Members Present:
Pat Akerman (attended by phone)  Pat Conley, Vice Chair for FY10
Karla Gedell  Dan Gjelten, Chair for FY10
Virginia Heinrich  Wendy Lougee
Mary Lukkarila  Suzanne Miller
Chris Olson  Doris Ott
Joan Roca (attended by phone)  Dan Siebersman (attended by phone)
Ruth Solie (attended by phone)  Bill Sozansky

Members Unable to Attend:
Susan Meyer

Staff Present:
Bill DeJohn

Ex Officio Member:
Todd Digby

Observers:
Cecelia Boone  Kathy Drozd
Mary Parker  Becky Ringwelski

1) Introductions, Review and Acceptance of Agenda
Gjelten welcomed attendees, and Council members introduced themselves. Roca moved and Sozansky seconded a motion for approval of the agenda as distributed.

2) Review of Minutes of Sept. 11, 2009
Conley moved and Gedell seconded a motion for approval of the minutes as distributed. The motion was approved.

3) Minnesota Office of Higher Education Report
Reporting for Mary Lou Dresbach, who could not attend, DeJohn reported that the amount of reductions that are expected to be required to meet the state’s budget deficit has not been determined.

4) Minitex Criteria Update: Libraries Not Meeting the Criteria
DeJohn and Digby provided information about the small MnSCU institution libraries that do not meet the Minitex Criteria for Participation and outlined ongoing efforts to emphasize the benefit of onsite libraries to administrators of the institutions. Council members discussed problems associated with trying to maintain library services at these small institutions. Conley noted that similar tight budget situations occur in small rural libraries. DeJohn and Digby said they are scheduled to meet with MnSCU staff to talk about these issues.

5) MnLINK Gateway – Report & Update
Ringwelski reviewed her report on MnLINK Gateway developments, noting that Version 4.1 of the VDX software, which supports operation of the Gateway, has been implemented. Some problems remain, particularly slowness in the work queue. OCLC is working to resolve the problems. She noted that
seven MnLINK server sites are using NCIP software created by their ILS vendors to handle some of the tasks that previously required staff processing. Some of the libraries are seeing a reduction in the amount of staff time required to complete the functions. DeJohn noted that Minitex staff has developed functionality that checks incoming Gateway requests against the "In Constant Demand" lists and can provide an automatic response to the requesting library that the requested title cannot be provided because it is in use at Gateway libraries.

6) MnKnows, Dig Deeper @ Your Library – Update on Marketing on MPR, Results, and Next Steps
DeJohn reported on the on-air announcements and the website and LiveStream site ads that Minitex has purchased on Minnesota Public Radio, which are designed to build awareness of the MnKnows website by Minnesotans throughout the state. We have been watching the number of referrals to the MnKnows site from library websites during the three months of the awareness campaign. Traverse des Sioux Library System and the Cloquet Public Library are consistently among the top referrers. DeJohn said he was also considering placing an ad for MnKnows on the website of KS95-FM as well as announcements and ads on MPR for the Electronic Library for Minnesota. Council members said they thought placement of announcements and website ads on MPR was beneficial because of MPR’s statewide coverage.

7) Minitex: Budgets for FY10, FY11, AND FY12/13
DeJohn reviewed the Minitex budget figures as approved by the Legislature and the Governor at the end of the 2009 Legislative Session. $5.681 million was approved for Minitex and $400,000 for MnLINK for each year of the coming biennium. Also, the two figures were merged into a single line item. The Minitex and MnLINK budgets were not impacted by the Governor’s unallotments. DeJohn said continuing economic problems for Minnesota mean that budget prospects for FY12/13 are uncertain. Miller reported that Minnesota’s public libraries may sustain budget reductions in their current and coming budgets.

8) Minnesota P-20 Partnership Reports & Updated Minitex Graphic
DeJohn reported on the work of the Minnesota P-20 Task Force, saying that Alice Seagren, Education Commissioner, MN Department of Education, is chair of the group. DeJohn reviewed a draft of a chart that seeks to identify the roles that all types of libraries can play throughout the life of Minnesotans.

Council members discussed the documents, noting that emerging technologies are playing an increasing important role in the life of students and the public at large. It was suggested that a webinar about the use of mobile devices for library users and staff be developed.

10) Minitex Director’s Report
DeJohn reported that the Minitex Contract Cataloging program is being downsized. Edward Swanson, Manager of the ConCats program, is retiring, and remaining staff are assuming other duties in the Minitex office. One of the ConCats staff, Mark Ehler, will become a Coordinator in the Bibliographic and Technical Services unit and will have responsibility for managing the ConCats program.

The Council discussed the proposed Google book settlement giving particular attention to the impact of the settlement on resource sharing and issues around institutional subscriptions to the Google Books service.

DeJohn also reviewed some of the discussion about potential changes in Integrated Library Systems by Minnesota regional public library systems.

11) Member Reports: North Dakota; South Dakota; Minnesota and other issues

12) Adjournment
Meetings for 2010: March 5, June 4, Sept. 10, Dec. 3