

## Minitex Year in Review Fiscal Year 2012



*An Information and Resource Sharing Program of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and the University of Minnesota Libraries*

Minitex completed its 40th year as a state-funded program during Fiscal Year 2012 (July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012), building upon its history as a major collaborative force for academic, public, state government, and special libraries and users of libraries in Minnesota and beyond. While Minitex started as a grant-funded pilot project for Minnesota libraries in 1969, its work as a state-funded program of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and a division of the University of Minnesota Libraries began in 1971. It continues as a publicly supported network of libraries working cooperatively to improve service for their users in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. There is reciprocity with Wisconsin libraries.

### Major Milestones for FY2012



- The 40th Anniversary was marked with celebrations at state library conferences and other events and through a special issue of the Minitex MESSENGER and other publications. We also reconnected with long-term library leaders of the Minnesota library community and Minitex supporters as part of the Minitex Oral History project.



*Bill DeJohn chats with fairgoers at the Minnesota State Fair, 2011.*

- Bill DeJohn, our Director for more than 27 years, retired on January 11. His farewell event was attended by more than 250 friends and colleagues from Minnesota and the Dakotas. The search for DeJohn's successor began immediately with Becky Ringwelski and Mary Parker serving as interim co-directors.



*Bill DeJohn gives his farewell remarks, January 10, 2012*

- We were saddened in the Spring to learn of the death of our founding director, Alice Wilcox, who led the organization until 1982 and whose contributions were critical to Minitex's early development.



*Alice Wilcox*

- The volume of material requested through Minitex Resource Sharing and distributed through the Minitex Delivery System remained high in FY12. Benefitting from increased staff expertise and new technological solutions, Resource Sharing staff set a record for the number of requests filled during a single fiscal year.

The MnLINK Gateway provided Minnesotans with access to the collections of most Minnesota libraries, with 348,000 items delivered to Gateway users – the highest number of filled requests for a fiscal year since the Gateway’s inception in 2003.



- Use of the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM) and other electronic resources provided to Minnesotans through legislative appropriations to Minitex and State Library Services, a division of the Minnesota Department of Education, continued to grow with 32.5 million searches in ELM and over 9.2 million full-text retrievals from ELM resources.



- Minitex instruction and education programs provided information to staff members from Minitex participating libraries and Minnesota K12 schools. Topics ranged from ELM (the Electronic Library for Minnesota) to Resource Description and Access (or RDA) -- the new cataloging rules that will supersede AACR2 early in 2013. While many of the instruction sessions were online webinars, we continued to travel throughout the state and region to maintain contact with staff of participating libraries.

## Important Performance Measures, FY2012

### Resource Sharing and Delivery through Minitex

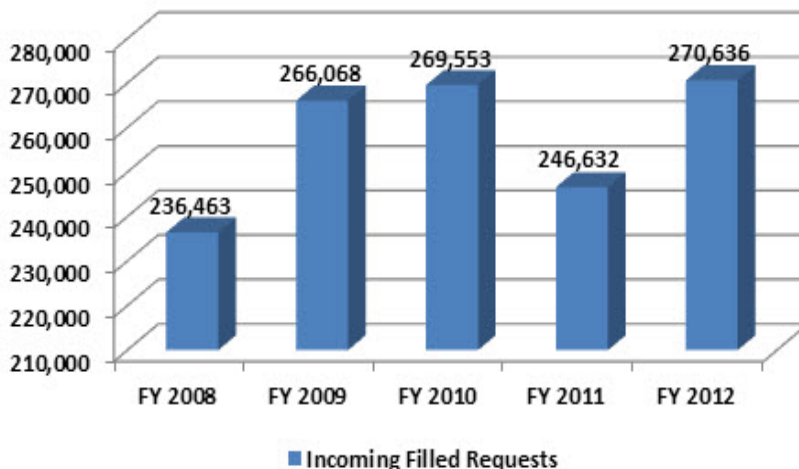
- Number of requests for loans and articles that Minitex handled from Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin: **nearly 400,000**. Number of requests filled: **270,636** – a new record for the number of requests filled in a single fiscal year.

- Number of book loans and copies of articles taken from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Libraries to fill resource sharing requests from Minnesotans: **140,000**.

- Number of borrowing requests sent via the MnLINK Gateway: **542,800**. Number of items delivered to Gateway users: **348,000**.

- Number of items handled in Minitex Delivery System: **over 1 million**.

