

**Libraries Linking Idaho
Steering Committee Meeting
September 24, 2009
9:00am – 4:00pm**

Purpose: To collect and discuss ideas pertaining to the initiation, planning, and evaluation of Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) programs and services.

Meeting Leader: Gina Persichini
Recorder: Nancy Reese, Stefanie Gunter

Agenda:

What	Who	Time
Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review	All	9:00 – 9:15
Broadband in Idaho	Victor Braud, Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON)	9:15 – 10:30
Break	All	10:30 – 10:50
Continued Broadband Discussion	All	10:50 – 11:20
Connecting to Collections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update 	Mary DeWalt	11:20 – 11:30
LiLI eAudioBooks Collection	Gina	11:30 – 11:40
ICFL Update	Ann Joslin	11:40 – 12:00
Networking Lunch	All	12:00 – 1:00
LiLI Databases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Activities, Timeline • Open Discussion – Plus/Delta 	Gina All	1:00 – 1:45
Break		1:45 – 2:05
Networking Updates	All	2:05 – 2:45
LiLI Unlimited <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Measures 	Gina	2:45 – 3:15
Meeting Wrap Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of next steps • Next meeting date • Agenda items 		3:15 – 3:30

Participants:

Lynn Baird, University of Idaho	Kay Flowers, Idaho State University
Marilyn Moody, University of Idaho	Sue Niewenhaus, Lewis Clark State College
Julie Woodford, Burley Public Library	Jane Somerville, Stanley Community Library District
Mary DeWalt, Ada Community Library	Cora Caldwell, Gooding School District
Cindy Erickson, Soda Spring Public Library	Glynda Pflieger, Melba Middle/High School
Joe Reiss, Post Falls Public Library	Sandra Baggett, Orofino High School
Cathy Poppino, St Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center	
Ann Joslin, Idaho State Librarian	Gina Persichini, ICFL Networking Consultant
Erin McCusker, ICFL Field Consultant	Jan Wall, ICFL Field Consultant
Victor Braud, Idaho Regional Optical Network	Kathleen O'Connor, Washington-Idaho Network

Broadband in Idaho, Victor Braud, Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON)

- IRON is the Idaho Regional Optical Network (<http://www.ironforidaho.net/>)
- Regional Optical Networks (RONs) provide high-speed connectivity for research and education that commercial providers can't, won't or shouldn't. They provide access to high-speed nonprofit networking that targets education, research, and healthcare at lower prices.
- There are 38 Regional Optical Networks nationwide; they make up the "quilt"
- IRON's Vision for Idaho includes:
 - low-cost intra-state collaboration across higher ed, research, libraries, health care, museums, and state & local government
 - creating an Idaho research and education network for economic growth
 - Giving Idaho a regional research and education voice
 - Lead and leverage the development of neighboring states
 - The IRON network is very high speed and low cost. It enables the Idaho non-profit community, but includes Idaho-based commercial service providers as strategic partners.
- IRON's service offerings are:
 - Traditional ISP Service
 - Internet2 Connectivity
 - Point-to-point Ethernet Connectivity
 - Point-to-Multi-Point Ethernet Connectivity
- IRON can help Idaho through
 - Economic development and growth for research opportunities
 - Common voice for Idaho to the research and education non-profit networking community
 - Keep Idaho on the right side of the digital divide

Broadband Update from Ann Joslin, State Librarian

- In September, the Gates Foundation announced a Pilot Broadband Initiative through which \$7.2 billion is available to improve broadband connectivity for libraries. The Commission for Libraries may put together an application to take advantage of this opportunity, though matching funds and staff resource availability are a challenge. Victor Braud, from IRON, is assisting with the technical aspects of the application.

- State Library requesting examples from the library community about challenges caused by lack of adequate broadband connectivity. Participants shared
 - Significant time lag during classes with students when demonstrating the LiLI Databases. Click once, then able to circle the classroom before page completely loads.
 - Programming – Library asked to host community forum for local candidates and share with community through video streaming, but not currently able to provide the service
 - Local automated system very slow for users and connecting to partner libraries in consortium
 - Inability for customers to utilize social networking sites
 - Stanley has just one provider for connectivity.
 - While library has just 5 computers for public access in the building, there is much greater use through the wireless; it's hard to be certain how many people are using it at any time with laptops and smart phones

What can libraries do with this information about IRON and broadband?

- Learn more about IRON, share information about them as a potential ISP
- Would like to see the library community behind this issue
- Decision to prepare a Resolution to express support for broadband connectivity to propose to the Idaho Library Association membership.

