Digital Storytelling at the MN Digital Library Annual Meeting
Twitter hashtag: #mdl2013

The Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) (http://www.mndigital.org/) will hold its 11th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 4, at the Continuing Education & Conference Center, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Registration is now open.

The keynote presentation and some of the breakout sessions will focus on the digital storytelling theme. Simply put, digital storytelling refers to a social movement that uses computer tools to help everyone share their life or family stories. As such, digital storytelling takes many forms. In Minnesota, creative technology-driven people have been at the forefront of applying a documentary approach to new media and technology platforms to tell those stories. From immersive media installations to learning games, from storytelling on the web to interactive computer kiosks, from documentary films to inventive uses of social media, our area's digital resources have been used to engage audiences with narratives that were and still are absent from traditional media.

We invited documentary storyteller and Minneapolis-based consultant Michael Mouw to keynote the Annual Meeting, followed by an update on the activities of the MN Digital Library. The afternoon will feature a total of six breakout sessions on these topics:

- Strengthening professional connections with social media
- Integrating digital resources in group tours with tablets
- Using HistoryPin and Timeline JS
- Digital preservation progress in Minnesota
- The Digital Public Library of America and the MN Digital Library
- "Think like a Documentary Filmmaker" presented by Mike Mouw

Visit the Annual Meeting webpage for more information: http://www.mndigital.org/training/meetings

Registration Open for MN eLearning Summit

The Minnesota eLearning Summit, “eSynergy: Bringing It All Together,” is scheduled for July 29-30 at Northwestern College in Roseville, MN. Join K12, higher education faculty and administrators along with other learners and innovators for two days of focused discussion.

Speakers will include:

- Jeff Young, a technical journalist, who leads The Chronicle of Higher Education’s coverage of technology and its impact on teaching, research and student life.
• **Cable Green**, Director of Global Learning at Creative Commons, who works with the global open community to leverage open licensing, open content, open policies, and uses of digital tools and content to improve access to quality, affordable education and research resources.

• **Gary Lopez**, Executive Director of the Monterey Institute for Education and Technology, which has created the National Repository of Online Courses (NROC). This online content is licensed by the MN Learning Commons for use in classrooms. NROC is also developing an interactive remediation system called EdReady.

The program will also include interactive breakout sessions during which practitioners can share best practices and innovative approaches to blended, flipped, digital learning through the integration of technology. There will be hands-on learning workshops designed to help learners understand and interact with systems more effectively.

Registration is now open. To register or to find more information about the 2013 Summit, go to MNeLearningSummit.org.

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Editor’s note: We welcome Valerie Horton to the Minitex region – and to the *Minitex MESSENGER*! As she notes in her short introduction, collaboration has been a major focus for her for years. As Director of Minitex, she will have many opportunities to delve deeply! Cecelia Boone

The following article is on a topic of great interest to me as co-editor of *Collaborative Librarianship* (http://collaborativelibrarianship.org/) and as collaboration is a crucial part of Minitex. This article is a shorter version of a more lengthy article that I am submitting for publication. It does reflect my current thinking, and I’d welcome your thoughts and comments. Valerie Horton (vhorton@umn.edu)

### Delving Deeper into Library Collaboration

**Valerie Horton**

The concept of ‘deep collaboration’ is beginning to appear in library literature, blogs, and in conference programs. There is a growing consensus that collaboration is no longer just a powerful tool, but also an indispensable one. William Jordan, referring to the Orbis Cascade Alliance, recently summed up this sentiment as “libraries have a choice: we can collaborate, or we can die.”

Or, consider Marshall Breeding's recent statement on libraries being “drawn to massive collaboration.”

Collaboration has become an intentional strategic decision as showcased by the development of Kuali OLE’s community-sources software allowing access to collections, licenses, and digital content.

So what is deep collaboration?

Collaboration, at its most basic level, is two or more people working together to achieve some end result. As a tool, collaboration in libraries has gained wide acceptance, with a general sense within the profession that by collaborating we are following a future-focused, logical path during austere times. This perception is summarized by a librarian who writes that for libraries “in an age of scarce resources, competition and complex community issues—organizational collaboration is essential.”

Deep collaboration is seen as providing more advantages for participating libraries than less in-depth cooperation. In this sense, deep collaboration in libraries has a meaning akin to more skin-in-the-game, more organizational commitment, and more risk assumed.

Many articles define the term ‘collaboration’ with most drawing a distinction between cooperation and collaboration. In


general, cooperation is defined as “agreeing to abide by a set of common rules or principles,” while collaboration is seen as requiring “greater levels of engagement and goal alignment.”\(^5\) Some writers broaden this view to see more of a continuum from Contact -> Cooperation -> Coordination -> Collaboration -> Convergence.\(^6\) From my perspective, one of the best definitions comes from work of the Ohio State University Libraries Collaboration Task Force: “Collaboration is two or more people or organizations combine their resources and work together to achieve a common and mutually-beneficial goal.”

