Reports included below are:

- State Universities, Joan Roca
- Greater Minnesota Public Libraries, Mary Lukkarila
- U of M Twin Cities Campus, Wendy Pradt Lougee
- Regional System Libraries, Chris Olson
- University of Minnesota Coordinate Campus, Bill Sozansky
- State Government Libraries, Karla Gedell
- Community Colleges, Ginny Heinrich
- Metro-Area Public Libraries, Patricia Conley
- Technical Colleges, Pat Akerman
- Private Colleges, Dan Gjelten

State Universities Report
Joan Roca, Minnesota State University, Mankato
September 11, 2009

Metropolitan State University - David Barton, Director
At Metropolitan State University, we are fortunate in at least three ways this fall semester:

- Official FYE 10th day enrollment is up 7.3% over last year.
- We are considering various pilot projects or special services to be funded by a $42,000 payment from the Library Endowment Fund.
- We have two new tech-savvy librarians, Martha Hardy and Alec Sonsteby, who are invigorating the rest of us with fresh ideas and perspectives.

Minnesota State University Moorhead – Brittney Goodman, Associate V.P & Dean
Our university’s budgets are later than usual in loading so I am not sure of the exact budget numbers at this time, but we are now spending more on electronic databases than books and are also cutting more periodicals. We had one paraprofessional staff retirement that is currently not scheduled to be filled (frozen position). Carol Sibley, Curriculum Materials Librarian, is on sabbatical Fall semester. We are undergoing a weeding project. We will be undergoing some HEAPR renovation projects beginning in January including outside tuckpointing and some work on our windows. Stacy Voeller, Electronic Resources Librarian, is in the incoming ALA Cognotes editor. The 30-year service of the Tri-College Film Library will come to an end at the end of this semester, and the video collections will be divided among the three schools. We want to salute Jane Krajecz for her years of service helming the film library.

Minnesota State University, Mankato – Joan Roca, Dean
The Library continues to implement budget reductions. One good thing in our budget, in spite of the cuts, is that we still have an inflationary increase in the materials budget. The student senate expanded its textbook checkout program on its second year now. They fund the textbooks that are placed on reserve in the library. It is a small but very successful program, as it makes available several copies of some of the most expensive textbooks. For the last fiscal year we experienced a 7.4% increase in visits to the library (or 52,000 additional visits). We had 25,000+ students/week during the peak periods of each semester. So far the switch of our catalog to the MnPALS Plus interface seems to go well despite some shortcomings that are being worked on. Most of the computers available for the public have been replaced this summer and all the screens now have 22” flat panels. All of these are funded through the technology fee. In a time of budget cuts and clouds looming in the horizon, we are still blessed with great support from the university and our library’s theme for the year is “think positive!”

St. Cloud State University – Ruth Zietlow, Associate Dean
We have reduced the library building’s hours by 4.5 hours a week, and are bracing for anticipated equipment cuts in the coming year. We are protecting our Collections budget as much as possible, though we have taken an $11,000 cut, which has been applied to both our monographic and electronic resources budgets. We are very excited to be one of 23 libraries selected to host the traveling NEH/ALA Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country Exhibit and sponsor a number of related events. The exhibit will be available on the second floor Reading Court of the Miller Center Library from October 15 through December 10, 2009. LR&TS is also
sponsoring events to fulfill another NEH/ALA grant entitled The Soul of the People. Events will explore the Depression era and the Federal Writers Project (FWP) from multiple cultural and historical perspectives. These events will run from September 16 through October 5, 2009. We are discussing H1N1 planning specifically within a library context. Over the summer, we were able to take one more step towards our larger space move plans by replacing cubicle furniture in our Collections area. Also over the summer three LR&TS faculty sponsored the 30th Annual Children’s Literature Workshop at the St. Cloud Holiday Inn with 157 participants registered. We were able to upgrade our gate counting software in July. This will provide us with more detailed information on our facility’s use. The SCSU Library now has a Facebook page. After logging into your Facebook account, go to: http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Saint-Cloud-MN/St-Cloud-State-University-Library-in-the-Miller-Center/110361173074?ref=mf

Southwest Minnesota State University – Kathleen Ashe, University Librarian
We redesigned the Library’s Home page adding the MnPALS Plus search box. We have also added short video tutorials and a chat box for reference questions. The Library received a $50,000 reduction in the FY10 budget with the stipulation that it not be taken out of acquisitions. Our federated search service was cut, reductions were made in the maintenance and supplies lines, and duty days cut from adjunct positions resulted in closing the Library on Saturdays, our least busy day. Additional cuts were made in print subscriptions in order to make funds available to purchase monographs. This year we will continue work on our website to improve the organization of the information, re-write pages, and add new where necessary.

Winona State University – Thomas Bremer, Dean
Nothing to report at this time other than the anticipated budget reductions I wrote last time actually happened.

Submitted by Joan Roca, State Universities Representative

Greater Minnesota Public Libraries Report
Mary Lukkarila, Director, Cloquet Public Library
September 11, 2009

Cloquet Public Library - Mary Lukkarila, Library Director
The Cloquet Public Library continues to make improvements to the library. The library’s foundation is investing in large screen televisions and blu-ray dvd players for the meeting rooms and making energy efficiency changes to the library’s electrical system. Our electrical utility, Minnesota Power, is offering substantial rebates to make the changes. The estimated payback is 4.5 years.

Duluth Public Library – Carla Powers, Library Manager
Duluth Public Library is preparing for a sizeable grant from the Gates Foundation. Duluth will receive 50 computers over the next two years -- 28 at Main, 14 at the Mt. Royal Branch, and 8 at West Duluth. They are in the midst of figuring out where to put them in each building and how to raise the required matching funds. The Friends group and Foundation are talking about doing a joint fundraiser, but so far they haven't worked out the details.

The annual Kaleidoscope programs attracted a large audience again this summer, with a total of 3658 children attending eight shows in July. Performances included a comedy and juggling act by Cheney and Mills, music by Hans Mayer, magic and comedy by Jerry Frasier, and a juggling and comedy routine by Truly Remarkable Loon. The programs were made possible with assistance from the Friends of the Library, the Port of Duluth Kiwanis, and the Arrowhead Library System.

Other than that, the library staff is just trying to keep afloat. It's unlikely that any new staff will be hired anytime soon, so frontline staff will work to come up with ideas for how to restore library hours with the number of staff currently in place.

Grand Marais Public Library – Linda Chappel, Library Director
Grand Marais Public Library remodeled their library to create a quiet reading room. The project cost $10,000.

Rochester Public Library – Audrey Betcher, Library Director
Rochester Public Library is continuing its online homework assistance program, but moved to Brainfuse rather than Tutor.com. The library has completed its cuts for 2009 which includes holding two full-time positions open and cutting one capital improvement project. Library employees will begin a furlough program starting October 9th and going through 2010 where they will be taking 96 hours off. The library had a summer intern conducting a data analysis of library card holder data compared with census data. They are working through what that means for better identifying the underserved.

Submitted by Mary Lukkarila, Greater Minnesota Public Libraries Representative

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities Campus Report
Wendy Pradt Lougee, University of Minnesota - TC
September 11, 2009

Recent Programs and Projects

HeLP MN Seniors
The Health Sciences Libraries, in partnership with the Minnesota Health Literacy Partnership and Boutwells Landing Senior Living Community in Oak Park Heights, MN, have been working on the HeLP MN Seniors project. The Health Sciences Libraries was awarded a subcontract from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Greater Midwest Region, to create the HeLP MN Seniors program, which aims to develop health literacy programming for seniors. In July focus groups were held to assess the information needs of the Boutwells landing residents, and classes are currently being developed for a two part workshop. Part one of the workshop is on clear communication with health care providers, and part two is on finding reliable health information online. Workshops will be held in September, October, and November 2009.

