Reports included below are:

- U of M Twin Cities Campus, Wendy Pradt Lougee
- State Government / Special Libraries, Brooke Roegge
- Private Colleges, Dan Gjelten
- Multicounty Multitype Library System
- Metro-Area Public Libraries, Patricia Conley
- State Universities, Joan Roca
- Public Libraries, Mary Lukkarila
- Minnesota State Colleges – Twin Cities & Southern Region, Julie Setnosky

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities Campus Report
Wendy Pradt Lougee, University of Minnesota – TC
March 2, 2012

RECENT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS
Ojibwe People's Dictionary
The University released the online Ojibwe People's Dictionary, a fully searchable multimedia Ojibwe-English dictionary, consisting of 7,000 +/- words that features the voices of Ojibwe speakers alongside Ojibwe cultural collections. Photographs, documents, and other materials help to illustrate the dictionary. To develop this resource, the Libraries’ Digital Library Services and Web Development departments partnered with John D. Nichols, Professor of American Indian Studies, whose lifelong scholarly work provided the basis for this work. This partnership also extended to the University’s Department of American Indian Studies and the Minnesota Historical Society. This project was funded with generous support from the Legacy Amendment's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. The Dictionary may be accessed at: <http://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu>.

New and Improved Mobile Website
A new version of the Libraries’ mobile website was launched in advance of spring semester. This version has a streamlined interface and increased functionality, including integration of the Library Course Page system, which delivers a tailored library resource and service page for every course offered at the University. See the new interface at: <http://www.lib.umn.edu/mobile/>.

Demand Driven Acquisitions E-Book Initiative
Over the past six months, the University Libraries began a Demand Driven Acquisitions E-Book initiative with YBP and ebrary, to allow users to self select e-book titles, which will be transparently purchased and added to the collection. The process is completely integrated with our existing selection, record loading, and invoicing routines with YBP, with full GOBI history and duplication control. The pool of discovery records, which are loaded into our catalog on a weekly basis, is defined by our approval profiles and notification slip coverage with YBP. We have removed from the pool publishers from which we are already receiving e-books based on CIC arrangements. We did not include previously available e-books in our initial load of records. On average, 100 Discovery records are loaded each week, but it has ranged from 60-300. We have thus far purchased approximately 175 e-books.
Alma Implementation
The Alma Implementation Project was launched in late January, involving approximately 70 individuals from the University’s Twin Cities and coordinate campus libraries. Alma is Ex Libris’ next-generation, cloud-based integrated library system. The University is largest institutional participant in Alma Early Adopter Program in North America.

Historic Cataloging Backlogs
We continue to make progress in cataloging historic backlogs and hidden collections. Of note, Technical Services staff completed cataloging the last 2,600 items of backlog that once numbered 20,000 books that had no acceptable copy available or were in languages where we lacked expertise. Over the years many staff members were involved in reducing the backlog’s size: collections staff chose some items for withdrawal, Technical Services staff re-searched items and cataloged them as they had time, and records were run through the OCLC database to find copy for overlay.

GRANTS
Performing Arts
The Performing Arts Archives has received an Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund ("Legacy Fund") grant award in the amount of $159,200. The project, "Preserving Minnesota's Performing Arts Heritage," will enable the reformatting of magnetic media and film archives for six performing arts organizations: Guthrie Theater, Penumbra Theatre, James Sewell Ballet, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Minnesota Orchestra, and Minnesota Dance Theater over the next year. The project will begin in July.

January saw the beginning of another grant to the Performing Arts Archives, this one funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services. The one-year $99,500 grant entitled "Preserving the Ephemeral: An Archival Program for Theater and the Performing Arts" partners the University Libraries with St. Paul's Penumbra Theater in an effort to model a scalable, sustainable archives program geared toward enabling theaters to determine what they should keep to document their artistic, educational, and administrative histories. Part of the grant will focus on theaters of color.

New Grant Will Explore "Data Literacy" to Educate the Next Generation of Scientists
In partnership with Purdue University Libraries, the University of Oregon, and Cornell University, the UMN University Libraries will participate in a $250,000 grant project, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services to develop training programs for the next generation of scientists, to enable them to find, organize, use, and share data efficiently and effectively.

The program is intended for graduate students in engineering and science disciplines who are working their way toward careers as research scientists. The Data Information Literacy effort will be carried out over a two-year period by five project teams. Two of the teams, consisting of a data librarian, a subject librarian and a disciplinary faculty researcher, are based at Purdue, with one team each at the other institutions.

Each team will conduct an assessment of data needs of their discipline, including interviewing and observing researchers. The teams will then develop and implement targeted instruction and assess the impact of that instruction in developing the data information literacy skills of graduate students.

NSF DataNet Award
The University of Minnesota was awarded a five-year, $8 million grant from the National Science Foundation's Office of Cyberinfrastructure for Terra Populus: A Global Population / Environment Data Network. TerraPop will combine two centuries of census data with global environmental data including land cover, land use, and climate records. Beyond the goal of integrating this information into a common database, the team plans to disseminate the newly available data to researchers around the world. The
Minnesota Population Center will lead the effort with support from the Institute on the Environment, the Libraries, and faculty from the College of Liberal Arts and College of Science and Engineering. Additional partners include the Center for International Earth Science.

**EVENTS**

**Upcoming Exhibits and Events:** [http://blog.lib.umn.edu/lib-web/events](http://blog.lib.umn.edu/lib-web/events)

*All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.*

**Opening Reception: Forty Years of Chicano Studies at the University of Minnesota**

*When:* Thursday, March 22, 2012  
*Where:* Wilson Library, 4th Floor

**Third Annual Pankake Poetry Reading**

*Who:* Poet Heid E. Erdrich  
*When:* Tuesday, April 24, 2012 • 4:00 p.m.  
*Where:* 120 Elmer L. Andersen Library  
Reading at 4:00; reception to follow with books available for sale courtesy of the University of Minnesota Bookstore.

