking Us (Bob Bocher with John Nichols, Oshkosh Public Library and Winnefox Library System); Public Libraries and the New Federal Filtering Requirements (Bob Bocher); Federal and State Legislative Agendas and Budget Issues (Cal Potter with Paul Nelson, WLA, LD&L); Demonstration of a Trustee Training Module (Mike Cross); Measuring the Use of Electronic Resources in the Public Library (Al Zimmerman with Rick Krumwiede, Outagamie-Waupaca Library System and Mark Morse, L.E. Phillips Library, Eau Claire); and WISCAT Users Group (Mary Clark).

Ron McCabe, director, McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, chaired the WAPL conference planning committee. Becca Berger served as program chair for the conference. Jim Trojanowski is the current president of WAPL.

WAAL Conference Highlights

"La Crosse: A River Runs Through It" starring an all-wet cast of academic librarians was added as the second feature at the annual Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians conference April 18-20—at least on the tee-shirt available for purchase. The original conference title was "2001 A Library Odyssey." The cresting of the Mississippi River received national attention and prompted the addition of the "second feature" carrying out the movie theme.

The program was designed to take attendees on a global odyssey to explore Wisconsin caves, librarianship in Namibia and El Salvador, and the Milky Way, among other sites. Several presentations focused on electronic resources, including e-books, government portals, and databases adapted for users with disabilities. Print resources were not left off the agenda, as several presentations focused on reading.

The Division sponsored a BadgerLink Update session conducted by Mary Struckmeyer, reference librarian at the Reference and Loan Library. In addition to demonstrating new features of the full text magazine database and reporting the results of a newspaper use survey, Struckmeyer described the library's cooperation with DOA on a project to assign Dublin Core metatags to state agency web pages and the DLTCL's involvement in the Great Lakes Marine History Digitization Project.

Electronic copies of presentation materials for some sessions can be found at www.uwlax.edu/murphylibrary/waal2001/postconf.htm.

The back of the tee-shirt, according to a WAAL member, reflected "the true spirit of community and cooperation inspired by the incredible harmonic convergence of conference and flood" and therefore reads "This shirt was designed by a committee." ■

Meeting room policy *from page 15*

make the room available to a wide variety of organizations. The judge also implied that the policy excluding use of the meeting room for "commercial sales or presentations promoting specific companies or products" also was constitutionally acceptable.

Libraries may wish to review their meeting room policies in light of the West Allis court ruling and the new lawsuit. Sample meeting room policies are available from the Wisconsin Public Library Policy Resources web page (www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/policies.html).

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

COLAND meets in Sun Prairie May 11

The Council on Library and Network Development met May 11 at the Sun Prairie Public Library, which was completed in 1998.

Sen. Rick Grobschmidt, chair of the Senate Education Committee, met with council members to discuss the prospects for library budget initiatives in the current legislative session.

Grobschmidt noted the difficulty of this budget with a potential biennial deficit of about \$750 million. For this reason, achieving a 13 percent index level for public library system funding is not likely. An index level between 10 and 11 percent would be more reasonable to expect. Grobschmidt also pointed out that the Joint Committee on Finance would work from the Department of Public Instruction's base budget, not the budget proposed by Gov. Scott McCallum. This means that it will take at least nine of the 16 votes on the Committee to add provisions of the Governor back into the budget. For some items, such as the Governor's recommendation to fund an increase in BadgerLink with fees for school districts, this is a favorable change.

Sen. Grobschmidt shared with the council some of the difficulties that the public libraries in Milwaukee County are currently having with the funding of crossover borrowing. A discussion on this topic by council members followed.

The council also heard a presentation by several state agency librarians. These included: Loretta Harmatuck, government services librarian with the Reference and Loan Library; Marian Rogers, managing librarian of the R. H. Rupert Theobald Legislative Library of the Legislative Reference Bureau; Jane Colwin, acting director of the State Law Library; and Janet Pugh, librarian of the Department of Workforce Development Library. A generally positive presentation on the important role played by state agency libraries was dampened by the report from Pugh that the Department of Workforce Development had decided to close its library because of the five percent budget cut all state agencies are expected to receive in 2001-2002.