Having defined collaboration, the question arises as to how deep collaboration is different? I would argue that deep collaboration has the following characteristics:

- Shared vision
- Greater level of engagement, time commitments, and goal alignment
- Higher levels of responsibility, risk, and commitment
- Optimization of information resources and staff expertise
- Significant imagination and perseverance
- Ability to adapt and change as the process evolves and deepens
- Reciprocity and congeniality
- Shared power and decision-making

One growing trend in libraries is a willingness to put more resources and efforts into collaborative ventures. Very few institutions in today’s economic environment consider themselves able to meet all the resource needs of their patrons. As a result, it is possible to argue that many libraries are choosing to “go-all-in” to collaborate. Library leaders are more willing to give up autonomy than in the past and are more willing to commit to whatever it takes to make deep collaboration work. This commitment to collaboration is now so deep that failure in joint ventures is no longer considered an option. You could argue that many collaborative efforts have become too big to fail.

A couple of well-known projects are often described as deep collaboration. One of the most important is HathiTrust (http://www.hathitrust.org/). At its center, HathiTrust is a worldwide partnership of 60 major research institutions and libraries, including the University of Minnesota Libraries, working to digitize and preserve the cultural record. At this writing, HathiTrust has over 10.6 million volumes and is growing. One of the more interesting things about this collaborative is they are using their pooled resources and expertise to tackle problems that have long needed attention, such as digital preservation and archiving, meaningful shared collection development, copyright issues, and evolving standards for bibliographic information. HathiTrust is a prime example of how large scale collective action on mutual problems can be one of the most positive outcomes of deep collaboration.

Over the decades, many institutions have created shared union catalogs, such as the University of California system, the Triangle Research Library Network, MnPALS, and the Marmot Library Network. These shared catalogs are evolving into deeper platforms for collaboration often based on next generation catalogs. Many consortia are now integrating remote storage materials, digital objects, and e-book collections into the catalog. Many consortia are also building structures to support shared collection development, technical services, and even administration. One of the more powerful trends is that, instead of treating these shared catalogs as conglomerations of individual collections, a number of organizations are now moving to consider their collections to be jointly owned by the cooperative.

For all these examples of deepening collaboration, most experienced librarians can name two or three major failed collaboration projects. In most cases, these failures were based on not fully understanding the amount of leadership, staff time, and staff training required for success. Equally important was failing to understand the scope of work involved, and a lack of true commitment to shared vision and goals coming from a committed leadership also led to a number of significant collaborative failures. Further, the lessening of autonomy can be difficult for library staff who see their work mainly through the prism of the needs of the local institution. One of the striking aspects of failed collaborative efforts is how often it was tied to a change in leadership at participating institutions. New employees may

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https://carmenwiki.osu.edu/display/libraries/Definition+of+Collaboration
see only the drawbacks that occurred over time, rather than the benefits foreseen when the project was launched.

Knowledge gained from past failures has been one of the most important factors driving deep collaboration. The working premise here is that deeper levels of commitment will create a new culture within participating organizations through which the commitment to collaboration is so great that failure is not considered an option. The “all-in” commitment builds towards transformation and convergence that are often seen as the ultimate results of deep collaboration.

Part of the change to a library’s culture to truly accept collaborative works is a recognition that staff must be provided with an understanding of the importance of the project, adequate training and skills, and time to do the actual work. Library leaders must explain and build consensus before launching new projects, and they must commit to building staff skills. Not every staff member comes to the table with a strong skill set in negotiations, communication, and interpersonal relations. Giving up autonomy is never easy -- and given the different backgrounds, expectations, and history of participants -- much work must be done in dealing with potential barriers and building up trust and open lines communication. None of the requirements listed above is easy to achieve; all are time-consuming and require ongoing attention. The importance of this point cannot be overestimated. The commitment to launch into a deep collaborative process is, by definition, a commitment to providing extensive resources to the project.

As a new director looking at Minitex, it is clear to me that the organization has been built upon a foundational commitment to collaboration. If you look at the list of Minitex programs below, you will see that many of our programs are built on shared commitments within the library community:

- Resource sharing network including MnLINK Gateway
- Library Delivery
- ELM – the Electronic Library for Minnesota
- AskMN – online reference service for information and research help
- Minnesota Digital Library (MDL)
- Minnesota Library Access Center (MLAC)
- Cooperative Purchasing & Electronic Resources Services (CPERS)

The Minitex resource sharing networks work because all types of libraries in Minnesota, as well as our partners in South Dakota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin, are willing to respond quickly to requests to share information. The Minnesota Digital Library is a classic example of a deep collaborative project with partners including the Minnesota Historical Society, the University of Minnesota, many area universities and colleges like St. Cloud State University, and cooperation from over 150 smaller libraries and historical societies. A complex project like MDL succeeds because of a firm commitment by participants to provide great information resources to the residents of the state and region.

