



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

## State delegation attends National Legislative Day

By **Richard Grobschmidt**, Division Administrator,  
Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning



*Richard Grobschmidt*

Approximately 480 librarians, trustees, and library advocates representing 45 states visited their congressional representatives May 4 during the 31st annual National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C.

Attending the event from Wisconsin, in addition to myself, were Jessica MacPhail, director of the Racine Public Library and WLA Federal

Relations Coordinator; Nancy Beszhak, school library media specialist in Stoughton; Kristi Williams, trustee of the South Central Library System; Janet Jennings, director of the Superior Public Library; William Zimdars, trustee of the Portage County Library in Stevens Point; Francis Cherney,



Wisconsin delegates to the 31st Annual National Library Legislative Day pictured above are, from left, Francis Cherney, Judy Stangel, Richard Grobschmidt, Beverly Cherney, Kristi Williams, Jessica MacPhail, Nancy Beszhak, William Zimdars, and Janet Jennings.

trustee of the Wood County Library in the South Central Library System; Terry Dawson, director of the Appleton Public Library and president of the WLA; and Judy Stangel, school library media specialist in Little Chute.

In a year of tight budgets and news-making public library closures, the need for increased federal funding for libraries was among the top concerns brought to lawmakers. "Our nation's libraries face a severe funding situation just as communities across the country are turning to their libraries more than ever for help finding jobs, starting small businesses, and accessing government programs online," said American Library Association President Carol Brey-Casiano. Advocates specifically asked legislators to fund the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) at \$221.33 million and the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries program at \$100 million.

Other key issues were privacy, copyright, access to government information, and the e-rate. Delegates sought support for several pieces of legislation, including the Library, Bookseller, and Personal Records Privacy Act (S. 317), the Freedom to Read Protection Act (H.R. 1157), the Security and Freedom Enhancement Act (S. 737 and H.R. 1526), the Openness Promotes Effectiveness in our National Government Act of 2005 (S. 394), the Digital Media Consumers Rights Act of 2005 (H.R. 1201), and a bill that would permanently exempt

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## WEMA holds advocacy training workshops

By **Kate Bugher**, School Library Media Consultant  
Instructional Media and Technology Team

The Wisconsin Educational Media Association (WEMA) recently held two summer leadership development and advocacy workshops utilizing the state distance education network. The goal of the workshops was to provide school library media and technology specialists with the tools, resources and strategies necessary to enhance their leadership roles within the school community and to develop local advocacy, marketing and outreach programs to better communicate the relationship between their programs and student achievement.

The program consisted of two no-cost half-day workshops which originated from the Pyle Center in Madison and were delivered to seven other sites around the state via the distance education network on June 16 and June 20, 2005. Each workshop site was facilitated by experienced WEMA members who had completed training at the spring WEMA conference. The focus of the program was the utilization of the *WEMatter Toolkit* – a new webpage with links to research data, standards alignment information, and resources for data collection, analysis and reporting. Additionally,

participants were assisted in the development of an action plan and project for the upcoming school year. All participants will reconvene early in 2006 to assess the effectiveness of the workshop training and progress of the individual projects.

WEMA was proud to be the recipient of the 2005 ABC-CLIO Leadership Award from AASL for the development of this program. WEMA President Kate Bugher received the award on behalf of the association at the annual AASL Awards Luncheon at the ALA Conference in Chicago. ☼

### Legislative Day — from page 1

the e-rate program from certain government accounting rules (S.241).

The event also gave attendees a chance to thank their lawmakers for past efforts. At a closing reception, Friends of Libraries USA presented its annual Public Service

Award to Rep. Ralph Regula (R-Ohio), recognizing his distinguished support of libraries and education. “Libraries are critical to an independent and self-determining democracy,” Regula said upon being notified of the honor. “There is no substitute for libraries in supporting

lifelong learning and continued intellectual growth of our citizens.”

The annual event is sponsored by the American Library Association, the District of Columbia Library Association, and the Special Libraries Association. ☼



**Delegates from Wisconsin met with Congressman Ron Kind during National Library Legislative days. Pictured from left are William Zimdars, Nancy Beszhak, Terry Dawson, Congressman Ron Kind, and Richard Grobschmidt.**

## Channel

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Send comments about bylined articles to the authors. Direct other content inquiries to editor Roslyn Wise at (608) 266-6439 (roslyn.wise@dpi.state.wi.us). To make mailing list changes, contact Peg Branson at (608) 266-2413 (peg.branson@dpi.state.wi.us).

