

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

Library program attendance increases

Library visits top 28 million in 2000

by Alan Zimmerman, Consultant Public Library System Administration & Finance

In 2000, Wisconsin had 385 independent public libraries and 17 regional public library systems serving the state's 5.4 million residents. All of Wisconsin's public libraries and counties are currently public library system members. Annually, these libraries submit reports to the Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning (DLTCL) describing hold-

ings, financing, staffing, and activities.

Although not all libraries are able to respond to all questions, information provided for 2000 suggests that public libraries overall did experience some change in service levels from 1999.

Attendance at library programs showed one of the greatest changes, increasing 3 percent over 1999 to 1.3 million. This increase was due in part to a 33 percent increase in the number of adult programs

offered (8,510 programs) with a corresponding increase of 13 percent in adult attendance. Attendance at the 41,000 library programs for children and young adults was nearly 1.2 million, an increase of mroe than 2 percent over 1999. The number of library visits made by users in 2000 also increased by nearly 2 percent to 28 million visits statewide. The number of reference questions submitted to librarians by library users increased 2.7 percent to 5.9 million reference transactions in 2000. Only total circulation remained at the 1999 level of 46.7 million with slightly less than half of all public libraries reporting decreases. Circulation of children's materials continues to represent an estimated 40 percent of all circu-

Interlibrary loans—requests sent from one library to another for materials not available locally but wanted by a library user—continued double digit growth, increasing 18 percent over 1999 to 2.4 million items loaned. This increase appears to be lead by libraries with shared automation systems, and currently more than half of all public libraries participate in shared automation systems. In response to the interlibrary loan requests, the statewide interlibrary delivery service has continued to expand in recent years.

The chart on the top of page 4 presents changes in service by public library community population. When viewing this chart, the distribution of public libraries should be kept in mind. The 72 largest public libraries—those in communities with populations over 10,000—serve 70 percent of the state's residents. Although the 32 public libraries in communities of over 25,000 population only constitute 8 percent of all libraries, they serve 53 per
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Wisconsin Legislature passes 2001-03 biennial budget

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

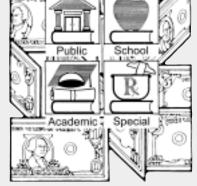
After five months of legislative deliberations, the 2001-03 State Biennial Budget has been forwarded to Gov. Scott McCallum for his final review, line item vetoes, and signature into law. The process began when the governor submitted his ver-

sion of the budget to legislators in February, followed by Joint Finance Committee, standing committee, Senate and Assembly caucus and floor, and conference committee action. Included in that document are the various state library budget provisions on which the library community contacted their state senators and state representatives.

While most library program requests received the additional funding requested, public library system aid did not fair well in this frugal state budget. Listed below are items included in the budget as passed by both houses of the Legislature.

• The governor proposed no increase for library system aids. The Senate added \$250,000 only in the second year of the biennium, so levels of aid will then continue to be \$14,749,800 in 2001-02 and \$14,999,800 in 2002-03. The increase in the second year is less than 1.7 percent.

Please see Biennial Budget—on page 2



Biennial Budget-from page 1

• BadgerLink received an increase of

\$223,700 from the Universal Service Fund for the biennium in order to meet the cost-to-continue for the two existing database contracts. The increase was passed in the Senate and held in the conference committee. Support for the project will be \$1,773,500 in 2001-02 and \$1,850,000 in 2002-03.

• The four library service contracts with the Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC), Wisconsin Library Services (WiLS), Milwaukee Public Library, and the Re-



Cal Potter

gional Library for the Blind and Physi-

cally Handicapped in Milwaukee were allotted an additional \$222,600 as cost-to-continue for the next two years. Contract totals for the next two years will be \$1,144,600 in 2001-02 and \$1,172,600 in 2002-03. Here, too, the increases were provided in the Senate and the conference committee selected that figure.

• The \$161,600 computerized system upgrade at the Regional Library for the

Blind and Physically Handicapped was included and funded out of the grant monies available after the dissolution of the Wisconsin Advanced Technology Fund (WATF).

- School library media centers were authorized to receive the full amount in Common School Fund interest income. The distribution figures will be based on projected interest income from the fund in the months ahead. During the budget debate, discussions were held about funding other services with some of this money source, suggestions that were vigorously beaten back by library constituent contacts with their legislators
- Newsline for the Blind is supported by the Universal Service Fund and was allocated an additional \$45,000 for the biennium to continue the existing service and provide some enhancements.
- Budget language was approved to al-

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Channel

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Channel (ISSN 0146-1095) is published everyother 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/dltcl/eis/ chnvol36.html

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

Send comments about bylined articles to the authors. Direct other content inquiries to editor Mark E. Ibach at (608) 266-3374 (mark.ibach@dpi.state.wi.us). Mailing list changes and requests for subscriptions or extra copies should be submitted to Trish Hibbard at (608) 266-2697 (trish.hibbard@dpi.state.wi.us).

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Reader Connection

Column is opportunity to share information with colleagues

A "Reader Connection" column was added to the print Channel publication in 2000 to give Channel readers an opportunity to publicize successful projects, programs, or activities in their libraries, or to comment on issues in the library community that concerned them.

The shared information, in addition to being of interest to colleagues, may be of potential help to them in replicating positive experiences.

Channel readers from all types of libraries are invited to submit "Reader Connection" articles for publication in Channel. Contact Peg Branson at (608) 266-2413 or peg.branson@dpi.state.wi.us for details—article length, deadlines, etc.

Current and back issues of Channel are available online at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/eis/chnvol36.html. ■

Budget—from page 2

low for branch library coverage and the sharing of T1 lines under the TEACH program. The non-coverage of branch libraries was probably an oversight when the original program was passed.

- Library systems were added to the list of governmental units that are eligible for low interest loans from the Trust Fund, managed by the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands.
- The conference committee did not adopt the Senate provision that would have added \$4.7 million in the biennium to the UW budget to fund acquisitions by System libraries.

Many in the library community did a good job in contacting their legislators to tell the story of need. It is difficult to start listing all of the advocates who took time to tell the library story for fear of excluding someone. When Paul Nelson, WLA Legislative Committee chair, or Madge Klais, as WEMA Legislative Chair, or other organizations such as the Friends or Trustees sent out legislative action alerts, many did their duty and made the needed timely contacts. Nothing can beat the positive impact of local constituent contacts.

The lack of legislative support for the public library system program is extremely troubling. At the end of the next biennium, state support for systems will be at a level equal to only 9 percent of local support for public library service. Public library service, like other public education programs, is a matter of statewide concern and value and deserves a higher level of state support. Developing this support presents a significant challenge to the library community. It will require the best efforts of numerous library advocates at the local grass roots level. Now is the time to make the commitment necessary to succeed in the future. \blacksquare

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Ginny Moore Kruse, Director (608) 263-3720

Survey shows increases in library use statewide—from front page

cent of the state's population. The 263 public libraries in communities under 5,000 population (two-thirds of all libraries) serve less than 20 percent of the state's population. The 89 libraries in communities of under 1,000 serve about 3 percent of all residents.

braries report having public use computers or workstations with Internet access. In addition to Internet access, 85 percent of all libraries report having locally provided access to electronic resources such as bibliographic or full-text databases or multimedia products. Libraries reported a 22 percent increase in

electronically format-

ted materials in their collections and the

availability of nearly

4,000 public use com-

tions, 2,500 of which provide Internet ac-

cess. A national con-

sensus on how to

measure the use of

these electronic re-

sources in public li-

braries is beginning to

emerge. In 2000, Wisconsin libraries for the first time attempted to

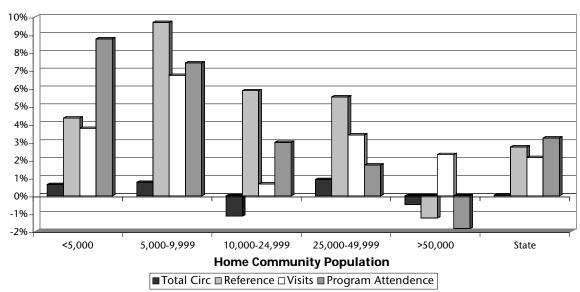
count and report users

of electronic resources

in a typical week. The responding libraries

puters or worksta-

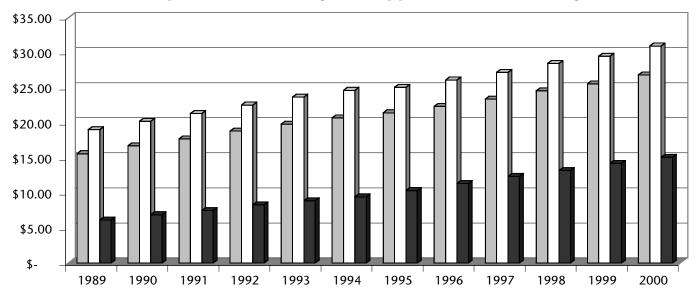
Public Library Service Level Changes -1999 to 2000



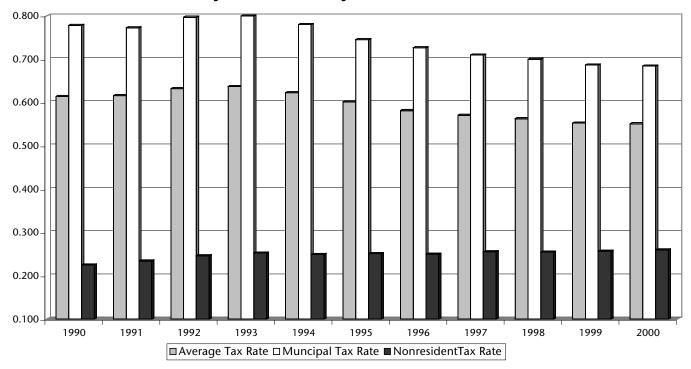
One factor possibly affecting traditional public library output measures may be the growth in the availability and use of electronic resources in libraries. Over 98 percent of all public libraries report having access to the Internet. Ninety-four percent of li(70 percent of all public libraries) reported a total of 103,000 users per week.