In _EDUCAUSE Review_, Wheeler and Hilton describe successful collaboration as “aligning around shared objectives and actively working together to pursue those objectives. Passive collaboration fails. Unbalanced collaboration, in which participants bring different expectations and relative resource commitments to the endeavor, also fails. Collaboration requires an intense and continuous focus on purpose and investment.” The literature suggests that those who clearly define the ‘why’ and ‘how’ of collaboration are more likely to succeed. The new trend in libraries toward a deeper level of organizational commitment is fixing some long-standing problems as the library community ushers in a new era of deeper collaboration.

Finally, when considering launching a collaborative effort, consider the following questions:

- Why collaborate? What is the vision you hope to achieve?
- What are the goals required to achieve the vision?
- What staff expertise is available on your joint teams, or what expertise do you need to develop?
- How will shared decision making work? Who has the authority?
- Is reciprocity equal? Are all partners providing acceptable levels of resources and commitments? (Note, not all partners can or should provide equal resources.)
- How will problems and conflicts be resolved?
- How will you define success? How will you measure our progress?
A Tribute to Our Former Director, Bill DeJohn
Cecelia Boone

We have a sad message for those who haven’t heard about the death of Bill DeJohn (Minitex Director 1984-2012) late last year.

The New Year brought the end of the influential career of our friend and former colleague, William T. “Bill” DeJohn, whose 50-year career in library collaboration ranged across the United States from Missouri to Illinois to Washington State to the Upper Midwest. He retired at the age of 71 after more than 27 years as director of Minitex, a consortium serving all types of libraries in Minnesota and the Dakotas. Bill died Dec. 31, 2012, after a short illness – 11 months after his retirement.

In his time at Minitex, Bill led the organization as it grew from a small staff focused on resource sharing, reference, OCLC support, and a serials union list to a 70-person staff who serve 2,200 libraries in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Throughout his career, Bill’s primary goal was a simple one -- supporting staff of all types of libraries so they could provide better service to their patrons. He sought to ensure that library users could get the best library and information resources regardless of their location or economic status.

Bill’s success and the regard felt for him by his colleagues were shown by the number of people who showed up to bid him farewell at an event in his honor on Jan. 10, 2012. The retirement party had to be moved to a larger space when replies indicated that more than 250 people were planning to attend an afternoon event in Minneapolis – in the middle of the winter! A man who was not comfortable displaying emotion and reluctant to consider how far his influence had reached, Bill was genuinely touched by the size and enthusiasm of his audience that day.

As he explained, “I just do what I think is the right thing to do. That’s what I’ve been doing since I was a librarian. It’s serve the users, help the staff—that just what I do.”

That simple formula is exemplified by the wide-ranging initiatives that have brought all types of libraries throughout the Minitex region together to provide improved services for library users from Winona, MN, to Williston, ND, and from Duluth, MN, to Hot Springs, SD. These initiatives came to fruition through Bill’s dedicated leadership of his staff and his skill in bringing library colleagues together in support of projects that would have been impossible for individual libraries.

The initiatives included:

- Building the Electronic Library for Minnesota (elm4you.org), which provides a collection of research and information databases to be used by Minnesota residents through their school, public, academic, and state government libraries. Some of the resources selected for ELM, which are identified by a task force made up of library staff from Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota, are available through special arrangements for residents of the Dakotas. The ELM collection was one of the first “Big Deal” packages negotiated for a multitype library consortium in the early 1990s.

- Working with libraries and librarians through Minnesota to foster the live interactive chat reference service, AskMN: The Librarian Is In! (askmn.org/) This collaborative reference initiative is the culmination of Bill’s long interest in providing reference support for library users regardless of their location – or the hour of the day!

- Participating in the mid-1990s in the Minnesota Library Planning Task Force, a state supported working group of librarians and representatives of business and the public, which provided the genesis for:
  - MnLINK (http://www.minitex.umn.edu/MnLink/About/), a two-part initiative that provides a statewide virtual library to link Minnesotans to the state’s rich library resources as well as the integrated library system used by Minnesota’s publically supported universities, colleges, and state government units, and
Minnesota Library Access Center (minitex.umn.edu/storage/), which provides storage for 1.48 million important, but lesser used volumes owned by 21 Minnesota libraries.

Taking part in the group that founded the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) with its signature collection, Minnesota Reflections (reflections.mndigital.org/). MDL has been chosen to be one of seven service hubs for the new Digital Public Library of America. Over its more than 10-year history, Minnesota Reflections has grown to be a collection of more than 135,000 images, maps and documents from more than 150 of Minnesota’s cultural heritage organizations.

Growing the Minitex Cooperative Purchasing and Electronic Resources Program (CPERS -- minitex.umn.edu/About/Units/Cpers.aspx), which provides negotiated discounts for library products and electronic resources that saved Minnesota libraries over $35.5 million (excluding ELM) in Fiscal Year 2012.