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## Grobschmidt represents Wisconsin at NCLIS event



**Richard Grobschmidt, Assistant State Superintendent for Library Services, attended an event in May sponsored by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science with other heads of state library agencies to launch the NCLIS Health Award for Libraries, a nationwide award for libraries with exemplary consumer health information programs. Pictured here with Grobschmidt is NCLIS Chairman Dr. Beth Fitzsimmon. More information on the award is available at: <http://www.nclis.gov/info/ModelProgramsReport04-19-05.pdf>.**



## Statewide Resource Contacts

### Cooperative Children's Book Center

4290 Helen C. White Hall, 600 N. Park St., Madison, WI 53706  
 ccbinfo@education.wisc.edu ..... [www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/](http://www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/)  
 Kathleen Horning, Director ..... (608) 263-3720

### Milwaukee Public Library/Interlibrary Loan

814 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233-2385  
 Brian Hannemann, Interlibrary Loan Librarian ..... (414) 286-3082

### WILS/Interlibrary Loan

728 State Street, Rooms 464 and B106B, Madison, WI 53706-1494  
 schneid@wils.wisc.edu ..... <http://www.wils.wisc.edu/>  
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### Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

813 West Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233-1436  
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To send e-mail, use the following format (all lowercase letters):  
 firstname.lastname@dpi.state.wi.us

### Wisconsin Child Care Information Center

**Lita Haddal, Director** ..... (800) 362-7353 or (608) 224-5388

## Interlibrary loan work group holds first meeting

By **Sally Drew**, Director  
Reference and Loan Library

The Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning has appointed an Interlibrary Loan Work Group to review and develop the purpose, goals, and principles for a future statewide interlibrary loan system involving all types of libraries. The work group will be responsible for making recommendations to revise the interlibrary loan guidelines for Wisconsin libraries that were last issued in 1996, reviewing the structure of the Wisconsin interlibrary loan system and patterns, and considering the general characteristics of an interlibrary loan system and the automated functions needed to support an interlibrary loan management system. The work group activities are a part

of a larger planning effort to determine the characteristics and functions of the next generation resource sharing system for Wisconsin. Debra Wilcox Johnson has been hired to facilitate the activities of the work group.

The work group held its first meeting May 17 at the Reference and Loan Library. Members reviewed A Report on Library Resource Sharing Experiences, Expectations, and Preferences of Wisconsin Libraries, by Russell Consulting, Inc., reviewed and asked questions about background documents and issues papers, and listed issues that need to be addressed during the course of their work. The committee plans to meet again June 17, July 18, August 19, and September 19, 2005.

*Please see Interlibrary — on page 5*

### Trustee Corner

#### *Can a village board president remove library trustees from office before their terms are up?*

By **John DeBacher**, Public Library  
Administration Consultant  
Public Library Development Team

Yes. Wisconsin municipal law allows village board presidents and town chairpersons to remove appointees at their pleasure. The removal must be approved by a majority vote of the governing body, Wis. Stat. § 17.13(1), and a copy of the order for removal must be filed with the village or town clerk.

Cities and counties, however, may only remove appointees with cause. Cause is defined as “inefficiency, neglect of duty, official misconduct or malfeasance in offices” § 17.16(2). The removal requires an affirmative vote of three-fourths of all the members in the case of a city council. County boards are required to have an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the supervisors entitled to seats on the county board.

Removals for cause require “written verified charges brought by a resident

taxpayer,” which must be followed by a speedy public hearing at which the officer (in this case, the library trustee) has the opportunity to present a defense against the charges. To prevent frivolous complaints, the removing power (such as a city council or county board) may require the person bringing the charges to execute and deliver a \$1000 bond with approved sureties sufficient to pay costs and expenses incurred by the governmental unit investigating and hearing the charges. If the municipality finds that the complaint is “willful and malicious and without probable cause,” the complainant is responsible for the costs of the proceedings, otherwise the municipality bears the cost. § 17.16.

Although villages and towns have more latitude in removing appointed officials, they must still file an order for the removal with the clerk, and the board must take formal action at a public meeting. This may help prevent abuse of appointive power for political purposes. Cities and counties, by having to hold a hearing for cause, are likely to be

extremely cautious in removing appointed officers, including library trustees.

Chapter 17 of the Wisconsin Statutes addresses resignations, vacancies, and removals from office: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/statutes/Stat0017.pdf>.