Connecting to Collections, Mary DeWalt

- Mary has been working with staff from BCR (Bibliographical Center for Research) on a possible IMLS grant application to benefit from the IMLS Connecting to Collections program. (<http://www.ims.gov/Collections/>).
- The program purpose is to include planning. Libraries have indicated a need to “do” versus “plan” as planning has taken place already. Plus recent programs through WESTPAS seem to meet the planning need.
- The project being proposed will include a training component. There was discussion about regional trainings versus a centralized single training event. Discussion leans toward centralized if funds are included to cover travel costs for participants to get to the event. Statewide training through a single event allows for more cross-fertilization of ideas from different areas and different types of libraries.
- Program organizers suggesting on-site surveys of libraries. Some suggesting online survey would be more cost-effective. Decision depends on purpose of the surveys; may need to physically see the space.
- If the grant is awarded, will come back to an advisory committee to help with implementation.
- Idaho Humanities Council may be working on a similar project. They contacted the Burley library about a similar-sounding program.
- Mary will continue to work with BCR on the application.

LiLI eAudioBooks Collection, Gina Persichini

- The service will be disconnected at 12:01am October 1st
- Notifications are going to LibIdaho and on the ICFL website to inform users about removing links to the service.
- Service will continue for the libraries (12 libraries, plus all of VALNet) that are taking part in a group subscription to the service. Gina will work with them on final arrangements for their continuing service.
- A final report of the project will be done at the close of the service.
- Since the project began, there is now a 3rd vendor providing audiobook service. Ingram has downloadable audiobooks now. We add them to Overdrive and NetLibrary. NetLibrary continues to be the only one with options for subscription service (simultaneous use options) versus just purchase plans (one book – one user).

ICFL Update, Ann Joslin

Stimulus Broadband support possibilities, applications submitted by other organizations:

- ALA Office of Information Technology to develop training and web resources to help public library staff conduct broadband audits and make better decisions related to broadband connectivity (based on 40 different bad things that happen to T1 capacity once it gets to the library)
- Virginia Tech to extend its broadband speed test and data collection tool to all libraries in the country
- ALA PLA to deliver a *Turning the Page* conference (developed as part of the Gates Foundation Opportunity Online initiative) in 17 states, with a focus on skills and resources to seek out funds and build alliances with local and regional decision-makers

The Commission is preparing an application to the Gates Foundation for assistance in developing a stimulus BTOP (Broadband Technology Opportunity Project) application to improve public library broadband access.

The Commission is a partner in several multi-state grant programs:

- NEH - Westpas for disaster planning
- IMLS - SWIM for MLS and school media certification scholarships
- IMLS - Boomer training fellowship
- NASA - science library programs for children ages 8-13

Ann met with Board of the Idaho Education Technology Association, part of the Idaho Association of School Administrators. They are very interested in helping us promote the LILI databases to school teachers. They would like to collaborate on developing some online training tutorials for teachers.

Idaho Education Network is wrapping up implementation of video conferencing equipment and increased broadband in the first 12 high schools, and has started implementation of phase 1b with 30+ high schools. Public libraries in those communities may want to contact their school to discuss extending access to the public library.

The American Library Association recently shared the results of last year's Public Library Internet Connectivity report, funded by the Gates Foundation. Again, they were unable to collect enough data from Idaho to complete a state summary. This year's survey is due soon. We will be sharing information at the ILA conference to encourage libraries to complete the survey so that a summary for Idaho can be prepared.

Finances

- The Governor held a meeting with agency directors explaining the low revenues and requesting agencies submit proposals for budget decreases. ICFL submitted a proposal with a 5% reduction in operating expenditures. [Editorial Note: The day after this meeting, the Governor announced his decision to implement budget decreases for the current fiscal year, FY2010. The Commission for Libraries is asked to reduce the agency's overall budget by 7.5% from its FY2010 appropriation.]
- The Commission is also preparing its FY2011 budget request. It includes a request for \$199,000 to restore Read To Me funding to the FY2009 level. It also includes less funding for the LiLI Databases due to a change in the program's cycle. The Commission is working with the Division of Purchasing and the vendors to change the cycle for renewals of the LiLI Databases to July-June versus the current January-December cycle. With this adjustment, changes to the LiLI Databases, if any, would take place during the Summer, lessening the impact during the academic year.

LiLI Databases, Gina Persichini

- At this time, the contracts with the vendors providing the current suite of databases are set to expire December 31st. They all have options to renew. ICFL currently plans to renew all of the databases. [Editor's Note: Due to budget changes since the meeting date, a decision was made to renew all but one of the contracts. The contract with H.W. Wilson for the Art Museum Image Gallery will not be renewed.]
- Normally the contracts would be renewed for a 12-month period. Instead, we will renew for an 18-month period with service to end June 30, 2011. This adjustment will change future renewals to take place July 1st instead of during the academic year.
- Renewal opportunities for the current contracts are not available beyond June 30, 2011. We will be working with the Division of Purchasing through 2010 to address the process for acquiring new contracts.

