State Universities Report  
Joan Roca, Minnesota State University, Mankato  
June 5, 2008

Metropolitan State University - David Barton, Director
At this point the budget is stable except for a 2% internal reallocation. Like everyone else, we are waiting to see what the governor will do. Overall Metro has had about an 8% student enrollment increase this year, so we are in relatively good shape.

Minnesota State University, Mankato – Joan Roca, Dean
The Library continues to plan for impending budget reductions. This spring we identified more than $250,000 in subscriptions to be cut in the coming fiscal year.

St. Cloud State University – Ruth Zietlow, Associate Dean
Our reference department is implementing a new tool for reference statistics called LibStats. Our Systems and Reference librarians worked together to customize LibStats using the READ scale for capturing and categorizing reference questions by their complexity. We are very pleased to have awarded tenure to a deserving librarian this year. We are taking our first steps toward creating an institutional repository.

Winona State University – Thomas Bremer, Dean
Although the ultimate result of the state's financial problem is not yet fully known on our campus, the anticipated shortfall has caused some immediate impacts on our FY10 library budget. We are identifying approximately $100,000 in serial and database cancellations to reduce our collection development budget. Personnel reductions will be achieved by reducing librarians extra duty days 21% (9 days per librarian) and eliminating one library technician position (identified earlier this year as part of unallotment and later removed from FY10-FY11 base). We are also reducing our remaining operating budget 7%.

In spite of the budget challenges, we continue to investigate ways to improve our services. We have begun looking at the possibility of consolidating several service units (circulation, ILL, Information Gallery) into a single service point and also possibly establishing an "Internet Café" on the library premises.

Submitted by Joan Roca, State Universities Representative

Public Libraries Report  
Mary Lukkarila, Director, Cloquet Public Library  
June 5, 2009

Cloquet Public Library - Mary Lukkarila, Director
The Library received a “Picturing America” bookshelf grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This goes along with the grant earlier received that included posters of famous American paintings.
The Library will host a legislative forum in June with State legislators Representative Bill Hilty and Senator Tony Lourey. In October, Commissioner Mark Ritchie will be at the Library to discuss the Franken/Coleman race. During the strategic planning process, community focus groups wanted the Library to have programs where people could meet and ask questions of elected officials.

The Library Board is reviewing all of its policies and bringing them up to date. Fines and fees will increase. The Library is in the process of accepting credit cards for payments of fines and fees.

**Duluth Public Library**
The Duluth Public Library welcomed new Library Manager Carla Powers on May 18, 2009. Carla comes to Minnesota from Rice Lake, WI, where she was the director of the library for the past seven years. She has also worked in the Eau Claire and Superior Public Libraries, in positions ranging from Circulation Clerk to Reference Assistant to Technical Services Manager.

**Fergus Falls Public Library - Walt Dunlap, Director**
Fergus Falls Public Library continues to explore the possibility of “Federal Stimulus” support for re-roofing its 1986 building, but with no encouragement to date. Its proposal for a 12,265 square foot expansion remains on a back burner at City Hall while its visitor, new card registration and circulation numbers all spiral upward. At this late May writing, we covet the extra accommodations for technology outlined in Ron McGriff’s 1998 space needs assessment. The “summer people” from the lakes and “spandex people” from the Central Lakes Trail already threaten to overwhelm the modest services we are able to offer them.

**Northfield Public Library - Lynne Young, Director**
The Library received a Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council Grant for their 11th annual Books & Stars program. The bookmobile and portable bandshell, the Showmobile, take the summer reading program (family programming) out on the road to area parks. This year's Books & Stars consists of 8 programs including a magician and a variety of musical events such as a banjo group, dixieland and an old-fashioned sing-a-long. One evening the program will be held at the outdoor pool and includes a free swim night with a donation to the food shelf or the pool scholarship fund.

**Rochester Public Library - Audrey Betcher, Director**
Budget, budget, budget. While usually deep into discussing next year's budget by this time of the year, the focus continues to be on the current year budget. Though cuts were made right away in 2009, they still are waiting to hear about LGA to know what the number is for this year. Planning continues for 2010, but some goals are being scaled back due to funding expectations. Tutor.com is a success. It is hoped to continue that program next year with private funding (as it is funded now). Temporary employees have been added with the federal stimulus dollars. The Workforce Center has been the point of contact. The Library has started book groups in a bag for children.

Submitted by Mary Lukkarila, Public Libraries Representative

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**Private Colleges Report**

Dan Gjelten, University of St. Thomas
June 5, 2009

**CLIC -- Dan Gjelten**
The CLIC consortium has hired Tom Nichol to serve as Executive Director. Tom worked for the libraries of St. John’s University and the College of St. Benedict. The CLIC Libraries implemented III’s Encore discovery layer at the end of May.

**Bethany Lutheran College -- Orrin Ausen**
Budget - The budgeting process for 2009-2010 is completed. While not the best news, the overall campus budget has frozen all employee salaries, with no staff layoffs, and has implemented a 10% reduction across all department budgets.
Construction - Construction for a new classroom building, Honsey Hall, is well underway and on time. This structure will house offices for the communication, humanities, and social & behavioral science faculty, a large lecture assembly, several classrooms, a writing lab, student study areas, and a video production area. The building will be a significant addition for instruction and will impact the library’s lower level by reducing classroom use and provide an opportunity to expand our services to students.

Carleton College -- Sam Demas
Carleton is making budget adjustments that affect the library, including: 5% reduction in operating budget and freezing of acquisitions budget. The college is seeking to reduce FTE staff by about 30 FTE through a voluntary severance program. The library has updated its strategic plan and is now undertaking a review of its staffing and organizational structure to ensure we are optimally organized to achieve our strategic aims.

The Dean asked for a recommendation on merging the college archives with the library, and we have recommended that this happen, assuming the library will not suffer any significant staff cuts in this budget downturn. After 9 months of operation the college's Digital Archiving Group is prepared to make recommendations on how the college can better manage its digital assets. Our work in this first year has focused on digital archiving of oral histories and senior projects.

Implementation of MetaSearch has gone smoothly. We are experimenting with approaches to integrated curricular support, where staff from various academic support services work together in a coordinated way in support of specific courses and assignments.

Concordia University -- Charlotte Knoche
We have been consumed by budget cuts and reworking priorities

Gustavus Adolphus College -- Barbara Fister
As part of a campus-wide planning effort we wrote a strategic plan (on our website).

We also held a birthday party for Charles Darwin (which the science faculty loved) and worked on project studying leisure reading with student researchers; Julie Gilbert and I will be reporting results at ALA.

In the spring we went through a massive collection review, not because our budget was cut but because it has been flat for several years. We met with every department to decide whether to cut book or journal allocations. Most departments opted to cut journals. We gave them price and use information, which helped.

To encourage faculty to think about how open access could make a difference the librarians as a department unanimously passed an Open Access Pledge - opting to publish in open journals and/or self archive our scholarship. We're the fourth library faculty to do this and the first departmental OA mandate at a liberal arts college, according to Peter Suber.

Martin Luther College -- David Gosdeck
As with so many others, our college has had to make substantial budget reductions. This first week of June, many staff positions were cut or reduced in hours. The library, of course, was not exempt. In effect the library’s budget was reduced by about 18%. The good news is that I was able to retain my staff albeit at very reduced hours. We continue to work on improvements on the web page and still plan a major change in the arrangement of materials in the library.

University of St. Thomas -- Dan Gjelten
Construction on campus has impacted the libraries – we’ve welcomed displaced university staff into O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library. At the same time are engaged in discussions that we hope will lead to the installation of a coffee shop in OSF.