My Health Minnesota - Go Local
Over the months of June, July, and August, the My Health Minnesota Go Local database has grown by 305 records, for a total of 6548 approved records in the database. The Go Local database also underwent a software upgrade in May, which included the addition of a new Emergency Response module. The Emergency Response module allows Go Local database managers to post timely information on disaster preparation and recovery for events that happen in their region. When activated, the Emergency Response alert banner, which is linked to the Emergency Response page, will appear under the Go Local website’s header.

Health Sciences Libraries Exhibits
The Health Sciences Libraries exhibits at various conferences and local events to promote MedlinePlus.gov and My Health Minnesota Go Local, two free, reliable, consumer health information websites, as well as to promote HSL services. The HSL exhibited at the Minnesota Critical Access and Rural Health Conference June 15th-16th in Duluth, MN and also participated in the University’s apace at the Minnesota State Fair. Upcoming exhibits include the Many Faces of Community Health, a conference on reducing disparities and improving health in underserved populations, from October 22nd-23rd in St. Louis Park, MN. The HSL will be exhibiting in conjunction with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Greater Midwest Region, at the 2009 Minnesota Library Association annual conference in St. Cloud, MN, from October 14th-16th.

Consumer Health Presentations
Michelle Brasure and Anne Beschnett, both of the Health Sciences Libraries, have conducted several presentations on finding reliable consumer health information online. Michelle and Anne developed and presented Reliable Health Information Online: Where to Look and What to Look Out For, a webinar offered through Minitex. They also presented a session on finding reliable health information online at the Minnesota Branch Out Conference in Willmar, MN on August 4th, and will present Healthy Searching on the Internet: Finding Reliable Consumer Health Information at the 2009 Minnesota Library Association’s annual meeting in St. Cloud on October 14th.
Greening the Libraries
The Libraries have appointed a "Greening the Libraries" working group that will focus on efficient use of energy, supplies, and equipment with the goal of reducing our carbon footprint and improving our stewardship of resources.

A "place-based services" initiative
This initiative has developed a plan to reduce 13 service points in Wilson Library to 7, with the goals of improving user services and reducing the need to navigate multiple service point, providing more consistent and convenient hours for all place-based help services, increasing depth of staffing and providing consistent training at all service points, and making more efficient use of library specialists' time by moving them away from walk-in service point in favor of an expanded referral system. Implementing these changes is underway.

Information Literacy Toolkit
The Information Literacy Toolkit is intended to help our librarians increase their knowledge of information literacy, share best practices, and facilitate creating high-quality learning materials. The toolkit includes sample lesson plans, worksheets, PowerPoint presentations, and more. https://wiki.lib.umn.edu/AP/InformationLiteracyToolkit

Assignment Calculator beta
The Assignment Calculator breaks down research and writing projects into manageable steps based on the due date. With the new Beta version, instructors can adapt their own assignment from a bank of existing assignments (e.g. research paper, speech, video/media, lab report, etc.) or create their own from scratch. The beta is tied to the U of M authentication system, but librarians and others can take a look at it through the guest login (assigncalc@gmail.com) and password (Lk5hiievC). Stay tuned for an announcement about the release of the code. http://tools.lib.umn.edu/ac/

More online tutorials and recorded workshops: http://www.lib.umn.edu/research/instruction/modules/index.html
A new Patents and Patentability tutorial (http://www.lib.umn.edu/research/instruction/modules/eng/patent/) was created by the Science and Engineering Library staff, and we have begun to record and post our face-to-face workshops such as RefWorks and Zotero. Over 1,000 students took our Unravel the Library 2 workshop online last spring during the pilot period. Quiz scores were comparable to the in-person version of the workshop.

Peer Research Consultant Program
A University of Minnesota Libraries partnership with the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence and the SMART Learning Commons has resulted in the development and fall pilot of a Peer Research Consultant Program. This program ties together students preferences for getting help from their peers with their need to find good sources and build their library research skills. Based in the SMART Learning Commons, Peer Research Consultants (PRC) will meet one-on-one with students completing research assignments in the First Year Writing Program and other early writing courses. The PRCs have been recruited from a pool of diverse students with a strong academic record who have completed the WRIT 1301 course (or a similar course) with a grade of B or higher and who will undergo a rigorous training program in tutoring and research skills.

UThink Blog Upgraded to Enterprise Version
Working with the University’s Java and Web Services (JaWS), the Libraries successfully upgraded the UThink (http://blog.lib.umn.edu/) blog platform to Movable Type 4.25 Enterprise. This project also involved a major hardware upgrade to accommodate the extraordinary levels of use that UThink receives. UThink remains the largest academic blog system in North America and its level of use continues to climb.

Drupal Implementation for Main Libraries Web Site
In August the Libraries migrated its main web site (http://www.lib.umn.edu) to the Drupal Web Content Management System. The new site has built-in database capabilities for FAQ management, library workshop registration, and staff directory functions. The next phase of the project will involve migration of the Libraries’ numerous subdomains or sub-sites.

Drupal Module Software Development
Growing out of the software development work on the Mellon Foundation-funded EthicShare project https://www.ethicshare.org, the Libraries released the “Link Resolver Module” to the Drupal open source software development community. This module is expected to attract wide attention in the library technology community. It enables sites like EthicShare, which have multi-institutional user populations, to offer centralized search services with linking to full-text through the user’s institutional link resolver (e.g., “Find It” or SFX here at UMN). The module fully leverages the WorldCat Registry and its OpenURL Gateway service.

**Media Repository**
The alpha version of the Libraries new Media Repository, which supports the delivery of audio and video content in addition to traditional still images, was released in early August. Over 20,000 images and other objects have been loaded into this alpha version (http://chaucer.lib.umn.edu/). This system uses the open source Fedora digital object management system, along with Apache Solr for indexing and search, and Drupal for the web interface. An advisory committee is being formed to guide the longer term roadmap for the repository as a campus resource.

**Memorial Stadium History Project**
Accompanied by considerable media attention and publicity, the Libraries launched “Memorial Stadium 1924-1992,” online exhibit history site at: <http://brickhouse.lib.umn.edu/>. Watching enthusiasm grow as TCF Bank Stadium came to life inspired a group of University Libraries staff to explore how the rich archival resources and the digital technology expertise of the Libraries could be channeled to capture and share the history of old Memorial Stadium. The exhibit honors the history of Memorial Stadium with photos, game footage, programs, correspondence, reports, and blueprints from the University Archives’ collections and invites users to submit their own memories and photos of the old stadium. The site uses the Omeka online exhibit software platform, developed by the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University.

**Upcoming Events & Exhibits:** http://blog.lib.umn.edu/lib-web/events

*Inaugural Kirschner Family Lecture Featuring Jane Brody*
Who: Best-selling author and New York Times Personal Health columnist Jane Brody
What: The Inaugural Kirschner Family Lecture When: October 1, 2009 • 7:30 p.m. Where: Cargill Building. Free.

