ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY
CONSULTANT'S REPORT
FEBRUARY 2010

STANDARDS AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR LIBRARY SYSTEMS

The Library System Standards Committee held its 12th meeting on Monday, January 11. The two primary actions at the meeting were as follows:

- The committee released the first complete draft of the revised standards document for review and comment. The draft is available at on the Library System Standards blog, http://illibrarysystemstandards.wordpress.com/

  Please take the time to review the draft and add your comments. This is the first complete draft, which includes introductory material, the standards and a glossary. Your input is so important to the process.

- Following discussion of proposed revisions of the library system administrative rules drafted by State Library staff, the committee agreed to assist in the process. The Library Systems Administrative Rules Review Group includes the following participants, who represent the standards committee, the library systems and State Library staff:
  - Su Erickson, DuPage Library System
  - Kathryn Caudill, North Suburban Library System
  - Bev Obert, Rolling Prairie Library System
  - Michael Piper, Prairie Area Library System
  - David Carlson (Chairman), Dave Joens and Tom Dorst – from Standards Committee
  - Anne Craig and Kathleen Bloomberg, ISL

The administrative rules help to implement the Illinois Library System Act. The current standards are part of the administrative rules. This is the first major review and rewrite of the library system administrative rules since multitype library systems were established and the new standards will become part of the revision. The draft rules will be released to the library community for review and comment prior to the beginning of the formal revision process with the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. We will be requesting your input this Spring after the committee finishes its work.

During the meeting, the standards committee also discussed the various comments about earlier drafts of some of the standards. More work about the committee is available at http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/systemstandardrules.html.

BTOP GRANT OPPORTUNITY – PUBLIC COMPUTER CENTERS

The Illinois State Library and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity will develop and submit a statewide application under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Public Computer Center Program. 96 libraries/branch locations submitted applications, budgets and plans of service to participate in Round Two of the BTOP Grant. Participants include 2 special libraries, 3 school districts, 10 community colleges/Universities and 71 Public libraries. Libraries applied from each library system. Each library is required to provide at least 15 hours per week of training to the public. Programs required are: GEDi, Illinois workNet, National Library Service/digital audio downloads, Legal Aid. The addition of other programs needed by each community is encouraged. The grant is due to the Federal government by March 15, 2010.

For more information, please contact Debra Aggertt 217-558-1945 or: daggertt@ilsos.net

ON THE FRONT LINES: AGENTS OF CHANGE
March 15 – 17. 2010 at the University of Illinois, Springfield.

The purpose of this conference is to equip and enlighten front line staff persons with training, exposure and techniques that will enable them to deal effectively and efficiently with their day-to-day activities as front line employees. Registration is now available at:
https://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=8066

Conference sessions will focus on topics of interest to all types of libraries. Keynote Speakers include:

- Kelly Krieg-Sigman; Director, La Crosse Public Library (Wisconsin)
- Carol Brey-Casiano; Director, El Paso Public Library (Texas)
- Lauren Burnett; Trainer and Coach, Center for Inner Quality, Building Conversations and Cultures of Influence,
- Richard J. Urban; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,
- Stephen Hind-Tutt; Alexander Street Press,
- Greg Buss; Director, Richmond Public Library (British Columbia, Canada)
- Anne Craig; Director, Illinois State Library

If you have questions please contact Gwen Harrison at gharrison@ilsos.net or 217-785-7334.

TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE SERVICES DISTRIBUTING NEW DIGITAL MACHINES
January 11 – January 29 were extremely busy days for the Talking Book and Braille (TBBS) staff. Instead of the usual 600 digital machines they normally receive each month, they received 600 on 1/11 and an additional 600 machines on 1/18. All of those machines were circulated to patrons in that time frame. The process for each book includes: unpacking 8 machines from an over-pack box, placing an address label and mailing sleeve on each box, opening each individual machine box, moving paper work to the bottom of the box, removing the machine from a plastic bag, putting a sticker on each machine, updating the software, replacing the machine, closing the box and sending it on to the circulation department for distribution to the patrons.