We’ve partnered with web developers around campus as they’ve implemented a portal for the community. The libraries contribution has been a research tab which will deliver role specific resources to users upon logging in.
We are experimenting with the delivery of audio and video resources over the network – an initial collection of 20 high demand films are available for viewing at user’s computers anywhere/anytime. The pilot is designed to determine whether streaming videos can better meet curricular needs of faculty who wish to assign in-class or asynchronous viewing, and, importantly, whether this method of delivery is sustainable by our network.

We held our 11th annual Poetry on the Patio reading at the end of National Poetry Month – where members of the UST community read their favorite poems. We have now had over one hundred members of the UST community, from all walks of university life, stand up and read a poem on the library’s front patio. We are putting together a video of highlights of each reading and a bibliography of all the poems that have been read.

The Ireland Library received attention from local newspapers after staff there digitized a collection of “prayer cards” which have been left in books over the years. See the collection here: (“Holy Cards as Objets Trouves”) http://irelandlibrary.smugmug.com/gallery/7476304_FiYCn/1/482369789_wBdzG#482369789_wBdzG

Submitted by Dan Gjelten, Private Colleges Representative

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities Campus Report
Wendy Pradt Lougee, University of Minnesota - TC
June 5, 2009

Recent Programs and Projects

Staffing Changes
By the end of June, 2009, the University Libraries will have said goodbye to 19 staff members who have retired during this past academic year. These 19 staff members represented all areas of the Libraries and are taking with them a vast amount of institutional knowledge. We will miss each of them and wish them the very best in their retirement.

Health Sciences Libraries
Health Sciences Libraries staff presented a poster in May at the first annual Zar Symposium on Library as Place in Chicago entitled “The Right Place at the Right Time for the Right Reasons” describing a series of remodeling projects in our Bio-Medical Library over the past two years that expanded user study space by 2,200 square feet, improved the public computing area, and created staff efficiencies. We moved low-use print journals to storage, shifted and compacted six miles worth of journals made feasible by a significant print reduction campaign, removed 1,200 journal shelving sections, consolidated five separate service points into one integrated service desk, provided more self-service printing and copying options and relocated ten staff to offices closer to their users. In addition, over 4,000 square feet of space inside the library was repurposed for the creation of the Institute for Health Informatics (http://www.ihi.umn.edu/), a new interdisciplinary program of the University’s Academic Health Center which had its official opening on April 29th.

E-learning pilot a success
The Libraries offer over 100 face-to-face workshops a semester in a series called "Unravel the Library." Because of the popularity of this workshop, the Libraries launched a pilot to determine if students were able to learn as much from an online version of this workshop as they did from the in-person version. The pilot revealed there was no significant difference between what students learned in the face-to-face workshops versus the online version. However, what was different was the time commitment involved. Students in our two pilots (which included a class of non-English speakers) took an average of 40 minutes to complete the online workshop while the face-to-face workshop takes 75 minutes to complete, plus travel time. The online version consists of four modules and a quiz: 1) Finding Article Indexes, 2) Searching Article Indexes, 3) Getting the Full Text of Articles and 4) Identifying Scholarly Articles. http://www.lib.umn.edu/research/instruction/modules/

University of Minnesota Libraries - Twin Cities join the AskMN Virtual Reference Cooperative
Late last year, the University Libraries were pleased to follow in the path of our colleagues around the state in rolling out Mininet AskMN virtual reference service to our users, augmenting our local daytime chat service with overnight coverage through the cooperative. The service has been quite successful, averaging around 200 chat requests from UMN-affiliated users each month so far in 2009. Based on glowing user satisfaction surveys,
the UMN-TC Libraries are investigating moving more of our digital reference services onto the AskMN platform. We're grateful to Minitex for providing this service to the state.

**Annual Science Quiz Bowl**

**SCImagine! 2009**
On May 8, 2009, the Science & Engineering Library held SCImagine! 2009, the Library's Annual Spring Science Showcase, which highlights student and faculty work. This year's topic was entitled, "Solar House on the Prairie," and featured student presentations about the University's Solar Decathlon project. One hundred fifty students working on 10 teams have designed, engineered and are building one functioning solar house completely powered by the sun. For more information see [http://sciweb.lib.umn.edu/events/](http://sciweb.lib.umn.edu/events/).

**CIC-Google Government Documents Project**
The libraries of the CIC universities (Big 10 + University of Chicago) are partnering with Google to digitize a comprehensive collection of U.S. Federal Documents. It is believed this collection could ultimately comprise between 1 and 1.5 million volumes. The workflow and scanning process for the initiative is being tested by the University of Minnesota, which is sending Google a substantial number of duplicate holdings from its St. Paul campus. Digital facsimiles of successfully scanned Federal Documents from Minnesota -- and eventually other CIC institutions -- will be returned to the HathiTrust Digital Repository, where public domain material can be universally accessed. (More info can be found at [http://www.cic.net/Home/Projects/Library/BookSearch/GovDocs.aspx](http://www.cic.net/Home/Projects/Library/BookSearch/GovDocs.aspx)).

**Robert Bly in this World**
A conference celebrating the Robert Bly papers was held in the Andersen Library April 16-19. "Robert Bly in this World" featured speakers from across the US and from England, each of whom addressed a different aspect of Bly's influence on the world of literature, including his work as translator, editor of a poetry journal, and founder of the Great Mother conference, as well as his own poetry. Evening events were open to the public, and the Saturday performance featured readings by Bly and Coleman Barks accompanied by musicians Marcus Wise and David Whetstone. The final event of the conference was a Sunday bus trip to Madison, Minnesota, to visit Bly's writing studio, now owned by the Lac Qui Parle County Historical Society.

**Upcoming Events**: [http://blog.lib.umn.edu/lib-web/events](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/lib-web/events)

- **A Man's Reach: A Transforming Life**
  - **What**: Exhibit: A Man's Reach: A Transforming Life
  - **When**: Through Saturday, August 15, 2009
  - **Where**: Elmer L. Andersen Library
  Free and open to the public.
Commemorating the June 17th centennial of Governor Elmer L. Andersen’s birth, this exhibit explores his broad interests, his philosophies regarding government and business practices, and his impact on the University, the state, and the nation.

**100th Birthday Celebration in Honor of Elmer L. Andersen**
- **What**: 100th Birthday Celebration in Honor of Elmer L. Andersen
- **When**: Wednesday, June 17, 2009 7:30 p.m.
- **Where**: Willey Hall
Free and open to the public.
RSVP by Wednesday, June 10 to stangret@umn.edu or 612-624-9339.
Throughout his 95 years, Elmer L. Andersen was no stranger to adversity, to the improbable idea, to the impossible dream. His vision and perseverance was applied to seemingly endless endeavors—from building an international corporation to championing fair housing—mentoring everyone along the way, from his shipping room crew to university presidents. The fruits of his life and unending optimism live on in the people he touched and the state he loved. The evening will feature music by VocalEssence Ensemble Singers; remarks by University Librarian Wendy Pradt Lougee, Andersen’s son Julian Andersen, and Star Tribune columnist and Andersen biographer Lori Sturdevant; showing of "Legacy of a Leader: Elmer L. Andersen," a new documentary on Andersen’s life and legacy; opening dessert reception for A Man’s Reach: A Transforming Life, our new exhibit exploring Andersen's broad interests, his philosophies regarding government and business practices, and his impact on the University, the state, and the nation.