Joining with Minnesota’s state library agency to form the Minitex/State Library Services Standards Review Task Force (minitex.umn.edu/Communications/Standards/), which brought together staff from all types of libraries – and experts from outside the library community as needed – to draft standards and best practices documents on topics ranging from minimal bibliographic standards to bar codes to indexing standards for bibliographic records to Z39.50 attribute set recommendations to data privacy to digitization to open linking.

All of these projects, and many more, grew because of Bill’s work with library leaders and libraries throughout the Minitex region. In his early years with Minitex, Bill put untold miles on his vehicles, visiting with library staffs from International Falls to Worthington, MN, from Rapid City, SD, to Grand Marais, MN. Bill and his staff worked to bring together librarians who, although they had common interests and common needs, did not come together because of geographic or library type diversity.

And, Bill’s interests reached beyond the narrowly defined library sphere. He was just as likely to attend a meeting of the Minnesota P-20 Educational Partnership (http://www.mnp20.org/) to make sure that “libraries were at the table” as he was at meetings of the professional library associations in Minitex’s three states. He made sure that members of the Minitex Policy Advisory Council had access to the Harvard Business School Newsletter and that Minitex participated in the National Information Standards Organization and the Coalition for Networked Information.

Everyone who knew Bill was devastated to learn of his terminal illness less than a year after his retirement. Somehow, the idea that Bill would not live to see the fruits of his long years of work and would not be able to provide guidance for those of us still working to do the “right thing for the library user” seems almost incomprehensible. He is missed – greatly.

A Facebook tribute from one of his Minnesota library colleagues summed up our wish: “Bill was a wonderful man. Rest in peace. May heaven be filled with books and newfies.” (One of my fondest memories is of Bill and his wife, Kathi, and their pride in their numerous Newfoundlands – Kathi’s pictures of the large, calm creatures became a hallmark of Bill’s presentations.)

(A slightly different version of this article was published in Collaborative Librarianship, Vol 4, No 4, 2012 -- http://www.collaborativelibrarianship.org/)

MDL Partners with Digital Public Library of America
Carla Urban

The Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) (http://www.mndigital.org/) has moved into a new, exciting partnership with the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) (http://dp.la/). The MDL contributed one of the online exhibits that were featured at the DPLA’s April 18 launch, and MDL will serve as one of seven service hubs for the DPLA. The exhibit, History of Survivance: Upper Midwest 19th Century Native American Narratives (http://z.umn.edu/dqi) tells a story of culture disruption, change and continuity, and the effect that all these factors have had upon the Native Americans in the region.

The DPLA is a groundbreaking project that, for the first time, will make many of the nation’s
significant digital collections searchable and accessible to the public from a single site. It will aggregate millions of digital artifacts from local archives, libraries, museums, and cultural heritage institutions across America and deliver them to students, teachers, scholars, and the public via a powerful search interface.

Many people scrambled to align MDL’s metadata with DPLA requirements and to pull together this truly impressive exhibit, which is curated by Leah Bowe of Minnesota Historical Society who also curated MHS’ exhibition on the US-Dakota War of 1862 earlier this year. The MDL exhibit shares space with others from such sources as the University of Georgia, Boston Public Library, Kentucky Digital Library, and the South Carolina Digital Library.

In its role as a DPLA service hub, the MDL will serve as an “on-ramp” to interested public libraries, special libraries, colleges, museums, historical societies, and other organizations across the state - ensuring that local and regional collections throughout Minnesota can be discovered and accessed through the DPLA as part of this national initiative.

MDL is very proud of the caliber of our contributions to the DPLA. Read more details in the University of Minnesota Libraries’ press release: http://blog.lib.umn.edu/lib-web/news/2013/04/american_history_at_your_finge.html

The MDL continues to be active on many fronts in addition to our DPLA collaboration:

• Our primary source of funding is through the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund of the Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy Constitutional Amendment. As part of the Minnesota History Coalition, we have a funding request before the Legislature this session that will allow us to expand our activities into the arena of digital preservation services. We are hopeful that our request will be approved.

• The MDL Annual Meeting, which will have the theme of Digital Storytelling, is scheduled for June 4 at the Continuing Education and Conference Center, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Everyone is welcome to attend to learn how to use technology to more effectively tell the story of your organization, community or family. To register, see: http://z.umn.edu/mdlreg

• We continue to seek content to fill gaps in the Minnesota Reflections collection on such topics as the Great War, the Influenza pandemic of 1918, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), communities of color in Minnesota, and more.

