

October 2011

Bill DeJohn Will Retire in January	1
40th Anniversary: Be Part of the Celebration!	3
Update from the Minnesota Digital Library	4
MLAC Advisory Board Looks towards the Future	5
Interlibrary Loan in Minnesota Report	6
RDA: The Wait is (Almost) Over	6
Save the Date: Upper Midwest CONTENTdm User Group, Nov. 14-15.	7
Minitex Public Library Node Meeting	7
Minitex Discontinues Backup Reference	8
NEWS FROM THE MINITEX REGION	
• Changes in Directorships of Minitex Participating Libraries	9
• Congratulations to UND's Chester Fritz Library	9
• 125 Years of Library Service in Hennepin County	10
• University of MN Libraries Win 3 IMLS Grants	10

Bill DeJohn Will Retire in January



Many of you have already seen this announcement, but we wanted to make sure that it has the widest distribution. Please join the Minitex staff in congratulating Bill and wishing him all the best as he prepares for his transition. Cecelia Boone

To the Minitex Library Community:

It is with mixed feelings that I am announcing that I will retire on January 11, 2012, after 27 years as Director of Minitex. Though this wasn't an easy decision, it is a personal decision relating to the

Retirement Incentive Option offered by the University of Minnesota this year. In addition, I need to recognize that this is probably the best time to retire since I am already over 70 and would like to do some traveling with my wife, Kathi. It also seemed the right time for Minitex to go through this change as it looks toward its second 40 years of growth and development, which I am sure it will. My thinking is that some fresh eyes on the Minitex service program would be a good thing looking into the future. There are exciting opportunities on the horizon in terms of changing technology, improved resource sharing, and closer collaboration between higher education and the K12 community, and Minitex will be involved in that activity. In addition, working with Minnesota public libraries and promoting MnKnows: Dig Deeper @ Your Library for the common good will continue to be an important part of the Minitex program along with the developing Minnesota Digital Library and the evolving and improved Electronic Library for Minnesota. Gee, I will miss being involved with these opportunities into the future but I know there are many committed individuals who will remain involved.

I leave Minitex, knowing that the collaboration between Minitex and libraries in the region over the last several years will continue and prosper in the years ahead as the information environment rapidly changes. I'm glad to report that Minitex continues to enjoy strong support from the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, and I expect that support to continue into the future. Minitex has always been able to adapt and change and be innovative, and it will continue to do that with new leadership. A strong staff is in place that is committed to providing excellent services to local library staff and to end users using the online services Minitex now provides.



Bill's wife, Kathi, and Chance, one of their Newfoundlands, visit Bill and Minitex staff last month.

January is three months away, and there will be more to communicate during this transition period.

Bill DeJohn