*Memories of Memorial Stadium*

*Celebrate Book Week with Susan Marie Swanson*
Who: Susan Marie Swanson, author of The House In The Night, 2009 Caldecott Award Book

*Selected Staff Appointments:*
Christine DeZelar-Tiedman, Interim Director of Technical Services
Heather Hessel, Interim Director of Library Enterprise Operations
Nancy Sims, Copyright Education Program Librarian
Todd Fenton, Director of InfoNow (corporate services)

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

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**Regional System Libraries Report**

Chris Olson, Director, Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA)

September 11, 2009

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**Arrowhead Library System - Jim Weikum**

ALS Delivery Van totaled

On March 31, the ALS Delivery Van was in an accident near Duluth. The ALS Van Driver...
received only very minor injuries, although a person in a vehicle that had a collision with the ALS Van was taken from the scene for observation. As a result of the accident, the ALS vehicle was declared a total loss. Fortunately, we had intended to replace the Delivery vehicle in 2009 and we had a replacement on the road within just a few days. The new vehicle is a Dodge Sprinter which is substantially larger than the previous Ford cargo vans.

**ALS Member Library Strategic Planning**
The consultant ALS engaged to conduct strategic planning processes for each of our member public libraries is wrapping up her work with her second “cluster” of libraries. Work with Cluster 3 will begin within just a few weeks. We are eagerly awaiting news as to how the process worked for the second group.

**Technical Services Librarian & Graphic Artist**
As a result of a consultant's recommendation for a major restructuring of how ALS organized almost all of Technical Services functions, ALS is actively seeking candidates for our vacant Technical Services Librarian position. We designed the position to be a two-year contract position. We’ve had a very limited response to ads announcing the vacancy. We are also reviewing applications from a large pool of candidates for the vacant Graphic Artist position.

**Great River Regional Library - Kirsty Smith**
Restructure:
On July 14, after lengthy discussion, GRRL Board members approved some parts of the proposed organizational restructuring plan. It also approved creating a new committee of Board, branch, and administrative staff to further study staff realignment alternatives and present a new (revised) proposal. The full plan called for staffing changes throughout the system and would have added 46% more library aide staffing hours and 21% more branch assistant staffing hours across the region, while reducing branch manager hours by 59%.

After reviewing general feedback from citizens throughout Central Minnesota, the Board approved the first phase that calls for restructuring headquarters and branch staff who work at St. Cloud Public Library. Before approving, however, the Board removed the proposed new volunteer coordinator and facilities specialist positions, saying those functions should continue to be carried out by branch staff or city staff.

Budget:
The Board met for a second time on July 21, to consider and approve the 2010 budget request. The 2010 final approved budget includes an operating budget of $8,395,100, down 2.335% from the 2009 operating budget. The 2010 capital budget will remain at $93,900, the same amount for 2009.

The Board’s approved budget preserves step increases for all staff, even though most GRRL signatory counties are not budgeting for staff salary increases. The approved budget also reduces open hours for just 4 GRRL branches, rather than 12 branches as originally proposed. The new budget is effective January 1, 2010.

Survey:
In other interesting information, GRRL management staff conducted a purposes survey in June 2009. Results indicate the top 3 purposes for which patrons use GRRL are arts and entertainment, learning support, and learning to read. These results will be incorporated into GRRL’s strategic plan for 2010-2012. This plan is currently being written. If anyone is interested in seeing the details on this survey, do let me know. I’m glad to share!

**Lake Agassiz Regional Library - Kathy Fredette**
Budget
LARL’s Preliminary 2010 Budget, which went to our 7 counties and 5 cities in June, asks for no increase from Signatories except for Clearwater and Mahnomen Counties which may need to go up about $5,000 each to meet State minimum. At this point, we don’t know how much health insurance will increase [budgeted a 10% increase] and the budget is balanced by taking $230,000 out of the operating reserve. That isn’t acceptable for the projected long-term so Board and staff are brainstorming ways to make reductions without (at this point) reducing staffing.
Personnel
LARL had a Finance/HR person for many years. When we had a change in staff I broke it into two positions with the idea of someone having more time to focus on staff training. That didn’t work out as planned so when the HR Director retired and the Finance person went to work for the IRS, the positions were once again combined. Jamie Sprynczynatyk, CPA, began May 18th as our new Director of Finance and Human Resources.

Fosston (pop. 1,500) has become our 4th highest circulating branch*, after Moorhead (pop. 32,000), Detroit Lakes (pop. 8,000), and Crookston (pop. 8,000). The Branch Librarian position was recently upgraded to supervisory and Tammi Jalowiec began in the position on July 6th. Tammi graduated from Fosston HS and holds a Journalism degree (BA) in Advertising from the U of M. Tammi was most recently serving as NW Regional Information Officer for the Minnesota DNR.

Technology
With implementation complete in Crookston the end of June, we now have 5 branches (including Detroit Lakes, Fosston, Mahnomen, and Moorhead) with self-check. Barnesville will have self-check by Sept. 1st. The 5 branches are averaging about 90% of check-out through self-check.

Automation staff completed a rollout of new kids’ computers and the number of kids’ (non-Internet) computers region-wide increased from 16 to 29. The computers are loaded with fun and educational games geared for youth ages 6 months to 10 years of age.

Facilities
The Moorhead Library remodeling project is complete and looks super! According to Anne Fredine, Hub Supervisor, the 20 additional public computers have been consistently in full use and staff report that they’re dealing with far fewer unhappy customers who have to wait for an available computer. The remodel involved taking about 1,000 sq. ft. of back workroom space and converting it into a public computer area (which is in addition to the Gates Training Lab). The City of Moorhead also fixed the roof and paid for interior painting. Total project cost was about $100,000.

The Barnesville Library will be closed Aug. 15th-31st for remodeling. The library space (3,000 sq. ft.) is being re-arranged to provide a slightly larger children’s area, re-arranged stacks, a reading/program room, slightly larger teen area, adding a coffee bar and installing self-check. The project is being paid for by the City of Barnesville, Friends of the Library, donations, and Library of the Future funding from LARL.

The Lake Park LINK Site moved on June 30th to a new location in the downtown professional building. The LINK Site was formerly in the Community Center and was getting more and more squished due to other functions and meetings in the building.

Metropolitan Library Service Agency/MELSA - Chris Olson
MELSA Begins Subscription to Downloadable Audio E-Books
On July 1, MELSA began paying for the subscription of downloadable audio e-books for its members via a contract with Recorded Books and NetLibrary. Several of the member libraries were already purchasing the collections: the MELSA support brings a metro-wide focus to the product. The current collection has approximately 2000 titles in it… of which approximately 800 are iPod compatible at this time. We have had two information articles in both metro newspapers… and will begin a larger marketing campaign in the next months to promote their use.

Update on Discovery Tool Project
The Phase One library systems, (DCL, RCL, and SPL) have been working with AquaBrowser since mid January on the first stage of the implementation. These three systems have received access to their test sites and continue to make modifications while AquaBrowser continues to add functionality and custom features to the sites. Despite a sometimes frustratingly slow pace by AquaBrowser, progress continues. In addition to the 360 Search (federated product) and the Syndetics ICE (the indexed content enrichment product), MELSA will be implementing the Evanced calendaring system for each member system… and create an aggregate calendar for the Twin Cities libraries. The calendar system will also be searchable through the new interface.
Homework Help Is Finally A Reality
After a year of delay, MELSA has signed a contract with Brainfuse to deliver a homework help services to local library users. A committee of youth services, public relations and technical staff has been meeting to create a brand, plan implementation, staff training, and evaluation for the program. In addition to the tradition homework help service (grades 3 – 12, Monday – Sunday, 10 hours per day), Brainfuse has a large set of skills building components, resume reviewing services, plus help with college entrance and citizenship test preparation. Our rollout in August will target middle school teachers and administrators; we will have promotional materials for school-age children at the beginning of September, and hope for a large media campaign in December.