Forty Years After Stonewall: The Gay Movement in America
What: Exhibit: Forty Years After Stonewall: The Gay Movement in America
When: Through July 11, 2009
Where: Elmer L. Andersen Library Atrium Gallery
Free and open to the public.
On the early morning of June 28, 1969, a riot broke out at Greenwich Village’s Stonewall Inn, the patrons fighting back after years of harassment and police raids on Gay establishments. Images from the Tretter Collection in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies celebrate the launching of the modern Gay rights movement in the United States.

Presentation Featuring Eric Rohmann and Candace Fleming
What: Public Talk
When: Thursday, June 18, 2009 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Where: Elmer L. Andersen Library, room 120
Free and open to the public.
Caldecott Award winner Eric Rohmann and author Candace Fleming present at Elmer L. Andersen Library. Rohmann’s books include My Friend Rabbit and A Kitten Tale, and Fleming’s books include Muncha Muncha and Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary. The event is co-sponsored by Split Rock Arts Program. Red Balloon Bookshop will be on-site to sell their books following the event.

Presentation Featuring Claudia Mills
What: Public Talk
When: Friday, July 17, 2009 10:00 a.m.
Where: Elmer L. Andersen Library, room 120
Free and open to the public.
Colorado author and Kerlan Collection donor Claudia Mills will speak Elmer L. Andersen Library. Manuscripts for many of her books at the Kerlan include Being Teddy Roosevelt, Gus and Grandpa Go Fishing, and Makeover by Marcia. Red Balloon Bookshop will sell her books for autograph following the talk.

Submitted by Wendy Pradt Lougee, University of Minnesota, TC Representative

Multi-county, Multitype Library Systems Report
Ruth Solie, Northern Lights Library Network
June 5, 2008

Southwest Area Multicounty Multitype Interlibrary Exchange [SAMMIE] - Robin Chaney
SAMMIE member School Library Media Centers are now able to join the North Star Library Consortium. Since North Star expanded its borders, SAMMIE has held information sessions that included demonstrations of Follett Destiny. To date, four School Districts with 10 library/media centers have made a commitment to join the Consortium. SAMMIE is excited to be able to offer this automation solution to its school members.
The Pioneerland-SAMMIE-Plum Creek Teen Cooperative will be supporting the Teen Summer Programs at member libraries. We will offer “Express Yourself” art workshops and a Reading Contest among the libraries.

**Northern Lights Library Network, Detroit Lakes – Ruth Solie**
The North Star Library Consortium has been growing by leaps and bounds. This summer we will be adding 37 new sites for a total of 154 school and special libraries using the Destiny library management software from Follett. Two-day training sessions are provided for each site in the use of Destiny; additional staff development opportunities are held throughout the year. See the CMLE report for more information.

The Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant (E2T2) evaluation process related to the North Star Library Consortium is providing us with interesting data about the way schools are using Destiny to enhance the curriculum, support students, and provide 21st Century learners with important tools and resources.

NLLN has successfully implemented a “Professional Engagement Award” program to support library professionals in our region as they engage in the work of the profession. This includes working within professional organizations, presentations at national/international conferences, participating in taskforces and forums, and representing libraries in non-library settings.

NLLN has provided delivery demonstration grants to the 4 regional public library systems in the NLLN region as they continue to expand delivery services in creative and effective ways. This is the third round of these grants. These funds provide supplemental support as the regional systems continue to find ways to meet delivery needs in the face of increased demand and cost.

**Central Minnesota Libraries Exchange, St Cloud – Patricia Post**
North Star Library Consortium - The Consortium is now a statewide opportunity for K-12 schools. Members pay a yearly fee, so it is self-sustaining and the scalability is not a problem. Conversations continue about the expansion, future, and possibilities for the Consortium. Logistics and communications with Follett and new Consortium members to provide a two-day basic Destiny Training for 20 sites in St. Cloud on June 4-5th at the St. Cloud Tech College. Planning and logistics are underway for the Back in School Consortium event at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, MN on 9/18/09/ Everyone is welcome to attend.

More Things on a Stick - This online learning program promotes energy in our region and participants keep chugging along. When CMLE participants saw the prize, there was a burst of activity and some quick finishers. We had an increase in the number of library staff who could not use any work time to do the program this year, which is unfortunate.

Member Survey Results (some interesting highlights) - Our newsletter, interlibrary loan and news emails, were the most used services (ranked order). When asked to pick three services, interlibrary loan, vendor discounts, and workshops (ranked highest with interlibrary loan being first). 95 percent of those using our ILL service were either very satisfied or satisfied. Only 18 percent knew that an institutional borrowing card is available to them at their public library. 69 percent of participants want to use self-paced tutorials at their computer to learn new things.

Interlibrary Loan Services - CMLE continues to offer interlibrary loan to its members, but our overall numbers are down about 1,200 requests this year. Several solid reasons exist for the decrease.
1. More full text is available online in databases on the desktop
2. Since LSTA delivery grants ended, several sites simply have no delivery mechanism
3. Area students in the Senior to Sophomore program through SCSU, now use their own barcode rather than the institutional barcode assigned to their school by SCSU
4. CMLE guidelines require a staff member to mediate the request. Many schools no longer have people in those positions to do so.
5. Policy changes in FY2009: No loans of SCSU video and media and we are no longer filling requests outside of the Minitex region.
6. According to our recent member survey, 77% of media center staff have the students order needed materials through the public library using their own personal barcode. Then, parents are responsible for helping the student retrieve the materials and return them.

Other
• Created a process and system for recruiting new CMLE student workers. We made contact with our media specialists asking them for recommendations of students heading to SCSU in the fall, who would be interested in helping provide our services. Many of these students already work in their media centers as volunteers, and are eager for the opportunity to do more library-specific work. A win-win.
• CMLE is in the process of a re-organization, due to the resignation of a long time staffer. We have been focused on our systems, processes, and future staffing, and have done a time study to help with our planning for the future.

SMILE, Mankato – Nancy Steele
The Readers Advisory Group will meet on June 4, 2009 at 9:30. We will have a guest provide a program on genealogy- Joanne Griebel from New Ulm. She was the SMILE/TdS reference librarian who worked at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Two bibliographies one on books and one on websites that she recommends will be posted on the SMILE web site.

The SMILE annual meeting was in April. Julie Kramer, our speaker, won the Minnesota Book Award for Genre beating William Kent Krueger and an outstanding group of nominees. Her next book, Missing Mark, is coming out in July. Her talk was recorded by Dale Ericson from SOCRATES and will be available via ITV. More details on this later. Her experiences as a TV producer for WCCO and NBC News as well as her experiences publishing her book made for a great program. $762 was raised for the Fran MacDonald memorial. This amount will be increased to provide three $300 scholarships for professional development as this memorial for Fran MacDonald who taught at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

SMILE and Traverse des Sioux are planning a workshop on cataloging designed for media specialists and anyone who wants a refresher in this area. Dani Kroon, head cataloger for TdS, has worked with media specialist training at her previous position and offers this workshop as a review and opportunity to get questions answered. School media staff can often feel isolated and this is an opportunity to get up to date in this area.

Information was sent the last week of April for the workshop on August 31.

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Metronet, St Paul – Ann Walker Smalley
Activities and Programs - MILI meetings continue in Chaska and Minneapolis. Topics for the meetings:
• March—Digital Storytelling with Podcasting and Screencasting
• April—Digital Storytelling with Glogster and Google Presentation
• May—Sharing digital creations and celebration of completing MILI

More Things On a Stick extended the completion deadline to June 20. The Director and Chris Madsen, Board member, attended MLA/MEMO Legislative Day March 25. The Director and Karen Eidem presented at the West Metro Media Specialists meeting March 26 on the MILI project, WJMN, and other Metronet activities. Approximately 40 people attended Metronet Wind Down about online learning systems March 31 at Concordia. The Windown was co-sponsored with MACAE (Minnesota Association of Continuing Adult Education).