Statewide, all categories of library collection materials in-Continued on next page

Per Capita Local & County Tax Support for Public Library Service



■ Average Tax Rate ■ Muncipal Tax Rate ■ NonresidentTax Rate



Public Library Service Tax Levy Per \$1,000 Assessed Valuation

creased over 1999. Print volumes held increased 1.6 percent to 18.6 million. Audio materials held increased 7 percent to 809,000 and video materials held grew by 16 percent to 762,000. Electronically formatted materials in public library collections totaled nearly 39,000 (a 22 percent increase), and public library periodical subscriptions increased 3 percent to 61,500. Statewide expenditures for public library materials totaled \$23 million, an increase of 9 percent over 1999.

Total public library and system staffing increased by 3 percent to more than 3,142 full time equivalent (FTE) employees. Of all staff, 680 FTEs held Master's degrees from a program of library and information studies accredited by the American Library Association. Including those with Master's degrees, 1,242 FTE staff held the title of librarian and approximately 1,900 FTE were classified as support staff. The total public service hours open for all public libraries, branches, and bookmobiles increased 2 percent from 1999, to more than 1 million service hours open. Total staff costs (including salaries, wages, and benefits) increased to \$111.7 million, 6 percent greater than 1999.

Recently passed legislation requires counties to pay public libraries within the county a minimum of 70 percent of the cost of public library service provided to county residents without a local pubic library. Use is measured by circulation to those residents. This year's circulation statistics are consistent with previous year's reports and indicate that statewide approximately one-third of all public library use is by persons residing outside the library's home community. Approximately one-fifth of all use is by residents from the library's county who do not have a local library. About 8 percent of all use is by residents who do have a local public library, but who choose to use another public library

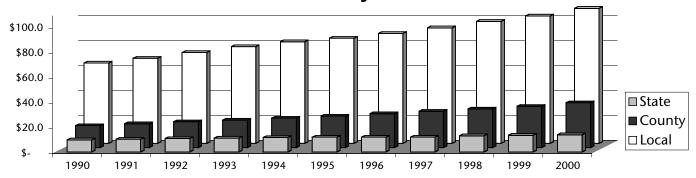
within the county. The remaining nonresident use is predominately by persons in neighboring counties or within the library's public library system area (4.5 percent). Statewide, libraries reported that less than 1 percent of use was by other state residents and out-of-state residents, although some libraries in tourist areas experienced relatively heavy use by these users.

Public library service in Wisconsin is provided through cooperative efforts at the state, public library system, and county and local level. Considering funding only at the public library level, about two-thirds of all operating revenue is from municipal government sources and 20 percent of income is provided by counties. The remaining 13 percent of public library funding is from state, federal, and other sources. Looking at public library expenditures only, salaries, wages, and benefits are 66 percent of all expenditures. Materials expenditures are 15 percent of the total and contractual and other expenditures make up the remaining 19 percent of public library spending. Of the funds expended by public libraries for library materials, 67 percent is for print materials (excluding subscriptions), 14 percent is for subscriptions, 14 percent is for audiovisual, and 5 percent is for electronic formatted materials and other materials.

The annual statewide average per capita local and county tax support for public library service in 2000 was \$26.82, a 5 percent increase over 1999 (see chart on page 4). Three-fourths of the state's population reside in communities with a local public library. These residents paid an average of \$30.94 per capita for public library service in 2000, a 5 percent increase. However, the range of support varied greatly from under \$2 per capita to over \$80 per capita. The remaining population live in commu-

Please see Survey—on page 6

State Aid to Systems and County & Municipal Appropriatons for Public Library Service



Survey results demonstrate library usage_from page 5

nities with no public library and pay a county tax for public library service. These residents paid an average of \$15.08 per capita, up 6 percent from 1999, with rates ranging from \$1 to \$34 per capita last year.

The state average library service tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed value decreased slightly to .551. Likewise, library community tax rates also showed a slight decline to .684. Nonresident tax rates increased slightly to .260. The chart on page 5 shows property tax rate trends over the last decade.

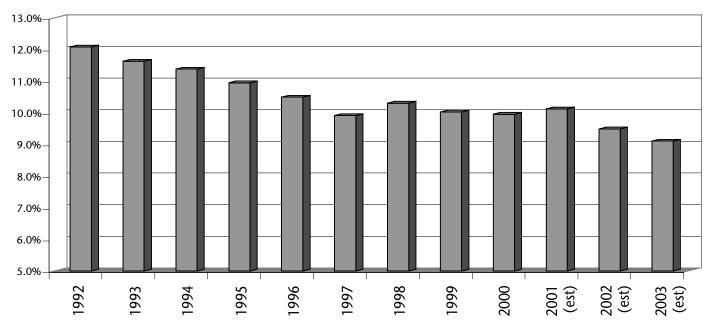
Total expenditures for public library service in Wisconsin, including expenditures at the municipal, county, and public library system level, were \$165.4 million for 2000, an increase of 7.6 percent over 1999. Municipalities provided 60 percent of all operating income, counties contributed 20 percent, and state

sources accounted for 10 percent. The remaining 10 percent came from federal grants, gifts, endowments, funds carried over from the previous year, and other income. Salaries, wages, and benefits accounted for 68 percent of all operating expenditures, library materials expenditures for 14 percent, and all other operating expenditures for 18 percent of the total expended. Total capital outlays were \$20.8 million for 2000 of which two-thirds were from local and county tax sources. The above chart presents changes in appropriations for state public library system aid, and county and municipal funding over the last 10 decade.

Because state funding for systems has grown at a slower rate than local and county funding, the relative share of state funding to local and county funding has steadily declined over the

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Public Library System State Aid Index



COLAND meets in La Crosse

The Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND) met at the La Crosse Public Library on July 13.

Rep. Michael Huebsch (R-West Salem) gave the Council an update on activities relating to the 2001-2003 state budget deliberations. Huebsch, who represents the 94th Assembly District and is the son of Council member David Huebsch, serves on the legislature's Joint Committee on Finance. Huebsch told the Council that libraries haven't fared well in this budget because of the tight budget picture and competition from higher profile causes. In response to a question about how libraries could do better in their lobbying efforts, Huebsch indicated that libraries needed to motivate library users to advo-

cate on their behalf.

David Polodna, director of the Winding Rivers Library System, told the Council about the system's "We Can" public library development program. The program includes three major components. One program relates to trustee training, another provides orientation of new library directors, and the third program provides a comprehensive assessment of public library service in a community. Polodna indicated that another major project of the system is promoting participation in the system's shared automated system.

Paul Beck, special collections librarian at Murphy Library (UW-La Crosse), presented information relating to the Wisconsin Area Research Center (ARC) Network and the special collections at Murphy Library. Murphy Library has one of the country's largest collections of steamboat photographs.

The Council also heard from Ann Emmel, instructional services librarian, about the library services at the La Crosse Gunderson Lutheran Health Science Library, which is the second largest hospital library in the state. In addition to the health science library for staff, the John and Nettle Mooney Health Resource Center Library provides patients, community, and staff with quality consumer health information.

New officers were elected, and include Phil Sawain, who is continuing as chair; Gyneth Slygh, vice-chair; John Reid, who

Please see COLAND—on page 8

Survey—from page 6

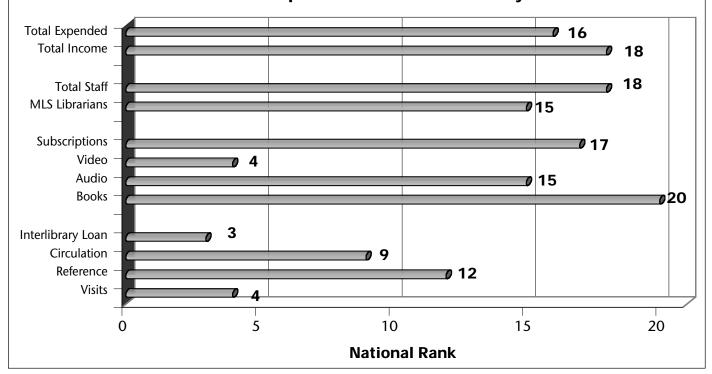
last 10 years. Statutorily, state system aid appropriations are targeted at 13 percent of local and county expenditures in the previous year. The actual index achieved is shown on page 6.

Wisconsin residents are heavy users of public libraries. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) per capita

rankings place Wisconsin fourth in public library visits per capita, ninth in circulation per capita, and 12th in reference transactions per capita. An estimated 55 percent of Wisconsin residents are registered public library users.

Wisconsin's per capita ranking for the public library indicators provided by NCES are as shown below and demonstrates a great use of the resources provided. ■

Wisconsin Per Capita Ranks for Public Library Service Indicators



Update of Oct. 29-31 GWETC

by Neah J. Lohr, Director Instructional Media and Technology

The Governor's Wisconsin Educational Technology Conference (GWETC) will be held Oct. 29-31 at the KI Center/Regency Suites in Green Bay. This PK-16 conference is co-sponsored by six state agencies/institutions, along with the governor's office. The agencies are: TEACH Wisconsin, UW-Extension, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Educational Communica-

secutive year for this conference, which originally was sponsored by only four state agencies.

