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.

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

Bill DeJohn
Bill DeJohn’s 27 Years of Leadership at Minitex

Bill arrived in June 1984

Bill at a staff party ca. 1990

Bill and Kathy Drozd take their turn at the groundbreaking for Elmer L. Andersen Library, Spring 1997

Bill receives the University of Minnesota President’s Award for Outstanding Service, June 2007 (from the left): Wendy Pradt Lougee (University Librarian), Cecelia Boone, Carla Dewey Urban, Anne Ryan (Library Coordinator, Minneapolis Community and Technical College Library, and Chair, Minitex Policy Advisory Council), Terry Beseman, Kathi DeJohn, Bill DeJohn, Mary Parker, Kathy Drozd, Ruth Solie (Director of the Northern Lights Library Network), Mike Kathman (retired Director of College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University Libraries and member of the search committee that hired Bill in 1984), and Becky Ringwelski.

Bill helps move the Minitex office from Wilson Library to Andersen Library, December 1999

Bill and Doris Ott, North Dakota State Librarian, chat during the NDLA Annual Conference in 2010

Bill settles into his new office in Andersen Library, January 2000
40th Anniversary: Be Part of the Celebration!

Minitex staff were happy to visit with colleagues at conferences of the North Dakota State Library Association (Sept. 21-24), the South Dakota Library Association (Oct. 5-7), and the Minnesota Library Association (Oct. 12-14) and begin our celebration of “40 Years of Collaboration,” the theme chosen for Minitex’s 40th Anniversary year. Presentations by Minitex staff and receptions provided the opportunities to talk about the key role that participating libraries play in the success of Minitex’s regional resource sharing activities.

Bill DeJohn presented Minitex Updates at the sessions. He said, “40 years of collaboration has been a learning experience for all of us involved in the relationships that exist between and among the Minitex staff and participating libraries and their staffs. It was especially gratifying that our theme was actually proposed in an off-hand remark during one of our recent Minitex Policy Advisory Council meetings by Joan Roca, Dean of Library Services, Minnesota State University, Mankato. I’m glad we picked it up since it fits very nicely and captures what we wanted to express.”

Future Anniversary events will include open houses and receptions at the Minitex office in Spring 2012. A special anniversary issue of the Minitex MESSENGER is planned for January, and we will be posting anniversary related updates to the 40th Anniversary website and to Minitex’ Facebook site: http://www.facebook.com/MinitexMN

Currently, the 40th Anniversary webpage (www.minitex.umn.edu/40th/) includes:

* Slideshow: Then and Now

Reflecting the past 40 years, these photos and info snippets describe how Minitex services, library practice, and technology have changed -- or not -- over the years. Take a look at the slideshow, you will find photos and information about lots of interesting topics -- from Minitex Delivery, which began with materials packed in cardboard beer cases carried by Greyhound buses, to Minitex Travel and Training, which shows a North Dakota bison that interrupted a drive to Medora. We’ll be updating the slideshow with new content throughout the year. View the slideshow by visiting: http://www.minitex.umn.edu/40th/Slideshow

* New Oral History Interviews

We’ve added oral history recordings from four Minitex staff: Bill DeJohn, Dave Paulson, Cecelia Boone, and Kathy Drozd. Leaders and innovators in the Minitex library community have also been interviewed. See the Oral History Project page for interviews with:

- Suzanne Mahmoodi, Continuing Education Coordinator, Library Development and Services, Minnesota Department of Education (1978-2001)
- Mary Treacy, Director, Metronet (1981-1999)
- Bill Asp, Minnesota State Librarian (1975-1996)
- Doris Ott, North Dakota State Librarian (2002-2010)
- Mike Kathman, Director of Libraries, College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University (1980-2006)

Make sure to note the “recording index” link on each interview page. The recording index allows you to jump to various parts of the interview that interest you. If you click on i, you will see a list of the questions each interviewee was asked, and the topics they covered, along with the recording times.

We’ll be adding more interviews throughout the year.
Update from the Minnesota Digital Library
Marian Rengel

Summer and early Fall have been a busy time for the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL).

- The Minnesota Reflections collection, the MDL's digitization and database project, has grown.
- New teacher's guides for Minnesota Reflections are available for K-12 educators.
- Applications are now being accepted for projects from Minnesota libraries and other cultural heritage institutions.
- The MDL management team issued a report on the latest portion of the MDL's Digital Preservation Project, which seeks to provide a large-scale content preservation service that could be used by Minnesota libraries and other cultural heritage institutions.

