March 4, 2016

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Austin Public Library Patron Feedback!

Hello,

I'm a school psychologist at Austin High School and I just wanted to pass on a great story about a student who is benefiting from the new “hot spot” checkout that you are offering. She is a teen mom who is behind in credits. Now that she has been able to check out a laptop and hot spot from the Austin Public Library, she finished several of her online classes because she was able to work on them at home in addition to working on them in school. She is now getting closer to her goal of graduating with the rest of her class.

Thank you for offering services that benefit the citizens of Austin!

- Danielle
Central and Northern State Colleges

Cynthia Jorstad

Central Lakes College (Dave Bissonette)
The Staples Campus of Central Lakes College recently opened its newly remodeled Library/Learning Commons. Features include a new group study room, several testing rooms, a comfortable study nook, a silent study room and a computer lab.

Itasca Community College / Hibbing Community College (Steven Bean)
Tina Trullinger resigned her Faculty Librarian position at Hibbing Community College (HCC) in June 2015 and I became the shared librarian between HCC and Itasca Community College in August. We hired a Library Technician at HCC in December. Currently, there are only two full-time Librarians remaining at the five colleges within the Northeast Higher Education District (NHED).

We are excited to be in the final design stage of a new library at HCC! Our bonding proposal has been approved and we hope to move into a new “learning commons” facility in 2018. This will be a wonderful space for students - centrally located, infused with natural light, and filled with technology and collaborative work areas. We have been busy preparing for our move to a temporary location this summer.

Minnesota State Community & Technical College - Moorhead, Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Wadena (Perry Werner)
If the MNSCU bonding request passes the legislature, then the MSCTC Fergus Falls campus library will remodeled and a large part of it will become the Workforce Center. Also if the request passes the MSCTC Wadena campus library will be moved to a new space that will include several study rooms which it did not have before.

Some information from the MSCTC Marketing department revealed that the library webpage link was clicked on 30,654 times during the Spring Semester of 2015 and 28,731 times during the Fall semester.

This academic year MSCTC libraries are providing information to concurrent enrollment students at 22 high schools.

Rainy River Community College (Stephanie Olson)
The Ojibwe Immersion Program at RRCC has been awarded a $58,900 grant from the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council for the purpose of understanding, teaching and preservation of the Ojibwe language, history and culture. Anishinaabe instructor Stephen Briggs is sharing this grant with our library. We are in the process of adding new books and DVDs to our Indigenous Studies collection.

Northland Community & Technical College - East Grand Forks/Thief River Falls (Cynthia Jorstad)
Our ongoing weeding continues, currently focused the rather bloated biography collection in Thief River Falls. We’re beginning to clean up the reserve cabinet in East Grand Forks, there are many ‘orphaned’ items that need attention! Our new inventory scanners have arrived and we’ll start inventory after spring break.

On Feb. 23 I met with our CAO and also the academic coordinator about the upcoming MnPALS migration to a new ILS. Specifically I wanted to provide a background profile and general update, plus give a heads up about the upcoming work load, time commitment, and probable need for staff/faculty overload. The conversation was bristly. They were upset that no information about the project had come from MnSCU and perturbed that libraries were being asked/suggested to start the data cleanup before even knowing if the project would move forward. It was disheartening. I stressed the cleanup needs to be done now or later, as we will migrate eventually. Now that funding is most likely assured and communications from MnSCU to the campuses is, hopefully, imminent, I intend to continue our conversation after spring break ... hoping it will be less contentious and more productive.
Northwest Technical College - Bemidji (Ann Campbell)
Haven’t done this in over a year so many changes in that time frame. October 2014 the library technician job (only position in the library) was eliminated. After the fact it was decided that maybe they do need someone in the library. I was offered a transfer to BSU ILL department four days a week and one day a week as the library tech at NTC. It is not optimal by any means for the students and we are now looking at myself staying at BSU five days a week and the person (not a library tech) that works the four days at NTC to be full time. Out of 19 staff members at NTC half were cut. Several more found different jobs and now there are 7 staff at NTC. Since NTC and BSU are “aligned”, NTC pays BSU staff and administration to help cover the vacancies. As I am only here one day a week, I struggle to get a week’s worth of work done in a day. The college lab assistant who works the M-Th shift in the library is doing the best she can but does not have the education or knowledge to get the job done. Sorry it was not a more uplifting report.

Pine Technical & Community College - Pine City (Mindy Hicks)
We are in talks to add the Nucleus Medical Media Collection for our nursing faculty and students. We have a one-year service agreement ready for approval but are waiting to see if a 3- or 5-year pricing guarantee will be agreed to by Nucleus Medical Media. This collection is similar to EBSCO’s SMART Imagebase collection, which is made up of medical illustrations and videos.

We continue to work on creating an Information Literacy Tutorial using the Atomic Learning software. Not sure what the student and faculty response will be once completed. The goal is to implement a more interactive approach to Information Literacy. Module components can be shared and assigned to students by faculty, so we are hoping for greater inclusion within curriculum.

St. Cloud Technical and Community College - St. Cloud (Pat Ackerman)
The St. Cloud Technical & Community College Library has a new home! We are now located on the main floor of our campus Heartland Building and are approximately 14,000 sq.ft. We have a beautiful state-of-the-art library with natural lighting all around; individual and group study rooms; meeting rooms; a large conference/classroom with media projection screens and a netbook cart; an inviting gathering space with comfortable seating, a fireplace, and a video wall; quiet study spaces; areas for group collaboration/discussions; computer stations with new desktop computers; larger print and media collections; video monitors; wireless access; and charging stations. The design provides for flexible and diverse space
to accommodate various learning activities and serves as the campus “living room” to welcome students to an inviting collegial setting.

We are very proud of this new space and very thankful for the funding and support we received for it. This will greatly benefit our students. If you are driving to or through St. Cloud please stop by as we would love to show you around.

Vermilion Community College - Ely (Sharon Evenson)

I am very busy cleaning up the collection in preparation for the new ILS. I am eliminating collections such as audiobooks, state documents, etc. and looking at reducing the reference collection to half its current size.

We recently finished a new look to our library webpage and updated the look to our library Facebook page.

We set up an adult coloring stations in the library during finals week. We have been asked by student senate to create a maze during Spring finals week in lobby of the library. Last year’s Mayan maze was a big hit.

Due to budget cuts, we lost a database on our campus this year, we now only purchase one database from your budget. Also, will lose a shared cataloging position July 1st.

I am very frustrated with our 3-M security system, after all these years, they tell us that there is too much interference (noise) coming from the lights and light switches, so that is why it does not work, yet due to ADA regulations, we have really no place to move it without losing too much space in our small library. As a result of it not working our recent inventory shows that we lost 35 DVDS and 5 books from Spring 2015 until the present. Our average loss is about 5 to 10 items.

I talked with my provost Feb. 24 and he said that the NHED President has not heard anything about a new ILS at the president leadership meetings last week. This is a concern because we will be asked about budgets right after Spring break at VCC.

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College - Cloquet (Nancy Broughton)

The archives is no longer. The library name has changed…it’s now just Ruth A. Myers Library.

No reports from:
Alexandria Technical and Community College
Lake Superior College
Mesabi Range College*

*These colleges currently do not have a librarian

(Please note … On December’s report I had an asterisk next to Itasca CC and Hibbing CC, that was incorrect. Steven Bean is librarian at Itasca CC, he also has duties at Hibbing.)
Metro-Area Public Libraries
Susan Nemitz

Hennepin County Library
Hennepin County Library (HCL) is moving to BiblioCommons as the vendor for our online catalog interface and events calendar by June 1, 2016.