And the Winner Is…
We received more than 70 entries in our Quiet on the Set film contest… a brand new initiative designed to tap into images and experiences that people associate with their public libraries. The 70 films were available for viewing this weekend at Minneapolis Central’s Auditorium and the Awards Gala was held on Monday evening at the Riverview Theatre (Free popcorn for the 550 attendees!). Each film is less than five minutes in length and must feature a MELSA library interior and library card. Comcast will place them on their On-Demand option for local viewing.

Workforce Development Project Begins on Metro Level…
MELSA has decided to place some of its new RLBSS dollars in a multi-year project to provide a strong workforce development program in each of its member libraries. While all of the libraries are doing some type of work in this area, the Advisory Board has agreed to have a new MELSA staff person (Melinda Ludwiczak will be a mobility transfer from Hennepin County) conduct a current program census/analysis of these existing projects. The proposed project would also find potential partnerships and suggest a sustainable program. Our most basic concept is that when you walk into a MELSA member library to try to find a job, you will have at least a basic common set of services provided.

Northwest Regional Library - Barbara Jauquet-Kalinoski
Branch Library Hours
Now that all NWRL Branch Libraries are open at least one night a week until 8 p.m. and Saturday’s, we’re planning additional programming to target patrons working outside the home. This consists of those who don’t arrive back in their respective communities until after 6 p.m. and/or work during the day. Story hours will be offered at 6:30 p.m. as well as Saturday morning and Family Nights at the Library will be implemented one evening every other week. With this change, all libraries will be consistent in offering evening/weekend hours, not just the larger libraries such as Thief River Falls.

Professional Performances
NWRL sponsors two region-wide programs during the Summer Reading Program and we’re receiving a larger than usual response this year. Attendance for the Zoo Man has been a low of 125 to a high of 686. Our Grand Finale is the magician Curtis Alan Hed’s Magic of Reading on August 12 and 13.

On the adult side, author Lourine Snelling toured NWRL libraries last week and received audiences from a low of 46 to a high of 146. A program titled “Most haunted Locations of Minnesota” is schedule for October 20-22.

Marketing
Our first professionally produced radio ad was aired in June with additional ones scheduled this fall and next winter (in conjunction with the Winter Reading Program). NWRL will also try billboard marketing this fall/winter. We’re also working on a campaign centered around the “From Awareness to Funding” study as well as the upcoming Family Nights at the Library.

2010 Budget
Our 2010 budget will be rather flat with only a step increase planned for salaries. The NWRL Board wants to be careful about asking for increases when cities/counties are decreasing their budgets.

Formula/MOE
I’m making individual visits to cities managers and county auditors to review the new MOE language as well as invite them to a meeting to develop a funding formula. It’s been a great chance for me to meet these people on an informal basis. Even though it eats up loads of time, it’s been worth it. Needless to say, I work many evenings/weekends to catch up with my work in the office.

Circulation
As with all of you, we’re seeing increases in circulation and library usage. I’ve also been studying circulation by community to become more familiar with traffic patterns. For example, in one community alone, residents use four libraries as their main library. While much of this is dependent on their place of employment, it will be interesting to see how it changes with the evening/weekend hours of our outlying branch libraries.

Pioneerland Library System - John Houlahan
A Big Salute to a Multitype... Yeah SAMMIE!!!
SAMMIE has announced that it is providing grants to PLS (and, also to Plum Creek) of $10,000 for a special project. PLS current PC lab is at the Benson Library. The library would like to reclaim the space for local purposes which in fact we support. The Sammie grant may be used to purchase laptops that PLS will use as the foundation for the mobile lab. If anyone has experience (good and bad) with mobile labs we would love to hear about them.

Kudos to our Maynard Branch
The Maynard Library successfully completed the Great Stories grant made possible by ALA and Oprah's Angel Network. Twelve kids from MACCRAY's Alternative Learning Program participated. Books read were "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" by Sherman Alexie, "Luna" by Julie Anne Peters, and "Black and White" by Paul Volponi. Librarian Gloria Sims was pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm that came from the students. They read each book and readily gave their opinions. Each book prompted good discussions and many of the students could relate to the characters in the books and to their problems. Snacks were provided during each book discussion. Although the teacher did sit in on the sessions he did not participate. It was necessary for him to be there, since one of the components of the grant was that each student that successfully finished the program received credit towards their English fulfillment. This successful program may be repeated next year or something similar may be created with Special Needs students

Kudos to Glencoe Branch
The Glencoe Branch is part of a $4.9 community building project that will house city offices, senior citizen center, the library and other related activities. The good news is the library space will nearly double to @10,000 square feet. The bad news is the project is converting an old school for these multi-purposes with the library being exclusively located on the second floor.

2010 Budget Proposal
Budget requests have gone out to cities and counties and we wait their decision. Final budget will be approved at the January 2010 Board meeting. Our budget is on a calendar year so I have to guess at the state dollars. The budget below doesn’t include our grants, special funds (endowments etc,) or telecommunications (RLTA and Telecom funds). These additional items would add another $750,000-$1,000,000 to our overall budget. Our 2010 request to cities and counties are the same as they were for 2009.

Southeastern Libraries Cooperating/SELCO - Ann Hutton
Technology Update
Credit card payments were initiated with the go-live launch for the Chatfield Brass Band and Music Lending Library (CBBMLL). Staff is working on processes that will enable SELCO to offer this service for all Online Libraries.

AquaBrowser introduced SELCO staff to a new implementation team leader and we have the general sense that work will progress more quickly. The AquaBrowser Working Group has diligently continued working on its tasks to implement the new catalog. We await programming by AquaBrowser and then will move into a beta testing with staff and public before a general public launch.

Special Consultants Project
Seven libraries have or will be hosting SELCO Special Consultants Mark Reidell and Lynne Bertalmio for a targeted two-hour fundraising workshop designed for library staff, trustees, and Friends. Nine libraries used the expertise of the PR & Marketing specialists and six sites are considering new programs or activities for young adults.

**Traverse des Sioux Library System - Dayle Zelenka**

**Budget Issues**
In recognition of the economic times, TdS held its fees to member libraries flat for this coming year.

**Programming**
Thanks to Jenny Jepsen of Martin Co. and Stacy Lienemann of Watonwan Co., Tds sponsored a “Battle of the Books”; a quiz-show format contest pitting 4-member teams of teens from the Southcentral area against one another in a contest of knowledge of six summer reading titles. It was widely attended, with each participating member going home with a $10 Barnes and Noble gift certificate, and the winning team receiving iPod Nanos and copies of each of the six books as well. Prizes were paid for with grant funds.

**Miscellaneous**
Thanks to Jeanne DeMars’ and Patty’s fine work in the past, Sirsi/Dynix chose TdS to be one of the subjects for their SaaS marketing video. Jeanne, Patty and I all have cameos. (The video can be viewed at http://www.sirsidynix.com/Company/video_saaS1.php.)

**Viking Library System - Peg Werner**

Nancy Alsop, Public Library Consultant for Viking Library System, will be retiring September 1, 2009 after 14 years of service. Nancy plans to move to her hometown of Bemidji and to enjoy her opportunity to read more.

After the Horizon upgrade this spring, VLS added email notification of notices and pre notification of materials due to its services. There were the usual issues to be resolved, but other than that the process was very smooth and the patrons have been thrilled with the added service.

The Viking Library System building continues on schedule. The slab has been poured, and the wood framing is up. We expect the roof trusses and windows in the next several weeks. The completion date is still mid-November.

The Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force work is intensifying at warp speed. I serve on two committees – Ubiquity and Speed – and they each meet at least twice a week. Thank heavens for GoToMeeting! The committees are writing sections of the report so we just share control of the screen and do the actual writing as we discuss the issues and recommendations.

After more than twenty-five years of service, the rotating collections of video/dvd and large print books have been eliminated. The service used to include all 11 member libraries and the bookmobile; however in 1997 the VLS Governing Board attempted to end not only these services, but also the rotating audio book collection. More than half of the libraries asked that the services be reinstated as subscription services paid for by the libraries. Membership has slowly fallen off over the last 12 years and two of the services have now ended. The collections were dispersed to the subscribers.

The Fergus Falls Public Library has done a particularly fine job of keeping the “library is busier than ever” story in the local newspaper and on the minds of the local citizenry. They have approached it from the patron with less money who needs the services side as well as the patron out of work who needs unemployment and job assistance angle. This kind of steady press release as information course requires much work, but in this case it appears to be very successful.

Submitted by Chris Olson, Regional System Libraries Representative
University of Minnesota Duluth Library Report – Bill Sozansky

Chancellor Kathryn A. Martin announced at the faculty welcoming breakfast that this would be her last year as UMD Chancellor. She was instrumental in gaining the funding for the UMD Library and has been an ardent supporter of the library. We will miss her leadership.

The UMD Library has recently acquired Springshare’s Lib Guides software for its library course guides and a second license for staff guides. Librarians and library staff really seem to like the flexibility and ease of use of this product.

The library is in the process of transitioning to Primo, Ex Libris’ faceted catalog, for its primary catalog. There will be a link on Primo to navigate to the classic version of the online catalog for those users that wish to continue to use it.

University of Minnesota, Crookston Library Report
No report

University of Minnesota, Morris Briggs Library Report
No report

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

State Government Libraries Report
Karla Gedell, Minnesota Attorney General Library
September 11, 2009

CALCO Activities
CALCO librarians and honored guests celebrated at their annual Summer Luncheon, held July 16 at Christos in St. Paul’s Union Depot. We celebrated Barbara Golden’s retirement as Minnesota State Law Librarian and Donna Davis’ August semi-retirement from the Department of Revenue Library.

Attorney General Library – Anita Anderson, Law Librarian
The Attorney General Library revised their print collection at the start of the new fiscal year. Subscriptions to four federal reporter sets were cancelled, but four sets of Minnesota Statutes Annotated were added, making sets available on each floor. Treatises on construction law, the uniform commercial code, corporation law, and depositions were also added. Books remain an integral part of our library collection.

The Attorney General Library will celebrate Constitution Day marking the landmark date of September 17, 1787 when the U.S. Constitution was signed by thirty-nine delegates. We will have handouts with a brief history of the Constitution on one side and a word search puzzle on the other. During the week, the library will have a display of Constitutional resources and special Constitutional Day chocolates. At noon on the 17th, AGO staff can bring a brown bag lunch and learn about the Constitution by watching one or two 25-minute videos. Library staff will provide popcorn.
DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LIBRARY (DEED) – Dru Frykberg & Brooke Roegge, Librarians

The DEED Library now offers agency staff chat reference via Meebo. The library is fielding about one chat reference question a day. Librarians are hopeful the service will catch on and chat widgets can be added throughout the agency's Intraweb site. Currently, users access chat from the library's Intranet homepage. The library is also on Twitter at twitter.com/deedlibrarian. Library tweets are geared toward regularly sharing information with agency staff, but the account is attracting non-DEED followers as well.

Also this summer, the library opened a seven-computer lab for staff and the public to use for collaborative and independent work and training.

FIRE/EMS/Safety Center Library – Mary Jo Kennedy, Librarian

As a result of budget reductions, librarian Gwen Schagrin's position has been eliminated. The Fire/EMS/Safety Center Library is now staffed by [solo] librarian Mary Jo Kennedy (maryjo.kennedy@so.mnscu.edu; 651-649-5415).

Legislative Reference Library – Robbie LaFleur, Director

At the Legislative Reference Library the new school year feels like a new legislative year. Even though the upcoming legislative session won't start until February 4, 2010, moving into fall means summer vacations are over and projects and session preparation move into higher gear. We've been working on internal projects, creating a news clipping database and creating webpages with detailed information on each legislative session.

As a result of a project with the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL), we have two more years of legislator photos scanned, from 1963 and 1981. See all the legislator photos digitized so far by the MDL at: http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=%2Flrl

On October 14-16, the Library will be hosting the National Conference of State Legislatures Legislative Research Librarians Professional Development Seminar. With the bad economy and travel bans in many states, the group will be under twenty - but enthusiastic! The sessions will deal largely with the effects of technology and new media on legislative libraries.

From October 4-10, Robbie LaFleur will be attending a week-long study tour of libraries and archives in Germany sponsored by the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation in Berlin. The group will be 12 parliamentary and law librarians.

Minnesota Historical Society – Sarah Quimby, Library Processing Manager

To serve visitors better in the midst of a reduction in the Minnesota Historical Society's operating budget, hours for the library will change to reflect highest demand visitation times.

Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 8, new hours will be:
- Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.;
- Wednesdays through Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.;
- Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 4 pm.; and
- Sundays, Noon – 4 p.m.

Closed Mondays and holidays.

Kathryn Otto, former Head of Reference at the Minnesota Historical Society Library, is now a Legacy Grants Project Specialist at MHS. In this outreach position, Kathie assists organizations statewide, including libraries doing history-related projects, in developing Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund grant project proposals. Projects
should incorporate the goal of continued preservation of Minnesota's historical and cultural resources. For more information, see the local history legacy grants webpage at http://www.mnhs.org/legacy. Become a fan on Facebook! See http://tinyurl.com/lej2nc. The Facebook page will soon include workshop schedules and grantee project descriptions.

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

Mn/DOT Library conducted four focus groups of library users including two groups of technical experts (engineers), one group of non-technical users, and one group of external to Mn/DOT library users. Results were synthesized and are informing future direction for the library. The library is exploring the use of E-Reader technology as a convenient and compact way to provide users with portable access to PDF documents and/or select featured books. So far the Sony e-Reader and Kindle DX readers have been explored and we are evaluating their usability and how they can meet our needs. More to come…

Qin Tang and Sheila Hatchell attended the Special Libraries Association Conference in Washington D.C. in June. Appended to this conference was the first all-Transportation Knowledge Networks conference, a day-long planning meeting of transportation librarians from around the country. We visited the National Transportation Library and the Transportation Research Board, National Research Council Library. Karen Neinstadt attended the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago in July where she participated in vendor-sponsored presentations and meetings, attended author readings and signings, walked the exhibit floor, and toured the Encyclopedia Britannica Headquarters. It was an overwhelmingly educational event and provided valuable insights to adapt some new ideas for the library.

Sheila presented Mn/DOT Library’s business plan (creation of the plan, the plan itself, and an update on current and future activities) during a Webinar broadcast to transportation libraries around the world.

Karen, Sheila, and Qin staffed Mn/DOT’s State Fair Booth, where they handed out “Roundabouts-on-a-Stick (no calories!)”, demonstrated an audible pedestrian crosswalk for the visually-impaired, handed out lots of state highway maps, and answered questions on construction projects, MnPASS, Bikeways, Northstar Commuter Rail, and other current events. One often-heard complaint was that people really missed our outside exhibit with the Mn/DOT snowplow!