Speakers invited for the conference are State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster and Gov.

tions Board, and the Wisconsin Technical

College System. This is the ninth con-

and Gov.
Scott McCallum, both assuming new state level positions since the last conference.
Elliott
Soloway

conference. Elliott Soloway, professor in the College of Engineering, School

of Education and School of Information, University of Michigan, has been confirmed as one of the keynote speakers. Soloway and a team of researchers are developing a suite of educational tools for handheld computers (the 'cool dozen') that will be available online for downloading at no charge.

Currently the GWETC program committee is working on selecting the most interesting and pertinent workshops and sessions from nearly 300 applications. The six tracks to be offered at the October conference are:

- Curriculum Integration;
- Distance Learning;
- Emerging Technologies;

- Policy/Administration;
- Professional Development; and
- Technology Infrastructure.

The goal is to offer something in each track for educators PK-16, and to present spotlight sessions on 'hot topics' such as online/web-based (virtual) curriculum, personal digital assistants (handhelds), eportfolios, school improvement tools

such as enGauge, and free Internet resources/references/portals such as Badger-Link and MarcoPolo.

David Merrill, a professor in the Department of Instructional Technology at

Utah State University, will present one of these spotlight sessions. Having developed selection criteria and having personally evaluated over 50 web-based courses, Merrill will share his findings.

The conference will open with workshops at noon on Oct. 29 and breakout sessions begin at 1 p.m. A reception will be held in the Exhibit Hall from 5-7 p.m. with the opening keynote speech at 7 p.m. The Oct. 30 schedule offers exhibits from 9:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. and breakout sessions from 8:30 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. On Oct. 31 there will be breakout sessions and exhibits from 8:30 a.m. until noon. The conference will close with a luncheon and keynote speaker. ■

COLAND

from page 7

is continuing as Secretary; and David Huebsch, Director-at-large.

Council members reviewed goals for 2000-01 and established a committee to develop goals for 2001-02.

Members requested that the chair write a letter to the chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance in support of the DPI/TEACH Collaborative Internet Connection Initiative after the budget passes. The Joint Committee on Finance included \$500,000 from TEACH Wisconsin and \$100,000 from DLTCL/LSTA in its version of the 2001-03 state budget, but required TEACH Wisconsin to get final project approval from the committee.

The Council also requested that the chair contact members of the Legislative Conference Committee in support of the Senate version of the budget bill as it relates to library issues. The Senate version contains increases for BadgerLink, the statewide contracts, and a modest increase (\$250,000) for public library systems.

The next meeting of the Council will be in Oshkosh on Sept. 14. ■

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The Governor's

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Supporting Teaching and Learning

Complying with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act (N-CIPA)

Editor's Note: Most of the article below is in the form of a "Frequently Asked Questions" dialogue on the federal Internet filtering legislation. This article is an abridged version of a more complete FAQ on this topic that is on the DPI's Public Library Development website at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/cipafaq.html. Readers are encouraged to read the web version which is both more detailed and more frequently updated.

The Children's Internet Protection Act
(CIPA) and the Neighborhood
Children's Internet Protection Act (N-
CIPA) passed Congress in December of
2000. Both were part of a large federal
appropriations measure (PL 106-554).
While there is some overlap in lan-
guage between CIPA and N-CIPA, the
Children's Internet Protection Act ad-
dresses the filtering requirement and
the need for schools and public libraries
to have an Internet safety policy. The
Neighborhood Children's Internet Pro-
tection Act focuses on what has to be
included in a school or library's Inter-
net safety policy. Moreover, N-CIPA is
applicable only to the federal E-rate
program.
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Although CIPA and N-CIPA compliance impacts specific use of funds from three federal programs (E-rate, ESEA Title III [TLCF], and LSTA), at this time regulations have been written only for the E-rate program. It is assumed that the U.S. Department of Education and the federal Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS) will develop regulations for the Title III program and LSTA respectively.

Q: Under what conditions will my school or library need to comply with the legislation?

Your school or library will have to comply with CIPA or N-CIPA when using any of the three federal programs

Program	Must Comply with CIPA Requirements	CIPA Requirements Do Not Apply*
E-rate	When getting discounts for Internal connections Internet access	When getting discounts forTelecommunication services (voice or data)
ESEA Title III (TLCF) and LSTA	 When using funds for purchasing computers that access the Internet paying for Internet access 	When using funds forany other purposesallowed by the programand state programguidelines

^{*} Even under these circumstances a school or library must still check the "does not apply" statement on Form 486. See below for more information on this.

(see chart above) for the purposes listed.

Q: What are the basic requirements of the law?

There are three basic requirements in the legislation that applicants must meet, or be "undertaking actions" to meet. The requirements are:

- 1. The school or library must use blocking or filtering technology on all computers with Internet access. The blocking or filtering must protect against access to certain visual depictions described below.
- 2. The school or library must adopt and implement an Internet safety policy that addresses the criteria described below.
- 3. The school or library must hold a public meeting, as described below, to discuss the Internet safety policy.

Q: How do we certify that we are meeting the above three requirements?

The E-rate Form 486 was revised in July 2001 to allow applicants to make the proper certification statement. There are three certification options on the Form 486 and applicants will have to select the option that describes their state of compliance. The three options say, in essence, that:

Option 1: The school or library is in compliance with the three require-

ments:

Option 2: The school or library has not yet completed all requirements but is undertaking actions to do so; or

Option 3: CIPA requirements do not apply because the school or library receives discounts for telecommunications only.

The Department of Public Instruction recommends that if there is any doubt about your school or library's compliance status, that you select option 2 for Year 4. Option 2 ensures your eligibility for Year 4 E-Rate discounts and allows for further time to spend reviewing all the issues.

As noted previously, CIPA also applies to the use of Title III funds (TLCF) from the U.S. Department of Education and LSTA funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). These two agencies have not yet issued CIPA regulations. Based on infor mation received from the IMLS, it appears that public libraries in Wisconsin using LSTA funds will not have to declare their level of compliance (i.e., one of the three above options) until January 1, 2003. If a school or library receives E-Rate funding, the E-rate regulations take precedence over CIPA regulations drafted by the other two federal agencies. If the E-Rate is not used, the requirements of the other

Continued on page 10

agencies must be followed, when they become available.

Q: What is the certification timeframe for the E-rate's Year 4?

The newly modified Form 486 should be filed according to its usual schedule. This is generally within 10 days of receiving the E-rate's Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) or start of services, but in no case later than Oct. 28, 2001, for Year 4 funding. Some Year 4 applicants may not get a Funding Commitment Decision Letter by Oct. 28. Also, some Year

4 services may not start until after Oct. 28. Under such circumstances the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) has tentatively said it will give applicants 120 days after receipt of the FCDL or start of services to file the Form 486. After Year 4, a statement of compliance will need to be made every year when Form 486 is filed.

Q: What actions will my school or library need to take if it decides not to be in compliance for Year 5?

At no time do applicants need to take any

proactive steps declaring that

they are not in compliance with CIPA or that they have no intent of being in compliance. If a school or library decides not to comply by the start of Year 5 (July 1, 2002), it simply does not complete the Form 486

for Year 5 services. (About the earliest time for filing Year 5 Form 486 will be May 2002.)

Q: Which computers have to be filtered?

The law states that *all* computers that access the Internet must have some type of blocking or filtering technology in place. (In the law this is known as a "technology protection measure.") This includes student, staff, administrative, and patron workstations accessed by minors or adults. The law

states that an administrator or other authorized person may disable the filter to allow adults Internet access for lawful purposes. How the disabling is to be done is a local school or library decision. The law provides no guidance in this area and the FCC regulations do not provide any further clarification. The provision allowing authorized staff to disable the filter gives staff considerable latitude for staff use of the Internet. It

is much less clear how this disabling provision can be effectively implemented for adult library patrons without placing an undo burden on patrons and staff. Such a disabling option can be difficult to apply, both technically and from a procedural and policy perspective.

Q: What has to be filtered?

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The law requires filtering of visual depictions of 1. obscenity (defined in section 1460 of title 18, U.S. Code), 2. child pornography (defined in section 2256 of title 18,

U.S. Code), and

3. materials harmful to minors (minors only, defined in CIPA).

The FCC declined to further define obscenity, child pornography, and the term "harmful to minors" beyond what is already stated in the law or U.S. code. The law does not require the filtering of text.

Q: How effective do the filters have to be? Is there any type of effectiveness certification for the filter?

It is important to note that the

law states that filters must protect against visual de-

pictions outlawed by the legislation. The filter does not have to prevent access to all such depictions. (No filter is 100 percent effective in preventing all such access.) In developing the CIPA regulations, the FCC declined to further define the filter requirements or to adopt any type

of definition or certification on how effective a filter must be, beyond the very general "protect" language of the law. Thus, there is no such thing as an FCC certified "CIPA compliant filter." Furthermore, the FCC indicated that it would not mandate

that schools or libraries track the number of attempts made to access prohibited visual depictions or the number of times the filter succeeds or fails. It also will not require schools or

libraries to collect any complaints

filed by the public.

To help determine how effective filters are, the law requires that by June 2002 the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will initiate a process to evaluate Internet blocking and filtering programs.

Continued on page 11

Q: What are the legal implications if the filter occasionally allows banned visuals to appear on the screen?

The FCC presumes that Congress did not intend to penalize schools or libraries that act in good faith and in a reasonable manner to implement filters. The FCC also notes that failure to comply with the law's requirements, "could also engender concern among library patrons and parents of students at the school. We believe that schools and libraries will act appropriately in order to avoid such outcomes" (FCC regulations, par. 47). In instances where an individual or group believes the school or library is in violation of CIPA (e.g., too many banned images get through the filter), the individual or group has no grounds under the law to initiate a legal action directly against the school or library. In such instances, any complaints about compliance would be made to the FCC, and the FCC would then decide whether to take action, such as withdrawing the applicant's discounts. The FCC is reviewing the need for it to take any action under such circumstances, although it assumes that it will "rarely, if ever," be called upon to do so.