In November 2015, Hennepin County Public Health hired a full-time social worker to work at Hennepin County Library—Minneapolis Central to support patrons experiencing homelessness and in other crisis situations. The position is co-supervised by St. Stephen’s Human Services, Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health’s Homeless Access Team and the manager of Minneapolis Central Library. This pilot project employs the social worker as a Homeless Outreach Coordinator for two years with funding from Hennepin County Public Health and the Downtown Improvement District. Responsibilities of the position include providing effective referrals and building staff capacity to respond to and refer patrons.

In October 2015, HCL identified Hopkins Public Schools as a partner and began planning for issuing library cards to all 7000+ students in the district as part of the ConnectED challenge. In 2013, President Obama issued the ConnectED challenge to transform teaching and learning through digital connectivity and content. In 2015, he extended the challenge to both publishers and public libraries. Hopkins is one of 54 communities nationwide to participate in the ConnectED initiative, which HCL is calling the Partners in Education Project. By the end of the 2015-16 school year, all students in Hopkins Public Schools will have a library card and know how to use it. Hopkins was chosen as a partnering school district because of its robust 1:1 digital environment at the junior high and senior high levels, as well as access to technology at the elementary level. Hopkins has also invested in its media specialists and has a librarian at each of its schools, making the partnership seamless. HCL will identify additional school districts for rollout of Partners in Education in the 2016-17 school year.

In August 2015, HCL received a $97,000 LSTA grant to support outreach work in the Cedar Riverside neighborhood of Minneapolis. HCL is employing two liaisons with strong ties to the East African community in that neighborhood to bring library services and mobile technology centers to residents. In a community where more than one-third of residents come from another country, lack a high school degree and live below the poverty line, trusted library liaisons working in accessible, communal spaces are an important link to library resources for community members of all ages.

MELSA
For the past several months, MELSA staff have been working on the pilot launch of the new smARTpass program, an online service that will enable library card holders in the Twin Cities areas to receive free or discounted tickets to selected area cultural organizations, including live theater and music venues, and museums. Access to the project will be managed in conjunction with the eight MELSA member libraries. MELSA staff, led by Sally Lederer, have negotiated service agreements with fifteen “cultural partner” organizations – with expectations that more will join as the pilot project develops.

MELSA staff member Melinda Ludwiczak, the Project Manager who is in charge of regional coordination of library programs under the Legacy Fund’s Arts and Cultural Heritage program, will be retiring on April 15, 2016. The impending vacancy has been posted and candidate interviews are being scheduled at this time. The interview panel for selected finalists will include Ms. Ludwiczak, Kathleen James, MELSA Youth Services and Project Manager, and Ken Behringer, MELSA Executive Director.
Ramsey County Library
The Ramsey County Library's Annual Kindergarten Card Party, sponsored by the Friends, was a major success. Children's librarians attempted to visit every kindergarten class in suburban Ramsey County to convince five year olds to sign up for a Library card. Over 1,220 people attended the event on January 30. 305 library cards were presented to kindergarteners from all over the county that day. An additional 1,000 cards were mailed.

The Friends Gala, Spies Lies & Literature took place on February 6. The event was tremendous fun and well attended. A wonderful time was had by all and the Friends gave the Library an additional $35,000 for the collection as a result. The Ramsey County Library in New Brighton will add eight hours of public service on Mondays starting April 4.

St. Paul Public Library
Saint Paul Public Library opened the George Latimer Central Library on January 29, following a three-month renovation. Thousands of visitors were wowed by the Nicholson Commons, which is patterned after the grand reading rooms of great libraries and the spacious and now day-lit Peter J. King Welcome Center entry and circulation area. They also got a preview of the Nicholson Workforce and Innovation Center, which features business and entrepreneur resources, a flexible space for classes and computer lab, three sound recording studios and a Maker Space, all designed to support adult artists, entrepreneurs and DIY enthusiasts.

Minnesota State Library Services
Jennifer Nelson

Supercharged Storytimes: Still Time to Participate
Supercharged Storytimes learning modules are now archived and available to all Minnesota library staff. More than 100 people have already joined the community and anyone can participate through March 31, 2016. Learn more about this unique storytime training and networking opportunity from Jackie Blagsvedt (651-582-8805).

Better Together: Strengthening Adult Learning Communities: Register Today
Registration is open now for Better Together: Strengthening Adult Learning Communities. Better Together is a series of regional educational and networking meetings to establish or strengthen relationships and partnerships between libraries, adult education, and workforce organizations to improve literacy and workforce outcomes for adults. State Library Services and Adult Basic Education are co-hosting the meetings, which are scheduled for:

- Roseville at the Minnesota Department of Education, Conference Center B, on April 29; presenters include staff from Anoka County Library, adult education and workforce, as well as Hennepin County Library.
- Mankato at the Country Inn and Suites on May 9; presenters include staff from the Buckham Memorial (Faribault) Library, adult education and workforce center.
- Grand Rapids at the Saw Mill Inn on May 16; presenters include staff from Moorhead Public Library and adult education as well as Duluth-area adult education and workforce.

Libraries Serving Youth Meetup: Registration Open
School and public librarians network and share ideas in a casual setting at the Meetup on Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at MDE in Roseville. Attendees get creative ideas and connect with like-minded professionals about issues important to them. This year, learn about diversity in children's literature from Cathy Camper--the author of the critically-acclaimed and fan-favorite graphic novel, Lowriders in Space. For more information, please contact Jen Verbrugge (651-582-8356).

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
Beginning later in March, MDE will be holding weekly topic area meetings with stakeholder groups to delve deeper into ESSA requirements and opportunities for Minnesota. Expect federal guidance to be released for public comment to be
released toward the end of May; final regulations released in late October. Submission deadline not yet released, but likely to be in early 2017. Contact mde.essa@state.mn.us if interested in participating in topic area meetings.

**Library Services and Technology Act**
We anticipate opening a competitive grant opportunity in first quarter 2016. Planning for our next Five Year (2018-2022) Plan will start in the next several months, as will evaluating our success in achieving the goals in our current Five Year (2013-2017) Plan. We'll keep you updated and offer a variety of opportunities for libraries to be involved in grant opportunities, planning and evaluation.

**Community Engagement**
Joe Manion is participating in a couple of efforts to build our knowledge in the area of community engagement. A HHH School of Public Affairs masters’ candidate is researching and writing a paper on the topic, with Joe serving as mentor and committee member. He is also participating in a Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) Community Engagement Group that is looking at delivery pathways and possible national measurement tools.

**Public Library Annual Report**
The 2015 Public Library Report survey is open. Public libraries have until April 1 to submit online their 2015 data. There are several data element changes including definitions of electronic materials—downloadable media—and electronic collections—databases. Also added questions about summer reading programs—if offered, and, if so, to which target groups—and board of trustees—appointed or elected and advisory or governing.

**Early Literacy AmeriCorps VISTA**
Nat Bauer, the Early Literacy AmeriCorps VISTA member serving at State Library Services, is consulting with metro area librarians and early childhood professionals about effective ways libraries can connect with families of young children in their communities. She is also researching past successful programs, and starting to develop a set of resources for libraries interested in early literacy and community engagement.

**Minnesota Braille and Talking Book Library Hiring Update**
A new Audio Visual Education Specialist will help to start up and operate the library's volunteer-driven recording program, creating digital audio recordings of Minnesota-related books for library patrons. We're hoping to have someone in place in April.

**Eco Experience Traveling Exhibit**
State Library Services, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Minitex are collaborating to bring part of the State Fair favorite Eco Experience exhibit to libraries. Libraries will be able to borrow a table-top version of Resilient Communities. We're starting in the metro area to work the kinks out of the delivery system before moving to greater Minnesota.