In other action, the council:

- heard a report from Barbara Huntington, DLTCL's Public Library Youth and Special Services consultant, on the state's summer library program and library services to special needs youth.
- voted to send a letter to the members of the Joint Committee on Finance restating their support of the library budget initiatives of the Department of Public Instruction.
- voted to send a letter to the TEACH Wisconsin board thanking the board for supporting the use of the \$500,000 in Ameritech settlement funds for direct connections by public libraries, and encouraging the board to consider using the funds to also connect public libraries to shared automated systems.
- voted to send a letter to Wisconsin's federal legislative delegation in support

of the reauthorization of the Library Services and Technology Act and funding for LSTA at \$350 million in 2002.

- heard reports on a variety of other topics from the DLTCL staff.

The next COLAND meeting is July 13 in La Crosse. ■

Another Wisconsin library sued over meeting room policy

The Portage Public Library recently was sued for refusing to allow use of their public meeting room for a religious purpose.

As reported in a Channel Weekly article last year, the West Allis Public Library was sued under similar circumstances. In that case, a federal court ruled that the City of West Allis violated a man's First Amendment rights when it refused him permission to use the public library's meeting room for a program about creationism.

The West Allis Public Library policy prohibited use of the meeting room for religious services, religious instruction, and partisan political meetings.

Federal District Judge Lynn Adelman ruled that the library's policies and practices permitting the use of the meeting room for various groups had created a "designated public forum." In a designated public forum, government restrictions on speech are permissible only if they are the least restrictive means to a compelling government interest. Adelman ruled that the city failed to show a compelling government interest in excluding the plaintiff from use of the meeting room.

"It may be that the exclusion of partisan political meetings and religious services or instruction is based on the library's desire to avoid controversy," Adelman said. "However, the avoidance of controversy is not a valid ground for restricting speech in a public forum."

Reasonable time, place, and manner regulations are permissible in a designated public forum. For example, Judge Adelman implied that the library's prohibition on the use of the meeting room for regular meetings of clubs and other organizations was probably a constitutional regulation because it was intended to

Please see Meeting room policy—on page

Calendar

July 10	Library Issues Discussion Group, Madison.
July 13	Council on Library and Network Development, La Crosse Public Library.
July 26-27	WILSWorld, Madison.
Aug. 8-10	17th Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning, Madison.
Sept. 18	Library and Information Technology Advisory Committee, Madison.
Sept. 28	Delivery Services Advisory Committee meeting (videoconference).

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

Electronic reference at R&LL

Technology changes how reference services are provided

by Mary Struckmeyer, Head
Reference and Interloan

Virtual reference, e-mail reference, digital reference—what is happening at the Reference and Loan Library (R&LL) and why?

At a time when reference departments all over the country began to notice declining requests, and during a temporary lull in requests coming into the library, R&LL staff held a brainstorming session to figure out how they could use their combined 135 years of experience to continue to meet the information needs of Wisconsin citizens and to explore new modes of reference service. Staff members believe that although technology allows individual library users to have access to far more resources than in the past, many people still need help locating information. Because R&LL staff has considerable experience helping patrons from a remote site, responding to e-mail requests seemed to be a logical area to explore further.

E-mails sent to staff providing technical help to users of BadgerLink and WISCAT provided evidence that remote users needed advice on searching techniques and reference help. Because their names appear on the library's website, some reference staff had already received queries for help via e-mail. Library consultants receiving reference questions also had been referring requests to the R&L reference staff.

To get these messages directly to reference staff, a message was added to the BadgerLink and WISCAT websites informing users that if they were unable to find the information needed, they could phone or visit the reference department of their local public library or submit an e-mail request for reference help to *DPIrllref@dpi.state.wi.us.

Some requesters merely need a few tips for searching WISCAT, EBSCOHost or ProQuest. Others need information that isn't available in the databases, so staff suggest websites or print resources that might be available at local public or academic libraries. Reference help also is offered to users searching for videos through the BadgerLink website.

When Library Director Sally Drew began discussing metatagging of electronic state publications, she learned that the employee whose e-mail address was on the main state government website often received requests for help locating information. He began referring these requests for help to the library's reference staff in August 2000. When the state portal page (www.wisconsin.gov) was redesigned in January 2001, a part of the feedback section was labeled Content and people needing more information about a specific topic or requiring assistance locating information were connected via e-mail to the R&LL reference staff.