For additional information, you can contact your municipal attorney, or see the following Legal FAQ provided by the League of Wisconsin Municipalities: <http://www.lwm-info.org/legal/faq/faq195.html> or the legal comment “Procedures for Removing Local Officials from Office” published in the March 2004 *Municipality*: <http://www.lwm-info.org/legal/2004/03march/comment.html>

*If you have questions that you would like addressed in a future Trustee Corner, contact John DeBacher (608) 266-7270 ([john.debacher@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:john.debacher@dpi.state.wi.us)).* ☼

## DLTCL sponsors shared integrated library system study

By **Bob Bocher**, Technology Consultant  
Public Library Development Team

With about 80% of Wisconsin's 387 public libraries in shared integrated library systems (ILS), questions have been asked concerning the cost of maintaining such systems. The questions are often asked purely from a budget perspective, but such questions also have been asked in relation to cost allocation, the size of ILS, and their governance. To answer these questions, the LSTA Advisory Committee has allocated \$45,000 in LSTA funds to enable the DPI's Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning to work with an outside consultant to conduct a study of shared integrated library systems in the state's public libraries. More specifically, the LSTA grant narrative states:

LSTA funds will be used to help in determining the full cost of shared integrated library systems in Wisconsin's public libraries. Among the issues to be addressed will be costs, optimum size, and issues associated with coordination or operation of shared systems.

Some of the key questions to be addressed as part of this study are:

- What are the actual costs of operating a shared ILS?
- Who pays for what costs?
- What are the different funding models used to support shared ILS?
- Who pays for upgrades to the shared ILS?
- What is the governance structure of shared ILS?
- What level of responsibility do library systems have for shared ILS in their service area?
- Is it more efficient to have fewer (and thus larger) shared ILS?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of multitype shared ILS? (Almost all shared systems in

the state are of a single type of library.)

Following state government procurement regulations, in April the division released a Request for Proposal (RFP) that incorporated the above questions and described the work to be conducted as part of the study. Three responses were received by the May 20 deadline. These responses are now being reviewed. It is anticipated that a consultant will be selected by late June. It is hoped that a final report will be completed by late this year or early in 2006.

Ultimately, the specific methodologies used to answer the above questions and incorporate them into the final report will be the responsibility of the consultant. Division staff assume that the consultant will make several site visits during the information gathering process and conduct any surveys or phone interviews and follow-up activities as needed. Division staff will provide the consultant with as much background information and ongoing assistance as is feasible. For example, the division annually collects information on the number of public libraries that are automated, whether they are part of a shared system, and the vendor of each shared system. This

information will be made available to the consultant. The division does not collect data on shared ILS costs, and the consultant will therefore need to develop a methodology to collect these data. The division will assist the consultant to make certain that any information requested from libraries or library systems is provided in a timely fashion. Staff at the library system level will be asked to review drafts of any questionnaires, survey instruments, and reports. In moving forward with this project, division staff will work closely with library system staff, the Library and Information Technology Advisory Committee (LITAC), and the LSTA Advisory Committee.

The consultant will produce a final written report providing answers to the above questions. For example, the report will document specific annual costs for each of the state's shared integrated library systems in public libraries.

If you have any questions on this study, please contact Bob Bocher in the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning (608 266-2127, robert.bocher@dpi.state.wi.us). ☼

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### Interlibrary — from page 4

Work group members include Charles Clemence (Winding Rivers Library Service), Laurie Freund, (Waukesha County Federated Library System), Richard Krumwiede (Outagamie-Waupaca Library System), Pam Wittig (Madison Public Library), Pat Kennedy (Milwaukee Public Library), John Stoneberg (L.E. Phillips Memorial Library), Mary Williamson (WiLS), Connie Meyer

(Dwight Foster Public Library), Janean Miller (Boscobel Public Library), Leanne Hansen (UW-Green Bay Cofrin Library), Jan Adams (CESA 10), Jane Johns (Milton Schools), Cassandra Chaney (Redgranite Correctional Institution), Judy Lyons (Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College), Mindy King (St. Michaels Hospital), Amy Crowder (Wisconsin State Law Library). ☼

## Statewide public library use grows faster than library costs

By **Al Zimmerman**, Consultant  
Public Library System Administration and  
Finance

Preliminary data from the 2004 annual reports filed by Wisconsin's public libraries this spring indicates a 3 to 5 percent increase in services provided, with little or no growth in library income and staffing levels. Public library circulation surpassed 56.8 million items, an increase of nearly 4% over 2003. The circulation increase was matched by a 3.5 percent increase in user visits to the library with over 32.3 million visits made in 2004. Attendance at library programs for children also increased 3.5 percent to nearly 1.4 million. Reference requests for libraries reporting for both 2003 and 2004 showed an increase of over 5 percent. Interlibrary loans, the key indicator of resource sharing among libraries, continued to show a large annual increase growing to 4.7 million in 2004, a 16 percent increase over 2003.