**Recent Events**
**It's a Wrap: 90-Second Newbery Film Festival**
We celebrated our second year of the 90-Second Newbery Film Festival at Hennepin County Library – Minneapolis Central on Saturday, February 27. More than 150 students submitted 90 films this year, and about 250 filmmakers, family members and interested people attended the showing. We're already looking forward to next year!

**Storytime for Grown-Ups Workshop**
Joe Manion presented “How to Plan and Implement a Storytime for Grown Ups” on March 3 at the Roseville Library. Modeled after a successful ACHF-funded project at Washington County Library, this four-hour workshop prepared 30 participants to present outreach programs for book lovers and fans of a good story well told in senior residences.
**Multicounty Multitype Library Systems**  
Ann Walker Smalley

**Arrowhead Library System (Shari Fisher)**
We are continuing the work on the ALS website makeover. The new website is being built using a WordPress platform and will be hosted remotely.

We are continuing to offer Brainfuse webinars. The Brainfuse HelpNow and JobNow statistics reflect increased usage as a result of the continuing education.

The MackinVIA e-book project has also shown increased circulation. With an average circulation of 200 in the fall months, the January usage increased to just under 1700. We now have 98 schools participating and expect usage to grow as we add more e-book content and continue to provide training.

**Central MN Libraries Exchange (CMLE) (Patricia Post)**

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<tr>
<th>Events (here is the FY16 lineup of events for CMLE):</th>
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<tr>
<td>ELM Expo in partnership with Metronet and Minitex; a full day of face-to-face learning tips and tricks of using ELM: Took place November 6, 2015.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genealogy Research Workshop in partnership (for space and laptops) with Great River Regional Library: February 2, 2016 (postponed due to weather, coming soon).</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Library Spring Tour, eBooks and Author Talk event in partnership with St. Cloud Community and Technical College in showing off their new library space.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervisory Nuts and Bolts Workshop Two “after school” sessions (4-6 pm) in St. Cloud that will build your skill sets in positively influencing others and in creating space to do really good work. Come to hear how to get others (often paras) to do what you want them to do, while also wrapping your supervisor around your little finger! Come prepared to share with a professional expert/facilitator what is hard, what is not working, and get tips you can use tomorrow to make you better at what you do!</td>
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**Metronet (Ann Walker Smalley)**
We continue to work & plan Teen Lit Con 2016 is May 7 at Sibley HS. Metronet is one of the partners with MELSA, Mackin, Dakota Co Library, & ISD 197. Sabaa Tahir was announced as a national author, but she has been replaced by Leigh Bardugo. We are seeking adult volunteers to work on May 7 as Ambassadors. If you volunteer, you will be assigned a task like working in the exhibit hall on various activities for teens, moderate a breakout session, keep attendees oriented to the building, etc. Volunteers receive a cool t-shirt & TLC sportsak. [Volunteer here](#). You can [join](#) the email list for updates. Note that several past & present TLC authors recently won youth media awards. Gene Yuen Lang, who presented last year, was appointed the Library of Congress Ambassador for Youth Literature. Neil Shusterman, who will be there this year, won the National Book Award for Young People’s literature.

Metronet has a revised scholarship application and scoring rubric.

Metronet has a new logo. We used CrowdSpring to crowdsource the process. We received
almost 200 submissions. We have several versions to use according to document/site/social media platform.

- Metronet will offer Libraries in the 21st Century through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in the spring of 2016.
- We are working with Minneapolis Public Schools to offer MILI as a ProPay course for 2016-2017. These courses require participants to do research & more reflection than MILI typically requires.

Northern Lights Library Network (Kathy Enger)

Interlibrary Loan Support for Viking Library System and Bookmobile Service to Campbell, Minnesota

Northern Lights Library Network sent a check for $5,600 to Viking Library System (VLS) on January 14, 2016, to support interlibrary loan service in the region and to enable VLS to provide bookmobile service to Campbell, Minnesota. Campbell is in the Lake Agassiz Regional Library System (LARL), but LARL doesn’t have a bookmobile. Campbell is thirty miles from the nearest community library and this is one way to get library service to the community. This is a joint project between Viking Library System and Northern Lights Library Network.

Library Luncheon with Legislators

The third annual Library Luncheon with Legislators was held Saturday, February 13th, from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the campus of Minnesota State University Moorhead in the Comstock Memorial Union, Room 205. We began the conversation with lunch (11:30 - 12), and then proceeded to hear from librarians in the region about their constituents and issues of importance to them (12 - 1 p.m.). This year, nine library leaders spoke, followed by three legislators. A list of attendees is below. Conversations with legislators, such as our “Library Luncheon with Legislators”, forms positive working relationships between legislators and librarians, ensuring ongoing library support for constituents in our region. Librarians in our region actively seek ongoing support for libraries in order to improve service delivery and continue to serve citizens in the state of Minnesota adequately.

Library Luncheon with Legislators attendees:

LEGISLATORS

- Representative Ben Lien, Representative, District 4A
- Representative Bud Nornes, Representative, District 8A
- Senator Eken, Senator, District 4

SPEAKERS

- Liz Lynch, Director, Lake Agassiz Regional Library
- Hannah Buckland, Director, Leech Lake Tribal College Library
- Larry Schwartz, Collection Management Librarian, Minnesota State University Moorhead
- Kristi Hanson, Director, Northwest Regional Library
- Peg Werner, Director, Viking Library System
- Perry Werner, Director, MState Libraries, NW Region
- Barb Fabre, Program Director, White Earth Child Care
- Kathy Enger, Executive Director, NLLN
- Wayne Ingersoll, President, NLLN

NLLN GOVERNING BOARD

- Richard Anderson, Beltrami County Commissioner, Solway
- Mari Dailey, Moorhead City Council, Moorhead
- Charlie Lindberg, NWRL board member, Kennedy
- Ruth Holmgren, Viking Library System, Pelican Rapids
- Adell Bridgeford, retired media specialist, Walker Public Schools
- And Husband Mr. Bridgeford
- LARL, Moorhead attendees
- Bob Perry
- Evie Fox
- Husband, Mr. Fox
- Megan Krueger, Moorhead Public Librarian
Tribal College Library Directors
The tribal college librarians in the region meet quarterly. The winter meeting was January 25, 2016 at the White Earth Tribal College in Mahnomen, with special guest State Librarian, Jennifer Nelson. A new library will be opening at the White Earth Tribal College this summer and they need help moving and shelving the collection. Red Lake Tribal College library could also use librarians to catalog and label books.

Internships
Three interns began January 2016, and are studying the library of the future in order to integrate the ideas into NLLN’s website. Planning meetings with interns occur weekly.

Skills and Knowledge Students Acquire from Media Specialists
Executive Director Kathy Enger presented “Skills for Student Success in the Electronic Age” at the Minnesota School Board Association 2016 Leadership Conference on January 14th at 3:45 p.m. This presentation is based on the research she and Glenn Heinecke are doing on the skills media specialists impart to students. A full copy of the presentation is on the NLLN website in the Strategic Plan-Work Plan-Report of Results for February 13, 2016.

Professional Engagement and Scholarships
As of January 1, 2016, NLLN obligated all $15,000 budgeted for scholarships for Fiscal year 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016). Scholarships were used for the ITEM and MLA fall conferences, continuing education courses, ALA Midwinter, the ALA Annual Conference, and the ISTE national conference.

Poets Across Minnesota
In collaboration with the school media specialist, Poet Professor, Kevin Zepper visited Kittson Central School on December 18th, teaching poetry to approximately 80 students. NLLN sponsored Zepper’s visit and donated paperback poetry books, The 100 Best American Poems.

