Idaho State Library
LiLI BOARD MEETING
May 6, 2003 ~ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Idaho State Library - Big Conference Room

Attendance:

Paul Krause, Lewis Clark State College Library   Mary Nate, Bear Lake County District Library
Marsha Beckwith, Boise Public School District   Karen Ganske, Nampa Public Library
Ruth Funabiki, University of Idaho Law Library   Ron Force, University of Idaho Library
Tim Brown, Boise State University Library   Kay Flowers, Idaho State University Library

Guests: Kathleen O'Connor, Gonzaga University

ISL Staff: Ann Joslin   Gina Persichini
                Jan Wall   Frank Nelson
                Erin McCusker   Charlotte Fowles
                Michael Samuelson   Sonja Hudson

Idaho Courier Service

Gina reported about recent communications with Orbis. Orbis is merging with the Cascade Consortium to become the Orbis Cascade Alliance. This will require their attention for several months. They will not be expanding the courier system at this time, and John Helmer suggested we contact them again in late summer.

Gina is collecting statistics from the libraries participating in Lynx!. She will expand the collection of data to include EILNet libraries. Consensus is to work for statewide courier service as it doesn't make sense to work on just a portion of the state. Gina will also keep contact with John Helmer.

Reciprocal Borrowing in Idaho

The Reciprocal Borrowing agreement was posted on the LiLI Website and comments were requested. A list of the comments was provided to all LiLI Advisory Board members. One concern raised was the effect, if any, on districting efforts. Another concern was lower-cost non-resident borrowing cards with regard to reciprocal borrowing. The draft agreement also received a lot of supportive comments.

The Advisory Board had consensus to move ahead with the agreement drafted to allow an option for libraries interested to participate. It is understood that not all libraries will be able to participate in the beginning, but hopes are to bring in more libraries over time. Statistics could be generated after implementation to determine service strengths and weaknesses.

Gina will work with ISL staff and members of the library community to create a plan to roll out the service for a January 2004 implementation date. Included in the plan will be follow up with education, statistics, marketing and details to address workflow and library circulation issues.

Possible contacts for process planning include BSU's Circulation staff and Cheri Rendler from Ada Community Library.

Gina will seek a speaker to discuss the reality of statewide reciprocal borrowing during the LiLI program at the October ILA conference, which will provide a great opportunity to introduce the service to the Idaho library community.

MORE - Moving Ohio's Resources Everywhere (Demonstration, Erin McCusker)
http://www.moreforohio.org/

Ohio's MORE program allows anyone, anywhere in Ohio to borrow anything from any other Ohio library. Libraries participate in Ohio's statewide delivery system. Their shared catalog links a variety of catalog systems (Innovative Interfaces, DRA Classic, and Dynix) through a common Z39.50 search interface. Patron authentication is achieved using the Standard Interchange Protocol (SIP), which allows the system to verify where a patron is registered and if they are in good standing. MORE's Principles of Cooperation govern the borrowing/lending behavior of participating libraries, and it covers the details of circulation issues. For example, the lending library absorbs the cost of lost items.

The project was started in 1999 by using LSTA funds and has an interesting history allowing newer libraries to move more quickly toward similar services.

Information and Updates

LiLI-D Implementation. The statistics for LiLI-D usage are available on the LiLI Website. Implementation of the new contract for LiLI-D services included a lot of training. Through the beginning of May, a total of 645 users were trained on the use of the LiLI Databases. Those trained include representatives from academic, public, and school libraries, plus public school teachers from the Eagle Middle School.

Resource Sharing Pilot Project. Ten libraries are actively participating in the project. Phase 2 of the project, an introduction to cataloging with OCLC's CatExpress, begins with training on May 15th and 16th in Boise.
    Participating libraries have been sending Gina monthly statistics showing the number of staff hours spent on resource sharing activities. Comments have been positive and have included mentions of saved staff time using the new methods for Interlibrary Loan.

Plan for Development of Regional Consortia. The development of regional library networks plays a large role in achieving the activities outlined in the LiLI Work Plan. Because of this, Erin McCusker and Gina are working on a project to develop a plan for the development of regional library networks-- a plan that would include possible activities and identify the State Library's role in them. The plan will address each area of the state separately to acknowledge the various stages of networking that currently exist.
    The project, overall, includes a look at national trends, a review of evaluations and reports from LSTA funded networking projects to identify common themes, identifying services available to members of existing networks in Idaho, and some meetings with existing networks to identify past successful activities that led to their development.