**2012 Chase Lecture featuring Sy Montgomery**

*When:* Thursday, May 3, 2012 • 4:30 p.m.  
*Where:* Elmer L. Andersen Library

**Kerlan Award Luncheon**

*Who:* Karen Nelson Hoyle, Kerlan Award recipient  
*When:* Saturday, May 5, 2012  
*Where:* 120 Elmer L. Andersen Library  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
Enjoy a buffet lunch with other Kerlan Friends, teachers, librarians, children's literature aficionados, and our esteemed guests.  
*Cost:* $25 ($20 for Kerlan Friends)  
*Reservation is required by April 23*

**Kerlan Award Ceremony**

1:15 – 2:30 p.m.  
*Karen Nelson Hoyle* will be presented with the 2012 Kerlan Award at a ceremony in Andersen Library.  
Hoyle, who retired on January 11, 2012 after forty plus years of dedicated service, has been an outstanding scholar, teacher, and mentor to countless people who are interested in and passionate about children's literature and the people who create books for children. She has devoted her life to continuing Dr. Kerlan's vision and making it a reality.  
*Cost:* Free and open to the public

**Annual Friends of the Libraries Dinner featuring Jane Smiley**

*When:* Thursday, May 10, 2012  
*Where:* McNamara Alumni Center  
*Reservation required; Discount for Friends Members*  
[https://www.tickets.umn.edu/UMATO/Online/default.asp?doWork::WContent::loadArticle=Load &BOparam::WContent::loadArticle::article_id=0BF0A761-CC66-4EBC-9C7B-9CF3EC6AD44D](https://www.tickets.umn.edu/UMATO/Online/default.asp?doWork::WContent::loadArticle=Load &BOparam::WContent::loadArticle::article_id=0BF0A761-CC66-4EBC-9C7B-9CF3EC6AD44D)

The Friends of the Libraries celebrate the 200th birthday of Charles Dickens with Pulitzer-Prize winning author and Dickens biographer Jane Smiley.
Attorney General Library – Karla Gedell, Law Librarian
The Attorney General’s Office recently completed an internal office consolidation project with almost one-third of the staff moving to new offices or different floors. The Library, thankfully, stayed in place. The moves resulted in the “discovery” of missing library materials and several donations. Library staff also coordinated the move of several satellite collections as part of the project.

Research librarian Karla Gedell is serving on the Minitex Director Search Committee, representing state government and special libraries.

Anita Anderson and Karla Gedell are well into their 3-year term as co-editors of the Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL) newsletter. They recently completed their fourth quarterly issue!

Dept. of Employment & Economic Development Library (DEED) – Dru Fryberg, Senior Librarian
The DEED Library is working closely with the agency’s Small Business Administration and Small Business Development Center staff and partners.

Librarians provide industry reports, market research and other information services to SBA/SBDC colleagues who counsel clients wanting to start businesses. The library subscribes to Hoovers’ First Research and Risk Management Association (RMA) eStatement Studies databases to support these needs.

In other exciting news, DEED librarian Dru Frykberg began a one-year term as president of the SLA Minnesota Chapter, an organization of nearly 200 information professionals working for corporate, academic, government and NGO libraries and organizations. Additionally, librarian Brooke Roegge recently co-presented, via WebJunction, “Twitter for Job Seekers: Tips for Helping Your Library’s Job-Seeking Patrons,” along with Andrea Snyder of the Enoch Pratt Free Library and Maryland State Library Resource Center. The archived version of this presentation is available at http://goo.gl/uJZk8

Minnesota Historical Society – Tracey Baker, Acting Head of Reference
The Minnesota Historical Society is pleased to present a new way to search its historical photographs and artwork that visually represent Minnesotans, their lives, landscapes, leisure and occupations from the pre-territorial period to the present. With a newly expanded Collections Online and updated search interface, users have the ability to search for photographs, three dimensional and archaeological objects, artwork, oral histories, moving images, maps, and more! A single search can display items across many of our collections.

People who have used the MHS Photo and Art Database, sometimes known as the Visual Resources Database, will find all of the photographs, art, and posters from that database in Collections Online along with many new images. The process for purchasing copies of images and obtaining permission will also be familiar.
Exploration of the collections is done through a faceted search, also called faceted navigation or faceted browsing, which is a technique that helps to narrow the search using filters. For example, if you are searching for a photograph for a Twin Cities bank heist that occurred during the 1920s or 1930s. Search on “bank robbery.” Filters will allow you to narrow your search by setting multiple filters such as location and dates.

**Mn/DOT Library – Sheila Hatchell, Director**

Library staff completed a weeding and shifting project that began last year. 986 records were deleted from our online catalog and 1300 items were discarded. 20 shelving units were added during our remodeling project in 2010, so we are in good shape for the next 5-10 years.

Staff attended two SLA Webinars: Business Communication Skills for the Special Librarian: Reporting up in the new normal economy; and How Do You Communicate Your Professional Brand?

The Annual Report of Research Services was published and includes several pages on library events. It is available online at: http://www.dot.state.mn.us/research/documents/MnDOT_Research_Report_Jan-June_2011_WEB.pdf#page=18

Library Director Sheila Hatchell and staff were the recipients of the 2011 Minnesota Special Libraries Association Innovation In Action Award. Details are available at: http://sla-divisions.typepad.com/slamn/2011/11/2011mnslainnovationinactionaward.html

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**Private College Report**

**Dan Gjelten, University of St. Thomas**

**March 2, 2012**

**Augsburg College** (Jane Ann Nelson)

Augsburg College's Lindell Library has reconfigured space to make room for the Gage Center for Student Success. This center will connect Augsburg students to academic support, resources and services that will help them create and achieve their educational goals. It will make academic support more visible on campus and encourage a larger number of students (undergraduate, adult, and graduate) to take advantage of an array of integrated services.