Jim Byerly spent part of the summer working with a consultant to purchase new books to update our collection. Pam Gonzalez has been busy working on preparations for the contract to bid for our periodicals subscriptions service, and Barb Hogan has been busy learning interlibrary loan and copy cataloging procedures.

**Minnesota Revenue Library – Donna Davis, Senior Librarian**

Librarian Donna Davis has elected a post-retirement option and is now at the Revenue Library every other day. Keep those requests coming in!

Once again the Revenue Library will be having a Used Book/Media Sale in October (date TBD). It’s a fun event where Revenue staff donate their gently used books (from children’s to history & how to), videos, DVDs, CDs, and jigsaw puzzles from their homes. Everything goes for bargain prices and everyone gets a new supply of items to read, view, and listen to this winter. All the proceeds are donated to the department’s Combined Charities campaign.

**Perpich Center for Arts Education (PCAE) Library – Jeanne Iverson, Director**

For the first time ever, the Perpich Center had a booth in the Education building at the Minnesota State Fair. Here is an experience librarian Jeanne Iverson had recently using Minnesota Video Vault:

“A woman from Dallas, Texas called the Perpich Center Library to ask if she could check out the video ‘Swan Lake, Minnesota,’ which apparently no other library in the country has available for check out from their collection.

She saw this production years ago and has always wanted to see it again. She has remained friends with someone in the Dallas dance community, a dancer, to whom she mentioned this production multiple times because she always wanted to share it with her. In the past year, the dancer friend was diagnosed with cancer and went into an alternative treatment program group for it. She was the only one in the group who recovered and went into remission. So … the friend who called the Perpich Center decided to renew her efforts in locating ‘Swan Lake, Minnesota’ so she could share the viewing of it as a gift in celebration of the dancer’s remission!
The woman went to her local library and found it with some reference assistance (WorldCat, I suppose) and from there she was able to get my contact information to call and inquire if there was any way if she could borrow it from us.

I knew the video was produced by TPT and about the time she asked for it from this Library, the Video Vault was available. After one quick search I found the complete ‘Swan Lake, Minnesota’ show on Video Vault. Needless to say, we had one very happy library customer in Texas after she received the link to this great resource!”

R. N. Barr Library – Paul Elliott Dahl, Director
EFTS Grant Award Recipient
The Barr Library applied for and has received a EFTS (Electronic Fund Transfer System) Grant Award from the Greater Midwest Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. The $200 grant award will be deposited directly to the Barr Library’s EFTS account. The transaction-based electronic billing system of EFTS replaces the paper-based billing system employed by NTIS (National Technical Information Service) for the National Library of Medicine. The move to EFTS was made expressly to remove a more cumbersome and time-consuming paper way of billing to save a small amount of money.

Executive Committee Chair
Paul Dahl, Library Director of the Barr Library, has accepted leadership responsibilities as the Executive Committee Chair of the MnPALS Consortium for 2009-1010.

Pick of the Week
The number of subscribers to the Barr Library’s Pick of the Week has now topped 1,500. Pick of the Week provides a weekly listing of important articles, electronic resources (news items, online articles, reports), a recommended book, and a recommended video in the area of public health each week. Weekly entries to Pick of the Week are available at http://www.health.state.mn.us/library/archives.htm.

Submitted by Karla Gedell, State Government Libraries Representative

Community Colleges Report
Ginny Heinrich, Minnesota State Community and Technical College
September 11, 2009

The MSCTC Wadena and Detroit Lakes campus libraries each lost a library assistant position this fall leaving one library assistant at each campus. Now the hours are shorter and the libraries basically open just during the day. In October, the Wadena campus library will open at 10:30 on Wednesday and stay open until 7:30. The Detroit Lakes campus closes for 1/2 day on Friday and the Wadena campus is closed all day on Friday.

Perry Werner
MSCTC Moorhead, Wadena, Detroit Lakes librarian

Minneapolis Community and Technical College came through the budget process into FY10 doing well. We saw a $35,000 increase in our materials budget, the first real increase we've seen in about 10 years, for a total materials budget of $210,000. We’re still quite a bit below our peer institutions within MnSCU, but definitely a step in the right direction. We did not lose any staff members, and thanks to our for-credit teaching program in information literacy, we have been able to hire three librarians into part-time adjunct positions: Amanda Mills, Preeti Gupta, and Jane Littlefield. We increased our class sizes by 1-2 people, to 28 or 29 students, and filled 12 sections.

First two week circ statistics show significant increases over last year's numbers (view with a fixed width font like Courier New if the columns don't line up):

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If you averaged our circ stats on Wednesday, September 2 out over the 14 hours we're open, that's one circ transaction every 2 minutes, 15 seconds. Who says library use is down? Overall campus enrollment is up 12%, and library use grows every year.

Over the summer, MCTC Library also implemented a Fan Page on Facebook, and a page on MySpace. Become a fan, or friend us! We continued Our View From the Park, our live streaming Internet radio show on BlogTalkRadio, and on September 4, had State Rep. Marsha Swails (DFL-district 56B) as our guest. You can listen to the archived show at: http://www.blogtalkradio.com/MCTC-Library/2009/09/04/Our-View-From-the-Park

Submitted by Ginny Heinrich, Community Colleges Representative

Metro-Area Public Libraries
Patricia Conley, Director Washington County Public Library
September 11, 2009

Budgets are tight and getting tighter. Some systems have reduced hours; others have eliminated vacant positions and/or laid off staff. But on a brighter side, there is a new library director in St. Paul; the Hennepin-Suburban library catalog was very successfully merged with the Hennepin-Minneapolis library catalog which was a gargantuan task; and, demand for library services in the Twin Cities has not abated.

Anoka County Library
Gates Foundation Grants: Anoka County Library (ACL) has been notified it is eligible for a $16,250 Opportunity Online hardware grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help provide free, high-quality access to computer workstations at Mississippi Branch in Fridley. The two-year Opportunity Online hardware grant program will provide funding to replace computers at the library, as well as for advocacy training. The grant program is focused on helping libraries that serve populations most in need and vulnerable to having their technology services become obsolete. ACL must find funding to supplement the grant by an additional $9,750 over the two year grant period.

Open Hours Change: Open hours of service at all ACL branches were reduced beginning Sunday, May 3. The change represents a 13-percent decrease in hours for the library system and is in relation to reductions in funding to county governments.

Though the number of open hours is being reduced system-wide, the hours are consistent across all ACL buildings and are designed to be easy-to-remember and convenient for the majority of library users. For more information on the hours check www.anoka.lib.mn.us.
**Carver County Library – Janet Karius, Assistant Director**

Carver County Library Continues to Spread “Go Green” Message…

In 2008-2009, Carver County Library (CCL) embarked on a collaborative project with School Districts 112 and 111 and the Carver County Environmental Center to have tweens and teens create “Go Green” videoed messages to be hosted on YouTube courtesy of a Community Powers grant. [This grant will be featured at the 2009 MLA Conference as one of the projects in the “Putting the You in YouTube session. In 2009-2010, CCL will continue to spread this message, but will do it with programming and messages that hit the broader market. Videoed messages are projected to hit the general market, but programming will also be aimed at the target markets of adults (book club kits, a gardening series, etc.), teens (Green book drive during Teen Read Week, an environmental technology game board during Teen Tech Week, etc), elementary school age children (book club kits, Green programming which includes a musician, a magician, naturalists, and more), preschoolers (Earth Day storytimes, Dr. Seuss birthday celebration with the Lorax, more) and intergenerational activities (including a Valentine’s Make and Take with Recyclables). A workshop for staff on how to incorporate the environmental themes of “reuse, reduce and recycle” into regular library programming will also be held to help keep the “Go Green” project sustainable past the granting period. Year 2 of this “Go Green” project was also made possible by a grant from Community Power: Partners on Waste Education and Reduction/Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board. “

**Dakota County Library**

Aquabrowser and Federated Searching Arrive: Dakota County Library (DCL) is the first of the metropolitan libraries to successfully implement the Aquabrowser as a tool to search not only the catalog but also the online resources available at DCL. Try it at http://aqua.dakota.lib.mn.us/ - Just enter a search term in the box provided and click “search” to see the mind map in action. In the coming months other metro libraries will implement Aquabrowser thanks to MELSA.