We would like to provide a heads-up to those present so you are aware that we're working on this project and aware that we'll be asking for a bit of your time (either individually or as part of your network's board meetings) to ask some questions and gather information. We plan to be in full gear on this project during the summer so we can report our findings later this year.

State Library Update. The Blue Ribbon Committee is looking for a way to find efficiencies in State Government. There has been discussion of moving (organizationally) the Idaho State Library and the Historical Society to a different place in state government to remove the practice of Boards reporting to Boards. The Secretary of State's Office has been identified as a possibility.

Erin McCusker is now on staff as the Public Library Consultant for Southwest Idaho. There remain two vacant positions at ISL; a paraprofessional and a support position.

LSTA reauthorization is back as Senate Bill 888. It has passed the House, but the funding level is down a bit. ISL's 2003 Appropriation is a little less than $950,000.

ISL will be applying for the Gates "Staying Connected" grants. One grant provides replacement workstations for "chronically poor" libraries, another provides just over $100,000 for broadband connectivity for libraries, and a third will fund workshops to support public access computing. Currently, Gates is revising the match requirements for the grants, which was previously 50%.

ISL's state budget situation:
- With the holdbacks and cuts in FY02 and FY03, our '03 (current year) budget is 19.3% below our original '02 appropriation. However, our appropriation for FY04 is 1.8% more than our current '03 budget (still 17.9% below our original '02 appropriation).
- $500,000 in FY04 funds have been appropriated for LiLI-D. 40% of the costs are paid out of ISL's operating base. The rest of LiLI-D's costs are covered by School Technology funds; intent language in the Public Schools appropriation bill directs that $300,000 be transferred to the Library Services Improvement Fund for LiLI-D.
- At this time, ISL has a request in to shift salary savings into capital expenditures – which may or may not be approved (it was not approved).

LiLI Board Vacancy.

Since Erin McCusker joined the ISL staff, her seat as a LiLI Advisory Board member remains vacant. Suggestions were sought to fill the remainder of the vacant term. Suggestions include a representative from another small, rural library.

The Board opted to take the suggestions of Marj Hooper and Erin McCusker. Board appointments are made by Charlie.

LiLI Resource and School Library Needs - Demonstration by Ruth Funabiki

Ruth demonstrated a couple of Websites:

Homework Helper
http://starlive.com/homework.htm#HOMEWORK%HELPER%GENERAL%20SITES

Educational Links
http://www.k12science.org/askanexpert.html

Ruth spent some time examining why the Homework Helper site might be an appropriate project for LiLI.

Considerations:
- It would require a close allegiance with schools
- Compatible with service to rural residents and the underserved
- Within the Department of Education what would be the political considerations?
- Potential for quality control issues
- Tutors must be professional and high quality
- Potential for social and political issues
- May open us up for expanded funding

Ruth indicated that she would like to see us think about this among the other things we are examining for LiLI's future. It is time to take a look at expanding our pool of resources.

As our financial resources are tight, it was proposed that this topic be revisited at the end of September. As we move toward more cooperation and communication between the public and school libraries, we want to be sure that there is something powerful for parents and students.

Ruther also made reference to an article about Homework Help. (Mediavilla, Cindy. School Library Journal, Mar2003, Vol. 49 Issue 3, p56.). The article is available in full text through the EBSCO database.

Virtual Reference - Demonstration by Glenna Rhodes, Boise Public Library

Glenna Rhodes shared a demonstration of a live, real-time reference service option, the Virtual Reference ToolKit (http://www.vrtoolkit.net/). She chatted live with a sales representative demonstrating how real reference transactions take place, and showing how the reference librarian is able to "push" web pages to the user.

ENCompass - Demonstration by Norene Allen, Endeavor Information Systems
http://encompass.endinfosys.com/

Representatives from Endeavor Information Systems demonstrated their ENCompass product. The product allows for one search interface to online databases, catalogs, and online digital collections. Through a Z39.50 interface, it can be customized to search multiple library catalogs (from a variety of catalog vendors) and online databases by vendors such as EBSCO and ProQuest.

The service can be customized for a general interface to information sources available to all Idahoans, with a login to allow access to more databases that might be available at universities, local libraries, etc. The demonstration indicated a very customizable interface.

Next Meeting:

September 18th, 9am - 4pm

At the Idaho State Library, Big Conference Room