Q: What must be included in our Internet Acceptable Use Policy to be in compliance with the law?

The CIPA section of the law says that a school or library must have an Internet safety policy in place and this policy must include the use of filters to protect against the access to the visual depictions outlawed in the act. The school's Internet policy also must indicate how it plans to monitor the Internet activities of minors (defined as a person less than 17 years of age). The law does not require this monitoring provision in the library's policy. Note: The law and FCC rules do not require the actual tracking of Internet use by minors or adults.

The N-CIPA section of the law is much more specific in its safety policy requirements. N-CIPA requires that schools and libraries participating in the E-Rate program adopt and enforce an Internet safety policy that addresses:

- 1. Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and the Web;
- 2. The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- 3. Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- 4. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors; and
- 5. Measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors.

The Internet Safety Policy must be adopted after holding at least one public hearing or meeting.

Q: What are the law's requirements for the public hearing?

The law says simply that schools or libraries must "provide

reasonable public notice and hold at least one public hearing or meeting to address the proposed Internet safety policy." The law and the regulations give schools and libraries considerable flexibility in meeting this requirement. In the law's reference to a "public hearing or meeting" it is not even certain if such an event needs to allow time for public comments on the policy. The FCC's regulations do not elaborate any further on this issue. Considering the lack of more specific language in this area, the DPI believes that the public hearing or meeting can be held in conjunction with a regular board meeting. Notices of such a meeting must comport with the state's open meetings law. Furthermore, the DPI believes the most prudent course of action is to allow time at any such hearing or meeting for comments on the Internet policy from the general public. Be certain to document fully any such public meeting by keeping a copy of the notice, any minutes of the meeting, any actions taken, etc.

Q: What will be the impact of the lawsuits on compliance?

The ALA and ACLU filed legal challenges to the CIPA requirements in federal district court in March 2001. The suit is on behalf of public libraries only and covers only the filtering aspect of CIPA, not the Internet policy requirements in N-CIPA. The case will not go to trial until February 2002, many months into the Year 4 funding cycle. Libraries wanting to receive Year 4 funding should definitely follow through on the processes and make the proper certification as outlined above.

Assuming the Year 5 Form 471 filing deadline is mid-January 2002, libraries can still proceed with filing Form 471 and then await the decision from the district court. If the court's decision is not made by the time libraries need to file form 486 for Year 5 services, the library will need to decide what course of action to take. Under such circumstance it may be possible to delay filing the Form 486. The SLD may also provide guidance in this area.

Regardless of the outcome of the case at the district court level, the decision will almost certainly be appealed by the defendant or plaintiffs directly to the U.S. Supreme Court, as allowed by the law. Assuming that the high court takes the case, it will not be heard until the October 2002 term, with an outcome probably not announced until the spring of 2003. (See the ALA CIPA Web site at www.ala.org/cipa/litigation.html for more information on this.)

For more information

For more information about CIPA and N-CIPA, school staff should contact Steve Sanders, DPI, at (608) 266-7112 (stephen.sanders@ dpi.state.wi.us), and library staff should contact Bob Bocher, DPI, at (608) 266-2127 (robert.bocher@ dpi.state.wi.us). The DPI CIPA FAQ referenced at the beginning of this article also has a list of other CIPA-related websites. ■

Trustee Corner

Is it OK for our library to donate withdrawn books to the local "Friends of the Library" organization? In what other ways can we handle withdrawn books?*

It is probably acceptable for your library to donate withdrawn books to the local "Friends of the Library" organization, provided that funds from the sale of the books are used to support your library.

Public libraries, like all local government organizations, only have the legal authority that is expressly authorized by the statutes or can be fairly implied. The statutes do not expressly authorize a library board to donate or sell library property, but they do grant library boards broad authority to supervise the administration of the library, and control library property. It is certainly reasonable to ar-

gue that the library board's exclusive grant of authority to "control" library property implies the authority to dispose of library property no longer needed because of condition, library space limitations, or other reasons.

However, it may not be permissible for the library to give property away without some assurance that doing so would result in benefit to your library and the community served by the library. Wisconsin's constitutional "public purpose doctrine" prohibits the use of public funds, public equipment, or public supplies to provide a benefit that is primarily private, rather than public, in nature.

In addition, library trustees have a responsibility, in all matters, to exercise sound discretion based on the best interests of the library and the individuals served by the library. Keep in mind also that the taxpayers supporting your library have a reasonable expectation that library resources will be used wisely in support of the library's mission.

A decision to donate withdrawn books to, say, a needy library in a foreign country, may serve a very worthwhile cause, but is probably suspect under Wisconsin's public purpose doctrine.

If your library board would like to donate withdrawn books to the local "Friends" organization, we would recommend that you enter into a written agreement with the Friends that makes clear that all proceeds from sale of the books (and any other materials) be used to support the programs and services of the library.

One alternative is for the library itself to sell the books. Some libraries have even sold valuable books on e-bay. These alternatives, however, require staff time and might not be as cost-effective (at least for less valuable books) as sales by the Friends. Library income from book sales should be deposited with the municipality and must be reported on the library's annual report form.

Sales by either the library or the Friends may be subject to the state, and any county and stadium sales tax. See *Channel*, July/August 2000, page 6 (available at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/eis/pdf/chn3506.pdf) for an article that discusses the sales tax issue.

All libraries should have a library boardapproved policy for the handling of withdrawn books and other materials. For examples, see the Wisconsin Public Library Policy Resources Page at www.dpi.state. wi.us/dltcl/pld/policies.html.

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

*This article provides only a general outline of the law and should not be construed as legal advice in individual or specific cases where additional facts might support a different or more qualified conclusion. ■

Proposed content, format of new Trustee Handbook

by Mike Cross, Consultant
Public Library Administration and Funding

At its June 25 meeting, the Public Library Trustee Handbook Task Force continued its work on a new Wisconsin trustee handbook. The new handbook will be comprised primarily of a number of stand-alone, concise "Trustee Essentials" that cover the information essential to library trustees in Wisconsin.

Each Trustee Essential will cover the basics of an important issue for library trustees, and also point to sources of additional information. Trustee Essentials will have a uniform format designed for use as a reference, as well as for trustee orientation and continuing education.

Paper copies of the new Trustee Essentials handbook will be provided to all Wisconsin public library and public library system trustees. The Trustee Essentials will also be freely available on the DLTCL website in HTML, PDF and Word versions.

Below is the planned list of the Trustee Essentials and items for the appendix of the publication.

- The Trustee Job Description
- Who Runs the Library
- Bylaws-Organizing the Board for Effective Action
- Effective Board Meetings and Trustee Participation
- Hiring A Library Director
- Evaluating the Director
- Library Personnel Policies and Other Personnel Issues
- Developing the Budget
- Managing the Library's Money
- Developing Essential Policies

Please see Trustee Handbook—on page 13

Free national conference on community partnerships

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has a primary focus on lifelong learning, partnership and technology. In FY 2003 IMLS anticipates awarding over \$2 million for partnerships that address the needs of 21st century learners.

As part of its 21st century learner initiative IMLS will host a Nov. 7-9 conference in Washington, D.C., to examine experiments in creating community partnerships for lifelong leaning and to explore innovative ideas and resources.

PSC offers program on consumer telephone issues

The Public Service Commission (PSC) staff offers a free seminar on telephone service. The PSC takes roughly 10,000 complaints a year on utility service, of which 74 percent were telecommunications-related in the year 2000. Consumers are sometimes confused or vulnerable as a result of telephone deregulation and the PSC wants to help people shop for reasonable telephone service and avoid scams.

The PSC seminar will cover the following topics:

- How to understand the telephone bill and calling area;
- How to find complete, unbiased rate information;
- How to choose among available services;
- How to protect themselves from scams and telemarketing calls; and
- How to effectively dispute unwanted charges.

PSC staff will come to local public libraries to give talks and presentations to the public on telephone issues. If your library is interested in hosting a PSC presentation, contact Annemarie Newman at (608) 266-9600 (newmaa@ psc.state.wi.us), or PSC, 610 N. Whitney Way, Madison, WI 53705. Substantial information also is available on the PSC website at http://www.psc.state.wi.us. ■

The basic concept of the conference is that communities must take responsibility for fostering a learning culture in the information age. Developments in technology and the increasing mobility and pluralism of populations present and demand opportunities to increase skills, knowledge, and understanding. As trusted stewards of the artifacts of history, culture, science, and the natural world in local communities, libraries and museums are among the most vital providers of new learning opportunities.

All who have an interest in, or experience with, creating community partnerships for lifelong leaning are welcome from libraries, museums, colleges and other educational institutions, to representatives of the broadcast, technology, and research fields, and the funding and public policy sectors.

Registration is free. To register for the conference or for more information, contact Elizabeth Lyons at the Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20506, (202) 606-4649 (elyons@imls.gov)...