Total library income increased 2 percent over 2003 to \$211 million. Local appropriations increased 1.6 percent and county appropriations increased 3.2%. The state average per capital library support in 2004 was \$31, with residents supporting a local library paying an average of \$35 and those without a local library paying an average of \$20.

Other notable results include a slight decline in both the number of librarians with ALA/MLS degrees and total staff. A 2 percent decline in collection expenditures was reflected in a 1 percent drop in book titles added and a slight decline in book collection size. Audio materials available increased by 7% and video by 10%. The number of

public-use Internet connected computers increased 4 percent to 4,090.

National data suggests Wisconsin residents are heavy users of public library service. Wisconsin's service indicator per capita ranks are 9th for visits to the library, 8th for circulation, 20th for reference transactions, and 2nd for interlibrary loan. Wisconsin ranks 21st in total

public library staffing per capita. In total income from counties and municipalities, the state ranks 15th and in total income 18th. In total expenditures, Wisconsin ranks 18th with a rank of 19 for staff salary and wages. (Nationals rankings are based on 2002 data.)

Questions can be directed to Alan Zimmerman at (608) 266-3939 or [alan.zimmerman@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:alan.zimmerman@dpi.state.wi.us) ✪

### **Best Practices for Public Libraries — Scheduling of board meetings**

By **John DeBacher**, Public Library  
Administration Consultant  
Public Library Development Team

While the statutes do not explicitly state how frequently library boards must meet, a library board should meet monthly for a number of reasons, one of which is to approve library bills. Wis. Stat. § 43.58(2) states:

The library board shall audit and approve all vouchers for the expenditures of the public library and forward the vouchers or schedules covering the same, setting forth the names of claimants, the amounts of each claim and the purpose for which expended, to the appropriate municipal or county financial officer or, in the case of a school district, the school district clerk, with a statement thereon, signed by the library board secretary or other designee of the library board, that the expenditure has been incurred and that the library board has audited and approved the bill. The municipal, county

or school district governing body shall then pay the bill as others are paid.

Library boards would have difficulty paying their bills on a timely basis unless they meet at least monthly. Last year legislation was introduced but not enacted (the Library Task Force "language bill") that would have provided, among other things, that regular wages or salary or other recurring payments of a public library may be paid by the appropriate municipal official without prior library board approval, so long as they are audited and approved at the next regular library board meeting. It is anticipated that the legislation will be reintroduced this year.

Another reason boards should meet at least monthly is so that they have adequate time to consider library issues, review policies, and address library service needs of the community.

*Please see Best Practices — on page 8*

## E-rate Program Update

# GAO report criticizes FCC oversight of E-rate program

By **Bob Bocher**, Technology Consultant  
Public Library Development Team

The E-rate program has come under increased criticism over the past few months. In February the federal Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report (<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05151.pdf>) highly critical of the FCC's oversight of the program. Among various problems the GAO documented was that the "FCC's oversight mechanisms contain weaknesses that limit FCC's management of the program and its ability to understand the scope of any waste, fraud, and abuse within the program." In March the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce held a public hearing on the program. After the hearing, Representative Joe Barton (R-Texas), chairman of the committee, released a statement saying that, "The mismanagement of the E-rate program seems to know few bounds. Unscrupulous vendors have fleeced the program while underserved communities and telephone customers are paying the price. The FCC, these merchants and certain schools all must share in the blame for this disgrace." Representative Barton further indicated that he intends to introduce legislation to address weaknesses in the E-rate program. No reform bills have been introduced as of early June.

In other E-rate Congressional action, there are now bills in both the Senate and House to extend the E-rate exemption from the federal Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA). The ADA addresses fiscal audit requirements for federal programs. The need of the E-rate to comply with the ADA caused a moratorium

on E-rate funding from August to December last year. In May Superintendent Burmaster sent a letter to Representative Tammy Baldwin asking her support for the E-rate and for the ADA exemption bill. Representative Baldwin serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce which oversees the E-rate.