Minnesota Reflections:

Minnesota Reflections now contains more than 80,000 digital copies of cultural heritage photographs, documents, maps, and more provided by more than 125 contributing institutions from across the state. The collection will grow by more than 20,000 objects this fall. The look and functionality of Minnesota Reflections will change this Fall as the MDL upgrades to the newest version of CONTENTdm, the database management software behind the collection. MDL staff have worked through the summer on this upgrade.

New Teachers Guides:

The MDL is pleased to provide K-12 teachers with guides to help them use Minnesota Reflections more effectively in their teaching. The guides, which were written by K-12 teachers from across the state, focus on specific academic standards from the arts through the social sciences, and each features 8-20 links to Minnesota Reflections. More than 35 guides are available at the "For Educators" tab on the MDL website (http://www.mndigital.org/educators/guides/), and additional guides will be added throughout the 2011/2012 school year.

Phase 8 Applications:

The MDL is accepting applications for projects for Phase 8 of the development of Minnesota Reflections. Applications will be accepted through April 30, 2012, or until all of MDL's digitization funding has been committed. This is an open call for projects. Later this year, there will be a second call for projects that address specific collection development subjects. Consult with Marian Rengel, MDL Outreach Coordinator (mrrengel@stcloudstate.edu), as you consider applying for a Minnesota Reflections digitization project.

MDL's Digital Preservation Project:

In pursuit of its long-term goal of providing a large-scale content preservation service for Minnesota, MDL has funded three research projects to explore a common infrastructure strategy to support a shared digital preservation service. Using funds from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, MDL projects investigated ways to ensure that the digital content from Minnesota Reflections and other institutions, including the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS), would always be accessible to Minnesotans.

A series of reports by consultant Eric Celeste, which are available at the MDL website (http://www.mndigital.org/projects/preservation/) describe the work of the MDL Digital Preservation Project.

In the second stage of research, the MDL investigated the technical and organizational potential of a scalable digital preservation program and a service for cultural heritage stewardship across Minnesota. Working with the HathiTrust Digital Library, through the auspices of the University of Minnesota Libraries’ partner status with HathiTrust, the project focused on ingest of image data, “Minnesota Digital Library and HathiTrust Image Preservation Prototype Project Report.”

Most recently, the MDL investigated some of the larger and well-known digital preservation services options already under development in the U.S. This project focused on preservation, not access, and was designed to provide the MDL with a comparative analysis of preservation alternatives, “Minnesota Digital Library Preservation Options Report.”

MLAC Advisory Board Looks toward the Future
Kathy Drozd

The Advisory Board for the Minnesota Library Access Center (MLAC) met on Sept. 16 to approve new Operating Principles and Guidelines and a new Memorandum of Agreement. It was also an opportunity to hear about a holdings pilot project by the University of Minnesota Health Science Libraries and Mayo Clinic Libraries. Sam Demas, consultant and former College Librarian, Carleton College, presented the results of his environmental scan of storage projects and related initiatives in other states and library networks.

The discussion involved changing the Vision and Mission of MLAC. The new statements are:

The Vision:
MLAC will be a leader in the Nation’s stewardship efforts to provide access to and preserve collected library resources in all subject areas with a focus on the unique and at-risk materials held in Minnesota libraries. MLAC will optimize collection storage through collaborative collection development and management emphasizing unique state holdings and enabling effective local collection management of Minnesota’s libraries.

The Mission:
MLAC will provide environmentally controlled high-density storage, technical processing, and access services for lesser used, print library materials acquired by Minnesota libraries. MLAC will collaborate on a regional and national level with digital and traditional preservation efforts.

The Operating Principles and Guidelines were changed to indicate that depositing libraries make a commitment to maintain their materials in MLAC for at least 25 years, which will enable the revised Vision and Mission to move forward.

A report about the Health Sciences Libraries Shared Print Retention Strategies and Pilot Project was given to the Board. The background reviewed relevant initiatives that informed the planning, and, then, goals were set for the project. This project will work with the 250 core clinical titles identified by the National Library of Medicine. The project will give MLAC staff and University Libraries Enterprise Technology staff an opportunity to wrangle the spreadsheets to find the needed data. The “super-duper-deduper” algorithm tool, which was developed by MLAC staff, will be put to good use.