TBBS has been circulating digital machines for the last five months. At the present time, the waiting list is 4 – 5 months to receive a machine. Normally, the allotment of digital machines from the Library of Congress is 600 per month with 20% of them being the advanced machine. The advanced machine allows users to set bookmarks and use navigation tools to move through the books.

A sample digital book is sent along with the machine in one delivery box. This assures that the patron gets a book and a machine at the same time. The book may not be the kind of book the patron normally reads. It is included just so the patron can play with the machine, try out the self-describing buttons, listen to the tone quality and decide whether they wish to keep the machine or not. Some have chosen to return the machine.

Although there are digital books that will be distributed to the patrons via the USPS, the National Library Service for the Blind also has BARD – Braille and Audio Reading Download program. If patrons have access to a high speed Internet connection, a standard 1G or larger flash drive, knowledge of navigating the web, filling out online forms, downloading large items and the ability to unzip files, they have access to over 15,000 books and magazines. There's no waiting for a book to be sent through the mail. One patron downloaded 700 books one month!!!

BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION OPPORTUNITY ONLINE GRANT

Deadline for submitting matching funds verification forms: March 1, 2010.

The verification form needed to document the Opportunity Online matching funds is posted on Web Junction IL at http://il.webjunction.org/il-oo. Forms are due to Karen Egan at the State Library by March 1, 2010. Award checks are arriving about 3 weeks after the form is submitted.

Deadline for completion of Turning the Page Advocacy Training: March 1, 2010.

As indicated below, a few libraries have not completed Turning the Page, the online advocacy training. To fulfill this requirement, libraries should go to: www.sustaininglibrariesonline.org They will need the conference code: 45612. For those that have not started, register by clicking on the green "First Time Visitors" button. Register as an online user using your email address, and create your own, unique password.

As of Feb.7th, the following need to take action before receiving their award checks. We are awaiting verification of matching funds (and advocacy training if indicated):

Alliance Library System
Barry P.L.
Creve Coeur P.L.D.
Ira C. Reed P.L. (LaFayette)
Macomb P.L.D.
Neponset P.L.
Pekin P.L.
Peoria Heights P.L.
Peoria P.L.* advocacy training incomplete
Pittsfield P.L.
Pontiac P.L.

Lewis & Clark Library System
Belleville P.L.
Bethalto P.L.D.* advocacy training not started
Daugherty P.L.D.
East Alton P.L.D.* advocacy training not started
Roodhouse P.L.
Roxana P.L.D.

Lincoln Trail Libraries System
Newman Regional Library District
Oakwood P.L.D.
Rantoul P.L.
Westville P.L.D.

Metropolitan Library System
Calumet Park P.L.
Oak Park P.L.
Schiller Park P.L.
Stickney-Forest View P.L.D.
William Leonard P.L.D. (Robbins)

North Suburban Library System
Arlington Heights Memorial Library
Evanston P.L.* advocacy training not started

Rolling Prairie Library System
Carnegie-Schuyler Library (Pana)
Lincoln Library (Springfield)

Prairie Area Library System
Annawan-Alba Twp. Lib.
Bradley P.L.D.
Joliet Public Library
Mt. Carroll Twp. P.L.
Pembroke District Twp. Library
Peru P.L.

Shawnee Library System
Albion P.L
Altamont P.L.
Benton P.L.D.
Bryan-Bennett Lib.
Carrier Mills-Stonefort PLD * advocacy training not started
Christopher P.L.
Coulterville P.L.
Crab Orchard P.L.D.
Dahlgren P.L.
Dodge Memorial P.L
DuQuoin P.L.
Fairfield P.L.
Flora P.L.
Freeburg Area L.D.
Galatia P.L.D.
Herrin City Library
Jonesboro Public Library.
Lebanon P.L.
McCoy Memorial Library
Metropolis P.L.
Mounds P.L.* advocacy training incomplete
Olney P.L.
Pinckneyville P.L.
Ramsey P.L.
Sesser P.L.* advocacy training not started
St. Elmo Public Library District
Stinson Memorial P.L.D.