**Hennepin County Library - Jodi Monson**

Hennepin County Library merger – Progress report

Here is a snapshot of merger milestones that occurred March through Aug. 2009:

- The Library Board approves a new mission statement: Hennepin County Library’s mission is to nourish minds, transform lives and build community together.
- Two catalogs become one, resulting in a single catalog containing more than 5 million books, CDs, DVDs, and other items. This robust catalog gives customers access to the nation's 12th largest public library collection.
- Unified lending rules are established.
- Network consolidation begins. As of the end of August, seven Minneapolis libraries are now part of the consolidated Hennepin County Library network, which includes new public and staff computers, phones, and pay-for-print and PC reservation applications. All libraries will be on the same network by the end of 2009.
- Capital projects are approved for Northeast and Nokomis libraries, the first in Minneapolis since the merger.
- Collections and Special Services departments are restructured to create the integrated departments of Collection Management Services, Cataloging and Handling, and Special Services (Special Collections/Bindery and Preservation/Interlibrary Loan).
- Interlibrary loan policies and procedures are unified.
- Merged suburban and Minneapolis At Home Service begins.
- Seven community conversations are held as a result of a Library Board resolution to seek input as to the level of interest of neighborhood residents in local library support. The conversations revealed residents are interested in being involved with their local library. Meetings are scheduled for this fall to continue the discussion. Working together, we will determine next steps for this valuable grassroots support.

**Hennepin County Library - Budget update**

The 2010 operating budget submitted to County Administration includes a 4% reduction to the property tax portion of the operating budget. Due to many variables, the specific reduction has not been determined but is approximately $3 million to $4 million. The proposed 2010 operating budget is between $67.3 to 68.3 million.
This follows a $3 million mid-year reduction (going from $73 million to about $70 million) to the Library’s 2009 budget.

The Library has identified budget reductions for 2010 as a result of efficiencies and process improvements. These include, but are not limited to: reductions in vehicle leases, copiers, advertising, printing and training budgets. Combining the two Integrated Library Systems (ILS) in August 2009 to offer one public catalog and one book acquisition system provides a major reduction in the overall operating budget.

Reductions to the collection and personal services budgets were also included. Reducing the collection budget is proposed within the context of leveraging private sector dollars raised in collaboration with the Library Foundation of Hennepin County and local Friends of the Library groups to offset some of the reduction. The 2010 operating budget strategy reflects a reduction in the personal services budget that will be achieved by maintaining a significant vacancy factor rather than reducing specific FTE at this time. The Library will reengineer library service, and FTE reductions will be achieved through attrition and redistribution of staff to support service priorities.

**St. Paul Public Library**

The new Library Director, Kit Hadley, started work on August 3, 2009.

The Library has a great YouTube video introduction to SPPL:  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74ePA6Jw_TQ&feature=PlayList&p=B68DD98ED7D40247&index=0&playnext=1

Also on the SPPL website you can find a value calculator that is useful for customers in determining the value of library services they receive.

**Washington County Library - Patricia Conley, Director**

It’s been a busy quarter at WCL:

As reported last quarter, WCL has been a pilot site for the Science Museum’s first local Collector’s Corner Trading Post which is similar to the Collector’s Corner within the Science Museum itself. The Science Museum and WCL have successfully completed three months at the Stafford (Woodbury) Library Collectors’ Corner Neighborhood Trading Post and have signed up over 240. On Saturday, October 24, another local trading post will open at the Rice Street Library Branch in St. Paul.

Thanks to MELSA, the “Homework Rescue” online interactive chat service began late this summer. WCL staff is in the process of training on the program so that they can direct interested parents and children to this new service which is available from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. seven days per week.

The Library has developed its pandemic flu plan as an addendum to the County’s plan which is part of its business continuity planning. It lays out a formula for maintaining service assuming a 40% reduction in employees and a graduated plan of branch closures. It also identifies steps staff should take to avoid or reduce exposure to the virus.

The County budget for 2010, and, therefore, the Library’s 2010 budget, is still in development with the County Board expected to set the preliminary levy on September 16, 2009. The Library is grappling with the need to meet increasing demand for service in a time of budget reductions. Clearly, new service models are in order that may change the look of the traditional public library. WCL has purchased the new 3M materials handling system that is aimed at mid-sized libraries for its branch in Cottage Grove. It is also re-examining the staff time devoted to some traditional library services, most especially inter-library loan. So far the Library’s budget is reduce about 4% in 2010 over 2009 with potentially further reductions needed if the state budget forecast in November leads the Governor to further “unallot” county property tax relief, aka “County Program Aid.”

Finally, as noted previously, in collaboration with Carver County received an LSTA grant of $140,000 to pilot kiosk library services at two locations. WCL anticipates customers will be able to pick up items they have placed on hold 24/7 at outdoor boxes and will be able to access the library’s collection 40 hours per week at an
indoor kiosk located within the Hugo City Hall. The Library will also install wireless service so customers can access the Internet and the Library during open hours at City Hall.

Submitted by Patricia Conley, Metro-Area Public Libraries Representative

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**Technical Colleges**

**Pat Akerman, St. Cloud Technical College**

September 11, 2009

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**Pine Technical College LRTC - Ron McGriff, Librarian**

The big news at Pine Technical College is the substantial increase in enrollment for Fall 2009. We have been increasing each year recently, but this year sets a new mark with a 27% increase in headcount and a 28.3% increase in FYE over Fall 2008. Good news, of course, but it is certainly affecting support services such as the library and computer services – and definitely the parking lots. A nearby multi-purpose technology room now is open from 10 – 2 each day for student access to PC stations when library seats are filled.

Laurie Jorgensen, LRTC assistant for library and IT, plus overseeing ITV service, created a library blog for our web page. The blog announces library news, changes, needs, and new acquisitions. This semester we are working on creating an online library skills/information literacy tool to add to our library page. We are using the college’s Action Plan process (part of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness activities) to push ahead on this need.

This Fall we also hope to advance on our goal of weeding our non-print collections and directing some dollars for replacement titles. We intend to conduct a faculty and staff survey to assist in defining needs for this type of collection.

**Northland Community & Technical College - Thief River Falls Campus - Cynthia Jorstad**

NCTC has seen about a 7% increase in enrollment and we've been very busy in the library. I haven't had time to compare numbers to last year, but it seems like we have more people coming in. Our instruction numbers are up too ... YEAH !!!

Our EGF library had a big remodel this summer and the new library was ready for fall semester. It's a nice space (... although Milt's office isn't book truck friendly).

Our budgets are stagnant and have been for several years. As with everyone ... we're trying to do more with less.

**Mesabi Range Community & Technical College - Laurel Chilcote**

My full-time Library Assistant position has been changed to a half-time Library Technician position. Hoping to get my provost to agree that the Lib Tech needs to be at LEAST 3/4 time and the OCLC position 1/4 time - or just go to a full time Lib Tech and let the OCLC stay at 1/2 time but get someone who would like to/be able to do this from home - all very possible, but not this year or next with the $$ situation. Trying to get the Library moving toward the “Information Commons” plan, but again, hard to do when there is no money.