This help is targeted at individual remote users rather than at libraries. Whenever appropriate, users are referred to their local libraries for further help. Unlike many libraries that are more actively promoting and developing e-mail reference, R&L is not using any special software to handle requests or to create a data-

base of questions asked. The idea of live chat is a long ways away, at least for R&LL staff.

In February, 128 requests were received via the Wisconsin state government portal; in March 185 requests were handled. In response to requests, staff may provide the information needed; provide URLs for sites that have the information or guide users to the sites; or refer requests to staff at state agencies. Often the information can be found on the Internet, but sometimes librarians phone or e-mail agencies to identify a staff member who can best handle a specific request. In some cases, the library's print collection has been the best resource for responding to a question.

R&LL staff have attempted to analyze incoming requests by subject, using categories on the portal page's FAQ section. Licensing/permitting and laws /regulations are two of the most common areas for questions. In November 2000, staff decided to participate in the Library of Congress Collaborative Digital Reference (CDRS) Pilot Project. The mission of the CDRS is to provide "professional reference service to users anywhere, anytime, through an international digital network of libraries." The service is designed to facilitate access to the millions of resources (that are not online) held by libraries around the world as well as to Internet sites. R&LL staff saw this as an opportunity to expand connections with the resources and expertise of national and global information providers and to experiment with receiving and sending requests via e-mail. It also allows staff to get experience with a request manager process and database that controls the flow and tracking of questions and answers. Reference questions and answers eventually will be available in an archived database.

During the pilot project, questions are sent from one library or agency to another by software that uses profiles to route requests. If all goes as planned, a virtual reference desk will be made available to the public some time next year. Twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week help will be available by routing online queries to time zones where reference staff are available.

When R&L staff filled out the profile required to participate in the pilot, they identified videocassettes as a format strength, and musical works, decorative and applied arts, American Indian languages, and Wisconsin as subject strengths. The R&LL agreed to accept 10 requests per week and to send six requests per week. They learned first-hand about software glitches one week when they received almost double the number of requests agreed to.

The following request submitted by The Reference and Loan Library and routed to Ohio University Health Sciences Library has been featured on the CDRS website as the Question of the Day-April 2001: "A patron requests information on insulin pumps which will assist her in choosing one to buy. She wants comparisons of various brands, including quality, effectiveness,

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Images from WAPL Conference

Top Right

Paul Nelson, chair of the WLA Library Development and Legislation Committee, presented State Superintendent John T. Benson with a retirement card.

Bottom Right

Michael Gelhausen (at podium), WLA president, presented John Benson with an honorary lifetime membership in WLA. Seated are Benson and Jim Trojanowski, president of the Wisconsin Association of Public Librarians.

Below

Participants share time together during a conference lunch break.



Electronic reference—from page 16

and price. She has searched the Internet but found the information confusing and contradictory.”

The answer received is typical of the thorough responses sent and emphasis on referrals to reliable sources by information professionals—which is one of the guiding principles for this service. Medical librarians sited the website for the Diabetes Mall on the Web at www.diabetesnet.com/insulinpumps.html where there are reviews of various pump models and some price information. An additional website with price information is www.diabetes-supply.com/products.htm#pumps. Since print materials are often cited in responses, this patron was also referred to

the 3rd edition of *Pumping Insulin: Everything You Need For Success with an Insulin Pump* (c2000), and to an article in *Diabetes Educator*.

Although the Reference and Loan Library probably has one of the smallest collections of all participating members, R&LL staff member Vickie Long registered success with a user of the Morris City Library in Boston by calling a UW-Madison language person to help translate a Saudi place name. Sara Weissman saluted her efforts by sending the following message to the Digital Reference Listserv: “We just got a great! answer.... We have no transliterated Arabic dictionaries...Saudi consulate in NY couldn’t help. Our patron was VERY impressed that we could ask LC and

now thinks we are all incredibly cool. He’ll use libraries again.”