Working with the Board’s oversight, MLAC staff will be working toward the following Goals and Outcomes as part of the Pilot Project:

1) Create space on shelves at both the Bio-Medical Library and in MLAC
2) Give MLAC the ability to make national/regional commitments for print retention
3) Identify steps/reports/efforts needed to analyze this limited subset of holdings that can inform University Libraries and MLAC decisions and actions.

The next steps will be important in helping to identify policy questions that will arise for future MLAC operations and for potential efforts to remove duplicate materials stored in MLAC.

In presenting his environmental scan, Demas talked about WEST, the CIC Shared Print Archive, U of Illinois, CARLI, ASERL, Maine, RECAP, NERD, CRL, and other initiatives.

He also reviewed information learned through a survey of Minnesota libraries last spring about various aspects of current and future MLAC operations. He capped off his discussion with suggested goals for MLAC for 2011-
2012, which included outreach, cataloging, identifying data needs, developing partnerships, beginning a discussion of collection management planning, new MLAC services, and a new name for MLAC.

Information about the meeting and reports discussed will be available on the Advisory Board’s page of the Minitex website (http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Committees/Mlac/).

**Interlibrary Loan in Minnesota Report**

The Minitex/MnLINK Interlibrary Loan Committee has published a new report, which is meant to give staff an overview of the ILL environment in Minnesota. The Committee envisions it as being especially helpful to new staff.

It is available on the Minitex website in the Resource Sharing Tools and Resources section under the “Featured Content” heading. The link to this section of the website is: http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Sharing/

Please contact Becky Ringwelski (e-ring@umn.edu, 612-624-0375, 800-462-5348) if you have any comments about the report.

**RDA: The Wait is (Almost) Over**

Mark K. Ehlert

In mid-June, the U.S. RDA Test Coordinating Committee released a report (1) about the implementation of *Resource Description and Access* (RDA) by the U.S. national libraries (the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agriculture Library). The Committee recommends that RDA adoption take place “no sooner than January 2013” (2), and, although a precise date was not specified, the Library of Congress and others working with and preparing for RDA are using January 2013 as their goal. Implementation is also conditional. Nine items must be satisfied or progress made on satisfying them for adoption to succeed, according to the Committee.

A summary of the report is available in the July 2011 issue of the *Minitex/OCLC Mailing* (http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Communications/Oclc/).

Minitex continues:

- to offer workshops and webinars about RDA for regional catalogers and other library staff. See the Minitex Training & Events page for our training schedule. (http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/)

- to communicate news updates on RDA as they develop. Keep up with these announcements by visiting our blog (http://blog.lib.umn.edu/minitex/bats/) and subscribing to our Twitter feed (http://twitter.com/minitexbats).

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1 Report and Recommendations of the U.S. RDA Test Coordinating Committee report and executive summary are available at: http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rdad/
2 Report, page 2.
Save the Date: Upper Midwest CONTENTdm User Group, Nov. 14-15

The 4th annual Upper Midwest CONTENTdm User Group meeting will be held at the Continuing Education & Conference Center, University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus, on Nov. 14 –15. This year’s meeting will be live and in person following the virtual meeting held last November.

Plans for the program are being finalized, but expected session topics include:

- Using CONTENTdm as an Institutional Repository
- 2 sessions from different institutions about experiences upgrading to CONTENTdm 6.0/6.1
- Tales of a college yearbook: the planning and execution of a yearbook project
- Working with PDFs in CONTENTdm
- The Trials and Tribulations of Two WorldCat Digital Collection Gateway Users
- 2 sessions about working with newspapers in CONTENTdm
- Creating a botanical collection with historical significance in CONTENTdm
- Collaboration with CONTENTdm: Building Local History Collections
- CONTENTdm Statistics
- CONTENTdm Update by Geri Bunker Ingram, OCLC Digital Collection Services

We will offer a half day pre-conference on Monday, Nov. 14, which will have the theme CONTENTdm Tips and Tricks.

For those who cannot travel to St. Paul to attend this year’s meeting, we are offering a virtual only option for the CONTENTdm Update session, to be presented by Geri Bunker Ingram, OCLC Digital Collection Services on Tuesday morning, Nov. 15.

The cost to attend the two-day meeting, not including the preconference, will be $60. Additional registration options will be available and will include:

- Monday Preconference Only: $20.00
- Monday Only (includes 6 afternoon sessions): $25.00
- Tuesday Only (includes a full day of sessions, breakfast, and lunch): $40.00
- Virtual Session Only (includes Tuesday, Nov. 15 CONTENTdm Update session only): $20.00

For more information, see: https://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Conferences/ContentDm2011.aspx

Minitex Public Library Node Meeting

Minitex’s Public Library Node Meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 5. It was planned for front-line interlibrary loan staff from the Minnesota public libraries that are authorized to send interlibrary loan requests directly to the Minitex Office by State Library Services, Minnesota's state library agency, which is a unit of the Minnesota Department of Education.