Our purpose is to assist Minnesota libraries and cultural heritage institutions in making their unique resources broadly accessible on the web and to provide educational and outreach resources to connect users with those resources. If you’re interested in digitizing materials in these areas or others visit http://z.umn.edu/mdlphase9 or contact Marian Rengel, MDL Outreach Coordinator, at 320-308-5625 or mrrengel@stcloudstate.edu

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Dr. G. A. Dahl posed for a photographer in circa 1900 in Mankato. This photo was featured on the DPLA website last month.

Photo of an unidentified ice hockey team in Duluth circa 1900.

A print of a Dakota encampment, created by artist and military officer Seth Eastman in 1850.
RDA, BIBFRAME, and the Cataloging Ahead

Mark K. Ehlert

AACR2 and earlier cataloging codes viewed the library catalog as a diverse network of records linked together via notes and headings. Records, in turn, were seen as descriptions of library materials to which these notes and headings were appended to facilitate collocation and discovery. These cataloging principles informed the implementation of the MARC standard in the modern catalog as a series of constituent electronic bibliographic records (descriptions of library materials) and authority records (repositories for name, title, and subject headings).

RDA takes a different view, one based on the tenets proposed by two reports dubbed FRBR and FRAD, first issued by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions in 1998 and 2009, respectively. These studies steered the outlook on the content and structure of catalogs away from the record model and toward the entity-relationship model.

This model tells us that the catalog contains entities of interest to the user (persons, families, corporate bodies as well as those for subject matter and for library resources, the latter divided into levels of information dubbed work, expression, manifestation, and item). Each of these entities is described in the catalog via facts and figures known as attributes (e.g., Shakespeare died in 1616; this published volume has 253 pages; Beethoven’s *Eroica Symphony* was composed for orchestra and is in the key of E-flat major). With each entity’s attributes recorded, the entities are then associated with one another, forming relationships: the person of Shakespeare is related to his work *Hamlet*; Richard Bachman is a pseudonym of Stephen King; a CD of Mozart’s opera *Don Giovanni* is related to the captured performance of the work by a particular ensemble, which may manifest itself in other formats too (SACD, streaming audio). RDA takes this entity-relationship model and, using much of the AACR2 text, forms it into a practical set of guidelines for cataloging any number of library resources.

From theoretical models, to long-gestated cataloging rule revisions, to Library of Congress (LC) implementation on March 31, 2013, RDA has moved from vaporware to viable standard while also gaining legitimacy, if not admirers. As of mid-April, all original cataloging done by LC catalogers follows the RDA rule set. Other libraries around the nation are shifting, if sometimes slowly, to the new standard as well. Overseas, RDA is on the radar of various national libraries; the British Library implemented the new cataloging guidelines on April 12, whereas the German National Library will do so later this year. And several translations of RDA are in progress or will soon see the light of day.

Yet, we should bear in mind that RDA is an evolving document. By mid-May, the extensive rewriting of RDA is expected to be finished; by July, some major rule revisions will be incorporated into the text, some affecting copy cataloging and others original cataloging. No doubt RDA will continue to mature as more catalogers interact with it and additional means of employing it in local systems and in the online environment come to bear.

Not only is the text of RDA in flux, OCLC — following on the heels of LC implementation — also updated their RDA cataloging policy. Based on feedback from their membership, OCLC formally recognizes the fact that some libraries will take their time transitioning to RDA, and, therefore, will continue to accept original AACR2 cataloging into the foreseeable future. By the same token, their policy now allows any non-RDA record to be “flipped” to RDA as long as the cataloger has the piece in hand.

OCLC also announced future endeavors to incorporate various RDA elements and practices to non-RDA records, such as having an algorithm spell out certain abbreviations and add relator terms (like author and illustrator) to name headings. Another project, to begin after March 31, 2016, will remove GMDs (245 $h terms in brackets like [videorecording] and [electronic resource]) from WorldCat records.

It was in light of RDA’s broader implementation, not to mention its entity-relationship expression of bibliographic data, that BIBFRAME was born. BIBFRAME is promoted as the successor to MARC, which has served libraries for over 40 years, but is incompatible with today’s Web standards like XML (Extensible Markup Language, an open, structured, and malleable convention for forming Web-friendly documents) and RDF (Resource Description Framework, a means of encoding information so systems can share and “understand” it). These and other standards form the backbone of Linked Data and, more widely, the Semantic Web.
The BIBFRAME initiative was initiated by LC in late 2011 with partners from around the world. LC also contracted with Zepheira, a group that works with library standards and linked data/Semantic Web applications, to get the ball rolling on developing a high-level model of what BIBFRAME might look like. This initiative’s goal is to bridge the gap between MARC record data and the Web by harnessing the power of the Web to distribute and manage bibliographic data. In a sense, much of the data that appears in library catalogs will be apportioned to the “always on” Web. Or put another way, our catalogs will in part live on the Web.