IBBY Workshop June 6, 2016
On June 6, 2016, from 10 – 12 noon in the Faculty Development Center Multi-Purpose Room at Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM), Professor Emerita, Carol Sibley, will present a workshop as a result of serving on the biennial International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) Honour committee, to select outstanding international books for children and young adults (Pre-K through high school). As a result of her work, she has 356 books to donate to schools in the NLLN region (169 picture books, 72 novels, 67 non-fiction books, 35 graphic/”comic” books, 13 winners). Those attending the workshop will receive 14-15 free books to bring back to their library collections.

Southeast Library System (Reagan Thalacker)
SECO/SELS Implementation Plan
- The SELCO and SELS Advisory Committees have a handful of tactics under the SELCO/SELS Implementation Plan, more specifically under Goal 2: Strategy 2: Facilitate a culture of being an active and engaged member of SELCO/SELS. We are a few years into the plan and at the Joint December SELCO/SELS Advisory Committee meeting we reviewed what had currently been done under the tactics and revised some tactics to more accurately reflect needs.

- Practical Librarianship Workshop Series

- The second of four workshops took place on January 19, 2015 on the topic of Social Media. Presenters were Jennifer Harveland, SELCO-SELS’ contracted Communication Specialist, and Alex Ball from ADB Advertising. This was a full day onsite workshop. There were 20 attendees on the day. When asked what they liked most about the program, comments included:

  “Learning/discussing more about some of the technicalities of using the apps and what they are best used for in context of promoting reading, libraries, and events.”

  “Interacting with other librarians/building relationships.”

  “Hearing/seeing ways that libraries are using Social Media.”
• Evaluation & Assessment, the third in the series, will take place on March 15th with Robin Ewing of SCSU serving as the speaker. 18 attendees have already registered.

• Future workshops for the 2015-16 season will cover the following:

• Library Spaces | May 17, 2016 | Speaker: Pam Harland, Sanborn, NH Regional School District

• For more information.

• Based upon the success of this current season, SELCO/SELS is already in the process of soliciting speakers for a 2016-17 season, basing the next workshops upon the survey data collected prior to the first season. A new survey will run after the second season’s completion.

SELCO Supports Broadband Vision
The Southeastern Libraries Cooperating (SELCO) Board of Directors joins a growing number of governmental agencies supporting the Minnesota Broadband Vision. The SELCO resolution stresses the broad array of vital library services that depend on broadband or high speed Internet. The resolution urges Governor Dayton and the members of the Minnesota Legislature to provide leadership, resources and the necessary legal framework to make this vision a reality.

Traverse des Sioux TdS Library Cooperative (Orrin Ausen)
No report submitted.

North Dakota
Mary J Soucie

The staff participated in an all-day staff retreat for our strategic planning process. It was a very beneficial day with lots of ideas shared and three distinct priorities identified. As part of the process, new mission and vision statements were also drafted. The State Library’s new vision statement is “Providing pathways to information and innovation” and the new mission statement is “Making connections, strengthening communities, impacting lives”. At our annual employee recognition luncheon, the following employees were recognized for years of services: Ryan Kroh, 3 years; Stephanie Baltzer-Kom, 10 years; Al Peterson and Stacey Goldade, 15 years; Cynthia Clairmont-Schmidt and Sue Clark, 35 years.

The North Dakota Center for the Book has returned to the State Library. This year’s Letters for Literature contest received twice as many entries than last year. Letters for Literature is an initiative of the Library of Congress that invites students to write a letter to an author, living or dead, to discuss the impact the author has had on the student’s life. Winners at the state level advance to the national level.

North Dakota’s revenue forecast for this biennium had to be readjusted due to the impact the drop in oil prices has had on state revenues. I’ve included in this report the February Flickertale article on how the State Library is adjusting our budget for the remainder of the biennium. In addition to what’s referenced in the article, we are making a slight change to our contract with Minitex, which I’ve already communicated to Valerie.

Our Digitization Librarian Baltzer Kom, Public Information Coordinator Byram and ILL Associate Kurtz did a scan day at Harvey Library. 116 items were scanned. The scan days have netted us some really neat and unique images that we would otherwise have.

We scan the items that patrons bring in; the patron is given a digital copy of the items on a flashdrive and we are given
permission to add the items to our Digital Horizons collection. If patron attendance is low, staff will digitize items from
the library’s collection.

The State Library provides WordPress subscriptions for our member libraries. We do the initial setup of the page and
provide training and the library is responsible for maintaining and updating the page. Public Information Coordinator
Byram began a WordPress evaluation and marketing project. She is analyzing each of the WordPress websites that
our libraries have, providing usage statistics and suggestions for different ways to take advantage of the features of
WordPress. Several libraries have made changes based on the suggestions.

North Dakota State Library is one of five states participating in the ALA and COSLA (Chief Officers of State Libraries)
Library E-rate Assessment and Planning project (LEAP). The other participating states are Alaska, California, Iowa and
Kentucky. The goal of the project is to increase libraries utilization of e-rate. NDSL is focusing on education our libraries
on broadband and the re-rate modernization and encouraging the libraries to look at their
current speeds to see if there is a way to increase it without increasing their costs. We are working with the state’s ITD
and Dakota Carrier Network on the information gathering piece. For more information, visit Leap page.

Our State Aid to Public Libraries was funded for the first time at the full statutory amount for this biennium. We were
pleased to not have to cut State Aid as part of our allotment. State Aid applications were opened on February 1 and due
February 28. Almost all of our public libraries apply for state aid.

Our Library Development Team, along with Soucie, Soucie, met with representatives from Job Services to discuss
ways to partner to provide librarians/libraries with more information on assisting patrons with job searching. Someone
from Job Services will present at the spring workshop and we will also explore other training they can provide for our
librarians. We are excited to explore and expand this new partnership.

The North Dakota Afterschool Network held its first Summit in February at the Capitol. Over a hundred people attended.
North Dakota is one of two states without an afterschool network. A leadership team was formed last year to explore
the options of setting up a network and to apply for a grant from the Mott Foundation to support the formation. Soucie
was asked to serve as a member of the leadership team. Attendees represented libraries, schools, state agencies such
as the State Library and the Department of Public Instruction, the business sector, non-profits such as the YMCA and
United Way and legislators. We were very excited by the success of the Summit and will now turn our attention towards
writing and submitting the grant.

State Library Budget (Mary Soucie)
North Dakota’s revenue forecast for this biennium had to be readjusted due to the impact the drop in oil prices has had
on state revenues. On February 1, Governor Dalrymple and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) director Pam Sharp
shared the new forecast for the remainder of the biennium and the subsequent impact on state agencies. The state has a
budget stabilization fund but before it can be accessed, most state agencies have to take a minimum 2.5% allotment or
budget cut. After careful analysis, OMB and the Governor’s office determined that state agencies need to take a 4.05%
allotment for the remainder of the biennium. It is up to each agency head to determine how to meet the requirement.

For the State Library, the allotment amount of 4.05% means we need to amend our biennial budget by just shy of
$275,000. Our revised budget is due to OMB on February 17. I have been working closely with the State Library
Management Team to devise the best way to handle the allotment. Tough decisions have to be made and as I am writing
this article, our plan has not been finalized.

I do know that we will not be renewing at least 3 databases. Our internal Database Review Committee reviewed the
usage trends for each database for the last 3 years. We did not compare the databases against each other because that
is nearly impossible since they are so different in scope and in process.

We made our renewal decisions based on the usage trends, in combination with the database costs. We would like to
have an opportunity to notify the vendors that we won’t be renewing once we have finalized our plan. We will announce
the names of the databases at that time.