A natural extension of the Learning Commons, (a collaboration among Information Technology, Library, and Writing Lab services), the Gage Center adds enhanced services for students with learning and physical disabilities as well as academic advising and tutoring for all students.

Because the Gage Center now occupies one of the four floors of Lindell Library, during the summer of 2011 more than 80,000 books were moved to new compact shelving on the lower level and a third of pre-1995 journals were weeded from the collection. Library and IT staff offices were consolidated on another floor of the library.

The remodeling was designed by BWBR Architects (original architects of Lindell Library) and created by McGough Construction. The project was made possible through a generous donation by the Barbara
Gage Family and the Carlson Foundation. Through the Gage Center, Lindell Library is becoming more directly integrated into the learning of all of Augsburg's students.

**Carleton College** (Jennifer Edwins)

- Carleton has a new College Librarian! Brad Schaffner will begin as College Librarian on July 9. Brad is currently 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. He is excited to begin work at Carleton, and we will look forward to introducing him to the Minitex community!
- Bridge (Carleton and St. Olaf) implemented VuFind fall term 2011. A Bridge task force has been examining Discovery Tool Systems and will be submitting their recommendation in March.
- The Carleton and St. Olaf Libraries are exploring ways to further their collaboration with each other.
- Carleton Library and ITS are exploring media repositories for course assignments

**College of Saint Benedict/Saint John’s University Libraries** (Kathy Parker)

Like lots of other libraries, we are considering the future of our ILS and related systems. We are members of MnPALS, and that organization is exploring new platforms that combine discovery, link resolvers, and more traditional ILS functions. We are also faced with the end of access to SFX via the U of M in 2013, so we definitely need to find a new OpenURL resolver. And we are asking how our systems relate to the digital environment in which we do our work, including institutional courseware and enterprise systems. To support our decision-making on future structures, we are assessing current systems, including undertaking a usability study of our WorldCat Local implementation. I’d welcome hearing from others who are collecting data on user behaviors in order to evaluate efficacy and ease of use.

**College of St. Scholastica** (Kevin McGrew)

We're currently in the midst of preparing for our HLC visit next fall. I'm co-chairing a criterion sub-committee and several of the other librarians are members of other committees. The College also began celebrating its Centennial in January; a celebration that will last until Homecoming next fall. Our Archives (an unofficial part of the Library) has been very busy during the last year helping departments work on publications and promotional materials for this celebration.

The Library is investigating starting a Friends group that will kick off during the final Centennial events in September.

Our former cataloging/systems librarian (and current Chair of the Educational Media program), Marie Kelsey, is retiring at the end of Spring Semester.

**Gustavus Adolphus College** (Barbara Fister)

We had a double birthday celebration for Charles Dickens (200 this month) and Charles Darwin (203) with cake and guest speakers from English and Geology.

We are hosting a faculty refreshments + conversation event this week which (if successful) will be the first of informal monthly gatherings.

We've been wanting to increase our profile in faculty development and this is one way we're trying.

We have joined the Internet Archive Lending Library.

**Northwestern College** (Ruth McGuire)

1. Will administer LibQual Lite, March 2012
2. College capital money paid for 25 units of shelving. Will work over our mid-semester break to replace old (and blue!) shelving.
3. In January, we surveyed our students and faculty regarding their use and ownership of e-books/e-readers. We are currently working through the results of those surveys.
4. This month, began a subscription to Films on Demand.
5. Berntsen Library Strategic Plan 2012-2014 is completed. A major area of focus for me will be personnel – current staff being used in best organizational way (work redesign) and planning/advocating for additional personnel related to organizational goals and growth. This latter conversation will include drawing on the “value” literature

University of St. Thomas (Dan Gjelten)
The UST Libraries were awarded a CLIR grant to send two librarians to a workshop on the use of ethnographic research to learn more about undergraduate student behavior. The two day workshop will be held in Rochester, NY. Our librarians will come back to share their insights with local academic libraries.

Our remodeled Keffer Library (in downtown Minneapolis) is up and running in a reduced footprint, but providing all the same services as before the redesign. Our collections are now stored in compact shelving.

UST opened a shiny new student center in January directly across the quad from O’Shaughnessy Frey Library and we are watching our gate counts to see if we experience a decline in use of the library. So far, we’ve not seen any impact. Gate counts have been increasing since the early 2,000’s and calendar year 2011 gave us the highest use ever in the history of the libraries at St. Thomas.

CLIC (Tom Nichols)
CLIC’s new executive director, Ruth Dukelow, will be starting this month, and overlapping with Tom’s final weeks in an effort to most effectively introduce her to CLIC. Ruth comes from Michigan, where she has been the Associate Director of the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (formerly the Michigan Library Consortium.)

Multicounty Multitype Library System Reports
March 2, 2012

Central Minnesota Libraries Exchange (CMLE) - Patricia Post
Trainings and Meetings Hosted by CMLE

- **CMLE Fall Annual Meeting at St. Johns University, September 27**
- **Educause Virtual Conference Viewing Party, October 19-21**
- **CMLE Strategic Planning Events with consultant, November 21, Jan.31, Feb. 21**
- **Navigating History Day Research Workshop, Rasmussen College, Dec. 2 (two)**
- **CMLE Thinkfinity Webinar, December 8**
- **Information Literacy/College Readiness Discussion, December 15**
- **History Day Palooza @ SCSU, January 28**
- **Finding the Bucks webinar, March 9**
MEMO/CMLE Spring Meeting, April 16

Months of planning and work culminated in a History Day Palooza event at the SCSU library on Saturday, January 28th. This initiative takes lots of internal and external collaboration and communication, and involves over 25 volunteers. Extensive work on the website and promotional pieces took place this year. Our collaborative partners in this work include SCSU College of Liberal Arts (history and social studies), the Miller Center librarians and other library staff, Minitex, MN Digital Library, and the MN Historical Society. CMLE student workers offered circulation and ILL services on the day of the event. The university has found this an excellent way to get community members into the Miller Center library and often, this is a first time experience for families in visiting a university setting.