Like RDA, BIBFRAME is still very much a work in progress. Several institutions that call themselves the “Early Experimenters,” for instance, are testing the BIBFRAME model. These institutions include the German National Library, OCLC, and Princeton University. Also, ILS vendors are likely to be following these events with interest, as BIBFRAME and Linked Data may play a large role in next-generation library systems. This enterprise is expected to be a years-long process of development, implementation, and refinement to successfully carry over onto the Web the rich archive of data found in billions of MARC records in local library systems from around the world.

RDA, BIBFRAME, Linked Data — all of these are individual efforts to a future not yet fully articulated or realized. It will take the combined effort of catalogers, reference staff, IT personnel, ILS vendors, national libraries, and others to move us to this inexorable goal of serving our many publics with bibliographic information in a dynamic online environment.

The question not yet answered: Will all of this work be for the better?

Further information on the topics mentioned above is available from various online sources.

**RDA**

- A short survey of FRBR by Barbara Tillett, one of the strongest proponents of the catalog model: http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/whatfrbr.html

- The RDA Prospectus provides an overview of the new cataloging standard: http://www.rda-jsc.org/rdaprospectus.html

- An updated version of the OCLC RDA Policy Statement was issued on March 31: http://oclc.org/en-US/rda/new-policy.html

**BIBFRAME**


- Bibliographic Framework as a Web of Data is a “primer document” that gives a more technical overview of what BIBFRAME is and aims to achieve: http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition/pdf/marcld-report-11-21-2012.pdf

The Minitex Reference Outreach & Instruction unit (ROI) has had a busy winter of instructing library staff, teachers, students and others about the statewide Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM) databases. Here are a few highlights that we’d like to share with you:

History Day in Minnesota
In addition to presenting and exhibiting at a host of local and statewide conferences, Reference Outreach & Instruction has had a banner year with History Day requests. The number of classes ROI visited to prepare for their research trips to the University of Minnesota's Wilson Library nearly doubled this year from 40 last year to 72 sessions. As a result, the number of middle and high school students with whom we had instructional time increased from 1,236 to 1,926 at 21 different area schools.

Intro to ELM for Teachers
Minitex Reference Outreach & Instruction had a busy schedule of webinars over the winter, including a new series introducing ELM to K-12 classroom teachers. If you missed the sessions, you can find recordings here:

- Intro to ELM for Teachers: Elementary School (http://z.umn.edu/elmeled)
- Intro to ELM for Teachers: English Language Arts (http://z.umn.edu/elmenglish)
- Intro to ELM for Teachers: Social Studies (http://z.umn.edu/elmsocial)
- Intro to ELM for Teachers: Science (http://z.umn.edu/elmscience)
- Intro to ELM for Teachers: Professional Development for Educators (http://z.umn.edu/elmprofdev)

You can find recordings of all of our ELM webinars at: (http://z.umn.edu/mtxtrain).

Calling All ELM Portal Users!
If you or your library users access the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM) databases via the ELM portal (elm4you.org), we want to hear from you. We’re conducting a brief user survey to help improve the experience of finding and accessing the ELM databases via the portal and to gain ideas for promoting and communicating about ELM. By answering five or six questions about research and the ELM portal, respondents can also be entered into a drawing for a free iPad Mini! Please share this message with anyone you know that uses the ELM portal.

The survey can be found on the ELM website and will run until June 4, when we’ll have the drawing and notify the winner. Thanks for your help garnering feedback. Insights gained via survey responses will help us make the ELM portal as effective as it can be.

Minitex News Nuggets

Minitex’s 22nd Annual ILL Conference Focuses on Libraries’ Future

The 22nd Annual Minitex Interlibrary Loan Conference was held on May 2 at the Continuing Education and Conference Center, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Over 200 attendees heard presentations by Dan Rasmus, strategist and industry analyst; Valerie Horton, Minitex Director; Matt Goldner, OCLC Product and Technology Advocate; and Becky Ringwelski, Minitex Associate Director; and Cherie Weston, University of Minnesota Libraries, Interlibrary Loan. Evaluations highlighted the usefulness of all of the sessions. The PowerPoint slides from the presentations are available at: http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Conferences/Highlights/2013/ILLConference/
Minitex Minutes
Short video clips highlighting Minitex news and programs will be coming soon to a computer or personal video device near you! We are starting a “Minitex Minutes” video series – a number of short (3-5 minutes at most) clips that will help keep you up-to-date with what’s going on at Minitex. Watch the Minitex News listserv and our Facebook page for announcements when the clips are available for viewing.

New Report on Use of E-Resource Content for ILL
The Minitex/MnLINK ILL Committee has released a new report about the use of content of electronic resources for interlibrary loan (http://z.umn.edu/illeresources). The report is the second document to grow from an interlibrary loan survey that the Committee conducted in October 2012. The first report, the Minitex/MnLINK ILL Committee Survey Summary (http://z.umn.edu/illsummary), provided information about such ILL-related topics as use of electronic resources, communication methods and challenges that ILL staff are facing. Use of electronic resources for interlibrary loan and issues related to the licenses for e-journals were key areas of concern for the respondents. The new report focuses on these areas and offers practical tips for advancing the use of e-journals for interlibrary loan.