**Anoka Technical College - Karen Bronshteyn**

We do not have any news. Working with a tight budget, like everywhere else.

**St. Cloud Technical College - Patricia Akerman**

With a 15% increase in enrollment this semester, the library is busier than ever. Although we have no increase in staffing, it’s great to see the library utilized as much as it is. On many given days, all the computer stations are filled and there is no seating available. Classroom presentations and scheduling of library instruction classes began on the first day of the semester, showing an increased demand from last year.

We are using MnPALS Plus as our primary library catalog. Students have expressed that they like it much better than Classic MnPALS for a number of reasons, including features, display content and ease of refining searches.
As requests from faculty come in and our budget permits, we are adding new materials to the library collection. There have been no changes to our electronic databases other than the new additions provided through Minitex by the MEIR Task Force members and their institutions, which we greatly appreciate!

I continue to update and edit the library pages using the Drupal Content Management System.

Vi Bergquist and I are serving on the local arrangements committee for the 2009 MLA Conference that will be held here in St. Cloud on October 14-16. We are organizing tours and events and hosting dine-arounds. Looking forward, we hope to continue to grow and move to a larger space to meet the needs and demands of the campus and the library patrons.

Submitted by Pat Akerman, Technical Colleges Representative

Private Colleges Report
Dan Gjelten, University of St. Thomas
September 11, 2009

Augsburg College - Jane Ann Nelson, Library Director
Augsburg is piloting Films on Demand, a video-streaming service of more than 5000 titles from Films for the Humanities and Sciences, PBS, and Cambridge Educational. Students and faculty can view an entire program or pre-defined segments. Links will be embedded in our course management system. Augsburg is also launching an all-out effort to empower our learners through online research guides in all subject disciplines.

Bethany Lutheran College - Orrin Ausen, Library Director
At Bethany we have had a pretty quiet summer. We inventoried the collection and did a weed of the A - DX. The trim of the library was repainted and carpet in the lower classrooms was replaced. We implemented a different link resolver and switched serials aggregator. We went with W.T. Cox Subscriptions for serials and Journal Finder for the link resolver, and we did some updating to our library web page and Research QuickStart to update databases, etc...

Carleton College - Sam Demas, Library Director
Archiving student work: In the first year of a new college policy mandating digital archiving of student senior projects and prize papers we were able secure digital files from 136 students. These will be housed in a dark archive and only be accessible to Carleton faculty. It is hoped that issues of quality and intellectual property rights can be addressed in the next few years and that some portion of future senior projects will be web accessible. In conjunction with the Northfield Historical Society, Rice County Historical Society, and Northfield Public Library we are developing a repository for student (K-12 and college-level) research concerned with Northfield.

Growing out of a symposium on Book Arts and the Liberal Arts (co-sponsored by Minnesota Center for the Book Arts (MCBA) and Carleton Library last April), the MCBA is inaugurating a Collectors Forum with a program the evening of October 13. Librarians are particularly encouraged to attend. If you know someone who wishes to attend, ask them to contact Sam Demas (sdemas@carleton.edu) for an invitation.

The college archives is merging with the library at Carleton. Over the next year we will begin work on a backlog of processing, continue to address digital archiving, and develop a strategic plan for the college archives.

Iris Jastram is working with the staff on a new method of conducting continuous, collective environmental scan.
The college passed a new set of graduation requirements last year and we are involved in the implementation of a new set of freshman seminars on argument and inquiry which will include a common experience of engagement with information literacy and information ethics.

**Macalester College – Terri Fishel, Library Director**

Kindles Loan Program started - We announced our new pilot project to lend Kindles to faculty and staff at 10:30 a.m. the morning of Sept. 9. By noon, all four were checked out. This is a pilot project which we will be evaluating after the fall semester.

Expansion of textbook access - We are doing a combination of expanding etextbooks through ebrary and working with student government to put multiple copies of four of the more expensive textbooks for four of our larger courses on reserve. Both projects are an attempt to help students with high costs of textbooks and we'll be monitoring use this Fall to evaluate and assess.

CONTENTdm and College Relations Photo Project - The library worked closely with our College Relations staff to migrate their digital photo collection which includes about 20,000 photos from their current system to our consortium remote-hosted CONTENTdm. The success of this project lies in the ease in which the staff were able to learn how to manage and upload photos. A benefit has been the improved access now available for College Archives in finding historical photos.

New library look - Our main project this summer was to renovate our main level. We reduced our print reference collection to a third of its former size, we reduced our periodical shelving to just five tall units, and we relocated our computer lab from the lower level to the main level, and we created a second teaching space in the former computer lab. We have posted videos on our library web page to show our former look and some of the transition work. We'll be posting a video of the finished project within the next two weeks. We'll also have a slide show of our orientation activities which included indoor golf.

Lastly, we overhauled our website so we have a new virtual look as well as a new physical layout.

**Northwestern College – Ruth McGuire, Library Director**

Technology improvements completed Summer 2009:
- Implemented Encore, the new discovery layer software for the library’s public catalog
- Changed main level public workstations to light lab configuration to provide Microsoft Office suite for students per their request via LibQUAL+ survey
- Installed release station printing at the library to provide for student login printing, laptop printing, and to decrease waste

Cataloger position was vacated July 2009. Position is frozen and therefore not yet posted and remains unfilled. Dawn Krist (Weekend Supervisor) and Ruth McGuire (Director) will share cataloging workload, and other responsibilities (instruction, reference, liaison) will be shared among librarians.

New products being offered beginning summer 2009: **Naxos Music Library, Credo Reference Center, Oxford Music Online, Religious/Theological Netlibrary ebook Collection**

College is moving to a new web page Fall 2009 – redevelopment of library’s web page and portal tab coming soon.

Fall 2009: College reinstituted a new student orientation-type course called First Year Experience (for traditional students). The College also reinstated orientation nights for the Division of Graduate and Continuing Education. The library is a participant in these student activities. The library also had talking moments at a variety of parent orientations.

**Saint John’s University - Kathy Parker, Library Director**

We have a new president at Saint John’s University, Fr. Bob Koopman whose appointment started July 1. Pres. Koopman has re-initiated planning for renovation and expansion of the library at SJU. That project had been
stalled during the illness and death of the previous SJU president and interim uncertainties. Architects and engineers have been back to campus, and we hope to have a new proposal by the end of 2009.

University of Saint Thomas - Dan Gjelten, Library Director
We’ve begun planning for the construction of a full service coffee shop in O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library. Our hope is that it will open the first day of spring semester, 2010. To make room for the shop, the OSF Library is reducing the size of its print reference collection by up to 30%.

Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, President-elect of ACRL (and UST alumni) will be coming to campus in October to help the libraries celebrate our 50th anniversary in our building on the Saint Thomas campus. Lisa worked for the libraries as a student at UST and then earned her MLS at the University of Chicago, Urbana-Champaign.

The UST Libraries will be storing and occasionally displaying a Heritage edition of the Saint John’s Bible, which we recently received as a gift.

We are beginning to use Microsoft Sharepoint software to collect reference and instructional statistics, as well as to create a knowledge base for sharing information between staff and libraries.

CLIC
CLIC implemented Encore over the summer and has been making a few revisions and changes as we’ve prepared for the new school year. It is now working well and we are anxious to see how the students accept it.

Submitted by Dan Gjelten, Private Colleges Representative