Currently, there are 76 participants in the project, including the Canadian Agriculture Library, National Library of Australia, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, National Library of Canada, National Gallery of Canada, Smithsonian American Art Museum, and many other public and academic libraries. Milwaukee Public Library has been accepted as the second participating library from Wisconsin. Milwaukee staff identified the following areas as strengths: periodicals, biographies, U.S. and America history, folklore, recreation, architecture, American Literature, Great Lakes Marine history, and Milwaukee history. A four-person team is working on the project.

Further information about CDRS may be found at www.loc.gov/cdrs. ■■

Jim Klein named

DPI hires MarcoPolo state coordinator

DPI has received a grant from WorldCom Foundation to hire a MarcoPolo state coordinator for educator training in the use of MarcoPolo resources. The goal is to have every Wisconsin teacher trained in the use of MarcoPolo: Internet Content for the Classroom.

The website's content, which is available free of charge to all Wisconsin educators, is selected through rigid criteria by seven national partners who ensure that all educational materials are accurate, up-

to-date, and unbiased. The partners are: American Association for the Advancement of Science; the Council of the Great City Schools; The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; the National Council on Economic Education; the National Endowment for the Humanities; and the National Geographic Society.

The Marco Polo partners deliver top-notch content in their respective disci-

plines and work together as a consortium to set common quality guidelines, share best practices and technology innovations, and create cross-disciplinary educational experiences.

Train-the-trainer workshops are being held statewide in collaboration with Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESAs). Jim Klein has been hired as Wisconsin's MarcoPolo state coordinator. He can be reached at (608) 266-1924 (james.klein@dpi.state.wi.us).

Information about Marco Polo training dates is below (as of 5/31/01).

- July 10, Mequon. Contact Connie Yaeger at (262) 238-5691 (jgarton@cesa1.k12.wi.us).
- July 11, Whitnall. Contact Rene Freyer at (414) 525-8414 (rfreyer@whitnall.com).
- July 12, Waukesha. Contact Kristine Diener at (262) 970-1074.
- July 13, South Milwaukee High School. Contact Charles Hillman at (414) 768-6319 (hillman.chuck@sdsd.k12.wi.us).
- July 16, Greendale. Contact Jeff Johnson at (414) 423-2780.
- July 19, CESA 3 (Fennimore). Contact Terri Iverson at (608) 822-3276 (tiverson@cesa3.k12.wi.us).
- Aug. 1, De Pere Middle School (unconfirmed). Contact Chris Rogers at (920) 492-2678 (crogers@netnet.net).
- Aug. 2, CESA 11 (Turtle Lake). Contact Laurie Franz at (715) 986-2020 ext. 2202 (laurief@cesa11.k12.wi.us).
- Aug. 6, CESA 2 (Milton). Contact Sandi Szafranski at (608) 758-6232 ext. 315 (szafrans@cesa2.k12.wi.us).
- Aug. 8, D.C. Everest School District (Schofield). Contact Mary Lou Ley at (715) 453-2141 (mlley@cesa9.k12.wi.us).
- Aug. 14, Unity School District (Balsam Lake). Contact Mary Beth Tschumperlin at (715) 986-2020 (marybetht@cesa11.k12.wi.us).
- Aug. 18, CESA 2 (Milton). Contact Sandi Szafranski at (608) 758-6232 ext. 315 (szafrans@cesa2.k12.wi.us). ■

Burmester—from front page

on so many of the issues were distinctly different from each other. Many partisans found themselves drawn into campaign activities based upon those differences.

The State Superintendent's position is the state constitutional focal point for education leadership in Wisconsin, as we are the only state in the nation that does not have an appointed or elected state school board. The Superintendent is thus handed a big responsibility, and in Wisconsin this includes the continuation of our success story for schools, student performance, and quality libraries. Our unique state/local partnerships in the delivery of educational services has worked well and is a testament to the functionality of our delivery structure.

One of the first tasks of the new State Superintendent is to appoint individuals to the executive level DPI leadership positions. Included in those positions are the heads of the DPI divisions, one of which is the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning. This 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 policy, program, and budget priorities of the DLTL are reviewed, advanced, and advocated for by the State Superintendent.