Please share any thoughts you have on this topic or any other with the Committee. You can find a list of committee members at http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Committees/Ill/ as well as additional information on the work of the group.

1 Millionth Electronic Delivery of Resource Sharing Articles
Last December, Minitex Resource Sharing staff made the 1 millionth electronic delivery of a requested article! That total includes 642,910 deliveries to Interlibrary Loan offices using Ariel or OCLC Article Exchange and 357,771 deliveries to the desktops of end-users using MEDD (Minitex Electronic Document Delivery). Over 90% of the articles were filled from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, collections and were delivered within 24 hours of the request’s receipt.


We have learned that Minitex Resource Sharing is the biggest user of OCLC Article Exchange. We are averaging 1,200 articles each month sent via Article Exchange, and Article Exchange is rapidly becoming Minitex participating libraries’ preferred method for receiving articles from the Minitex Office.

AskMN 100,000th Question!
AskMN: The Librarian Is In! (askmn.org) has received its 100,000th question since the live interactive chat service began in April 2008! The 100,000th question was sent on Feb. 7 by a Hennepin County Library patron, and Hennepin County staff answered it.

The types of questions submitted to AskMN range from library-specific questions to research-related inquiries. Many students come to AskMN for help in getting started on research, and there are lots of questions about Minnesota statutes, laws, regulations, and history. Others ask library-specific questions about holdings, finding specific books and articles, and advice on which books to read next. Job-seekers, self-employed persons, and employees of start-up companies ask questions about locating forms, name changes, what forms and applications can be completed online versus in-person, and more.

We look forward to serving more Minnesota patrons with their information needs in the years ahead.
Wilbur Stolt Elected Chair Elect/Vice Chair of OCLC Americas Regional Council

The Minitex staff would like to congratulate Wilbur Stolt, Director of Libraries, Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota, on his election as Vice Chair/Chair-Elect of the OCLC Americas Regional Council. Stolt will become the Chair of the Executive Committee on July 1, 2014.

He has served as an OCLC Americas Regional Council (ARC) Delegate to the OCLC Global Council since 2010 and as Chair of the ARC Communications Committee. Earlier, Stolt served as Minitex Delegate to the OCLC Members Council, ARC’s predecessor under the previous OCLC governance model.

Stolt has provided a consistent voice of support for all OCLC libraries, particularly those in rural areas. In the Minitex region, he served on last year’s search committee for the new Minitex director and has been active in the North Dakota library community, serving on the ODIN Advisory Council since 2000 and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council from 2007-2013. Among many other activities, he has served as Chair of the ACRL Bylaws Committee and as President of the EPSCoR Science Information Group.

Stolt has been Director of Libraries at UND since 2000. Previously, he was Director, Public Services and Library Systems and Associate Professor of Bibliography at the University of Oklahoma. He holds an M.S. in Library Science and an M.A. in History from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and bachelor’s degrees from the University of North Dakota.

The Americas Regional Council and its counterparts for the Asia Pacific Region and the Europe, Middle East, and Africa, plan meetings to help spread news about issues of issues to members of the OCLC cooperative. They serve as the link between individual OCLC member libraries and the OCLC Global Council and help shape the future direction for OCLC and libraries. For more information, see: http://www.oclc.org/en-US/councils.html

Daria Bossman Named New SD State Librarian

Daria Bossman was named South Dakota's new state librarian in February. For the preceding five months, Bossman served as interim state librarian after the departure of Dan Siebersma. She came to the South Dakota State Library, a part of the state's Department of Education, in 2008 as the assistant state librarian for development services and has been instrumental in the library's transitional efforts.

Formerly the director of library services and an assistant professor for 15 years at Morningside College in Sioux City, IA, she also served as a reference and acquisitions librarian at Briar Cliff University in Sioux City and at Morningside. In addition to her 20 years of administrative experience, Bossman taught English and history in high schools in Nebraska and Oklahoma. She holds degrees from Midland Lutheran University in Nebraska and Emporia State University in Kansas.
Director Changes at Minitex Participating Libraries

Diane Clayton and Julie Rochat officially retired as co-directors of Bush Memorial Library at Hamline University at the end of 2012. During their 15 years of library leadership, Rochat and Clayton improved Bush library as a campus resource for high quality student research and collaborated on many tasks including revitalizing the Library after a devastating fire in 2000. Although she is retiring as co-director of Bush Library, Clayton will continue to serve as resident director of the Hamline in York study abroad program in the spring of 2013. Amy Sheehan, Reference and Instruction Librarian, is serving as Interim Director.