Conference participants are eligible for special room rates at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001. For hotel reservations at the special rate, telephone the Hyatt before Oct. 9 at (800) 233-1234 or (202) 737-1234 and indicate you are participating in the Institute of Museum and Library Services 21st Century Learner Conference. (Subject to Congressional Appropriation). ■

Trustee Manual_from page 12

- Planning for the Library's Future
- Library Standards
- Advocating for the Library
- Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law
- Wisconsin's Public Records Law
- Wisconsin's Ethics and Conflict of Interest Laws
- Liability Issues
- Membership In the Library System
- Library Board Composition And Appointments
- Library Director Certification
- ADA Compliance
- Freedom of Expression and Inquiry
- Dealing With Challenges to Library Materials and Policies
- Friends Groups and Library Foundations

Appendices:

- Orientation Procedures for New Trustees
- Outline of Important State Laws Related to Public Libraries
- Sample Board Bylaws
- Library System Map and Contact Information
- Dltcl-Contact Information
- Glossary of Terms and Acronyms
- Sample Board Meeting Agenda With ADA Notice
- Sample Board Annual Calendar
- Sample Director Evaluation Form
- Sample Library Budget Format
- Sample Material Challenge Form

The final publication should be available by October. Please contact Mike Cross at (608) 267-9225 (michael.cross@dpi.state.wi.us) if you have comments or suggestions regarding the planned revision of the trustee handbook. ■

Library established in 1901 is now LRB

Wisconsin's Idea: Legislative Reference Service

by Marian G. Rogers, Managing Librarian Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, Theobald Legislative Library

Do you know the origin of the "Wisconsin Idea"? Many scholars attribute the Wisconsin Idea to Charles McCarthy, who established the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library in 1901.

McCarthy envisioned an informed and efficient Wisconsin government resulting from information gathered and distributed through his library. He called upon the expertise of University of Wisconsin professors, collected pertinent information and data on contemporary issues, corresponded with experts, and traveled the country and world gathering information that was organized and made available in the library. Through his efforts, the library was a bustling center of information for Wisconsin government.

In the Legislative Reference Library, legislators and public officials found pertinent information on the issues of the day. The library also provided expertise in conducting research and drafting accurate and innovative legislation. McCarthy described the philosophy and successes of a legislative session in his book, The Wisconsin Idea, published in 1912.

Robert M. La Follette, Sr.—first as Governor, and later as U.S. Senator

LRB Library staff are (L to R) Rose Arnold, Marian Rogers, Allan Marty, Patricia Helgerson, and Arden Rice Sujewicz.

—was an enthusiastic supporter of the Legislative Reference Library. Through his leadership, the Library of Congress established a federal reference department: the Congressional Research Service. Charles McCarthy was offered the job as head of the new department but declined, preferring to stay in Wisconsin and continue his work at the Legislative Reference Library.

In 1963, the Legislature changed the name of the Legislative Reference Library to the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) to better reflect its broad spectrum of services: bill drafting, library, and research services. Today, as well as throughout its 100-year existence, the bureau has maintained an uncompromising dedication to providing professional, nonpartisan, and confidential services.

The library is named for Dr. H. Rupert Theobald, who retired in 1994 after serving as LRB chief for 30 years. As the Wisconsin Legislature's library, it provides materials pertaining to public policy issues and government. The library collection also is the single most comprehensive source of information on Wisconsin legislation. It differs from legislative libraries in many other states in that it is open to the public and available for use by citizens,

advocacy groups, law firms, lobbyists, government agencies, students of all ages, and anyone needing to use its resources.

The library contains approximately 85,000 titles and consists of three distinct collections: reference, circulating, and Wisconsin state documents. The reference collection is housed in the reading room, and materials in this collection do not circulate. Reference holdings include Wisconsin legislative research materials: Wisconsin Statutes since 1839, Supreme Court reports, Attorney General opinions, legislative journals and indices beginning in 1838, session laws since 1836, and legislation introduced in the Wisconsin Legislature since 1865. Legislative drafting records dating back to 1927, committee hearing records, microfiche, and a complete set of *Wisconsin Blue Books* also are available. Other

resources include standard government references, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, State Tax Guide, CQ Researcher, dictionaries, almanacs, and encyclopedias.

A wide range of research materials comprise the circulating collection. The library contains not only books, but also publications from advocacy organizations, reports from other states and the federal government, studies by research institutes, gov-

ernment evaluations, federal documents, statistical publications, and financial reports. The library participates in inter-library loan on a case-by-case basis. Most items in the circulating collection may be checked out, but the library may recall them if a legislative office requests the materials.

One of the most unique, valuable, and heavily used resources in the Theobald Legislative Library is the clippings collection which begins in the early 1900s. Charles McCarthy originally developed the clippings service and the format used. Today, legislative analysts browse and mark articles in about 15 newspapers. The newspapers represent all areas of the state, as well as national venues. Brochures, flyers, press releases, professional journals, articles in about 20 magazines, and other appropriate print items also are contributed to this collection.

The clippings are not kept in vertical files, but are clipped and pasted on 8x10 inch cardstock, assigned a modified Dewey number, and tied together chronologically by subject in loose-leaf clippings books. The classification process also includes updating a biography index and cross-referencing clippings that contain

Please see LRB—on page 15

ALA'S ALSC awards

Each year, the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) awards more than \$10,000 to outstanding ALSC member librarians and libraries for distinguished achievements in children's services. Complete details and applications for each award are available at www.ala.org/alsc/awards.html.

ALSC members should consider applying for one of ALSC's professional awards, making a nomination, or alerting a deserving colleague to these funding opportunities:

- Bechtel Fellowship: Provides a \$4,000 stipend for study at the Baldwin Library of the George A. Smathers Library, University of Florida. (www.ala.org/alsc/bechtel.html)
- ALSC/Book Wholesalers Reading Program Grant: \$3,000 to fund a winning proposal for an outstanding library reading program. (www.ala.org/alsc/wrpg.html)

- ALSC Econo-Clad Literature Award: Grant of \$1,000 to attend the ALA Annual Conference, awarded to an ALSC member who has developed an innovative reading and literature program for children. (www.ala.org/alsc/eclad.html)
- Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers Award: Four public librarians in children's service will receive \$600 to attend ALA's Annual Conference. (http://www.ala.org/alsc/putnam.html)
- Distinguished Service Award: \$1,000 to be awarded to an ALSC member who has made outstanding contributions to children's librarianship. (www.ala.org/alsc/dsa.html)

Applicants and nominees must be ALSC members. For more information, visit the ALSC website or contact Meredith Parets, program coordinator, ALSC, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (800) 545-2433 (mparets@ala.org). ■

Legislative Reference Service—from page 14

several newsworthy concepts in a single article. The clippings books are shelved along with the cataloged material, but they do not circulate.

The third component of the library is the Wisconsin State documents collection. The Theobald Legislative Library is a statelevel Wisconsin documents depository. Audit reports, program evaluations, newsletters, brochures, statistical reports, meeting minutes, and agency reports are only a sample of the materials that can be found in this collection. The library gives priority to acquiring reports and studies mandated by the Legislature and is often the only source for these publications. With more and more state agency publications appearing in electronic form only, the library will continue to print and add these items to the collection so they will be available in the future. Although items in the Wisconsin state documents collection do not circulate, many are duplicated in the circulating collection.

In 1999, the Theobald Legislative Library was one of the first Wisconsin libraries to use CatExpress, OCLC's copy cataloging utility. CatExpress allows the library to import MARC records from OCLC and add its holding code to records. Holdings are updated regularly on WISCAT.

The library is managed by four professional librarians and one library services assistant. Library staff perform original cataloging using a modified Dewey deci-

mal classification system and Cutter numbers for the reference and circulating collections. The Dewey system is connected to about 1,900 local subject headings. The Wisconsin State documents collection is classified according to an original classification system that arranges publications by agency name and by title under the agency name. A long-range goal is to retroconvert the state documents collection to the WisDocs system. In addition to library management activities, the staff also publishes the *Selective List of Recent Acquisitions, Tap the Power: An Annotated Bibliography,* and *Index to the Bulletin of the*

Proceedings of the Wisconsin Legislature.

The LRB, located at 100 N. Hamilton St., Madison, will be moving to One East Main Street in mid-2002. The LRB home page (www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb/) soon will offer access to LRBCAT, the Theobald Legislative Library's web-based library catalog (www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb/catalog).

For more information, contact the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, P.O. Box 2037, Madison, WI 53701-2037. You also can call the Library Circulation Desk at (608) 266-7040, the Reference Desk at (608) 266-0342, or Legal Services at (608) 266-3561. ■

Calendar

Sept. 14	Council on Library and Network Development, Mercy Medical Center, Oshkosh.
Sept. 18	Library and Information Technology Advisory Committee, Madison.
Sept. 28	Delivery Services Advisory Committee meeting (videoconference).
Oct. 11	Library Issue Discussion Group, Madison.
Oct. 23-26	Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference, Appleton.
Oct. 29-31	Governor's Wisconsin Educational Technology Conference (GWETC), KI Center, Green Bay.
Nov. 6-7	LSTA Advisory Committee meeting and public hearing, Madison.
Nov. 9	Council on Library and Network Development, Wisconsin State Historical Society Library, Madison.

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

Conference Report: Exploring the Possibilities

Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment

by Willeen Tretheway, Audiovisual Services Librarian Reference and Ioan Library

The Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison was the site of a national conference on copyright entitled *Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment: Exploring the Possibilities.*

Held May 6-9, the conference included an opening reception, a series of plenary sessions with presentations and question

Reference and Loan's VHS Catalog now online

The Reference and Loan Library's *VHS Videocassette Loan Catalog* is now available online in portable document format (pdf) at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/rll/pdf/vhslist.pdf. It also may be accessed by clicking on the "Video Resources" button in BadgerLink at www.badgerlink.net.

VHS Videocassette Loan Catalog is a browsable 196-page unannotated alphabetical title listing of Reference and Loan's more than 7,000 VHS videocassettes. Codes indicate if a title has special features such as closed captioning, open captions, signing, audio description/enhancement for the visually impaired, or subtitles, or if it is restricted to home use only. The list is current as of June 2001. The pdf allows keyword and phrase searching, and the catalog may be printed.

The pdf catalog replaces the library's earlier version of the catalog that was searchable by title keyword and special feature, and could be downloaded for browsing. There is a link from the web address for the old to the new catalog.