We were pleased to have Nancy Walton, Director of State Library Services and State Librarian, provide an update to the group. The remaining presentations covered a number of topics including a preview of Version 5 of the ZPORTAL/VDX software as well as discussions on packaging & paperwork and the impact of e-books on ILL. Evaluations from meeting attendees were very positive.

Nearly 70 staff members attended this event, and all of the MnLINK public library server sites were represented.
Minitex Discontinues Backup Reference

Effective with the end of FY11 (July 1, 2011), Minitex discontinued the reference referral service that Minitex Reference Outreach & Instruction (ROI) had provided for Minnesota libraries and library systems. The decision to discontinue the service was a difficult, but unavoidable one. ROI has handled reference referrals on behalf of libraries and their patrons for the last 38 years. Under Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding, the reference referral service was available to all types of libraries across Minnesota.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) reduced the 2011 allocation of federal LSTA funding to states, and in turn, Minnesota’s State Library Services reduced the Minitex reference and training agreement. This reduction eliminated funding for the backup reference program provided by Minitex through an interagency agreement with State Library Services. Coupled with reductions to Minitex’s state appropriations, Minitex was unable to continue to provide this element of ROI’s portfolio of services.

Reference Outreach & Instruction served as Minnesota’s back-up reference referral agency in a cooperative environment since 1973. Begun as a one-year pilot project funded with a grant from the Minnesota state library agency, now called State Library Services, the reference referral service provided libraries with support and help for their end users by accessing, integrating, and providing information resources that were seldom available to staff at local libraries or schools.

In FY12 (7/1/11-6/30/12), Reference Outreach & Instruction will be funded by a smaller LSTA grant together with Minitex funds, and it will focus in the following areas:

- Instruction, working especially with K12 and higher education institutions on teaching and integrating ELM resources, www.elm4you.org. Increasingly, ELM is a bridge for K12 students to higher education and the workplace.
- Publication of ROI’s online monthly newsletter, Reference Notes. You can find current and past issues of Reference Notes at http://minitex.umn.edu/Communications/RefNotes/, and you add your name to the distribution list for future issues by signing up at http://lists.minitex.umn.edu/mailman/listinfo/mtx-ref.

If you have any questions, contact Bill DeJohn (w-dejo@umn.edu), Mary Parker (m-park1@umn.edu), or Jennifer Hootman (hootm001@umn.edu).

Minitex will be closed the following days:

November 24
November 25
December 26
December 27
January 2
January 16
News From The Minitex Region

Changes in Directorships of Minitex Participating Libraries

• Kristi Harms, former director of the Jefferson County (IN) Library, has succeeded Tom Jones who retired after 35 years as Director of the Bismarck Public Library. A Minnesota native, Harms was happy to move back to the Upper Midwest. She holds a master’s degree in library science and information from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a bachelor’s degree in library science and information technology from the University of Maine.

During Jones’ tenure, he helped the Library move from card catalog to an online catalog and led the move from a 17,000-square-foot building with fewer than 100,000 books, to a 70,000-square-foot building with 220,000 books.

• Mary Johns is the new Director of Siouxland Libraries in Sioux Falls, succeeding Sally Felix who retired early this year after serving as Siouxland Director since 2003. Johns had served as Library Director for the City of Evanston (IL) Public Library since 2008. She holds an MLS from the University of Arizona and worked in library administration positions in public libraries in Nebraska, Arizona, and Utah.

Siouxland Libraries serves Sioux Falls residents and Minnehaha County residents who live outside of the city limits of Dell Rapids.

• Kristi Tornquist is Chief University Librarian, South Dakota State University, replacing David Gleim, who retired. Ruth Zietlow, Associate Dean for Library Services, is serving as Interim Director at St. Cloud State University until Tornquist’s successor as Dean is selected. At SDSU, Tornquist directs 30 staff and faculty members at Briggs Library. During her time as Dean of Learning Resources and Technology Services at St. Cloud State, Tornquist provided leadership for campus academic computing, library, and media services.