The multitypes are submitting conference proposals to the MLA and MEMO Conferences to showcase how library staff use what they learned in More Things On a Stick. We plan to use a presentation format called Ignite
or lightning. People present 20 slides for 15 seconds a slide (5 minutes) so there is a lot of information in a short amount of time. We will recruit people who know the tools and are able to present in this way. The first presentation will be “What is a multitype.” Conference dates are MEMO October 1-3 in Rochester and MLA in St. Cloud October 14-16.

Metronet hosted the MEMO Metro regional meeting here on April 1. Metronet has submitted Conference session proposals to Education Minnesota and MEMO about the MILI activities. The multitypes plan to sponsor an Internet Café again at MEMO and at MLA, too.

The Director and Tom Shaughnessy, former Metronet Director, have completed a revised version of the State Plan for Libraries for the State Library Advisory Council Meeting. The Plan is available for review and comment at [http://slacdraftplan.pbworks.com/FrontPage](http://slacdraftplan.pbworks.com/FrontPage)
Metronet and MELSA hosted (and will continue to host) the State Library Advisory Council meeting in order to provide remote access to the meeting that the MDE staff cannot provide.

Metronet and MELSA are sponsoring Camp Read-a-Lot again this year. August 11 is for teachers and media specialists in Grades 2-5. August 12 is for secondary (Grades 6-12) teachers and media specialists. Anita Silvey, author of Best Books for Teens and other literature books, and the author Alison McGhee will speak both days. The camp for Grades 2-5 filled quickly; the secondary camp still has a few spots left.

The Director attended the Friday May 1 session of the MLA Leadership Institute on Becoming a Mentor. She is a mentor for Jenny Sippel, a librarian at MCTC Library.

MILI participants and their students will present as part of a panel at the Information Literacy Summit. Teachers will talk about how they changed how they teach research, what they learned from MILI, and other reactions to the program. Students will display their MILI-influenced research products.

Recent presentations:
- Bremer Bank, Nonprofit Specialists Using Social Media
- MN Department of Corrections Librarians, WJMN and Communities of Practice

**North Country Library Cooperative, Mt Iron – Linda Wadman**

The NCLC Governing Board has been revising its policy manual and bylaws. After a test period they have decided that they seem to get more accomplished meeting when four times per year on a different day that the Arrowhead Library System Board Meeting. The changes made to the policies will be reviewed and voted on at the June 2009 meeting when the meeting dates for the coming year will be adopted. Several vacant Governing Board seats will need to be filled.

Absence of administrative assistant Pam Johnson for medical reasons has required that the director staff the office to answer phones and do the daily tasks normally covered by the administrative assistant in addition to interlibrary loan and reference requests. There have been a number of requests for scholarship applications for upcoming conference attendance recently.

Budget planning for the coming year has been slow because of the unknowns of the legislative process. We want to be sure that we allow sufficient funds to participate in any projects that the multitype directors might undertake jointly. We’ve also been looking for a useful database that would benefit all types of libraries, that is within our budget, not an easy task, particularly since pricing for various types of libraries is different. We are particularly unimpressed with vendors who ask “how much do you have to spend?” rather than quoting pricing for their products.

There has been a marked increase in reference requests during this past year. Most recently considerable time has been spent to retrieve materials before the schools close for the year.

The 23 Things/More Things on a Stick has opened up avenues of communication with library staff we might not otherwise reach in a number of different venues, particularly Twitter and Facebook, an unexpected, but useful outcome for us. We’ve also had some library staff approach us for help with computer application/problems they have encountered which has been gratifying and a learning experience for all of us.
We are hoping our annual audit can be scheduled somewhat earlier this year than it was last year when it was completed the day before our Report of Results was due, requiring staff to work over the weekend to complete the forms for the report.

**SELS, Rochester – Ann Hutton, Michael Scott**

Technology Update - SELCO is focusing on a variety of technology topics: AquaBrowser Implementation Update – Waiting on AquaBrowser to complete consortium programming. SirsiDynix Users Group Conference Report – Horizon enhancements coming in future upgrades, 7.5 and 7.5.1. SELCOtv Brainstorming – Online Library staff offer suggestions for our future TV programs. MnKnows – A new Minitex information portal and SELCO’s training plans around the region. What is Twitter and Why am I Hearing So Much About It? – You can follow several SELCO staff on Twitter. Online Catalogs: What Users and Librarians Want – Summary of new OCLC report with copies available for check out.

National Library Legislative Day Special - Ann Hutton joined the Minnesota contingent for National Library Legislative Day, May 11-12. Lobbying for libraries this year was Melissa Brechon, Carver County Library, Peter Pearson, Friends of the St. Paul Public Library, Dave Pointon, 3M and Mike Bloomberg, Augsburg College and MLA Federal Legislative Chair.

Major topics this year and of interest for SELCO/SELS libraries:
- LSTA – An annual favorite with lots of examples of good work
- Broadband and Telecom – Keeping SELCO and the Online Libraries connected
- Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act – Lots of concern about lead and children’s books
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – How can SELCO libraries benefit?

Special Consultants Project/Fundraising Workshop - Three libraries will be hosting SELCO Special Consultants Mark Reidell and Lynne Bertalmio for a targeted two-hour workshop designed for library staff, trustees, and Friends and covering fundraising skills and strategies. The workshop will enable local decision makers to assess their specific situations, generate collective energy and enthusiasm, and develop an action plan.

Mollie Pherson, Regional Librarian, is responsible for booking arrangements for the Fundraising workshop, as well as all the other Special Consultant projects. Contact Mollie at: mpherson@selco.info and for more information about the Special Consultants projects, including updates from local libraries, check: [http://www.selco.info/programs-services/special-consultants](http://www.selco.info/programs-services/special-consultants)

SELCO will host Camp Read-A-Lot, a fun-filled summer literature experience, on August 13 at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro for teachers, media specialists, and public library staff. For more information: [http://campreadalot09.pbwiki.com/](http://campreadalot09.pbwiki.com/).

**County Funding and Contracts**
The upcoming contract discussions between Rochester Public Library and Olmsted County may provide an opportunity to create a new county agreement for SELCO and the libraries receiving county funding. The current agreement is nearly 20 years old and includes outdated and ineffective language.

The Wabasha County library directors met in Lake City on March 11 to discuss possible formulas for the distribution of the 2010 and 2011 county library funds. The goal of the group is to slightly shift distribution to more closely reflect the library use by rural residents.

While Minnesota’s current financial crisis has created a great unknown for local government, positive discussions are underway in Rice County for a new county agreement. The next step will be to call together city and county elected local officials.

**Budget Survey** - The annual budget planning survey was launched March 12. SELCO/SELS Board members and library directors received a direct invitation to participate. Summary data will be shared with the SELCO/SELS Board of Directors, the SELCO and SELS Advisory Committees, and posted to the website.
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CODI + UUGI = COSUGI: Joint Conference and New Board - Jonya Pacey, Help Desk Manager, and Mick Reese, Systems Manager, attended the recent CODI/UUGI Joint Conference and both wrote extensively about their conference experiences on the SELCO Librarian, http://www.selco.info/news/blogs/selco-librarian. There was a lot of conference buzz about new developments coming for Horizon and Jonya has been assisting with testing the new support portal. The two distinct user groups, CODI (Customers of Dynix, Inc.) and UUGI (Unicorn User Group, Inc.) will merge in June and form a new non-profit corporation, COSUGI. Ann Hutton was elected to a one-year term on the transition board. This will involve participating in a monthly conference call with COSUGI Board members and SirsiDynix corporate officers.