For more information, contact Willeen Tretheway at (608) 224-6171 or (888) 542-5543, #5 (willeen.tretheway@dpi.state.wi.us). ■

and answer opportunities, and two optional post-conference workshops.

The conference was sponsored by the UW-Madison School of Education and the UW Law School, and drew almost 300 people from 30 states and five Canadian provinces. The speakers were from the University of Wisconsin and from law firms, organizations, agencies, businesses, and educational institutions nationwide. The conference chairperson and moderator was Lisa Livingston, director of the Instructional Media Development Center at

the UW-Madison School of Education.

The target audience was anyone interested in or involved in intellectual property issues and partnerships in the digital environment, including educators at all levels, administrators, librarians, attorneys, information technology professionals, instruc-

tional media designers, copyright holders, business people, government representatives, and others. Speakers and audience members shared their expertise and ideas about the challenges facing intellectual property creators and users in this age of rapid technological change.

An opening reception featured welcoming remarks from Wisconsin's former and current U.S. Congresspersons, Robert Kastenmeier and Tammy Baldwin. During his tenure in office, Rep. Kastenmeier was active in dealing with many intellectual property issues and was instrumental in the enactment of the Copyright Law of 1976. Rep. Baldwin currently serves on the Judiciary Committee, and also is concerned with copyright issues. Continuing with a focus on Wisconsin, Art Hove, special assistant emeritus at UW-Madison, spoke on the development and change of

the University's approach to its intellectual property.

Monday and Tuesday offered two full days of plenary sessions with presenters representing education, government, publishing, the music and entertainment industries, business, and libraries. There were about 30 speakers with varying perspectives on a variety of copyright issues and interests relating to current legislation, policies, recent court cases, partnering for online education, and more. Presentations were grouped under

the topics: "Social Implications,"
"Making the Case for Information Access," "Protecting Copyright Holder Interests," "New Technologies, New Concerns," "Distributed Education Copyright Issues," "Intellectual Property Access and Protection: Can We Achieve a Balance?" "From the Trenches: Intellect

"Intellectual Property Access and Protection: Can We Achieve a Balance?" "From the Trenches: Intellectual Property Issues We Deal With on a Daily Basis—A Panel Discussion" (featuring UW faculty and staff members), "Rethinking Intellectual Property Ownership in Education," and "Intellectual Capital:

Attorney Michael Remington, of the Washington office of Drinker Biddle and Reath, began the sessions with an overview of how copyright law has changed from the pre-digital to the post-digital age. The keynote speaker, U.S. Register of Copyrights Marybeth Peters, cited a number of current copyright issues and explained the involvement of the Copyright Office in efforts to deal with them. She described the delivery of digital information through the global network as the biggest nut to crack so far. Miriam Nisbet, legislative counsel for the American Li-

Partnering for Success."

Please see Intellectual property—on page 17



Delivery Services Advisory Committee meets

by Sally Drew, Director Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing

The Delivery Service Advisory Committee met three times between July 2000 and June 2001 via videoconference with locations at Ashland, Green Bay, Madison, and Wausau. During this period, the committee discussed concepts to guide development of funding scenarios for different types of libraries, and approved a set of consensus concepts at its May 18 meeting. These concepts, related to funding delivery services, are listed below.

- Resource sharing among all types of libraries is a statewide concern and needs to be encouraged by provision of a cost-effective statewide delivery service.
- A new pricing structure should be developed for 2002 that is used consistently for different types of libraries.
- When a group of libraries of the same type are governed by a state agency, it would be desirable to attempt to contract with that agency for the cost of delivery services. A successful example includes contracting with the University of Wisconsin System on behalf of UW libraries. Future possibilities might include contracting with the Wisconsin Technical College System and the Department of Corrections (for institution libraries).
- When working with any group of libraries, a consistent process should be used to determine prices for that group as a whole and for libraries in that group. The method of allocating costs should not include a distance factor.
- In general, the cost to serve a particular library or organization, especially as it relates to distance, should not be a factor in the costs charged to that library or organization.
- Volume should not be a factor in allocating costs to specific libraries. It may need to be considered as a part of the cost of serving a group of libraries. The delivery service does not collect per item volume statistics. Sample statistics are collected from time to time on the number of containers handled.
- The delivery service should not re-

- quire libraries to individually package and count items sent through the service
- South Central Library system, in cooperation with Northern Waters Library Service, incurs additional costs in order to connect the system level service to the backbone operated by SCLS. These costs should be considered part of the overall delivery service costs to public library systems.
- The Reference and Loan Library should be considered a part of the public library system group for the purpose of allocating costs.
- South Central Library System should receive payment for the full cost of the delivery services it provides to libraries outside the SCLS area.
- It may be necessary for the Division to subsidize the delivery service from time to time as costs are adjusted among library groups.

Please see Delivery Services—on page 18

Intellectual property—from page 16

brary Association Washington Office, described areas of concern to libraries including database protection, distance education, the Uniform Computer Information Transaction Act (UCITA), amending the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) to reaffirm fair use, increased reliance on licensing, and a concern that libraries are buying materials they can't share or preserve.

Other speakers included supporters of copyright holder interests and supporters of expanded access; attorneys on both sides of the Napster issue; legal scholars; and legal counsels for institutions of higher learning. There were presentations on digital rights management technology and its relation to copyright law, and on the ownership of instructional materials. There were descriptions of a model for university-industry partnering to address e-commerce and intellectual property issues, and of partnerships forged to provide online higher education opportunities.

Distance, or distributed, education was high profile, both as a topic discussed and as an underlying issue of other topics. There was an explanation of the Technology, Education, and Copyright Harmonization (TEACH) Act of 2001 (S. 487), and of the behind-the-scenes struggle for its development. The law updates rules for the use of copyrighted material in online learning and was described as a complex statute that needs to be thoroughly studied.

A key theme throughout the conference was the need for balance: between intellectual property access and intellectual property protection; between the exclusive rights of the copyright holder and the public good, and a question of what exceptions could be made. A challenge to policy makers in this digital age is to determine at what point to change the law or to wait for the market to evolve.

The plenary sessions were concluded on Tuesday with remarks from Brenda Blanchard, Wisconsin's Secretary of Commerce.

Two post-conference workshops entitled "Fair Use and Avoiding Infringement Liability," led by Georgia Harper, manager of the Intellectual Property Section, Office of General Counsel, University of Texas/Austin, and "Developing Ownership Policies: What Educators Need to Know," led by Lolly Gasaway, professor of law and director of the Everett Law Library, University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill, were held on Wednesday. Gasaway has presented other copyright workshops in Wisconsin, the most recent on April 19 in Brookfield titled *Copyright Law in the Digital Age.* It was sponsored by the Special Libraries Association and offered librarians a practical overview of the current status of United States copyright law and its impact on library services.

A description of the conference *Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment: Exploring the Possibilities*, may be found on the Internet at http://ipconference.education.wisc.edu/. The website includes a list of the speakers, biographical information about them, and links to Internet resources on copyright, fair use, and intellectual property.

WISCAT RFP process results in selection of two vendors

by Sally Drew, Director Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing

Following a directive from the state Department of Administration, the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the WISCAT project. On May 31 the WISCAT RFP review committee met and recommended unanimously that the Division start contract negotiations with two vendors, Auto-Graphics Inc. and Fretwell-Downing Inc. The Division has accepted the committee's recommendation and will open negotiations with these vendors very soon.

Selecting two vendors may complicate the contract negotiations and add more complexity to the WISCAT transition process. However, the committee believed strongly that this recommendation was the best option for WISCAT, and that the selection of these two vendors moves the state forward in ensuring the best use of technology to enhance future resource sharing.

Pending successful negotiation of contracts, Auto-Graphics Inc. will provide the union catalog development and updating of WISCAT and Fretwell-Downing Inc.

will provide the interlibrary loan management system. Below are some of the major features of both vendors' programs that could be incorporated into the new WISCAT.

- Web-based union catalog with interactive holdings updating (no client software will be necessary)
- Batch loading of OCLC, tape loads from local systems, vendor records, etc. on a more frequent basis (done locally by Reference and Loan Library staff)
- Web-based interlibrary loan management of requests from multiple sources using ISO interlibrary loan standards (no client software necessary)
- Continuation of serials union list and authority control
- WISCAT servers located in Wisconsin for better performance
- Z39.50 capability allowing connectivity to other compliant library catalogs for resource sharing and other types of databases and services
- Staff use of interlibrary loan functions and ability to allow mediated or unmediated patron requests if so desired
- Other features and services

The Division held sessions on June 26 to update the library community on these and other changes in WISCAT and the enhancements in resource sharing as a result of the change in vendors. Agenda items included the following:

- a review of the rebid process;
- highlights of each vendors' products;
- issues in transition between vendors; and
- potential impact on interlibrary loan and resource sharing. ■

Delivery Services

from page 17

At the May meeting, Peter Hamon, South Central Library System, described how the budget for delivery services is put together and provided information on the cost to serve various types of library groups. Committee members also reviewed and recommended funding concepts and amounts for public library systems and private academic libraries. These recommendations were discussed with the System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) in late May and with the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU) in early June. The next meeting of the advisory committee will be held Sept. 28, 2001.

The Delivery Services Advisory Committee member list, minutes, and other documents have been posted to the Reference and Loan Library web site at www.dpi.state. wi.us/dpi/dltcl/rll/inddel.html

South Central Library System has revamped its delivery service site, making it possible to easily navigate the delivery networks, times, sample volume statistics, and service information. The URL is http://psw.sclb.lib.us/delivery/index.html

R&LL makes service changes

The Reference and Loan Library (R&LL) is making service changes due to the impact of budget cuts. The DPI needed to eliminate 5 percent from its operational budget due to cuts in the 2001-03 budget. The R&LL lost one vacant position in the interlibrary loan unit and will be reassigning other staff to process interlibrary loan requests. While the library will retain the materials collection budget, changes will be made in the kind of materials purchased in order to decrease the need for staff for technical services operations. The library will discontinue the majority of current periodical subscriptions and will no longer serve as a full state government document depository library. Collection development funds will be used to purchase more books and videos as these parts of the collection receive the greatest circulation.