In part to address the issues documented in the GAO report and discussed at the Congressional hearing, the FCC is expected to initiate a formal rulemaking process to review the E-rate program. Part of this review will be an open comment period during which anyone can submit comments and suggestions to the FCC on how to change the program. This FCC rulemaking process may be the most comprehensive review of the E-rate since its inception in 1998. This review process is expected to start later in June or early July.

### 2005 E-rate Funding

As of early June no funding commitments for the 2005 E-rate year (which starts July 1, 2005) have yet been made. The Schools and Libraries Division, which

administers the program, has not indicated what is causing the delay. For the 2005 year, a total of \$3.65 billion has been requested nationwide, and Wisconsin schools and libraries have requested \$30.4 million. Since the start of the program in 1998, schools and libraries in the state have received \$193.9 million in E-rate discounts, not including the 2005 request.

### DPI E-rate Resources

The DPI maintains an E-rate Website at [www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/erate.html](http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dltcl/pld/erate.html). The DPI also manages an E-rate email list. Directions on how to subscribe are on the E-rate Website. Although the E-rate is a federal program, DPI staff do assist schools and libraries to the extent possible. In addition, DPI staff are members of the State E-rate Coordinators Alliance, a nationwide group representing K-12 schools, and the American Library Association's E-rate Task Force. (Bob Bocher currently chairs the ALA's E-rate Task Force.) If you have questions on the E-rate program contact, Stephen Sanders (608 266-7112, [stephen.sanders@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:stephen.sanders@dpi.state.wi.us)) or Bob Bocher (608 266-2127, [robert.bocher@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:robert.bocher@dpi.state.wi.us)). ☺

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## NCES releases report on computer and Internet use by children

NCES, the National Center for Educational Statistics, has just released the report, 'Rates of Computer and Internet Use by Children in Nursery School and Students in Kindergarten Through Twelfth Grade: 2003.' This Issue Brief describes the percentage of students in grades 12 or below who used computers or the Internet in 2003.

The Brief highlights the fact that computer and Internet use is commonplace and begins early. Even before kindergarten, a majority of children in nursery school use computers and, and 23 percent use the Internet. In upper grade levels, nearly all students use computers and a substantial majority use

*Please see Report — on page 8*

## Best Practices — from page 6

By having regular monthly meetings scheduled, the director, the library staff and the public have a clear understanding of when issues may be brought to the board for consideration.

Each meeting must be legally noticed, even if the board holds meetings at scheduled intervals (such as the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.). The library board president or designee (such as the library director or secretary) must give notice of each meeting to the public, any members of the news media who have submitted a written request for notice, and the designated official newspaper or, if none exists, to a news medium likely to give notice in the area. Wis. Stat. § 19.84(1). Notice may be given by email or FAX, if that is acceptable to the recipient.

The Attorney General has advised posting public notice of the meeting at three different locations within the jurisdiction that the governmental body observes (such as the main municipal building, the library, and the community

center). This may be done in lieu of posting a paid notice in a news medium in the jurisdiction the library serves. The notice must give the “time, date, place and subject matter of the meeting, including that intended for consideration at any contemplated closed session, in such form as is reasonably likely to apprise members of the public and the news media thereof.” Wis. Stat. § 19.84(2).

The Attorney General published a useful document, *Wisconsin Open Meetings Law: a Compliance Guide*,

2003, available here: [http://www.doj.state.wi.us/dls/docs/op\\_rec.pdf](http://www.doj.state.wi.us/dls/docs/op_rec.pdf).

*This article is intended as an overview of issues libraries should consider in scheduling board meetings. Questions may be addressed to your municipal attorney, your library system, or to John DeBacher at (608)266-7270 ([john.debacher@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:john.debacher@dpi.state.wi.us)). Please contact John if you have issues or questions you would like addressed in this column.* ☼

## Report — from page 7

the Internet. Differences exist in computer use among students, but differences by characteristics such as income and education are smaller — about 9 percentage points between the highest and lowest income categories and about 13 percentage points between the highest and lowest categories of parental education — than differences that have been observed among adults. The differences among students are broader for Internet use than computer use. Differences between

groups by family income and parental education are as large as 33 and 36 percent, respectively, making students from the most advantaged backgrounds about twice as likely to use the Internet as those from the least advantaged backgrounds.

To download, view and print the report as a pdf file, visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2005111>. ☼

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