Based on expressed interest around information literacy, work began in recruiting and gathering a diverse small group to discuss information literacy in different types of library settings. This group is interested in working together more in the future around this topic. At our December meeting a few wish list items surfaced:
  o A list of skills college freshmen should have upon entering college
  o A list of teaching methods being used in K-12 schools who are in one-to-one environments (what works best)
  o Possible pairing of K-12 media specialists with academic librarians for the purpose of shadowing a typical day in those environments.

We successfully used Adobe Connect for our first webinar in December. Thinkfinity was the topic and our staff did the presentation. We hope to offer more webinars in the future, but are astounded at the number of free webinars already available to our members. We will also be looking for more “just in time” ways of teaching skills to folks in our region.

Consortial buy of e-books for K-12: This topic came out of our strategic planning work, and talks and inquiries are happening across several venues regarding our Central MN region. A topic of this magnitude will take good buy in and will take time to develop. MEMO and Minitex have been involved in this work to date and we hope other regions may be interested too.

Our spring MEMO/CMLE meeting will take place on April 16th. Representatives from Mackin will lead a discussion about e-books, and Sally Mays will spend her time telling attendees about the benefits of MEMO including upcoming events.

The Fall MEMO Conference will be in St. Cloud in October. CMLE staff are on the local arrangements committee and will meet for the first time on February 25.

Publication of issue two of the Exchanger newsletter happened in December. It is available online in a PDF format. Staff are developing the March issue now, followed closely by a May issue.

Metronet - Ann Walker Smalley

Activities and Programs

- Planning the OLLI class Check It out! 21st Century Libraries in collaboration with MELSA. First session is March 21 at Metro State/ Dayton’s Bluff Public Library.
- Planning continues for the fifth Library Technology Conference, March 14-15 at Macalester. Ann is on Program Planning Committee & LeAnn Suchy, MILI program manager, is on the External Communications Committee.
- The Director attended WebJunction Webinar on Data Visualization (Dec 20).
- LeAnn Suchy will continue as chair of the MLA Communications Committee.
- MELSA & Metronet had a delegation of library staff and citizens on Library Legislative Day.
- 15 afterschool sessions and 3 webinars were held for MILI participants in December, January, & February.
• MetroBriefs began its third year of publication in January. It has more than 575 subscribers.
• Camp Read-a-Lot will be held on August 1 at Como Pavilion. There will be day camp for teachers/media specialists for grades 2-5; everyone else will be virtual campers. The keynote speakers are Katharine Paterson and Kathleen Baxter. In addition to speaking at day camp, Katharine Paterson will have a public event on August 2. Registration opens April 2 at 8am.

North Country Library System - Linda Wadman
No report.

Northern Lights Library Network - Kathy Enger

SHARING OF RESOURCES AMONG ALL PARTICIPATING LIBRARIES
The Minnesota Literacy Initiative (NLLN)

• State and National School Library Data Reports and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
  NLLN is represented on The Minnesota Annual Library Report committee to design, collect, and disseminate school library media data. Using data from the 2011-2012 report, the Minnesota Annual Library Report committee will use specific ranges to align school library media centers with several criteria: 1. Certified Librarian Full Time Equivalent; All Library Staff Full Time Equivalent; Open Library Hours Open during the School Day (excluding before and after school hours); Materials Expenditures per Student; Electronic Resource Access. The 2010-11 school library data, along with reading achievement scores and expenditures, will become available in the online database this spring.

• Spotlight on Books

• Author John Coy visited region
  NLLN sponsored Minnesota author John Coy at Holy Rosary in Detroit Lakes on February 22nd and Fisher and Climax on February 24th. John Coy wrote the children’s books: Around the World; Night Driving; Two Old Potatoes and Me; Strong to the Hoop; and Vroomaloom Zoom. He has also written a young adult series called 4 for 4 and the popular Eyes on the Goal.

• Destiny Training through AdobeConnect
  Once AdobeConnect is up and running, NLLN will conduct an online Destiny training for school library media specialists in the region.

• E-book discussion through AdobeConnect
  Once AdobeConnect is up and running, NLLN will hold an online meeting in conjunction with WebJunction, to discuss the use of e-books in the region.

• Minnesota Book Awards
  Based on evaluative criteria developed by The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, Kathy is judging the final round of books for the Minnesota Book Awards in the General Nonfiction category and will be meeting at Open Book Loft Literary Center on March 3 at 1 p.m. to select the final winner. The four titles in the final round are: Fool Me Twice: Fighting the Assault on Science in America by Shawn Lawrence Otto; Punishing Race: A Continuing American Dilemma by Michale Tonry; Trout Caviar: Recipes from a Northern Forager by Brett Laidlaw; Vikings in
the Attic: In Search of Nordic America by Eric Dregni. Please let Kathy know if you would like to read any of the books.

- Portable U Winter Event sponsored by Minnesota Educational Media Organization (MEMO) January 27, 2012
  NLLN jointly sponsored access to the keynote and end note addresses through the Interactive Television Network (ITV) in Fergus Falls and Bagley on January 27th. The two presentations were also archived and will be available through MEMO for professional librarians in the NLLN region.

Friends of the Moorhead Library Board
Kathy is volunteering with the Friends of the Moorhead Library Board to assist them in attaining 501.c3 status. She attended meetings February 2 and 22 in Moorhead.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING FOR COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

Performance Management Leadership Institute (PMLI), Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
January 9-11, and February 14th, I had the opportunity to participate in the Performance Management Leadership Institute (PMLI) sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN). The basis of the Institute is to choose from Principles for Nonprofit Excellence and design performance management measures around principles of excellence, including goals, objectives, target clients, and projected outcomes. The continuing need to collaborate, coordinate, and share resources, has become clearly evident in the NLLN region. Strategic Alliances are very important for fulfilling the mission of Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN) and will be the principle around which NLLN will design the performance management measures. The first phase of the three-year strategic plan tied to the multicounty multitype library cooperation systems operating grant will include the MCN process.