In addition to the databases, we will be curtailing travel in general. Library Development will work with their libraries
via phone, email and videoconferencing, continuing to visit in person when needed. Visits to libraries will be based on invitation and need rather than scheduled as an annual visit. The State Library will be changing the format for Summer Summit this year. Fewer staff will attend the locations that require an overnight stay, although we will still be able to present the same information. We will not be offering mileage reimbursements for Summer Summit, but we will be offering a lunch option. Attendees can choose to pre-order lunch, at their own cost. This year’s Summer Summit will focus on the director-board relationship. We are excited to explore this topic with you. Most of our other changes are completely internal. Open positions may remain vacant longer than in the past. Although each position that we have is important, we recognize the cost savings found when a position remains temporarily unfilled. We will also be cutting back on book purchases for the remainder of this biennium.

The State Library has worked hard to minimize the effect of the allotment on the services that we offer. The Library Vision grants that were already awarded will remain the same, as will the monies for the Public Library Renovation and Repair grants. We will not be cutting State Aid for Public Libraries either. If you have questions or concerns about these changes, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Private Colleges
Terry Metz

Bethany Lutheran College (Alyssa Inniger)
• More Physical Changes: Over the winter holiday break, portions of the library’s lower level were renovated to more permanently house the Education Department. The tutoring center had previously been relocated to the lower level as well. There is faculty crossover between the tutoring center and the Education Department, so it made sense to combine the two departments in the library. The previous Education classrooms have been renovated to support the proposed Nursing program that is expected to officially start in spring 2017.

• Digitization Projects: We have also begun working with the Minnesota Digital Library to digitize some items from our archives. We will begin with the earliest school newspapers and all-campus photos.

College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University (Kathy Parker)
• Integrated Library System: The CSB/SJU Libraries are preparing for implementation of OCLC’s WMS to replace Ex Libris’ Aleph as our ILS. As in any ILS implementation, this has prompted us to re-examine everything from workflow to lending rules to cataloging practice. We are confident that we will arrive at a simpler, more efficient system by the time we go live this summer.

• Building Renovations: Construction work continues at SJU’s Alcuin Library, where contractors are finishing our new Special Collections area in advance of renovations for the remainder of the building. Alcuin Library will close on May 9 as major renovations begin, and will reopen in January 2017. We’ve been delighted with the good work of our architect, CSNA, and the contractor McGough.

• Common Curriculum: CSB/SJU are working toward a new common curriculum, and the Libraries have been actively engaged in discussions with faculty about our contributions to student learning outcomes. The new curriculum will have a scaffolding approach that lends itself to integration with our information literacy goals.

Cooperating Libraries in Consortium (Ruth Dukelow)
• Professional Development Event: CLIC has opened registration to non-member libraries for the April 12, 2016 conference, “Designing the Library’s Learning Space – the Architecture of the Library’s Curriculum.” Cost for non-members is $75 (includes lunch) payable by check only. For a link to the online registration form, agenda, and conference details, see: http://www.clic.edu/1529

Ten staff members from CLIC member libraries are presenting at LibTech 2016.

• Integrated Library System: In 2017, CLIC will migrate from Innovative Interfaces Millennium product to Ex Libris Alma (now owned by ProQuest).
• CLIC Digital Collections: CLIC member libraries are working with Jason Roy at the University of Minnesota to include portions of CLIC Digital Collections in DPLA.

Hamline University (Terry Metz)
• Integrating Library/IT Service Points: In early September 2015, the Bush Library combined its circulation and research service points. In addition, Academic & Client Technical Services (ACTS)—a division of our university’s IT unit—relocated the IT help desk, academic computing, and personal computing support elements—from the library’s lower level to the main floor.

All of these library and ACTS service points are collocated into a single, temporary arrangement—dubbed the Combined Service Desk (CSD)—near library’s main entrance. Planning is underway to roll out a more permanent and elegant version of this central service arrangement during the summer 2016.

• Law Library Closed: Effective January 1, Hamline University School of Law and William Mitchel College of Law combined to create a new entity: the Mitchell Hamline School of Law. Hamline University’s former Law Library’s is now closed to the public. Plans are underway to dispose of the print collection by various means.

• Information Literacy Tutorials: Five online tutorials and a post-tutorial quiz were provided to all First Year Seminar students at the beginning of fall semester. Both student and faculty feedback have been moderately positive and our average class score on the post-tutorial quiz was 82%. Research & Instruction Librarians were also more able to engage students in meaningful, small-group, active learning activities in a way not possible without “flipping” some of our content into the online tutorials.

• SIPX: In late January, the Bush Library established a SIPX subscription as another means of enhancing digital course support.

Macalester College (Terri Fishel)
• Lever Press Guest Speaker: Charles Watkinson, Associate University Librarian for Publishing and Director of Michigan Press, will be speaking about the Lever Press on Wednesday, March 2nd at 3:30 p.m. in the Harmon Room. This new open access book publishing press focuses on works in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Unique among open-access publishing initiatives, Lever Press is conceived, governed, and funded by a consortium of liberal arts college libraries, including Macalester College.

• 2016 LibTech Conference: The 9th annual LibTech Conference will take place March 17-18. Registration is full, but some of the events will be streamed. Streaming information will be available from our conference website closer to the date of the event.

• Our big news was receiving the ACRL Award for Excellence. Our ceremony and celebration will take place on May 2nd. More information can be found on ACRL website.

Martin Luther College (Linda Kramer)
• Weeding: Staff are in the midst of a process of weeding the print reference collection. Some volumes will be removed from the collection, and others will be relocated to the circulating stacks.

Northwestern Health Science University (Anne Mackereth)

New Provost
The university has a new Provost, Dr. Deb Bushway, as of January 11, 2016. The library served under an interim Provost for most of 2015; we are excited to work with Dr. Bushway moving forward.

Recent Retirements
Two individuals retired from the library last year via an early retirement incentive program. Corinne Florin was our Archivist and evening/weekend Library Clerk and some of you may know Dian Larson as Serials and Interlibrary Loan Librarian. We were able to restructure much of the evening position among existing employees and for the serials
librarian; we hired someone who had worked for us as a student, then as a Library Clerk - now as Serials Technician. Monica Howell also has archival experience, so it’s a perfect fit.

**Digital Repository**
Our contribution to Minnesota Reflections positioned the library to become the digital asset repository for all of Northwestern Health Sciences University. A 2010 web photo shoot has at least 25G of photos we need to identify and tag. There are several file cabinets filled with physical photographs we are scanning and tagging, too. This is a great position in which to find ourselves!

**St. Olaf College (Robert Lembke)**
**Digital Scholarship Initiative**
The St. Olaf Libraries and IT unit have recently opened the new DiSCO -- Digital Scholarship Center at Olaf (DiSCO) in Rolvaag Library. The new facility features an active learning classroom with 20 dual-boot iMacs, twelve multi-media production workstations, an audio recording room, a video recording room, and a production room housing 3D and large-format printers, a 3D scanner, and more. General workspace for faculty and students is abundant with seating for 60 at comfortable chairs and booths (the favorite of all).

The DiSCO, although managed by IT, is a collaboration of the research librarians and instructional technology staff. Joint programming is being developed that will include the long-running Summer Institute for faculty, digital humanities events, workshops, seminars, learning communities, etc.

**University of Northwestern St. Paul (Ruth Mcguire)**
**Open Textbook Network**
Northwestern is a member of the Open Textbook Network. As such, the library is partnering with the Online Learning Office to increase awareness of and adoption by faculty of open textbooks and library-licensed resources in their courses. Specific initiatives and projects are being planned for the coming summer and academic year.

**Library Strategic Planning**
The library has begun development of its next strategic plan. Since so much has changed in higher education, academic libraries, and the UNW community over the last few years, a major focus will be a thoughtful understanding of and response to those changes in the initiatives and goals with which we choose to move forward.