Submitted by Ruth Solie, Director, Northern Lights Library Network

Regional System Libraries Report
Chris Olson, Director, Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA)
June 5, 2009

Arrowhead Library System -- Jim Weikum
ALS has Bookmobile Service again
The vehicle delivered to ALS by OBS, Inc. in January 2007 had heating system and generator issues almost from the date of delivery. A variety of repairs were attempted, but problems never seem to be resolved. The problems escalated last Fall when staff on the Bookmobile started reported adverse reactions to odors and fumes emanating from the heating system. After late October, we did not have a single week when the full schedule of routes was completed. In January, we finally suspended all service to avoid further health risks for staff and patrons. OBS staff retrieved the vehicle in late January and brought it back to Ohio. Various problems were identified and repaired and the vehicle was returned to ALS seven weeks later. The Bookmobile resumed it regular schedule of service to the public on Monday, March 23 and we’ve not missed a stop or route since then, even in some very nasty weather. The finger pointing and blame will continue, but the important thing is that we’re serving patrons again on a consistent schedule.

ALS Member Library Strategic Planning
ALS has contracted with Whitney Crettol Consulting (Virginia, MN) to conduct strategic planning processes and write strategic plans for each of ALS’s 29 member public libraries over the next three years. To make the process manageable, libraries were divided into clusters that were usually, but not always, geographically arranged. Ms. Crettol has completed the planning process and strategic plans for the first cluster of four libraries. The reaction from library staff and stakeholders has been quite positive and validated this endeavor for both the ALS Board and ALS staff. The strategic plans and planning processes for ALS member libraries will become the genesis for ALS’s own plan in another couple of years.

Technical Services Evaluation
ALS contracted with staff from OHIONET to conduct an evaluation of technical service procedures and workflows in the ALS offices. That effort resulted from a strategic planning
objective relating to an examination of all ALS services. The analysis has been completed and has recommended a major restructuring of how ALS does pretty much all Technical Services functions, from cataloging to acquisitions to processing and many other activities that ALS lumps under the Technical Services banner. The supervisory position for those service, the Technical Services Librarian, has been vacant since June and we’ve contracted with a retired librarian to provide cataloging services. We will soon begin a search for a manager in a contract position to serve as a major change agent in our Technical Services operations.

Future of Horizon ILS at ALS
As part of the process to develop specifications for the next ILS in the ALS region, last summer and fall we formed committees with participants from public and school libraries currently participating in the shared Horizon ILS project (COMPASS), as well as staff from the Duluth Public Library which currently operates a stand-alone Gaylord Polaris ILS. The committees are reviewing the functional aspects of our ILS needs (public access catalog, circulation reports, etc.). Given the scope and complexities of our multi-type consortial installation, we are trying to identify outside expertise to polish the specifications and assist with analyzing subsequent “vendor” proposals. We continue to expect that an open source solution will receive serious consideration. ALS technology staff have Koha loaded on a server and accessible to ALS staff for experimentation.

Great River Regional Library (GRRL) -- Kirsty Smith
GRRL website is being redesigned in-house
On April 30, the new website was launched to the public with a more modern style and a new emphasis on library services. A peak of the new website can be taken at: http://www.griver.org. The catalog will remain the same and events will continue to be powered by the Evanced system. The front page will refresh with new content as it is opened and no longer be static. The central feature on the main page will be in a carousel (a content scrolling mechanism) that refreshes in an apparently random way. The carousel will contain several stories. When patrons log on, any story may be featured, and they can move to any item in the carousel.

All work on the redesign was done in-house by a Virtual Services Team comprised of a graphics designer, the Virtual Services coordinator, the IT coordinator, the webmaster, and other interested staff. The new webpage was designed using Drupal, a free software package that allows an individual or a community of users to easily publish, manage and organize a wide variety of content on a website. More information about this program is available at: http://drupal.org/about

Local fundraising tops expectations
GRRL’s fifth High $5 Campaign took place March 1-31, 2009. High $5 was initially launched in 2005, as “entry-level” fundraising campaign. It was designed as a fun, easy, inexpensive way for people to begin showing their support of library services by making a small donation to the library. The first four campaigns (2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008) raised more than $32,000. Moreover, many past High $5 donors became repeat donors. Overall, the 2009 campaign raised $15,586.21 through 1,382 individual gifts. This number of gifts represented more than a 70% increase from the previous year and the highest number of gifts in the campaign’s 5-year history. More than 100 patrons gave gifts of $25 to $100.

Lake Agassiz Regional Library (LARL) -- Kathy Fredette
New server
A new automation system server, that LARL/NWRL will jointly use and pay for over the next three years, was installed on Feb. 22nd. It was apparently good timing. The old server was on its last leg and started acting very unreliably – deleting valuable data at random.

Animated children’s books online
Youth Services recommended, the Coordinating Team concurred, and we’ve subscribed to a new children’s database product. Tumblebooks features 300 picture books narrated in several languages as well as games and
puzzles for young children. New titles are added quarterly. This is a nice replacement for the book & cassette units that we’re withdrawing from the collection.

**Budget Shortfalls**

At the February Executive-Finance Committee meeting, a decision was made to reduce service in Norman and Polk Counties due to 2009 Budget shortfalls. This was a difficult decision for the Board but one based on the LARL Agreement which says: “Should any party approve lower than its just share of the approved budget while other parties exceed the minimum appropriations, library service to that area may be reduced accordingly so as not to restrict the development of library services in the remaining areas”.

The 2009 Budget shortfall in Clearwater County were not dealt with at this time as Clearwater County is also below the State Minimum Level of Support for the second year in a row - which could necessitate even more drastic reductions in service. I attended the Clearwater County Commission meeting on March 17th to discuss their situation and was told they approved the 2008 minimum amount in late March. A check for back payment should arrive this week. Now to work on 2009!

**The Flood of 2009**

We certainly had an interesting way of celebrating World Water Day! In 2009, the focus of World Water Day (March 22nd) was to be on “…transboundary waters: sharing water, sharing opportunities.” It started on Sunday, March 22nd when an evening custodian discovered water gushing into the Regional Office (basement of the Moorhead Library), due to a frozen drain pipe on the outside of the building. It didn’t stop until ten days later (April 2nd) when the library building was no longer in danger of flooding from the Red River. In that interim almost all our branch libraries and LINK Sites were impacted to varying degrees based on either flooding or severe weather conditions. Some of you’ve been through floods but this was my first one of such a magnitude. I never realized a flood could go on for so long!

Once a decision was made not to move the Moorhead Library at this time, the City of Moorhead authorized $64,000 for a remodeling project, which involved converting a large staff workroom area to public computer space. As part of this, the City spent $17,298 for computers & software, $12,949 for computer tables and chairs, about $4,000 on modular furniture parts and pieces, and additional funds are forthcoming for taller workstation stools. Overall cost of the remodeling project is about $103,000. This doesn’t include funds the City spent to repair the roof and paint through the building.

**Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA) -- Chris Olson**

**Update on Discovery Tool Project**

The Phase One library systems, (Dakota, Ramsey and Saint Paul) have been working with AquaBrowser since mid January on the first stage of the implementation. Dakota and Ramsey recently received access to their test sites (St. Paul was delayed due to hardware issues) and will review and make modifications for approximately 45 days while AquaBrowser continues to add functionality and custom features to the sites. Despite a sometimes frustratingly slow pace by AquaBrowser, progress continues to be made each week, with final implementation anticipated later this spring.

Throughout the setup process, the three systems collaborated on a shared configuration with the goal of making the search and discovery experience as consistent as possible for MELSA library users (systems will retain their own visual elements of their sites—logos, colors, etc.). This process and setup will be shared with ACL, CCL, SCL, and WCL which should result in a faster and more streamlined implementation for the Phase Two systems.

At the same time, MELSA libraries are individually working with Serials Solutions to begin setup of 360 Search, the federated searching tool purchased in early January. Implementation of this tool will occur prior to, or coincide with, the AquaBrowser implementations, depending on the systems’ needs. As with AquaBrowser, systems will use a common configuration to keep the search experience for users as uniform, as possible.

We are also researching two other components of the discovery tool project: Syndetics ICE, an Indexed Content Enrichment product (libraries will evaluate this product during a 60 day trial in conjunction with their
AquaBrowser implementations), and a calendar product with local and aggregate events functionality (and other modules such as room reservations, etc.) that integrates with the AquaBrowser search process.

**Early Literacy Wheels Created by Saint Paul Public Library**
Saint Paul Public Library created a visual learning wheel for use by parents to teach literacy skills. The “Read Around Town” wheels were well-liked by the MELSA youth services team members. The team requested MELSA to purchase 5,000 of them for distribution throughout the metro area. SPPL recently was noted in the Pioneer Press for finding unusual ways to generate revenue for the library… and the MELSA purchase of these handouts (or as they were called in the article) was mentioned.

**NCIP and Downloadable Audio E-Books Purchased for Metro Libraries**
The MELSA Board of Trustees has agreed to provide dollars to each system to purchase the NCIP software. At the same meeting, the Trustees approved a metrowide contract to provide downloadable audio e-books for all of the MELSA libraries.

**Northwest Regional Library -- Barb Jauquet-Kalinowski**

**Overdues**
The NWRL Board, with a suggestion from our attorney, decided to include the statute for overdue materials (a label) in NWRL materials. We now have a couple of months of data to show if our new methods of notifying patrons of overdues is effective.

**Marketing**
We contracted with a marketing company to produce three professional radio ads.

**Programming**
We’re still working on consistency of individual library programming in regards to weekly, monthly and quarterly programming to include collaboration with other community agencies. Now that all libraries are open two nights a week until 8 p.m. and all but one library is open on Saturday, I want them to add evening storytimes and family nights to the mix. Those libraries that have already implemented evening storytimes are finding them successful.

**Plum Creek Library System -- Mark Ranum**

**Sirsi Dynix**
PCLS has negotiated a revised contract and payment structure with Sirsi based on the changeover from EPS/Rooms to eLibrary. We successfully made the move of the catalog and are creating a new front end with PCLS staff. We are also transitioning to email notification for holds and overdues.

**Staffing and Budget**
We continue the practice of staff taking one day per month leave without pay. This is voluntary and all staff are participating. Combined with draconian budget cuts in other areas, we have balanced the FY2009 budget. I took a voluntary step away from employee status and took a voluntary pay reduction. This move will save a total of 28% in the Director salary and benefits line for FY2010. My projection is that status quo benefits and salaries for FY2010 and no reduction in hours for any staff, PCLS will have about a 5% deficit in our FY2010 operating budget. That equals around $30,000. We will have a projected $60,000 in reserves going into FY2010, which I expect we will use to cushion the impact of next year’s cuts. I do think we will reduce delivery, currently 3 times per week for all libraries, to 5 times every two weeks (Mon, Wed, Fri on week one and Tue, Thu on week 2). That move will save $7,000. The “one day per month” leave without pay option will only save $10,000 in FY2010 if we continue that program.

We will probably use all of the PCLS reserves to avoid any staffing reductions. We will also have to see if the PCLS Counties are willing to start providing infrastructure funding directly to PCLS.

**Pioneerland Library System -- John Houlahan**

**Tri-County West Law Agreement**
Chippewa, Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle counties are looking at ways to expand their county law libraries’ services to three public libraries: Granite Falls, Montevideo and Madison. The counties through
contracts with the State Law Library would provide these three libraries online access to West Law.
Pioneerland already contracts with Kandiyohi County to operate that county’s law library.

**PLS Might Not be Real; But We Are Really Original !!!!**
Minitex’s February Newsletter has listed Pioneerland in the top 10 in the region for 2008 in creating original records for WorldCat. With 574 original items, Pioneerland ranked #9 just ahead of South Dakota State

Following are selective samples of recent news from around the PLS Region:
The Dawson Library cooperated with the Dawson-Boyd Schools in the Community Reading Program and in the Fireside Reading program for elementary students. The 2009 featured book for the Community Read was ‘The Story of Edgar Sawtelle.’

The Hector Friends of the Library are co-sponsoring ‘Turn Off the TV Week’ from April 20th through the 26th. Activities include Chess Night with the Boy Scouts, Board games with the Girl Scouts, Pizza with the Pals Preschool program, and Story Hour sponsored by Kiwanis with the local Mayor, a fireman and an EMT reading stories. An ambulance and firemen’s gear will be on display as well.

As a reward to those who completed the Adult Winter Reading Program, the Hutchinson library hosted a dessert buffet with locally provided entertainment on Friday evening, March 27th. Seventy people attended, having read 12 books during the three months of the program. A total of 120 readers were eligible. Friends of the Hutchinson Library provided the funds for the event.

William Kent Krueger, author of the Cork O’Connor mystery series, will be speaking at the library on Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 pm for the annual "Meet the Author" series held during National Library Week.

The Maynard library will be meeting with students from MACCRAY’s Adult Learning Program to discuss "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian". The books were received through a grant from the American Library Association and Oprah’s Angel Network.

The library has applied for an LSTA grant in the amount of $48,684 to help fund a Media Center which will be located in the lower level of the Ortonville library. While waiting for additional funding the library has formed a partnership with SW MN Private Industry Council/Workforce Center to open a ‘mini’ media center. Workforce staff will be at the library the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. beginning on April 7th. Computers to be used in the lower level were provided by the Workforce Center, Adult Basic Education, and a private individual. The Ortonville Economic Development Agency will pay for the wiring of the computers.

Willmar Library and PLS administration are working together to bring Vicki Myron, author of the best seller *Dewey* to Willmar. Tentative date is June 4th. Three Willmar residents are featured in the book: Jean Clark of PLS admin staff, Doris Armstrong retired Spencer Library employee and myself.

**Southeastern Libraries Cooperating (SELCO) -- Ann Hutton**

**Technology Update**

- SELCO is focusing on a variety of technology topics:
  - AquaBrowser Implementation Update – Waiting on AquaBrowser to complete consortium programming
  - SirsiDynix Users Group Conference Report – Horizon enhancements coming in future upgrades, 7.5 and 7.5.1
  - SELCOtv Brainstorming – Online Library staff offer suggestions for our future TV programs
  - MnKnows – A new Minitex information portal and SELCO’s training plans around the region
  - What is Twitter and Why am I Hearing So Much About It? – You can follow several SELCO staff on Twitter.