Minnesota Library Association Public Library Division
Kathy elected Member-at-Large.

College & Research Libraries
Kathy is a reviewer for the journal, College & Research Libraries.

DEVELOPMENT OF A DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
NLLN Scholarships and Professional Engagement
Sponsorship of attendance at national and local conferences continues.

DEVELOPMENT OF A BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE
Destiny Online Catalog
Continues to service the NLLN region and beyond.

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AMONG ALL COOPERATING LIBRARIES
Adobe Connect
--Will be up and running, soon.

LIBRARY ADVOCACY
Minnesota Council on Nonprofits Minnesota Participation Project “Get Out and Vote Minnesota, 2012”
NLLN is working with Jeff Narabrook of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits to design a program to “Get Out and Vote in 2012” for citizens in the Northwest region of the state through NLLN member libraries to educate citizens on where they vote and how they register to vote.
Southwest Area Multicounty Multitype Interlibrary Exchange (Sammie)
Reagen Thalacker

- **Executive Director**
  - 12/14 – Attended the local meeting of the Superintendents and was given 15 minutes to let them know who Sammie is, what we do, and what we’re hoping to do in the future. A packet of materials regarding information literacy and the impact of school libraries on overall student education was distributed.
  - 1/27 – MEMO Portable U Conference, Roseville, MN - One day conference on various technologies and their impact on library services in school media centers. Attended sessions on digital citizenship, mobile devices in the media center, and digital storytelling. Both the key-note and wrap-up speaker talked about the 1:1 program implementation in their schools.
  - Reagen continues in Sammie’s new directive to build better relationship with their school library Sammie members by visiting member libraries. During her visits she converses with the individual running the school library (paraprofessionals, school media library specialist, etc.) about what they know about Sammie, what challenges/issues they face, what they’d like to see for the future, and what Sammie can do for them. The information gathered from these meetings will be helpful in determining what new avenues Sammie can carve in providing more services for school libraries. So far 9 schools systems have been visited which is equal to 15 librarians/paras in 15 buildings, 1 is currently scheduled for the near future and requests for meetings are out to 11 others.

- **Scholarships**
  - Quarterly
    - Spotlight on Books Conference
      - March 30-31, 2012 - Ruttger’s Sugar Lake Lodge Resort, near Grand Rapids, MN
      - 5 to attend
    - Library Technology Conference 2012
      - March 14-15, 2012 - Macalaster College, St. Paul, MN
      - 1 to attend
  - Library Legislative Day – February 28, 2012
    - In the past funds have always been set aside to contribute to the regional library systems when they provide transportation in the form of buses for librarians in their region to attend Library Legislative Day. This did not occur this year and so a decision was made to offer up individual grants/scholarships for up to our standard limit of $350 to offset costs of travel/meals/hotel for those who wanted to attend this event. To this date we haven’t received any individuals wanting to take advantage of this.
    - Reagen will be attending this and working with Mark Ranum, Director of Plum Creek and Pioneerland, has plans to visit with several legislators.

- **Teen Co-Op**
  - Teen Tech Week
    - ALA’s 2012 theme – “Geek Out @ your library”
    - March 4-10, 2012
    - 9 applicants so far
  - Teen Summit (2nd annual)
- March 15, 2012 in Willmar; March 16, 2012
- Focus on teen programming and YA literature with a break-out teen topics session.
- Lunch will be provided.
- Will be offering 3 CEUs for this.
- Currently have 15 registered.
  - Forum
    - Has been built and is still in its testing phase. Original launch date was set for March 1 but there hasn’t been a lot of feedback yet and so it’s been pushed back by one month so that we get what we need.
  - Teen Programming Kits
    - 8 kits being developed – 7 full and one mini-kit.
    - Launch to be at the end of April/beginning of May.
    - Finalizing logistical details of circulation and housing with the Pioneerland and Plum Creek Regional Library Systems.

- SAMMIE Strategic Plan
  - All dates and locations have been scheduled for focus groups. One group has already concluded with great feedback.
  - Mass advertising to go out on March 1.
  - Retreat being planned for late July/beginning August.
  - Working with SW/WC (Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative) to distribute an online survey to the Superintendents within the SAMMIE to get their feedback.
  - A secondary survey will go out to all SAMMIE members after the focus groups have been completed to reach those who weren’t able to attend.

Southcentral Minnesota Inter-Library Exchange (SMILE) - Dayle Zalenka

The biggest news from SMILE this season is the A) cancellation of our contract with Ebscohost for Novelist for our region on December 31, 2011, and B) the subsequent freeing of funds to pursue E-Book solutions for the various library types in the region.

The public libraries made a consortial purchase of OverDrive beginning in March of 2011. SMILE will make a contribution towards materials purchases to supplement the database. For the school districts, we had considered OverDrive, but have moved towards an agreement with Mackin Publishing for a consortial agreement to use Mackin’s Via product covering all school-aged children in the region. Negotiations are still ongoing, but we already have strong interest in participation from at least eleven of our twenty-eight school districts. We are also exploring E-Book solutions for our academic libraries, with OverDrive, Ebscohost and Proquest still in the mix. This consortium still has the farthest to go, but we are hopeful to move fairly quickly.

Southeast Library System (SELS) Michael Scott

A Successful Dewey Day
- For a third year, SELCO has celebrated the birthday of library giant Melvil Dewey by offering cataloging assistance to the SELCO Online Libraries and added nearly 2,000 items to the database. The event was held on Thursday, December 8, 2011.
- SELCO’s new Technical Services Librarian, Cheryl Hill, coordinated the event and was joined in cataloging efforts by Emily Kittelson, Cataloging Librarian, and Tyler Irvin, Regional Librarian, as well as guest catalogers Janice Kunkel, Jeannie Johnson, and Kirby Johnson.
The Dewey Day Team cataloged 712 physical items from libraries across the region. These ranged from a bunny-shaped cake pan to the book *Catfish Swimming with Lutefisk*, and a Ukrainian & English DVD. In addition, libraries sent OCLC numbers and the Dewey Day Team downloaded 1,251 records from OCLC to the ILS.