Ms. Burmaster, like all newly elected state superintendents, is given a three-month transition period between the April election and the assumption of office in July. Ms. Burmaster, while completing her work as principal of Madison West High School, worked intensively learning the complexities and issue challenges of the many educational programs administered by the DPI. Added to the complexities of stepping into a new job are the legislative deliberations on the 2001-03 State Biennial Budget. The DPI, including the area of library services, found that document to be in need of many improvements. The state superintendent leads the efforts to communicate the deficiencies of that budget document and advocates for the correction of those identified shortcomings.

During the campaign, Ms. Burmaster expressed strong support for libraries, with her stand on state budget issues well received by the library community. This early expression of commitment to strong library services set a positive stage for new DPI leadership, one that continues the advocacy John Benson has shown over his many years in office. ■

National Library Legislative Day

Wisconsin's 11-member library delegation joined more than 600 library advocates for the 27th Annual National Library Day in Washington, D.C. on May 1.

Pictured with Sen. Russell Feingold (at top left to right) are Les Brown, Tom Brown, Madge Klais, Annette Smith, Tom Strange, Sen. Feingold, Susan Brandt, Karen Busch, Jeff Gelhausen, Mike Gelhausen, and Cal Potter.



The delegation also visited Rep. Thomas Petri (middle picture) and Rep. Tammy Baldwin (bottom picture). Also pictured with Representatives Petri and Baldwin was Mark Merrifield (far right in center photo).

Each Congressional office was given two informational packets—one from ALA and the other compiled by DLTC staff that included printouts of specific financial benefits received in each respective representative's district from federal library aid programs such as LSTA, E-Rate, and TLCF.



Trustee Corner from page 20

tions, it is not necessary or desirable for a library board to seek 501(c)(3) status for the public library itself.

A separate library foundation may have certain benefits, including greater political independence. Establishing a foundation normally requires the assistance of a lawyer. A lawyer and/or accountant may also be needed to comply with the IRS 501(c)(3) filing requirements for a nonprofit foundation.

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



Trustee Handbook Task Force issues preliminary recommendations

State Superintendent John T. Benson has appointed a task force to assist DLTL staff in reviewing and updating the Wisconsin Public Library Trustee Handbook. When completed, the revised Trustee Handbook will be distributed to all Wisconsin public library and library system trustees, and also will be made available on the DPI website.

The Public Library Trustee Handbook Revision Task Force held its first meeting March 26 to develop preliminary recommendations. The Task Force recommends a new Trustee Handbook that is:

- more practical;
- more readable;
- focused on the essentials; and
- a more useful tool for trustee training and continuing education

The Task Force envisions a Trustee Handbook that includes a number of stand-alone, concise "Trustee Essentials" that cover the information essential to library trustees. Trustee Essentials will cover such issues as the trustee job description, the relationship of the board to the director and to the municipality, the legal powers and duties of the board, and the conduct of board meetings.

Each Trustee Essential will cover the basics of the issue, and also point to sources of additional information. Trustee Essentials will have a uniform format designed

for use with trustee orientation and continuing education.

Contact Mike Cross at (608) 267-9225

(michael.cross@dpi.state.wi.us) if you have comments or suggestions regarding the revision of the Trustee Handbook. ■■

Trustee Corner

We would like to establish and manage a gift fund for our library. Do we need to establish a library foundation (a separate non-profit 501(c)(3) organization) to solicit funds and administer the endowment fund?

No. Your library board should be able to accomplish your goals within the legal powers of a library board established under Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

If your concern is the deductibility of donations to a public library, donations to any government organization meet the IRS definition of a "charitable contribution" to a "qualified organization." No application to the IRS is needed. According to the IRS publication on Charitable Contributions (Publication #526): "To become qualified organizations, most organizations other than churches and governments, as described below, must apply to the IRS." The publication goes on to define as one type of "qualifying organization" any state or any of its subdivisions that perform substantial government functions. A public library established and operated according to Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 43 clearly meets that definition.

If your concern is the ability to retain custody of and manage gifts and donations separate from the municipality, this option is available to public library boards under Wisconsin Statutes section 43.58 (7). These options were discussed in the September-October *Channel* "Trustee Corner" (available at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/eis/pdf/chn3601.pdf).

Because Wisconsin public libraries can retain custody of gifts and donations, and are "qualified organizations" for the purpose of the deductibility of dona-

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