She has also served as director of library and information services at Southern Arkansas University and held appointments at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities; University of Wisconsin-Superior, University of Wisconsin-Stout; and University of Minnesota, Duluth. Tornquist received her Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Minnesota, a master’s in library science from University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a bachelor’s in mathematics and English from the University of Minnesota-Morris.

Gleim came to SDSU in 2007 from Colorado were he led the libraries of three Denver-area institutions: the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center (USDHSC), Metropolitan State College, and Community College of Denver.

Congratulations to UND’s Chester Fritz Library!

The Chester Fritz Library is 50 years old! The University of North Dakota’s landmark was dedicated on Oct. 13, 1961. The library began with a donation from Chester Fritz, a former UND student, who loved books and valued his education at UND. His gift provided the impetus for action by the North Dakota State Legislature to fund the construction of the Library. With this facility, the University was able to expand the acquisition of publications and provide study spaces that have been used by countless students throughout the years.

The Library’s anniversary is providing the opportunity to celebrate the role of libraries in teaching students and providing scholarly resources in support of undergraduate, graduate and faculty research. Receptions, a book sale, and other events are scheduled throughout October.
125 Years of Library Service in Hennepin County

Whether delivered 100 years ago by a Model-T “book truck” or today by high-speed Internet, public library service in Hennepin County (MN) has played an essential role in creating a literate and informed citizenry in Minneapolis and the rest of Hennepin County. Where once library services helped immigrants from northern and eastern Europe learn about their new home, the Hennepin County Library now welcomes users in Spanish, Hmong, Somalia, and other languages, working to meet the needs of today’s new Americans.

An exhibit at the Hennepin County Library, Minneapolis Central, began the observance of this anniversary this summer. Additional events will be held during the year.

Hennepin County Library’s recently-adopted mission to “nourish minds, transform lives, and build community together” has been its underlying philosophy since library service began more than a century ago.

Important early dates include 1885, when the state legislature approved an amendment to the Minneapolis city charter to create the Minneapolis Public Library; 1886, when ground was broken for Minneapolis Central Library; and 1922, when Hennepin County began library services to County residents as the result of a tax levy on property outside the city of Minneapolis.

Book stations located in general stores; construction of beautiful Carnegie libraries; an REO Speedwagon; suburban expansion; audio-visual items such as vinyl records, 8- and 16-millimeter films and 8-track tapes; book catalogs in the 1970s; microfiche catalogs in the 1980s; and countless other improvements to library service all paved the way for today’s automated, 21st-century landmark libraries.

Today, Hennepin County Library offers 5 million books, CDs, and DVDs in 40 languages, 135 databases, and 1700 public computers. Last year, an estimated 5.8 million people visited Hennepin County’s 41, national award-winning libraries, more than 17.5 million items were checked out, and there were almost 20 million visits to the Library’s website, www.hclib.org.

University of MN Libraries Win 3 IMLS Grants

The University of Minnesota Libraries, Twin Cities, are partners with other institutions in new National Leadership Grants approved by the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

- “Designing a Comprehensive Theatrical Records Management Program,” a one-year collaborative planning project with partner, Penumbra Theatre, will assess interest in and barriers to archival preservation of a theater’s full range of activities. The goal is to create a national model for records management. The project team will be led by Performing Arts Archive curator, Cecily Marcus.

- The University Libraries are collaborating partners with the University of Michigan, Baylor, Columbia, Dartmouth, Duke, Indiana, Johns Hopkins, Northwestern, Penn State, Princeton, Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Maryland and the University of California campuses in Irvine, Los Angeles, and San Francisco on a three-year project that will seek to determine the copyright status of U.S. and foreign-published titles that constitute a significant portion of the scholarly works being digitized in projects, such as the HathiTrust.

- The Libraries are also a collaborating partner with Purdue University, Stanford, and Oregon in a two-year program to develop a training program in data information literacy for graduate students who will become the next generation of scientists. Lisa Johnston and Jon Jeffryes will chair the UMN project.
Minitex’s Electronic Communications

In addition to our print publications, Minitex maintains a number of electronic communication vehicles to provide about our programs.

The Minitex electronic discussion group, Minitex News, allows Minitex to exchange questions and answers about new technologies, Minitex policies and procedures, and other issues. To subscribe, follow these steps:

1. Point your web browser to: http://lists.minitex.umn.edu
2. Click on minitex-news in the list
3. Provide the information requested on the information page

The Minitex World Wide Web homepage (http://www.minitex.umn.edu) provides information about Minitex services and programs and access to Minitex publications. It also allows searchers to link to other internet homepages.

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Minitex Messenger

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