**OCLC Reclamation Project Just Starting**

- Starting with its own collection, SELCO staff are weeding and inventorying SELCO’s collection of library science professional materials. This thorough review will ensure an accurate holdings list and a proper display of records in OCLC World Cat.
- During 2012, SELCO and the Online Libraries will initiate a region-wide catalog cleanup project that will involve this same level of hands on review at each location. Local library staff, with assistance from SELCO and a weeding team will assess collections using nationally recognized weeding guidelines dubbed CREW or Continuous, Review, Evaluation, and Weeding.

**New SELCO Staff member**

- Gina Trussoni joined the SELCO staff as the new Systems Manager on Monday, February 6. Each work team within their area of focus --- Administrative Services, Information Services, and Library Support Services --- will meet with her to share organization information during several weeks of orientation.

**New SELCO/SELS Advocacy & Legislation Committee**

- A newly formed SELCO/SELS Board Committee, the Advocacy & Legislation Committee was formed in this fiscal year to be responsible for regional advocacy planning and providing recommendations to the SELCO/SELS Board of Directors. The Committee’s Charge includes:
  
  - Monitor state and federal policies and legislation that affects the organization as well as all types of libraries
  - Inform SELCO and SELS member libraries about legislative issues affecting libraries
  - Promote the value of libraries to local, state, and federal agencies and legislators
  - Work closely with the Minnesota Library Association and other external groups to integrate advocacy efforts into a cohesive message
  - Encourage participation in state and national library legislative day activities
  - Advocate for sufficient funding to support regional library programs and services.
  - Assist in strengthening the advocacy skills of the Board and member library staff.
- The Committee is made up of two SELCO/SELS Board members, Andru Peters from Lake City and Mary Jane Holland from Faribault, former SELCO/SELS Board President Don Regelman from Red Wing, and Kim Edson, librarian from Rochester Public Library with Michael Scott, SELCO Assistant Director, serving as the staff point person.
- The Committee put together a short “legislative visit” presentation for the SELCO/SELS Quarterly Board Meeting in January 2012 with the assistance of Representative Tina Liebling (DFL-Rochester). The goal was to show the Board how a typical legislative looks. Rep. Liebling also provided an overview of the Legislative Process in Minnesota.
ANOKA COUNTY LIBRARY
The Story of a Library Director
Anoka County Library Director, Marlene Moulton Janssen, was the subject of a nice article in the Star Tribune in January 2012. The challenges and commitment to library service that mark Moulton Janssen’s career are well described.

The Trouble with Downloadable Audiobooks
Monica Campbell, Adult Services Manager at ACL, was interviewed along with several other metro libraries in a Star Tribune article on January 28, 2012 about patron issues with the new One Click Digital service metro libraries have been struggling with over the last few months.

The Christmas Gift of the Year – E-Readers
Like most public libraries in the country, ACL was swamped in the new year with requests for assistance from patrons in setting up and using new e-book readers of every stripe. ACL got some nice coverage about its classes about use of e-readers in a Star Tribune article in January.

CARVER COUNTY LIBRARY
New Library Director
Nick Dimassis became the new Carver County Library Director on January 2, 2012. He previously served as Associate Director of the East Central Regional Library system with administrative offices in Cambridge, MN. The Chaska Herald provided some good coverage of Dimassis in an article published in January.

Carver County Library Launches New Website - www.carverlib.org
In January 2012, Carver County launched its new library website, at www.carverlib.org. The dramatically redesigned site, created by Jack Frost Design and Library staff, embodies the Library’s forward-thinking vision and commitment to the growing needs of its patrons. Based on an extensive research process with librarians, library users and national library standards, the new site offers:

- New design and layout for more intuitive navigation
- Streamlined searching
- Additional content provided by staff from across the Library system
- Direct access to chat with librarians.
- Additional online services to better serve the County’s citizens

The site’s homepage welcomes visitors with bold new colors, a new library brand, a clean uncluttered design, and moving images with featured content encouraging lifelong learning, advancing knowledge, and strengthening community.

With patrons’ changing information needs, the introduction of digital online library services, and the availability of new web technology, it was time for a complete restructuring of our website and e-library services. The new www.carverlib.org site is easier to use, reflects a diverse range of patron voices, and provides flexibility for future growth. It will greatly improve the experience of Library users as we move ahead into new realms of digital services.
In developing the site, the Library conducted user surveys that showed the majority of the searches on the website were for information about books, audio books and DVDs, so a new audience specific book presentation section was created as one of the core navigational functions on the new home page. In addition, side navigation on every page was developed to provide shortcuts to popular topics. Searching within the site is one of the most crucial activities, so those functions were significantly improved.

The website features new types of content, inspired by the Library’s collections and other resources. Having the ability to tailor content towards audiences and provide up to date and accurate details about the Library, events, programs and services was an important objective of this redesign, and one that the Library is excited to have achieved.

More interactive and dynamic content is planned for the new website, and visitors should stay tuned for these to be added throughout the year.

**Dakota County Library**

*Remodeling Process Starts*

Dakota is in the process of selecting architect firms for the remodeling of two branches – Inver Glen Library and Farmington Library. The process and current status was covered in a Star Tribune article on Valentine’s Day. The Farmington Independent also covered plans for the remodeling in Farmington.

**Busy Programming**

DCL has also been busy with a variety of programs that have received press coverage in January and February. DCL began its first local authors’ fair in January. Photographer Annie Griffiths spoke about her career and work on February 23 at the Steeple Center in Rosemount sponsored by DCL. The Star Tribune article on Griffiths even includes a picture of a British mouse club….hmmm…over 300 people turned out for the event in Rosemount. More than 450 people attended a February 25th presentation by Major Joseph Gomer, a surviving member of the Tuskegee Airmen at the Galaxie Library/Western Service Center. These programs all sponsored in part by Legacy Fund resources.