The R&LL will continue to manage the state government document depository library program and distribute state government materials to depository libraries. R&LL will continue to collect Department of Public Instruction documents.

The Reference and Loan Library staff also will continue to provide support to the Wisconsin portal project using funding provided by the Department of Administration in 2001-02. DOA will provide \$58,000 so that Reference and Loan Library staff can continue to construct the topic tree that will be added to the portal, maintain the topic tree for use in metatagging state web pages, maintain a statewide contract for metatagging software, and respond to requests for information from citizens using the state portal. DOA provided \$84,000 in 2000-01 to set up the topic tree, train agency staff in metatagging, and provide metatagging services for state agencies. ■

Next meeting is Oct. 1

Library Issue Discussion Group meets

by Peg Branson, Consultant LSTA and Continuing Education

The July 10 meeting of the Library Issue Discussion Group provided an opportunity to discuss a number of important issues of interest to librarians in the state, including state and federal legislative and budget matters, meetings of various statewide organizations, and projects with statewide implications.

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

Work on the 2001-03 state budget is winding down, awaiting action by Gov. Scott McCallum. Michael Gelhausen and Paul Nelson from WLA had lunch with Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen, and among the topics they discussed was the

proposed Wisconsin Book Festival. Jensen was told that WLA already is active in recognizing and promoting Wisconsin authors and would be interested in participating in the Book Festival.

At each meeting of the Library Issue Discussion Group there is a special discussion topic. The topic at this meeting was Library Use Statistics, and Al Zimmerman, **DLTCL Public Library Administration and** Finance Consultant, presented statistics for 2000 from the public library annual reports submitted to DLTCL in the spring of 2001. The results, when compared to the previous year, show a 22 percent increase in electronic resources available in libraries (locally owned physical units), and a 41 percent increase in the number of computers available for the public to access the Internet. Ninety-eight percent of public libraries have access to the Internet, but one-third of the libraries (all in small communities) still use dial-up connections to access the Internet. When

looking at traditional use measures, there was no change in circulation, there was a 2 percent increase in reference transactions, and there was a 2 percent increase in visits by the public to public libraries. There was a big jump in adult library programs in 2000-an increase of 33 percent. Among the reasons cited for this increase were the popularity of book discussion groups and Internet training classes. Adult program attendance increased 13 percent, and overall program attendance increased 3 percent. In terms of interlibrary loan, there was an 18 percent increase in items loaned to other libraries and a 12 percent increase in items received from other libraries. Public librarians remain concerned that use of their materials and services be accurately reflected. Lacking are statistics for the increasing use of electronic resources both in the library and from remote locations. (Please see article on page 1 of this issue.)

Kathy Schneider and Peter Hamon reported on a virtual reference pilot project on the UW-Madison campus using Convey Systems' On Demand Software. Seven UW-Madison libraries are participating in the project and about 40 library staff will be trained and scheduled to work the virtual reference desk. Patrons doing online research will be able to click a "Libraries Live" button to access a librarian. The software will provide different levels or tiers of communication, including chat, web co-browsing, application sharing, and voice over IP. In other words, librarians will be able to text-chat with patrons, talk with patrons over the Internet using a headset, see what the user is seeing on their machine, and even take over the user's machine to conduct a search.

Additional topics of discussion included UCITA, Internet filtering, WiLSWorld, statewide delivery, GWETC, statewide technology planning, TEACH, school library task force, school library media survey, University of Wisconsin digital project, and E-book project update. There were reports from WLA, WEMA, UW, WiLS, SRLAAW, COLAND, FOWL, and DLTCL.

The group's next meeting will be in Madison Oct. 11. ■

BadgerLink newspaper package to expand

Bell and Howell recently expanded the ProQuest newspaper package as a result of the approval of the BadgerLink budget request. Beginning July 1, Bell and Howell began offering the ProQuest Newsstand newspaper package in place of the previous newspaper package. The Newsstand package contains 506 titles.

- 210 current full text titles
- 26 ceased full text titles
- 37 current abstract only titles
- 233 selective full text coverage titles



Bell and Howell also provides the African American Biographical Database at no charge to the state. This reference source covers biographies of over 30,000 African- Americans in sketches from Chadwyck-Healey's *Black Biographical Dictionaries 1790-1950*. It is searchable by the name of the subject of the biography, by that subject's place of birth, occupation, religion, date of birth or death, and gender, and by source of information.

Wisconsin Library Services has broad scope

by Kathy Schneider Wisconsin Library Services

Wisconsin Library Services—better known by its acronym WiLS—is an independent library consortium incorporated as a not-for-profit organization and governed by a board of directors representing the member libraries. Funding for WiLS comes from membership and user fees associated with each service program supplemented by interest income from invested funds, and on occasion by grants for special projects.

Under a contract with the UW-Madison, WiLS provides the university with the funds to support direct costs of operations;

the university provides space and general administrative services for WiLS and all WiLS staff are university employees. In simple terms, WiLS lives in Memorial Library on the UW-Madison campus in rentfree space from which it provides services to Wisconsin libraries on a cost recovery basis.

Purpose/Services

By formal definition, WiLS is "a Consortium of Wisconsin libraries that offers services in areas of shared bibliographic information, resource sharing, inservice training, and other cooperative activities relating to the changing nature of information technology." At the present time this translates into the following.

• OCLC training, support and planning—150 libraries use OCLC for cataloging, sending interloan requests, reference searching and/or serials union listing.

- Cooperative purchasing and licensing of electronic resources.
- Technology training and consulting—currently the focus is on training library users to access the Internet and training library staff to make effective use of eBooks.
- Serials union listing—WiLS offers an OCLC-based serials holdings update service and facilitates production of areas union lists.
- Library services for distance learners—access to electronic resources, document delivery, reference, and a proxy server hosting customized content for specific distance learner courses.
- Interlibrary loan and reference—using the resources of the UW-Madison campus, WiLS ILL received 115,000 requests last year with an overall fill rate of 80 percent. This includes about 25,000 requests paid for through a Resource Contract with the

Department of Public Instruction. In addition to ILL for WiLS members, WiLS serves as the lending agent for the UW-Madison for requests from all over the world. WiLS uses several courier services (including "red box"), but more and more materials now are being delivered electronically.

Anything else members want and are able to support financially.

Membership

Today WiLS has nearly 500 members, of which 300 are school libraries/districts. Any library or educational institution in the

State may be a WiLS member. Libraries can join WiLS at a

- "basic" level in order to use the Cooperative Purchasing/Licensing service.
- "full member" level to make use of all WiLS services, or a
- mid-range "resource sharing" level where the focus is on interlibrary loan service.

Governance

The WiLS 12-member board of directors consists of representatives of WiLS members based on type of library and level of expenditure. That is, each type of library within the membership is given one seat on the board with five additional positions allocated on the basis of total expenditures for WiLS services by the respective type of library community. The

Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning has a permanent seat on the WiLS Board.

Current WiLS Board members and the constituency they represent are as follows.

- Libraries of the UW System—Ken Frazier (UW-Madison), Jim Bredeson (UW Center-Baraboo), and Arne Arneson (UW-Stevens Point).
- Libraries of the Private Colleges and Universities—Nick Burckel (Marquette University) and Kathleen Beaver (Alverno College).
- Public Libraries/Library Systems—Terry Dawson (Appleton Public Library) and Julie Chase (Dane County Library Service).
- Technical College Libraries—Lisa Swanson (Indianhead Technical College).
- School Libraries—Mary Lou Zuege (Menomonee Falls School District) and Linda Stelter (Eau Claire School District).
- Special Libraries—Mary Blackwelder (Medical College of Wisconsin). ■



2001 Youth With Special Needs grants help reach kids who don't read well

by Barbara Huntington, Consultant Public Library Youth and Service Services

The 2001 LSTA grants for Youth With Special Needs all focus in one way or another with trying to connect children who have special needs with their local library and to encourage them to read. Several systems and individual libraries have used LSTA 2001 funds to address the needs of students who are seriously behind in their reading skills. These projects involve close collaboration with local schools. They all try to build collaboration with schools to support the efforts of the teachers and to help the teachers, parents and students understand the resources public libraries have that can be of use to them.

One example of how the LSTA money has made a difference for teens who can't read well is Winding Rivers Library System's three-year project. Headquartered in La Crosse. Marcia Sarnowski has coordinated past grant projects and is working on her proposal for 2003. The focus of the project in 2000 was on providing reading materials to juveniles who are incarcerated. In 2001 the grant extended much needed services to area teen alternative school programs, the kids most at risk of ending up in correctional facilities. Plans for 2002 are taking shape this summer and are expected to include adding additional alternative schools to the rotation of recreational reading materials and a new collaboration with UW-La Crosse on tutoring children of color, who are disadvantaged.

2000 Project Highlights

Winding Rivers' LSTA funds in 2000 were used to fund the delivery and circulation of a collection of paperbacks to the La Crosse County Juvenile Detention Center; the Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy, located in Fort McCoy near Sparta; as well as the Youth Leadership Training Center in Juneau County and the Black River Correctional Center in Jackson County. The centers in Juneau and Black River are minimum-security institutions, and many of the

young men in these institutions have serious literacy needs. The 2000 Youth with Special Needs grant followed up on work the Winding Rivers Library System previously did in cooperation with these institutions.