Minitex Resource Sharing: Incoming Filled Requests

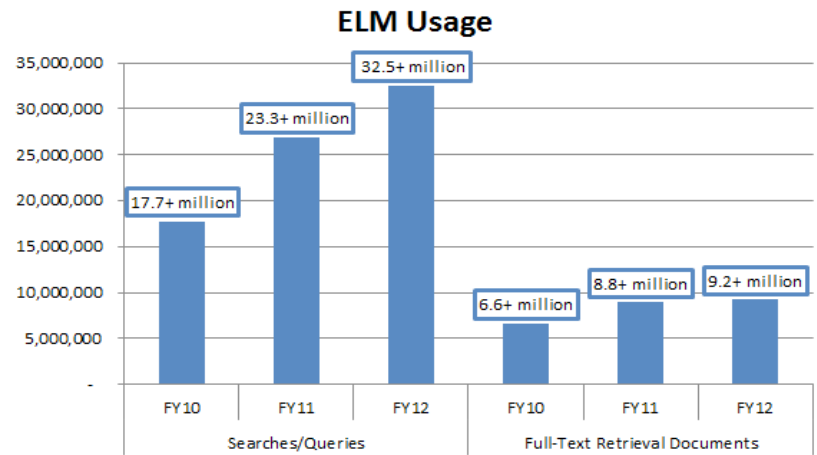


## Electronic Resources Provided Through Minitex

- Number of online searches in Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM): **32.5 million**.
- Number of full text retrievals from ELM: **9.2 million**.

MnKnows

- Number of visits to MnKnows – the Minitex-supported portal that provides one-stop access to Minnesota online library services: **25,664**. Number of unique visitors: **16,108**.



## Minitex Instruction and Education Programs

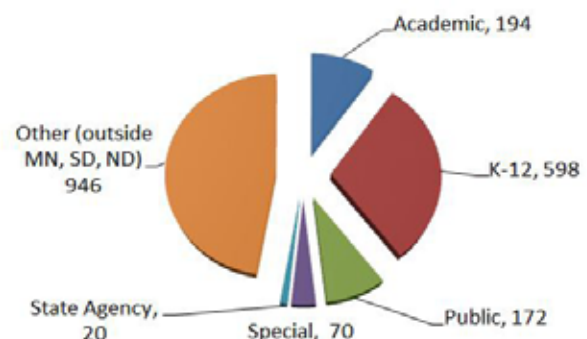
- Number of attendees at online or onsite workshops: **4,129 attendees in 287 sessions**.
- Minitex-sponsored conferences and events provided information and networking opportunities. The keynote for 21st Annual Minitex Interlibrary Loan Conference focused on “Learning in the Digital Age” by Lee Rainie, Director, Pew Internet & American Library Project, and Kenneth Crews, Director, Copyright Advisory Office, Columbia University, discussed copyright and “The Law of ILL in Transition.” The Minitex Annual Minnesota Public Library Node Meeting in August provided a chance for staff from Minitex and public libraries to talk about the MnLINK Gateway and other topics.

Also, Minitex staff cooperated with library colleagues to plan conferences including the annual meeting of the Minnesota Digital Library, ExLibris Upper Midwest Users Group, the Library Technology Conference at Macalester College, and Upper Midwest ContentDM User Group meeting, and Enhancing Quality Staff, a symposium for library paraprofessionals and support staff presented by the University of Minnesota Libraries.

## Cooperative Programs Provided or Administered by Minitex

- Cooperative Purchasing discounts and subsidies on electronic resources and library products resulted in cost avoidance for MN libraries totaling: **over \$35.5 million** (excluding ELM).
- Cost avoidance for MN libraries and schools had each subscribed to ELM resources: **over \$80 million**.

## Number of Libraries CPERS Worked with in FY2012: 2000



- Minnesota Reflections, the signature collection of the Minnesota Digital Library, grew to include **35,000 titles** and **120,000** digital objects from **135** organizations across Minnesota.



- Volumes held by Minnesota Library Access Center: **1.48 million**. Number of Minnesota libraries participating: **21**. During FY12, all depositing libraries signed agreements stating that they pledged to keep their materials available in MLAC for 25 years.



- Facilitated the transfer of monthly billing for **175** Minitex OCLC-member libraries from Minitex to OCLC as part of the changing relationship of OCLC and former regional service networks.



- Promoted the continued use of Minitex deposit accounts for **108** participating libraries after cessation of OCLC monthly billing activity.

- Number of questions from Minnesotans in 24x7 AskMN (virtual reference service) funded and administered by Minitex: **27,352**.