DCL has also hired a “scientist” (“Professor Sepoc”) to interest children in a host of science programs including the ever fascinating topic of “grossology.”

**Hennepin County Library**

*January 18, 2012 – The Day without Wikipedia*

Hennepin staff and other metro libraries’ staff were interviewed on the impact of the “closure” of many websites on January 18, 2012 in protest of legislation pending in Congress to control access to information on the Internet. Was there any impact on public libraries in the area? See the article.

**Ramsey County Library**

*2011 - A Very Good Year*

2011 was a very good year for the Ramsey County Library in terms of use by patrons. Year-end data shows significant increases in 2011 over 2010.

- Circulation up 4.3%
- Branch visits up 4.8%
- Computer hours used up 27%
- Virtual visits up 11%
- Wireless use up 84%
- Information literacy class attendance up 32%
• Job assistance classes up 28%
• Children’s program attendance up 28%
• Teen program attendance up 110%

The New Brighton library opened in October 2011. Circulation is up 16%, visits 15%, and computer use 108% over the previous Arden Hills branch during the same time period in 2010.

Roseville continues to be successful reaching a circulation of 1,977,050 in 2011.

**Minnesota Architecture Award for new Roseville Library.**
The architecture firm of MS&R received a 2011 Minnesota Architecture award for the new Roseville Library that opened in 2011. The branch is considered the busiest library branch in Minnesota. The redesign of the building and its subsequent expansion and remodeling opened up the interior and brought in daylight to the formerly darker facility. It has also one LEED designation for the high-efficiency systems built to save water and energy.

**SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Minnesota Book Awards**
The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library have announced the nominees for the Minnesota Books Awards for 2012. The 24th annual Minnesota Book Awards Gala will be held April 14 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in St. Paul. For information, go to thefriends.org or call 651-366-6497.

**Otto Bremer Foundation Grant to Fight Poverty Awarded to Friends for SPPL**
The Otto Bremer Foundation announced in December 2011 that the Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library were awarded a $468,000 grant on behalf of the Saint Paul Public Library.

The award was part of a $7 million package of year-end grants approved by the Trustees of the Foundation to address the impact of the persistently difficult economic conditions on the lives of vulnerable people, especially those living in poverty. Grants will also provide opportunities for people living in poverty to access the tools, skills, connections and other resources they need to begin to change their situation over the long term.

The grant will build the Library’s capacity to provide resources and assistance to unemployed people looking for work, especially those confronting barriers of culture and language. Specific projects to be supported include providing additional computer classes in multiple languages in the community, expanding a work/study program to enhance job search and digital literacy services, improving the capacity to handle materials expeditiously so staff can spend more time assisting patrons and supporting the Library’s collection budget.

These long-term investments in the Library strengthen its ability to serve a new generation of patrons who turn to the Library for reliable information and to learn new skills.

“We’re absolutely honored to be named a grant recipient of the Otto Bremer Foundation,” said Kit Hadley, Library Director. “This is a significant award for the Saint Paul Public Library and allows us to provide critical services in high need. We are very grateful.”

The Library’s grant was a year-end award that is part of approximately $30 million in Otto Bremer Foundation grants made in 2011. Additional information is available on the Foundation’s website at www.ottobremer.org.
3M Cloud Library
St. Paul Public is also a beta test site for the newly developing 3M Cloud Library. Anyone with a library card registered in St. Paul Public has access to the new downloadable book service. The 3M Cloud Library app is available at iTunes.

Digital Learning Center Plans
The City is finalizing plans for a “super center” that will house, among other programs, the St. Paul Public Library’s new digital learning center. Community input has been received according to the Pioneer Press on February 22, 2012. To plan for the new center, SPPL received a $100,000 planning grant from IMLS and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

WASHINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY

New Library Service Model Takes Off
Beginning in January WCL began operation of a new service model in two locations that previously housed small 20-hour per week library branches in Newport and Marine on St. Croix. The new service involves a partnership with the two local communities and volunteers. The county provides delivery of library materials to the communities focusing on 24/7 retrieval of materials through an automated locker system with return service adjacent while the local community provides reading room services. So far the two systems are receiving good use as pointed out in Star Tribune article on the Marine on St. Croix service.

New Hours and Days of Service
Slowly but surely the library staff and customers are adjusting sadly to the closure of all branches on Sunday and Mondays in 2012. The Library expects to see a reduction in access using traditional measures of visits and circulation. What remains unknown is what the impact will be on access to digital resources. Stay tuned.

State Universities
Joan Roca
March 2, 2012

Minnesota State University Moorhead – Brittney Goodman, Dean, Instructional Resources
• Livingston Lord Library is busy preparing for the renovation that will begin in mid-May 2012. The Library will remain open during the renovation, which will be complete in August 2013. Several collections are relocating during the renovation.

Minnesota State University, Mankato – Joan Roca, Dean
• Good News: The Library has been working with a consultant to redesign spaces on our first floor. The focus has been on repurposing spaces for direct student use, improving our service points, and reduce collection footprints. Having put together a plan for the next couple of years, we made a proposal to get funds from the university. We have just learned that funding has been approved and we will start some of the proposed renovations this summer.
More Good News: For many years the Library has been asking, formally and informally, for an underground connection to the Union and this fall we submitted a joint proposal with other units. Yesterday we received the great news that funding has been earmarked to make the tunnel a reality. We are still ecstatic but will look forward to seeing it happen next year.

St. Cloud State University – Ruth Zietlow, Interim Dean of Learning Resources Services

As we continue through this year of restructuring, we have a plan for strategic conversations internal to LRS that will take place over the spring semester, cumulating in a new mission and vision statement. As a common document to respond to, as well as an outline for our discussions we are using the report entitled Redefining the Academic Library, Washington, DC: Education Advisory Board, November 2011. A direct link is available at (http://www.theconferencecircuit.com/wp-content/uploads/Provosts-Report-on-Academic-Libraries2.pdf). Additionally, we have a group formed of administrators and faculty from across campus who will also be reading and responding to Redefining the Academic Library. Our first monthly meeting will be in March, 2012.