**National Library Legislative Day Special**
- Ann Hutton joined the Minnesota contingent for National Library Legislative Day, May 11-12. Lobbying for libraries this year was Melissa Brechon, Carver County Library, Peter Pearson, Friends of the St. Paul Public Library, Dave Pointon, 3M and Mike Bloomberg, Augsburg College and MLA Federal Legislative Chair.
- Major topics this year and of interest for SELCO/SELS libraries:
  - LSTA – An annual favorite with lots of examples of good work
  - Broadband and Telecom – Keeping SELCO and the Online Libraries connected
  - Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act – Lots of concern about lead and children’s books
  - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – How can SELCO libraries benefit?

Special Consultants Project/Fundraising Workshop
- Three libraries will be hosting SELCO Special Consultants Mark Reidell and Lynne Bertalmio for a targeted two-hour workshop designed for library staff, trustees, and Friends and covering fundraising skills and strategies. The workshop will enable local decision makers to assess their specific situations, generate collective energy and enthusiasm, and develop an action plan.
- Mollie Pherson, Regional Librarian, is responsible for booking arrangements for the Fundraising workshop, as well as all the other Special Consultant projects. Contact Mollie at: mpherson@selco.info
- SELCO will host Camp Read-A-Lot, a fun-filled summer literature experience, on August 13 at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro for teachers, media specialists, and public library staff. For more information: http://campreadalot09.pbwiki.com/.

County Funding and Contracts
- The upcoming contract discussions between Rochester Public Library and Olmsted County may provide an opportunity to create a new county agreement for SELCO and the libraries receiving county funding. The current agreement is nearly 20 years old and includes outdated and ineffective language.
- The Wabasha County library directors met in Lake City on March 11 to discuss possible formulas for the distribution of the 2010 and 2011 county library funds. The goal of the group is to slightly shift distribution to more closely reflect the library use by rural residents.
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**Viking Library System -- Peg Werner**

Viking Library System upgraded its Horizon ILS to 7.4.2 and the HIP to 3.10. The upgrade went very smoothly, with only minor problems relating to third party software. Seven libraries used PC Reliance on the day we were down and those uploads were also largely clean. The only real issue seems to be the secondary beeps were configured to an incorrect speaker type… so all in all it appears to have been very successful.

The groundbreaking for the new headquarters building was held April 20th. Approximately 30 VLS Board and staff members, member library directors and staff and other regional dignitaries participated in a short program and symbolic ground turning. The construction company, JP Structures, has been given the go ahead to begin and we expect to move into to the building in late fall.

The Douglas County Friends of the Library have a new twist on fund-raising through cookbook sales. They spent several months accepting donations of used cookbooks and then staged a Cookbooks-Only Used Book Sale. It was very successful and much easier than trying to publish your own. The Fergus Falls Public Library picked up on the idea and held their own soon afterward.

For twelve years VLS has provided rotating collections of large print books, audio books and videos/movies. Libraries received new packets once per month by paying an annual subscription fee. The fee is for both staffing the service and updating the collection. The time has come to end two of the collections, large print books and videos, and the staff will be dispersing the collection through a free give-away to the member libraries. The audio book collection is still going strong and will continue as a fee-based service.

Submitted by Chris Olson, Regional System Libraries Representative

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**University of Minnesota Coordinate Campus Libraries Report**

**Bill Sozansky, Director, University of Minnesota, Duluth**

**June 5, 2008**

*University of Minnesota Morris Briggs Library*

The Rodney A. Briggs Library Associates, the UMM library friends organization, completed another successful year. In addition to the annual collection enrichment grant designated in 2009 for ancient history materials ($1000 for an area of the collection that needs new and additional resources) and enhancement grants (awards given to individuals and groups whose applications for particular titles or groups of titles) the Associates are sponsoring a student research competition for proposals that would either utilize or augment the library/UMM archives in honor of the upcoming 100 year anniversary of the West Central Minnesota Agricultural School and the 50 year anniversary of UMM. The library continues to add to the UMM Digital collections, utilizing ContentDM, as we digitize the WCSA and UMM yearbooks. Briggs librarians are in the process of developing or updating our various collection development policies. Finally, along with all UMM departments and units, we are facing the challenging task of reducing the library budget for the next biennium.

Submitted by

LeAnn Dean, University of Minnesota, Morris Library Director

*University of Minnesota Duluth Library*

UMD Library in partnership with the Friends of the Duluth Public Library and the Lake Superior Writers will be hosted the 21st annual Northeastern Minnesota Book Awards (NEMBA). Annette Atkins was the featured...
speaker at the awards ceremony on Sunday May 17th and she did a writer’s workshop on Saturday May 16th at the UMD Library for Superior the Lake Writers. See http://www.d.umn.edu/lib/nemba/index.htm for a listing of all nominees and winners. We continue to work on the premise that we will have an 8% budget cut. While the faculty understands that the library needs to make cuts, it is very difficult to sell them on what needs to be cut in their respective areas.

Submitted by Bill Sozansky, University of Minnesota, Coordinate Campus Representative

State Government Libraries Report
Karla Gedell, Minnesota Attorney General Library
June 5, 2009

CALCO Activities
Several CALCO librarians plan to attend the June 5 Copyright Workshop with Dorothea Salo, Digital Repository Librarian for the University of Wisconsin system’s digital repository. The workshop is sponsored by the Health Sciences Libraries of Minnesota (HSLM). In the afternoon, Ms. Salo will meet with CALCO librarians to answer their specific questions.

CALCO libraries are now represented in groups available on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Attorney General Library – Anita Anderson, Law Librarian
The A.G. Library celebrated National Library Week with their 15th Annual Open House on Thursday, April 16. This year’s theme was “Putter Around the A.G. Library,” complete with a 4-hole mini-golf course through the stacks. We grew real and added golf balls and tees for table decorations. We lost count of the number of who completed the course, collected their prize, and enjoyed refreshments.

Lights-Camera-Action! On May 29, the A.G. Library served as the set for a TruTV (formerly Court TV) “Forensic Files” interview with staff attorney Bill Klumpp. Bill was the lead prosecutor in the trial of the killer of state park worker Carrie Nelson, who was murdered in 2001 at Blue Mound State Park in Luverne, MN. A DNA hit was finally found in 2007, and the killer was sentenced in 2008. The segment will be aired in 7-8 months.

Dept. of Employment & Economic Development Library (DEED) – Dru Frykberg, Senior Librarian
Brooke Butler-Roegge will join the Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development in the newly created position of Information Officer 3/Digital Specialist. Her first day is June 17. Half of Brooke's time will be spent working on DEED Library projects to help lead the library into the Web 2.0 world. She will also oversee the department's Web site and Intranet.

Brooke was most recently a technical services assistant for the Warren E. Burger Law Library at William Mitchell College of Law where she helped create the Rwanda Documents Project. She's also worked as a library specialist for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Brooke is awaiting her MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Legislative Reference Library – Robbie LaFleur, Director
Each year at the Legislature brings different and remarkable circumstances and surprises. This year is no different! We are happy that the cuts to the Library’s budget are less than we feared several months ago. The LRL staff are enjoying a bit of relative quiet, except for Betsy, who has valiantly been keeping up the library’s new and improved veto pages. http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/Vetoes/Vetoes.asp A few weeks ago we noticed that we had a number of clippings and other materials on unallotment, and thought we should compile them in a notebook. With the governor’s decision, that little project got top priority!

We started a LRL Twitter feed and found the experience very instructional and useful. Our postings were nearly always picked up and retweeted, and we even answered a few reference questions by Twitter.
And even though we don’t heavily promote its existence, we now have 141 followers (including "Fluffy the Vulture").