**Information Literacy and the Curriculum**
Northwestern has a core curriculum outcome related directly to information literacy skills. At the request of the Assessment Committee, a library task force is currently working to develop a survey that can be incorporated into the institution’s regular assessment plan for core curriculum outcomes.

**New Furniture**
The library received institutional capital dollars for new soft seating. The new furniture was received and installed, January 2016. It has freshened the aesthetics of the library and added seats and seating options for students.
Regional Systems Libraries
Barbara Misselt

Border to Border Broadband Vision
Regional library system boards are passing resolutions to encourage the Minnesota Legislature and Governor Dayton to provide sufficient resources for border to border broadband. The MLA Board and the Legislative Committee have both also passed resolutions in support of ensuring adequate broadband access for all Minnesota.

Once Upon a Reader - 2016 Launch
As we kick off the New Year, CRPLSA is pleased to commence season two of Once Upon a Reader. Aimed at pre-K children and their families, this statewide one-book program promotes Minnesota children’s literature and encourages families to Talk, Sing, Read, Write and Play together - five practices critical to early literacy skills development.

A panel of youth services librarians from across the state selected Ten Pigs: An Epic Bath Adventure, by Minnesota author/illustrator Derek Anderson, as the focus of this year’s program. “Anderson combines humor with simple, straightforward rhymes to successfully convey basic counting concepts,” praises School Library Journal. “Because of its big, vivid illustrations and rhythmic, sprightly rhymes, [Ten Pigs] is ideal for sharing with a group as a read-aloud.”

CRPLSA launched Once Upon a Reader’s inaugural season in 2014, with funding from Minnesota’s Legacy Amendment Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund. This year’s season will be observed from March to October and include a diverse mix of tie-in activities, enabling libraries of all sizes and in all corners of the state to participate in the program.

Beginning in March, Derek Anderson will travel across the state entertaining and educating kids in each participating regional library system with his “Ten Pigs Trunk Show.” During this portable one-man show, the author will read the book aloud, lead a reenactment, sketch, sing, and more. Visit onceuponareader.org, or click HERE, to see when Derek will be in a community near you.

Additional Once Upon a Reader activity materials are offered through the program’s website. Available for purchase are a waterproof and reusable Story Stroll, sign-sized book pages that allow you to display the Ten Pigs story outside a library or along a path; an Epic Storytime Kit, which includes your own copy of Ten Pigs, four other bath time and barnyard tales, and tie-in crafts; and a 15-piece Ten Pigs Play Kit for libraries to circulate among families and care providers.

Free and downloadable resources include a Ten Pigs scavenger hunt, matching game, drawing activity, bubble adventure, and more!

As Once Upon a Reader ramps up in earnest, library staff are encouraged to join with peers across the state in OUR Resource Share, a Facebook group devoted to the sharing of Once Upon a Reader photos and stories, programming ideas, and resource suggestions. In addition to keeping the conversation going, this Facebook resource allows members to share and download documents where helpful.

News from regional public library systems

East Central Regional Library (Barbara Misselt)
• ECRL launched our new website after the stretching the 8 year old framework of the former site far beyond its capacity. Ann Treacy provided excellent leadership as consultant with the ECRL web team to build the new WordPress site.
• Retirement: Mary Beth Woodrow retired after 25 years at the Aitkin Branch of ECRL. She started out as a Branch Aide and was promoted to Branch Librarian in a fairly short time. Over the last 3 months the entire staff of the Aitkin Branch that included 3 Branch Assistants and a loyal volunteer all retired.

Great River Regional Library (Karen Pundsack)
• Great River Regional Library is working on an updated catalog and website. We are developing a new discovery
layer using VuFind. The open-source platform will offer fulltext search, faceted search and a more accurate and relevant search result. It will also be a responsive design. Target date for the soft launch will be late March. The website redesign will focus on improving user experience and creating a responsive design. Target launch for the new website is midyear.

• Monticello Library Services Coordinator Deb Luken is retiring at the end of March. Deb has been with GRRL for 27 years, and she has been a leader in developing community-focused programming and services. We are in the process of interviewing candidates and hope to have a new coordinator in place by early to mid-April.

• We have been working closely with Minitex, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud Technical College, St. John’s University and the College of St. Benedict to develop a new local interlibrary loan delivery process. In March the GRRL Board will be reviewing our plan to move the process from SCSU to GRRL and develop a new funding formula between the partners for the service. Bringing the delivery to GRRL will allow us to leverage our existing delivery infrastructure and provides the most cost effective option for everyone. We hope to have the new process in place by July 1.

• GRRL approved a new five-year strategic plan at the end of 2015. Our mission statement continues to be “Explore, Learn, Connect.” Our vision statement has been revised to “The Neighborhood Gateway: Inspiring Central Minnesota to shape the future through exploration, knowledge and connection.” The plan includes new core values - Patron Centered: Exceptional Service, Forward Thinking & Community Focus. A major project for 2016 will include development of individual library local action plans to reach underserved audiences in each community.

• Minitex Director Valerie Horton presented on 21st Century Library Skills at our February 23rd regional staff meeting. The presentation was extremely well received and helped get everyone thinking about library trends and their impact. Many thanks to her for sharing her time and talents with us!

Additional news from 3 regional public library systems is in the Multitype Library Systems Report. These library systems provide both public and multitype library services: SELCO/SELS, Arrowhead Library System, and Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative.
School Libraries
Robin Weber

I sent a request to the state listserv requesting input into what school libraries were doing. I have included the responses below. As you can see there are diverse happenings.

Columbia Heights High School has a donorschoose campaign to create a Culturally Relevant Library.

OWL - SPPS
- collaborated with SPPL to make sure all students at OWL have working public library cards
- I Read I Vote with middle school students
- Read Brave with high school students - all 9th and 10th graders were given copy of this year's book, author Andrew Smith visited OWL yesterday for conversation with students and book signing
- collaborating with high school World History teacher - have taught lessons so far on using Google vs. a database for research, how to use a database, and plagiarism
- worked with Social Studies teachers on History Day
- help tech TOSA run our iPad Genius Squad

MoundsView HS
- We have a full service coffee shop running throughout the school day run by our career education teachers and students
- We have new flexible seating, couches, chairs, high tables, low tables, bouy chairs, chat chairs
- We have a flexible classroom area with movable chairs and tables and an interact board
- We have added 2 3d printers and a laser cutter
- We have other simple makerspaces; things like, adult coloring books, games like chess, etc
- The students eat lunch in here and are allowed to bring in food and drinks
- The books are on 20 new mobile carts

Recently Milroy PTO organized a book exchange for the students in our school. For each book kids brought from home that they no longer wanted they received a ticket. A bunch of books were collected and then displayed for the students to choose from using the tickets they each had. The whole school participated and after it was over there were two milk crates full of books that were then donated to the library. These books were sorted into books needed in the library and books to go on the library's rummage sale which we have in the spring. The book rummage sale is held in conjunction with our grandparents' day. Books are displayed and students and their guests buy the books for whatever they wish to pay. These funds are then used to buy new books for the library. Everybody wins! New books for kids to take home and new books for the library.

Eveleth-Gilbert Public Schools
- This week we held LED-bookmark-making sessions in the Media Center in celebration of I Love to Read Month. Creating circuits out of LED lights and watch batteries also meets one of the science standards, so it was an art, science and book-related project!

- Next month we are going to do a March Madness Book Character competition with book characters taken from our top-circulating books.

Hutchinson Elementary
- Hutchinson Elementary school libraries have expanded the Hour of Code ideas, spending about 6 weeks with a visual programming tool, blockly and robots Dash (Wonder Workshop) in third grade and Scratch in fourth and fifth grades. We are in the middle of our own “Battle of the Books”.