In the first five months of our Institutional Repository we have had 124 items deposited and every paper has been downloaded at least once, five papers have been downloaded 10 or more times. All content in The Repository is indexed by Google and appears in Google Scholar. While the rate of new items being added to our Institutional Repository has slowed, the use of items has been impressive. The most frequently downloaded document for the period was the 2012 Spring Economics Newsletter (available at http://repository.stcloudstate.edu/econ_newsletter/25/). It was posted on December 27, 2011 and has been downloaded 159 times in the four days to the end of 2010 and 209 times through the end of January 2012.

We had another successful History Day Palooza @ SCSU on Saturday, January 28, 2012, with 92 people in attendance. In addition to SCSU and CMLE faculty and staff, we also had help from the MN Digital Library, SCSU Central MN History Day Regional coordinator and interns, SCSU Social Sciences Club, CIM student volunteers, Minitex staff, and MN Historical Society Staff.

Southwest Minnesota State University – Kathleen Ashe, University Librarian

The University is exploring the feasibility of adding two new majors, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and another BS in Agriculture. The Library has been involved in the research and planning, including cost estimates for additional library resources.

This semester we are working with the SMSU Marketing Advisory Center to develop an new assessment tool for Library Services. Our intent is to gather information from several groups, on and off campus students, high school students in our College Now program, and faculty, on our resources and services and to use this data to make improvements.

We are using OCLC’s Collection Analysis software to evaluate our entire collection in preparation for a multi-year weeding process. We were pleased to learn just this month that PALS has developed a process to upload circulation statistics to OCLC. This will greatly improve our process.

We are investigating mobile site service providers and a texting service for the Reference Desk. By the end of this semester we hope to have funding in place for both services and be ready to implement over the summer.
Greater Minnesota Public Libraries  
Mary Lukkarila  
March 2, 2012

**Cloquet Public Library**
The library received a $7,000 grant from the Minnesota Historical Society Legacy Funds toward the purchase of a new digital microfilm reader/scanner. The library’s foundation matched funds for the balance of the amount owed for the ST ViewScan reader/scanner.

The library staff continues to work on customer service skills. Staff from the Duluth Public Library will train our staff on customer service skills with children and young adults. The library also developed a customer service comment card.

Submitted by Mary Lukkarila, Library Director

**Morris Public Library**
Morris Public Library received a grant from IEEE (Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers) for Science Kits. They are 1 of 26 libraries receiving a grant and hope to have the kits available this Spring and are working with UMM and area schools to implement them.

Submitted by Melissa Yauk

**Northfield Public Library**
We are having a Library Futures Forum on March 12 here in Northfield. It’s mainly focused on what our library should be like in 5 – 10 -15 years but would have broader interest. Two member of the Minnesota Future Libraries group will be speaking along with Jack Poling from MS&R and me. This is co-sponsored by the Friends and Foundation of the Northfield Public Library and the League of Women Voters (Northfield-Cannon Falls chapter).

Our Friends of the Library group has morphed into the Friends and Foundation of the Northfield Public Library. The group is adding new members to its board and there are lots of exciting things underway. The core group of Friends continue to do the support and programming while the new members are gearing up to work toward a library expansion. Submitted by Lynne Young, Library Director

**Rochester Public Library**
We continue to strive to provide the best service possible to our customers. We are in the process of “circulation consolidation”. Right now the public may check out materials in the children’s division or at the circulation desk/self-checks. We are moving all circulation functions to the circulation desk to allow staff in the children’s division to focus on programming, outreach, reader’s advisory and reference. We are very excited about the possibilities that opens up in the children’s division. The Children’s division is also getting spruced up: downsizing and moving the desk, adding art work, creating a discovery station, and adding an art table.

We will soon be rolling out new web pages and a new search engine for the web catalog using Endeca. Submitted by Audrey Betcher, Library Director
Dakota County Technical College - Michael Kirby
We started a subscription to ebrary College Complete in October.

Hennepin Technical College - Bill Vann
The HTC Libraries are now collecting the NY Times bestseller hardcovers, fiction and non-fiction. Starting in January 2012, we have a standing order for all of the titles that appear on the famed list.

In an effort to increase the visibility of the library, HTC Libraries have started a “Leave a Book, Take a Book” mini-collection which roams around campus. Patrons are encouraged to pick titles from the collection as they please, and bring in titles from home to add to the collection. We move the collection around campus and provide updates on its location on our Facebook page.

Minneapolis Community & Technical College - Julie Setnosky
Dawn Pepper worked with Dee Nolan at PALS to implement automatic GOBI invoice processing in Aleph. This has changed a laborious manual process to an electronic invoice input/payment process. Dawn estimates that the process now takes 95% less time than before. Huzzah!

Our Information Studies faculty is using a wiki (PB Works) in all sections of our INFS 1000 Information Literacy & Research Skills and faculty in the Library Information Technology program plan to implement a wiki in some their courses in fall 2012.

We started using the EasyBib bibliographic management tool last fall and it has been a big hit with our students. It seems to be more straightforward to learn than some other bibliographic management software packages and it is certainly less expensive.

Minnesota West Community & Technical College - Pam Sukalski
Our college continues to build our electronic collections with emphasis on electronic books and streaming media.

South Central College - Johnna Horton
As of January 1st, the South Central Libraries are offering Films on Demand to our population. We purchased the Academic and the Career/Technical packages through Minitex.

As of March 1st, we will have the PALS ERM product operational for student/employee use.

Our current staffing is 3.0 FTE. 1 faculty librarian in Faribault, 1 library technician in North Mankato and 1 MMA-affiliated director that oversees both libraries.