2001 Project Highlights

Alternative schools are relatively new in the Winding Rivers area. As is common in many school districts in Wisconsin, alternative schools in the area often have very limited budgets, and they are highly unlikely to have a school library. Recreational reading, books on career possibilities, and audio books are frequently

missing in these classrooms.

Kids in the alternative schools have not been successful in traditional school settings, and they may be at risk not only of school failure, but also of continuing on a path that may well lead to institutional placement in either a detention center or correctional facility. The kids often have poor literacy and academic skills, limited family support, lack of positive adult role models, and are frequently alienated from school. These students often have issues involving truancy and inappropriate classroom behavior.

The alternative schools are high-energy programs. The kids are creative and spontaneous. It is a challenge for the teachers to keep everyone on task and moving in the same direction. In general, the teach-

Please see Special needs—on page 23

Workshop series features information and technology literacy theme

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

A variety of six-hour staff development workshops will be offered to school district teams this school year. The Internet Portals workshop also may appeal to public library staff working with families.

One of the main goals of this series is to encourage attendees to share information and strategies learned with their colleagues. The first workshop, offered last school year, is a prerequisite for the second workshop. It will be repeated for school districts unable to attend in 2000-01. This workshop is valuable for districts needing a base for strategic planning. The second workshop builds on knowledge gained at that first workshop. The other three workshops are more specific in content and will provide a process for curriculum alignment and planning. The workshops are:

- Vision, Collaboration, and Engaged Learning: The Information and Technology Connection;
- Teaching Thinking in a Technological Age (the "Vision ..." workshop is a prerequisite);
- Curriculum Profiling: Aligning the Information and Technology Literacy Standards;
- Utilizing the Matrix for Quality Project Based Learning; and
- Internet Portals: First Step in Planning Inquiry Units.

Individuals or teams interested in attending one or all of the series need to contact their CESA Instructional Technology Staff. If there is no such service available at your CESA the workshops also can be presented to a consortium of districts during a staff development day. A flyer is available with more information on goals and objectives of each workshop. Contact Kathy Boguszewski (mary.boguszewski@dpi.state.wi.us) for a copy of the flyer. ■

Cost can be prohibitive

Pros and cons of digitizing historical documents

by Amy Crowder, Web Resources Librarian/Cataloger Wisconsin State Law Library

Editor's Note: The following is an excerpt from an article published in the e-newsletter of the Wisconsin State Law Library, WSLL@Your

Service, issue number 6. June 2001 (http:// wsll.state.wi.us/ news.html).

During the past decade, rare and historic documents have become more accessible to the public through digitization projects. Leading research libraries throughout the United States and the world are creating digital images of their document collections and providing access to them on the web. While participating in these projects, libraries have become aware of the benefits

due to software/hardware costs and the intensive labor necessary for preparing and scanning collections. Some libraries have turned to institution-based or fee-based access to digitized collections. Others have rejected digitization projects altogether. Decisions will need to be made on a case-by-case basis to determine if the pros outweigh the cons.

Where Can I Access Digitized Collections on the Web?

The Wisconsin State Law Library recently added a Historic Documents (http://wsll.state.wi.us/lawhistory.html) page to its website. The page links to digital images and

> text of prominent law-related U.S. documents, including the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Bill of Rights, the U.S. Constitution, the Federalist papers, historic Statutes at Large, the Dred Scott decision, Gettysburg Address, and the Emancipation Proclamation.

In addition to directly linking to these documents, the page includes

links to digital image collections and text collections in the Library of Congress, National Archives and Record Administration, and other institutions with outstanding image and text collections. **■**

and drawbacks of digitizing, which will likely affect the continuation of the digitization trend.

What are the benefits of digitizing document collections? Web access to digital image collections provides better access to materials. Researchers can easily find specific images through hyperlinked indexes or by keyword searching, shortening the length of time it would take to locate information. Travel to a host library to examine a collection will not be necessary because researchers can access the digital images or audio/video on the library's website. Fragile materials will be better preserved because digitization reduces repetitive handling and exposure to hazardous environmental conditions. Finally, web access to collections creates new user groups for the library. Web-based digitized collections are accessible to anyone with an Internet connection, which increases the use of the collection and the presence of the library.

Cons

If there are so many benefits associated with digitizing document collections, why aren't more libraries doing it? As with most things in this world, it comes down to money. Librarians have realized that digitizing collections may be cost prohibitive

Library Information Technology Advisory Committee update

The Library Information Technology Advisory Committee met five times between June 2000 and July 2001, during which the committee dealt with the following topics and activities.

- Review of the long-range strategic plan for library technol-
- Identification and ranking of library technology issues that should be considered and projects that should be carried out.
- Review of LSTA guidelines for technology projects for 2001 and 2002.
- Review of the BadgerLink contract for full text newspaper information.
- Review of WISCAT RFP scope and issues.
- Review of linked system RFP process scope and results.
- Development and review of issue paper "Update on Technology and Resource Sharing" which was published in Channel and on the DLTCL website.
- Comparison of union catalog and "virtual catalog" functionality.
- Development and review of five issue papers on Please see Information Technology—on page 24

Special needs_from page 21

ers were surprised to be approached by public libraries with offers of assistance but were open to collaboration and very appreciative of the public library's efforts and the assistance they received from the grant.

The project in Winding Rivers rotates small collections of popular reading materials and interesting books to these classrooms. In addition, audio resources, like books on tape or CD, are included for those students who are struggling with reading. Public library tours also were arranged for participating schools. Sarnowski reported that other than textbooks these classrooms for the most part had "one miserable little book shelf."

"I was glad public libraries had the opportunity to put some interesting, fun, and attractive books and materials into these classrooms," Sarnowski said.

Another element of the project in 2001 involved collaboration with CESA 4 on workshops sponsored for children who have brothers or sisters with severe health needs or disabilities. The idea was to purchase library resources for these children to address their own particular needs, related to coping with a situation in which their brother or sister's needs may be the primary focus of the family's energy, budget, and attention.

Tentative Plans for 2002

Sarnowski said the System grant for 2002 will continue the delivery of materials to the detention facilities and the rotation of materials in the alternative class-

rooms. Recently established alternative schools will be added to the rotating collection service

A new collaboration also is being planned. The UW-La Crosse recently initiated a tutoring program that places education majors in programs that provide tutoring services to several groups of children whose families have economic needs. In the Brookwood School District, which includes Norwalk, Ontario and Wilton, these prospective teachers tutor Hispanic children. Many of the Hispanic families moved to the

area so the parents can work in the meatpacking plant in Norwalk. In Tomah, the university students tutor Native American children. In La Crosse and Holmen, the students who benefit from the tutoring are primarily Hmong and African-American. Grant funds will be used to purchase library materials for these

ethnic groups. The collaboration will involve the tutors using these materials with the students and encouraging them to use public libraries.

Winding Rivers is one of many examples of library systems and libraries throughout Wisconsin using LSTA funds to implement the core activities described in the Public Library Services for Youth with Special Needs: A Plan for Wisconsin. The Plan was designed to provide guidance and practical suggestions to public libraries to ensure that all youth, regardless of any special needs they have, are provided convenient and equitable access to materials and technology in Wisconsin's public libraries. Winding Rivers has demonstrated a sustained interest in teens who have learning and reading needs, and has managed a well-coordinated three-year effort to address their needs. ■



Oct. 29-31, 2001 KI Center/ Regency Suites Green Bay

Information Technology Advisory Committee—from page 22

- Internet
- Automated systems
- Linked systems
- WISCAT
- Interlibrary loan services
- Development and ranking of the future purpose and criteria for information access and delivery for Wisconsin libraries and residents.
- Attendance at top three vendor demonstrations for WISCAT.
- Development of recommendations on WISCAT and Linked Systems papers.
- Review of resource sharing projects in other states.
- Review of automation authentication issues and technologies .
- Review of Gates Foundation programs for Wisconsin.
- Review of E-Rate legislation.
- Review of UCITA "shrink wrap" legislation.
- Review of Children's Internet Protection Agency (CIPA) filtering legislation.
- Review of TEACH Initiative for Internet Access.
- Review of Wisconsin government portal project.

At the May 16 meeting the advisory committee adopted recommendations in relation to the WISCAT and linked systems projects. The committee recommended procuring a Z39.50 compliant

WISCAT physical union catalog and incorporating it into a planned virtual linking of shared automated systems. The committee also discussed and endorsed the idea of implementing the WISCAT and Linked Systems LSTA projects together at this time and selecting a vendor or vendors for WISCAT that would most likely advance the state toward linking automated systems in the future. ■

Teen Read Week is Oct. 14-20

The theme for Teen Read Week 2001 is "Make Reading a Hobbit." It celebrates the popularity of fantasy literature with teens.

Although the main theme for Teen Read Week is "Read for the Fun of It," a specific sub-theme for the year has been helpful in developing programs in schools, public li-

braries, and bookstores. Last year the sub-theme was "Take Time To Read." It was about finding time to read for the fun of it. This year's sub-theme, "Make Reading A Hobbit," focuses on a popular type of book among teenage readers and playfully suggests teens make reading a "hobbit"—or habit, if you will—for the fun of it.



A word that sounds a lot like "hobbit" can also be connected

with reading. Reading for the fun of it is the very best way to acquire a reading habit, and a reading habit is a very valuable acquisition for teens.

Why? A reading habit would increase reading proficiency. In homes across America, the number of different types of reading materials have decreased and a smaller percentage of 17-year-olds saw adults reading in their homes in the same time period. Clearly adults must also acquire a reading habit if they are to serve as models for children and young adults.

For more information about Teen Read Week, visit the ALA website at www.ala.org/teenread/. ■

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