Dan Daily is the new Dean of Libraries for the University of South Dakota. Daily had served as Interim Dean for six months and had been Associate Dean of the Libraries and University Archivist/Special Collections Librarian for the previous three years. He came to USD from Northwestern College where he directed the library and provided planning leadership for a new learning commons and library. He holds an M.L.S. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Masters of Theological Studies from Duke University Divinity Law School.

Daphne Drewello, Director of the James River Valley Library System, retired late last year after 33 years of public library service in Jamestown, ND. She began her tenure as the director of the Alfred Dickey Library in 1979 upon graduating from library school. After a public vote to combine the Alfred Dickey Library and the Stutsman County Library in 2008, she served as director of the merged systems.

Kristi Harms is the new Director of the Northwest Regional Library System in Thief River Falls. Previously, Harms was Director of Veterans Memorial Library in Bismarck, ND, and Director of the Jefferson County Library in southern Indiana. She received her M.L.S from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Harms’ predecessor, Barbara Jaquet-Kalinoski retired in the fall of 2012 after 31 years as the Director of Northwest Regional Library System. Bob Boese, retired Director of the East Central Regional Library, served as Interim Director.

Rachel Garrett Howell has assumed her new duties as Curator of Books at The Bakken Museum in Minneapolis. Previously, she worked at the Dallas Public Library as Assistant Manager, Special Collections and as Archivist/Special Collections Librarian, Emory & Henry College and the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church. She succeeds Elizabeth Ihrig, who retired after heading the Bakken Library for many years.

Carol Johnson has retired after 20 years as Director of the St. Catherine University Library. Before joining the St. Kate’s staff, Johnson had served as Associate Director at the College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University. She earned her Masters in Library Science at Drexel and a Masters in Industrial Relations from the University of Minnesota. She has been active in the Minnesota Library Association and other work in the Minnesota library community. Jim Newsome, Head of Public Services, is serving as Interim Director.

Robbie LaFleur has retired after 13 years as Director of the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library. She began her work at LRL on March 3, 1986 – coming to LRL from Minitex where she was a reference librarian from 1977-1986. LaFleur was honored in 2011 when she received the Staff Achievement Award from the Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section of the National Conference of State Legislatures. She also received the Peter S. Popovich Freedom of Information Award by the Minnesota Chapter of Professional Journalists in 2008 for her long support of access to state documents and legislative information for the Legislature and citizens. She is a member of the Minnesota Library Association and has been a board member of the Minnesota Coalition on Government Information. Deputy Director and Reference Librarian Elizabeth Lincoln will serve as Acting Director.

Liz Lynch is the new Director of the Lake Agassiz Regional Library in Moorhead, MN. Lynch has worked for LARL since 2001 as Moorhead Public Services Supervisor, LARL Youth Services Co-Coordinator, and, most recently, as Moorhead Hub Supervisor. Previously, she worked at Livingston Lord Library, Minnesota State University Moorhead; Carlson Library, Clarion, PA; and Enoch Pratt “Free Library in Baltimore. She holds an MLS from Clarion University of Pennsylvania. She succeeds Betty Fredette who retired at the end of March after working in public libraries in Connecticut, Kansas, and South Dakota for 40 years. She had served as Director at LARL since 1998.
Laura Probst, a native Minnesotan, has returned to Minnesota to become Library Director at Concordia College, Moorhead. She had served as the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian at Florida International University since 2007. Probst graduated from Luther College with a bachelor’s degree in music and earned an M.L.S from the University of Illinois and a master’s degree in musicology from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Probst succeeds Sharon Hoverson, who retired after 32 years of service to the Carl B. Ylvisaker Library on campus. She became Library Director in 2004.

Liz Reppe is the new MN State Law Librarian and head of the Minnesota State Law Library. Previously, she had served as Manager of the Dakota County Law Library, Law Librarian for Washington County, and Law Librarian for the Chicago-Kent College of Law. She also was an adjunct professor at Hamline University and Manager for Thomson West.

Brad Schaffner is the new College Librarian at Carleton College in Northfield, MN. Schaffner came from Harvard University where he was head of the Slavic Division at Widener Library, Harvard University. A Minnesota native, he received his B.A. at Gustavus Adolphus College and his M.A. and an M.L.S. at Indiana University, along with completing Ph.D. work in history.

Mark Vargas will become Dean of Learning Resources Services at St. Cloud State University effective July 1. Vargas brings 25 years of leadership experience in learning resources to his new position. Since 2002, he has been Director of the Robert and Mary Rita Murphy Stump Library, Saint Xavier University in Chicago. Previously, he served as Director of the Nash Library, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, and in archival teaching or administrative positions at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Indiana University Northwest and Master of Arts in History and Master of Library Science degrees from the University of Maryland. Keith Ewing will continue to serve as Interim Dean until June 30.
The Minitex Messenger is an occasional newsletter published by Minitex, a publicly supported network of academic, public, state government, and special libraries working cooperatively to provide and improve library services in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

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