In the next months we will help staff members in legislative offices and in particular, the Legislative Auditor’s Office, move forward with studies and reports. We will read all of the laws passed this session and note new reports required by the Legislature. We are moving into the heavy project season. We are planning an internal electronic clipping database, moving forward from our years of paper clipping files. The purpose, as it has always been, is to ensure that users of our library, long into the future, will turn to us for information on legislators and the legislative issues facing our state. We are also planning enhancements to our Legislators Past & Present database.

**Minnesota Historical Society – Sarah Quimby, Library Processing Manager**

The Minnesota Historical Society has been selected as one of 21 formal partners to test the upcoming release of Resource Description and Access, a new cataloging code that is intended to replace AACR2. The goal of the test is to evaluate the operational, technical, and economic feasibility of implementing RDA. The test is coordinated by a steering committee composed of representatives from the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agricultural Library.

Unfortunately, it has been a difficult quarter for the Minnesota Historical Society. Cuts to the Society’s state funding in addition to a projected shortfall in private donations forced the Society to issue layoff notices to 94 full- and part-time employees and reduce the hours of many others, in addition to closing three historic sites and reducing the hours of eight more. The library will have the hours that it is open to the public reduced to 32 after July 1. Cuts to library programs include the reference department, which will be merged with the collections department, and the microfilm lab, which will no longer film newspapers or serials due to the loss of most of the microfilm staff. The effect that these cuts have will have on interlibrary loan, the newspaper collection, and service to library patrons remains to be determined.

**Mn/DOT Library – Sheila Hatchell, Director**

The library held an open house April 21st in honor of National Library Week, and had 200-250 visitors, including our Commissioner and other managers. Our “Itching for Information? Contact the Mn/DOT Library” backscratchers were a big hit.

The library has been adding materials to our collection to update standard engineering tools and to support the departmental strategic directions of Safety, Innovation, Leadership, and Transparency. We have been busy weeding the collection to make room for the new materials.

Olive Nerem retired from the library on April after 14 years of service. Barb Hogan, who was laid off from the library in 2007, has returned to the library and is our new Interlibrary Loan Technician.

The library created a Business Plan in 2008 and recently completed Phase 1 which included updating the collection, hiring a new librarian, and conducting focus groups to learn how we can improve library services. We recently received support to move forward with Phase 2 of the Plan which will enable us to develop a marketing plan, develop a Library Advisory Board, evaluate new technologies for providing library services, assist our Commissioner in developing Transportation Knowledge Networks for specialized interests of transportation practitioners, and re-evaluate our space needs.

Library Director Sheila Hatchell was on a panel for a presentation at the American Planning Association and presented on Transportation Web Sites For Planners.

**Minnesota State Law Library – Daniel Lunde, Head of Outreach Services**

Barbara L. Golden, Minnesota’s State Law Librarian since 2002, will retire on June 9th. In addition to serving as the State of Minnesota’s 25th State Law Librarian, Barb worked at the State Law Library from 1983 until retirement, first as Head of Outreach Services and later as Electronic Services Librarian. Barb also served as Head of Public Services at the Hennepin County Law Library (1976-83) and as Librarian at the University of Nebraska, Omaha (1971-1976).

Ms. Golden has led a distinguished career. She co-authored the first edition of Minnesota Legal Research, an indispensable resource for Minnesota legal researchers. Barb also established and edited the essential journal resource, Minnesota Legal Periodical Index, and wrote several outstanding articles on law librarianship and the State Law Library.

An exceptional teacher of legal research, Barb served as an adjunct professor in the St. Catherine University’s Library and Information Science Masters Degree program; Minnesota Association of Law Libraries’ Legal Research Institute speaker and lecturer; Minnesota State Bar Association seminar presenter; primary coordinator of “Emerging and Innovative Ideas in Juvenile Law: A Symposium Celebrating 100 Years of Juvenile Courts in Minnesota;” as well as speaker and panelist at many other workshops and presentations.

Ms. Golden has been instrumental in promoting legislative efforts to fund and support state agency libraries’ online integrated library systems and capably served as past Chair of the MnPALS Deans & Directors Group.

As an exemplary leader in law librarianship, both nationally and in Minnesota, Barb received numerous local and national awards, including the MALL Law Librarianship Award, Minnesota Lawyer’s Unsung Heroes Award, and the AALL Bethany J. Ochal Award 2008 for distinguished service to the profession.

*Submitted by Karla Gedell, State Government Libraries Representative*
North Dakota Libraries Report
Doris Ott, North Dakota State Library
June 5, 2009

The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council and the North Dakota State Library held three “Think Tanks” to plan for the future of library services in North Dakota. The Think Tanks were held in Dickinson, ND on May 28; in Minot, ND on May 29; and in Fargo, ND on June 5. A total of 86 people attended.

Public library board members, librarians from all types of libraries, and the public attended the day long planning sessions to share their opinions, ideas, and expectations on what library services could look like in North Dakota in 2015. Issues that were addressed included the statewide library online catalog; updating the North Dakota Library Vision 2010 plan to 2015; and types of grants that could be a part of the next grant criteria.

The North Dakota State Library will be placing the resulting information on its web site. The compilation of ideas will contribute to the updating of Library Vision 2010 and for the Library Coordinating Council decision making for future grant opportunities.

Submitted by Doris Ott, North Dakota Representative

Minnesota State Community and Technical College
Ginny Heinrich, Minnesota State Community and Technical College
June 5, 2009

Minnesota State Community and Technical College (MSCTC) has cut two library assistant positions for next year. One on the Wadena campus and one on the Detroit Lakes campus. This will mean reduced hours for sure on the Wadena campus because the remaining library technician is only 3/4 time. On the Detroit Lakes campus there will probably be reduced hours also.

In regards to cutting databases, I am sure the MSCTC libraries will have to cut something. We did not update the ebook collection for next year and we will probably be dropping CINAHL and possibly another database or more.

Last year when MSCTC was not as worried about funding as this year, each campus library budget was cut $5,000.00. This year, I do not know what to expect and probably will not know until late July or mid August. The current (08-09) MSCTC Moorhead library budget is about $10,000.00 less than it was six years ago. I am not sure about the budgets other MSCTC campuses.

Perry Werner
MSCTC Moorhead Librarian

Minneapolis Community & Technical College (MCTC) has added Jennifer Sippel as a full-time unlimited librarian to the faculty librarians. Jennifer has been working for MCTC as a part-time temporary librarian for MCTC for two years prior to her full-time appointment, and she is a terrific addition to our staff.

We are exploring development of a volunteer program within the library. We have had a number of graduates from St. Kate’s come to us looking for various types of experience as well as other librarians who want to add or improve skills. We are focusing on the technical services area first, as this is the area where it is more challenging to find student workers.

We do not yet know our final budget, but we are cautiously optimistic that we will receive a $35,000 bump in our library non-personnel budget. Administration is reallocating funds around campus, and our dean has proposed that money that had been allocated as instructional supplies would be permanently reallocated to the
library. For the past two years, there have been left-over funds in this area that have been given to the library as one-time money. However, our dean recognizes that one-time money is not useful to support the leased content model growing in the library environment. This would make our non-personnel budget $210,000 for FY2010, which is still significantly under the funding for our peer institutions within MnSCU (Century and Normandale College), but a step in the right direction.

Ginny Heinrich
MCTC Librarian

General report regarding representation for the next term:
Two calls for nominations were sent out to the community college contacts for the next term on the Minitex Policy Advisory Committee, and none were received. I indicated that I was willing to continue as the community college representative, and will do so. I am honored to continue to represent everyone.

Submitted by Ginny Heinrich, Minnesota State Community and Technical College Representative