Gina asked the participants to brainstorm what features, content, characteristics, or other aspects of the service have been most valuable and/or least valuable about the service. The intent is to use this feedback to determine the specifications that will be used to evaluate future proposals for the service. Comments were:

- We have now had direct experience with all the major providers and historical data to make our own decisions.
- Could we use that experience to make a determination?
- We need the ability to break apart those aggregates
- When I am buying a journal or database, I consider what content I need

- We need specific database that fits our need
- Business database
- Full text consumer reports
- This is a collection development decision
- K-3 and higher education rather than k-12-core instructional needs
- We need a core collection that covers K-16, plus specialized topic areas
- Award points for non-duplication and saving tax funds. In the current situation, a number of libraries are duplicating purchases spending more than would otherwise be spent if it was statewide.
- Why do we have to go out to bid every 4 years?
- Be more specific in our needs
- We need consistency working with K-18 we can't keep disrupting or kids process every four years.
- We need a longer contract.
- Consider dual enrollments and the need for consistency in access/content.
- Hone in on core research --a key that is missing.
- Include federated search mechanism across the databases -- at least for the first year we might be able to use LSTA money
- Consider the costs in time for training on a new interface and the cost in time for recreating instruction materials
- Consider the time and cost of recreating promotional and instructional materials
- Federated searches they would use it-like K-14 minimum – again, dual enrollment
- Virtual classes would save us time
- ILS and LILI Databases-Federated search
- Consider utilizing BCR services for the bid/purchase process. We don't have to go through purchasing for library services
- Contract with BCR is our vendor, would we get a discount?
- Remember that we don't always have to accept the bid
- Really like the note taking feature –bookend
- Speaker in Gale e-book reads to you, good feature
- Disappointed that Idaho Statesman content only goes to 2001
- Loss of Consumer Reports full text is not good

LiLI Unlimited Performance Measures, Gina Persichini

Each year the Commission reports on our programs using performance measures. Currently, when reporting on LiLI Unlimited, we use the number of interlibrary loan transactions and the number of libraries. As we look at the trend of these numbers, they show the growth of the program from implementation to the current on-going status, but the measures do not seem to provide any meaningful data regarding the overall success of the program.

Gina asked the participants to brainstorm what might be meaningful in communicating the value and success of the resource sharing program. Comments were:

- Customer satisfaction

- How many different people use it
- ILL how many different borrowers
- What can be borrowed locally rather than outside region or state
- Amount of time –turn-around time for transactions
- Focus groups-selected groups for a report
- Savings: What would it cost if each library had to pay individually?
- Benefit –survey-rating scale
- Benefit change ILL with down economic times
- Use of databases I might have purchased
- WorldCat Local has increased in other places
- Audiobooks might have affected this year’s statistics
- Definition of ILL is changing
- Use the cost formula for measuring the LiLI Databases to measure LILI Unlimited
- Some non LILI Unlimited customers borrow through OCLC
- Walk in borrowing

Participant Updates

- Kay Flowers, ISU: the Shoshone Bannock tribal library is cataloging their library
- Mary DeWalt, Ada Community: Lynx! Consortium is working on updating the consortium agreement. Will have more information on the next Big Read program at the January meeting.
- Lynn Baird, University of Idaho: We have a new university President who will be coming to visit our library tomorrow. Data shows they taught 7,000 students in library instruction last year. WorldCat Local is live. Hired a Digital Initiatives Librarian last year who has already added 8-10 collections, which are available online. The online collections have had over a million users already. The newest addition to the University of Idaho Library’s publication series, Northwest Historical Monographs, is [Wild Places Preserved: the Story of Bob Marshall in Idaho](#), by Anne Marie Moore and Dennis Baird.
- Cathy Poppino, St Luke’s Magic Valley: Seeing a lot of use by the health science students from CSI who come to use the library.
- Kathleen O’Connor, WIN: Priest Lake library is barcoding as part of the process of joining CIN and WIN. CIN is one of the partners in the new Web Scale Management system being created by OCLC. Other partners include Payette City Library and the Boundary County Public Library District.
- Jan Wall, ICFL: 12 libraries have indicated an interest in what ENA (Education Networks of America) could do for them as an Internet Service Provider. Post Falls Public and Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries are in the process of merging to be one district. The election takes place in November.
- Sandra Baggett, Orofino High School: Have a new Technology Coordinator. We are overwhelmed with the number of projects; it’s a very positive environment.
- Glynda Pfeiger, Melba Middle/High School: Have a new English teacher and introduced the 2.0 tools learned through the SPLAT 101 program. The teacher is now blogging and using these tools with the students.

- Jane Somerville, Stanley Library: Went to the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference and it was very successful and informative. There were 347 participants so it was well-attended, but small enough to network.
- Cindy Erickson, Soda Springs library: The merging of library databases in the Library Consortium of Eastern Idaho system is almost done. The Rigby library is up against a significant cut in their budget.
- Julie Woodford, Burley: The LIBRI System catalog is now live. Had training from Suzy Ricks and Cathy Poppino on cataloging topics. Books are flying off the shelf!
- Sue Niewenhous, Lewis Clark State College: The student population is now the highest ever at LCSC.
- Cora Caldwell, Gooding School District: Working on the databases that make up the schools' catalogs. Working on training school library staff. The school library is now only open when the students are in class due to budget cuts.

Next Meeting: January 7, 2009

Agenda Items:

- Conversations with purchasing
- Gates information on whether we were selected for the Broadband
- 2012 budget information for LILI