Coon Rapids High School Library
- Whole-class and small group instruction on accessing information from databases and conducting advanced Google searches for assignments in English, Social Studies, Science, Health, and FACS classes

- "Take-apart Lab" option available during before-school open hours (students have access to old "tech junk" and a
variety of tools to take items to apart and see what's inside/how they work Book talks with the library media specialist for all English 9, English 10, Reading, and ESL classes.

- Celebration of cultural celebration months with featured nonfiction and fiction selections

**Henry Sibley Library**

- I have a group of students that assist with displays and running the circ. desk. They get first dibs on the new books. They are an advisory group for the library. They are called the Page Warriors and they meet once a week. There are about 15 students in the club.

- There is a book club that meets 2 a month in the library. It is run by one of our school board members. There are about 12 teens in the club.

- On Fridays the Page Warriors sell coffee (I pick up 2.5 gallons of it from Caribou) hot chocolate, and 2 dozen donuts. They sell it just outside of the library in the hallway from 7:30-8:20. They make about $100 bucks from it each week. The money goes back to the library. I buy snacks for the students and replace random books from used bookstores.

- There is a student led Tech Team (Tech Warriors - our mascot) that is housed in the library. There are a few students before school, after school, and during different hours of the day. Students that wish to be a Tech Warrior usually swap out a study hall for the class. They assist with frontline tech problems that students and staff might have.

- In April we are having a Scholastic Book Fair. I contacted a Scholastic rep and told her I’d like to have a book fair but that there wasn’t one for high school. She's working with me to send me relevant titles and suggested summer reading lists from teachers.

- My school is also hosting TeenLitCon on May 7th. We have authors from all over the country. The event is free and open to the public.

- The library also has a literary contest once a month. This month is First Line. Students submit one sentence of what the first line of their book might be.

- Students can letter in library. This starts when they are a freshman. I have a list of requirements that students must do in order to letter. The patch is a book with the word library across the open pages of the book.

- I have chess, checkers, coloring books, and puzzles in the library for the students to work on when they have free time.

- I take pictures of various things and students in the library. I put them into an iMovie and have it playing on repeat on the flat screens in the library. I also put funny things on the screens. Students really enjoy seeing themselves up there and I try to keep it updated weekly.

- I tweet and snapchat library and school related things frequently. Students follow me back.

**Nashwauk Library**

- We have a program every Wednesday, open to all Nashwauk-Keewatin students, K-? starting right after school at 2:30. A few years ago our Iasc schools decided to have teacher workshops on Wednesday's, having the children get out of school an hour early. Calumet Library and Nashwauk Library formed a Wednesday Early Out Program, open to all students to come into our libraries. We apply for grants to fund our program every Fall and have all age groups participating in after school program, homework, reading, arts and crafts, computers, games, outside activities, and field trips and speakers coming in to talk about different subjects in our area. We have three adults working in our library and Calumet has two for all our activities. This program has encouraged our local children on how fun the library can be and we see many coming in on other days knowing that they are welcome!

- This Summer we are again having our Summer Reading Program participate in our Straw Bale Garden time. We set up in front of the library 12 straw bales and grow our fruits and vegetable’s and herbs to show how fun and healthy a garden can be. Our local adults stop by and enjoy what
we have going with the children and get to share stories of when they had a garden when they were growing up. Also this year if our garden produces a better amount of product we will be donating to our local food shelf, which encourages our children to share in what they have produces. This idea was from a Legacy program we held for our local public in our library!

**Pioneer Ridge Middle School**
- We held our annual “Thanks a Latte” Day yesterday. Parents donate everything (cocoa, cookies, cups, napkins, prizes) and volunteer to serve. Language Arts teachers (and some others) bring their students down to the hall outside the media center. Students pay $1 for a cocoa and cookie, then visit in our “Ridge Café” while playing literature trivia. It’s a fun day and a great fundraiser for the media center.

**Armstrong HS**
- We are transforming our space to include an AVID student literacy space, for which we were funded $64,000 between our two high school from LSTA. Within those grant parameters, we are also starting some AVID book clubs and beefing up our book collection with the help of our AVID students.

- We have opened our media center to study halls so that students have options for their study spaces.

- We are weeding our 21,000 title collection from an outdated (average age 1987) to an updated collection of 7,000.

- We are increasing our ebook and audiobook titles and tracking the results of various strategies for exposing the students to ebooks.

- We went 1:1 Chromebooks this year in our high schools - we were 1:1 middle school last year, and 1:1 5th grade the previous year. Next year, we will be 1:1 4th grade across our district.

- We are planning for a maker space.

- We had a first time ever Scholastic book fair in our media center.

- We have a student tech team - these students serve as a live help desk for our students with chromebook needs.

**Hill-Murray**
I had a couple of successful sessions recently with 12th grade CIS/AP English classes. I was showing them Noodle Tools, which I had introduced to them when they were in the 10th Grade. However, this time they got it. They especially like the Bibliography section and the fact that in some cases it recognizes the ISBN and generates a citation for them. Several like that they can use Noodle Tools for multiple assignments. Noodle Tools is a wonderful online note taking service which the teachers also like once they get their students to use it.

**Hibbing HS**
I think I will use a "speed-dating" activity with my 11th grade next month. They might be more interested in that. For March we are trying the "March Madness" theme with the brackets. I'm not sure how much participation I will get, but I try to tie the activities in with their Accelerated Reader to give them more incentive to participate.

**Tanglen Elementary**
Each year to help kick-off I Love to Read Month, I bring an author or illustrator in for a day. All classrooms, Pre-K to 6th, sign up for a time to come and listen to them talk about what it is they do.

**Hopkins Middle School**
In our partnership with Hennepin County Libraries, every student at North (and soon the whole district) will have a library card. This opens up all of the ebook and database possibilities to our students. The county librarians have presented a large selection of classroom resources at a district staff
development day. They have offered to join us in supporting classroom instruction: from helping provide resources to presenting what HCL can offer. The partnership took another great turn this week. We took our first field trip to the public library, where students had a chance to take part in teen programming including a library scavenger hunt. Check out the blog!

- Kids had a great time taking apart and hacking a VHS player.
- Our students created a prosthetic hand that has been approved by eNable. That means we are on a list to wait for a local recipient who needs a real hand. In the mean time, we can make more generic hands for donation.

**Barnum Elementary**
- Opening a makerspace

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**State Government Libraries**

*Liz Reppe*

**Legislative Reference Library**

The legislative session will begin March 8th. A database developed by the Legislative Library a few years ago to allow legislative staff and state agencies to track reports required to be submitted to the Legislature has proven useful this winter as legislative staff prepare for this busy time of year.

The Library opened a small, staffed ‘branch’ of the Legislative Reference Library on the third floor of the new Minnesota Senate Building in January. The modest space in the Senate building includes study space, comfortable reading chairs, 9 newspapers, 24 of our most heavily used periodicals, and a small reference collection. The bulk of the Library collection will remain in the space on the 6th floor of the State Office Building.

**State Law Library**

The State Library offered 5 free continuing legal education classes in the 4th quarter of 2015. In addition, Liz Reppe presented two CLEs for the Ramsey County Bar Association on topics related to legal research.

The State Law Library partnered with the Coalition of County Law Libraries to put on a half day educational program for staff of county law libraries.

The merger of Hamline University School of Law and William Mitchell College of Law presented an opportunity for our library to take possession of some books from the Hamline Law Library that would not be transferred to the new combined library. We collected 6 boxes of older Minnesota legal materials and other notable legal treatises. In addition, we acquired their entire set of appellate briefs, covering years 1881-1976. Since we serve as the archival library for the judicial branch, this was an incredibly valuable acquisition for us. This provides the library with a duplicate copy of our older briefs - many of which are in very fragile condition.