ILLINOIS LIBRARIES EXPLORE, APPLY AND DISCOVER (ILEADU)
ILEAD U the 21st Century Technology Tools Institute for Illinois library staff, is funded by a $420,000 Laura Bush 21st century Librarian Program Grant awarded to the State Library by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The grant was one of 33 made nationwide by the Laura Bush program.

Participants are getting ready for their first of three in-person seminars to be held February 23-25; June 15-17; and October 26-28, 2010. The institute will help library staff respond to patron needs by using 21st century technologies such as blogging; digital audio/podcasting, photography and video; RSS feeds; social networking and photo-sharing sites; videoconferencing and web conferencing; virtual reference and virtual worlds; gaming and instant messaging.

More information is posted on WebJunction Illinois: http://il.webjunction.org/il-ileadu

IPLAR FY2010
Public library directors should have received e-mail from the State Library with everything you need to know about the Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) FY2010 using the Bibliostat Collect software for data collection. The web-based IPLAR is accessible at: collect.btol.com

To access the Bibliostat Collect site, you will need to know your library's User Name and Password. Your library's User Name is your ELI control number and ELI main branch number (00, NOT the letter OO).
Your library's Password is your ELI password for the main branch. If you need assistance with your ELI password contact Becky Hunter: bhunter1@ilsos.net or 1-800-665-5576 x1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE DESIGNATES $100 MILLION FOR RURAL LIBRARIES
The following is a press release from the USDA concerning federal funds that are available for rural libraries. Please contact them directly for additional information. For more information on the program and how to apply, see the USDA FAQ at: http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/USDA.pdf
Or, to reach the USDA Rural Development contact for Illinois, visit: www.rurdev.usda.gov/il/

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Secretary of Agriculture has allocated $100 million in United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Community Facilities funding for public libraries to provide educational opportunities and improve public services in rural communities. The funding will be provided primarily through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

“In 78 percent of rural communities, the library is the sole provider of no-fee Internet access,” Emily Sheketoff, executive director of the ALA Washington Office, said. “This funding specifically set aside for rural libraries is a lifeline for communities across the country who depend on their local libraries for basic needs such as Internet access as well as assistance with e-government services, literacy and homework programs, and much more. We thank the USDA for its recognition of the vital role libraries play in rural communities and their need for funding.”

Funds may be used to construct, enlarge or improve public libraries. This can include costs to acquire land needed for a facility, pay necessary professional fees and purchase equipment required for operation. Funds can be used to purchase shelving, furniture, computers, audio-visual equipment, distance learning equipment and bookmobiles. Depending on funding availability, USDA Rural Development will provide up to $500,000 in additional Recovery Act dedicated grant funds to each of the State Offices for library projects.

PUBLIC LIBRARY PER CAPITA GRANTS AWARDED

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White has awarded Fiscal Year 2010 Illinois Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grants totaling nearly $12 million to 612 public libraries serving 11.6 million patrons.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

Events:

Feb 12	State Holiday – Lincoln's Birthday, ISL Closed
Feb. 15	State Holiday – President's Day, ISL Closed
Feb. 25	ILEAD U: Cohort 1: In person session at UI: Springfield
Mar. 14	On the Front Lines Pre-conference tour of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum
Mar. 15-17	On the Front Lines, University of Illinois – Springfield https://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=8066
April 8	INAC - ILLINET Network Advisory Committee Meeting, Videoconference
April 14	ISLAC - Illinois State Library Advisory Committee Meeting, Videoconference
April 20 – 22	Synergy: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative 2010 Starved Rock, Utica
April 29	SP&D - System Presidents and Directors Meeting, ISL

Deadlines:

Feb. 12	Submit Family Reading Night 2010 materials orders
Mar. 1	Verification of matching funds for Gates Opportunity Online due & Advocacy Training completed
Mar. 1	Small Public Library Management Institute applications due http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/pdfs/2010splmi_description.pdf
Mar. 19	Institute for School & Public Librarians applications due http://www.bradley.edu/continue/