*Attorney General Library, Karla Gedell, celebrated 20 years of service to the State of Minnesota!*

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State Universities

Joan Roca

Minnesota State University, Mankato (Christine Schafer)
• We are currently advertising for a Public Services Manager and a Technical Services Library Technician.
• Later this month we will be launching LibQUAL the first time Metro has done an assessment of this type.
• We hope to make a case for hiring an Archivist as our part-time sabbatical replacement has done a fabulous job of organizing university historical documents previously spread across the institution.
• We continue to have book discussions, workshops, screenings, performances, etc. surrounding our Big Read grant for Their Eyes Were Watching God, by Zora Neale Hurston.

Minnesota State University, Mankato (Joan Roca)
• The Library continues work on the responses to our Program Review recommendations and we are redefining our mission, vision, and goals.
• Systems Librarian is retiring at the end of spring semester and we will be holding interviews in the coming weeks.
• All units of the University, including the Library, continue to plan for a budget adjustment this coming fiscal year (not a positive one).

Southwest Minnesota State University, Mankato (Pam Gladis)
• We were approved for a new position to start in Fall 2016! The Instructional Design Librarian will be active in information literacy instruction, research services, and serve as the university-wide instructional design specialist.
• Based on feedback from our Program Review, the Master Campus Planners, and our own evaluations, we are exploring bringing our campus Technology Resource Center into our library space as a single service point for our students. A specific timeframe has not been established yet, but discussions are underway!
• Weeding projects in Reference, Periodicals, and Government Documents are in full swing and we are making good progress.
• I’m presenting at the Library Technology Conference with PALS, MSU, Mankato, and Winona State University, about our work with Islandora. Our presentation is Be a Digital Survivor: Digitize, Share and Preserve.
• Kathleen Ashe, Systems & Cataloging Librarian and past department Chair, is retiring at the end of Spring Semester! Her retirement reception will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2016, from 2:00-4:00p.m. in the William Whipple Gallery at SMSU. All are welcome!

Twitter: @MNSUMankato
Twin Cities & Southern State Colleges

Tom Eland

Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge Campus (Candice Young)
The Anoka-Ramsey Community College Cambridge campus library currently has two temporary part-time librarians who will be working through the summer. A search is underway to fill the full-time librarian position for fall 2016. We have found ourselves very busy with the ALEPH Data Clean-up project.

Dakota County Technical College (Michael Kirby)
We have our first-ever intern working with us at the DCTC Library, through an arrangement with MCTC. She has been helping us to convert our research guides from one platform to another, setting up a new social media account, and other projects.

Minneapolis Community & Technical College (Tom Eland)
We completed a major periodicals reassessment project and significantly reduced the number of print periodicals in our collection. We developed a library communications plan and participated in a number of campus outreach opportunities. We hired three new library technicians, one of whom is a graduate from our Library Information Technology program, and another from the library technician program at Seneca College in Toronto, Canada. We are finishing up our 10 year Dewey to LC reclassification project. We completed a major weeding of our print book and VCR collections. We also set up a trial to the Kanopy streaming video system, and will most likely continue with the service starting next fiscal year. Library faculty are also working with our Center for Teaching and Learning on a campus open textbook initiative.

Our Library Information Technology program established a closer working relationship with the St. Paul Public and Hennepin County Public Library systems to promote our A.A.S. degree and Certificate programs. We finalized a transfer agreement between our A.A.S. degree and the Metropolitan State University B.A. in History program.

Normandale Community College (Rachael Wightman)
After a vacancy at the end of last academic year and due to some rearranging of current faculty assignments, we have two new, part-time faculty librarians this year: Ray Lockman and Amanda Pruka. We've just started a new streaming video service through Kanopy. We are also continuing to provide SIPX, a service which allows faculty to create copyright compliant electronic reading lists to students from library and outside resources.

Twitter: @NormandaleCECT
Bio-Medical Library Begins Renovations
The Bio-Medical library is updating its public spaces to support new needs related to research, teaching, and learning. The renovated area will include an open floor plan and a new service desk, and will be zoned with distinct spaces for collaboration, productivity, and learning. It will also bring in new resources such as a data visualization center and a one-button video production studio.

Libraries support MN-REACH, a health science research commercialization grant
The University of Minnesota Libraries has been piloting a collaboration with MN-REACH (Research Evaluation and Commercialization Hub) a 3-year, $6-million grant jointly funded by NIH and the University of Minnesota. MN-REACH provides mentoring, training, and up to $150,000 in funding for faculty members who want to commercialize health science research. Franklin Sayre (Pharmacy Librarian), Mary Schoenborn (Liaison for the Humphrey School of Public Affairs & Carlson School of Management), and Caroline Lilyard (Business and Global Studies Liaison) are providing reports containing tailored business and clinical information to each applicant, offering consults, and providing instruction during the skill-building workshops.

Gopherbaloo
On Saturday, January 16, 2016, Wilson Library hosted the 6th annual History Day program Gopherbaloo. The event is modeled after the very popular History Day Hulabaloo’s that take place at public libraries across Minnesota. The day brings together Libraries staff (including Minitex staff), History Day staff from Minnesota Historical Society, and History Department college student mentors who provide special workshops, one-to-one “power conferences,” research support, a parent lounge, and more to the young researchers.

This year was the biggest event to date! More than 300 middle and high school students (and 125 parents/teachers) braved the cold to get the assistance and services needed to jump-start History Day class projects. Students come from public, private, charter, and home schools all across the greater metro area. Pictures of the day tell the story best.

GRANTS
2015 CLIR Award for Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives Cecily Marcus, curator of the Givens Collection of African American Literature and Digital Library Services Director Jason Roy will co-lead a two-year, $225,000 Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) grant project to digitize archival materials relating to African American history and culture. An estimated 500,000 items from over 75 University Libraries’ archival collections will be digitized and made openly available through this project.

STAFF APPOINTMENTS
Janet Bishop has been appointed Associate University Librarian for Content & Collections. She will join the University of Minnesota Libraries on June 15, 2016. Bishop is currently Coordinator of Archives and Special Collections at Colorado State University Libraries.

CURRENT EXHIBITS
For full information on events and exhibits, visit continuum.

America’s First Gay Marriage
January 11 through April 29, 2016 Elmer L. Andersen Library, Atrium Gallery
In Celebration of the Whittington Press  
February 1 through May 13, 2016  
Wilson Library, fourth floor, T.R. Anderson Gallery

Bodies and Spirits Health and the History of Fermentation and Distillation  
September 14, 2015 through May 31, 2016  
Health Sciences Libraries, Wangensteen Historical Library, 568 Diehl Hall

The Children’s Theatre Company at 50: The Magic Continues  
February 15 through May 27, 2016 Elmer L. Andersen Library Gallery

CURRENT EVENTS  
Fermentation Open House at Wangensteen Library with GYST Fermentation Bar  
Wednesday, March 9, 2016, 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Wangensteen Historical Library of Biology and Medicine  
505 Essex St. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455

Naomi C. Chase Lecture on Children’s Literature, Speaker Peter Brown  
Elmer L. Andersen Library, Room 120, University of Minnesota  
Wednesday, March 30, 2016 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
A book signing will follow the lecture.

Rutherford Aris Memorial Lecture in Medieval Communication Technologies  
March 31 @ 5:45 pm - 8:30 pm  Elmer L. Andersen Library, Room 120, 222 21st Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN, 55455 United States

Celebration of the Whittington Press and Archives  
March 31 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Wilson Library,  
309 19th Avenue S  
Minneapolis, MN 55455 United States