

**NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY
REPORT TO THE NORTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

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The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) continues to do what it does best – coordinate and efficiently deliver information and library services to the citizens of North Dakota. The State Library staff is committed to providing information to meet the needs of North Dakota citizens by providing information services directly; coordinating North Dakota's interlibrary loan system; providing and coordinating grants; providing specialized services such as services to persons with disabilities; partnering to provide online magazine, newspaper, and online reference resources; and providing technical assistance to help other libraries develop and deliver their services.

This report is also available on the North Dakota State Library's Web site at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us>.

2007 Legislative Session

There are two parts to the 2007-2009 proposed State Library budget: the base budget and the supplemental budget. The base budget includes funding for services currently being offered, including interlibrary loan (ILL) and reference services, MINITEX contract, State Aid to Public Libraries, Library Vision 2010 grants, and training services. The supplemental budget includes a request for an additional \$200,000 for State Aid to Public Libraries and funding for a person to deliver enhanced training services. The \$200,000 received in the 2005 Legislative session for additional Online Library Resources, is in the State Library's base budget.

NDSL highlights of the past year

Biennial Report: The State Library Biennial Report was completed and distributed to Dr. Sanstead, public libraries, academic libraries, the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council, and the Executive Board of NDLA. It is available on the NDSL Web site.

Booths and Outreach: Between September 2005 and September 2006, NDSL sponsored informational booths at ten conferences and events throughout the state. Informational booths were sponsored by NDSL at the following: the North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference in Grand Forks; the North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders; the Corpus Christi Health Fair; Marketplace for Entrepreneurs; Marketplace for Kids in Jamestown, Williston, and Bismarck; the North Dakota

Newspaper Association Conference; the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation; and the North Dakota State Fair.

CatExpress Contract: The CatExpress Contract was renewed with OCLC. The State Library negotiated the contract on behalf of thirty-two (32) North Dakota libraries. CatExpress is a simplified OCLC program for smaller libraries and provides OCLC bibliographic records to be used by subscribing libraries.

Center for the Book: The North Dakota Center for the Book affiliated with the North Dakota Humanities Council (NDHC) effective November 1, 2005. The NDHC will be directing the Letters About Literature Program, a national reading and writing contest; the April is for Authors Sensational Sunday Program, an event featuring North Dakota authors held each Sunday in April; and the Pavilion of States, an event that is part of the National Book Festival.

Disability Services: People in eastern North Dakota who are eligible, now have the opportunity to hear a variety of newspapers and magazines via closed circuit radio. A partnership was recently formed among the North Dakota State Library, the Minnesota Radio Talking Book Service (RTB), and the Dakota Radio Information Service (DRIS) Board to provide service to eastern North Dakota. Cities in eastern North Dakota in the listening area include Lisbon, Wyndmere, Hankinson, Wahpeton, Fargo, Hillsboro, Grand Forks, Drayton, Grafton, Park River, Adams, Lakota, Michigan, Aneta, Finley, Hope, Page, and Sibley. DRIS patrons residing in these areas can receive the Minnesota Radio Talking Book Service 24 hours a day at no charge. The RTB program broadcasts many current local and national newspapers and magazines each day including the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, Saint Paul Pioneer Press, New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, the New Yorker, and National Enquirer. The expansion of services was made possible because of grants from DRIS, the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunication and Information Administration, NODAK Trust, Public Telecommunication Facilities Program, Electric BP American Volunteers (Mandan chapter), North Dakota Association of the Blind, SERVE Foundation, and Red River Lions Club of Grand Forks. If you know anyone who would benefit from this service, please have them contact the North Dakota State Library Disability Services Department at 1-800-843-9948.

Gates Foundation: The Gates Foundation again made it possible for the State Library to send two North Dakota rural librarians and one State Library staff member to the Public Library Association Conference. This year the Conference was held in Boston. The persons who attended were: Iris Swedlund (Velva School and Public Library), Bonnie MacIver (Leach Public Library, Wahpeton), and Shari Sandwick (State Library). A grant from the Gates Foundation supported the State Library staff in providing thirty local training programs to school and public library staff and their patrons. State Library staff provided one-on-one training in searching the statewide online library catalog and accessing the Online Library Resources. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation awarded North Dakota with a Public Library Sustainability Grant. The grant will provide funding for representatives from every public library in the state to attend a day-long

workshop, to be held in February of '07 in two locations. This workshop will give information about sustaining public access computing in rural libraries. Additional information about the workshops will be available this fall.

Governor's Summer Reading Event: The Governor's Summer Reading Program for students with visual, physical, or reading impairments, which is sponsored by the State Library, had a total of twenty-seven children from across the state participate. *Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales* was this year's theme.

Letters About Literature: 701 North Dakota students entered the Letters About Literature essay contest this year. This program has seen a steady increase in participants over the past four years. Publicity for the program developed by the State Library has resulted in an increasing number of participants. This year marked the first year that the State Library shared the responsibility of this program with the North Dakota Humanities Council. The annual Letters About Literature Event was held at the Heritage Center on April 28 to recognize the winners of the contest.

Library Connectivity: The State Library provides leadership, direction, and coordination in connecting public libraries to the state's electronic backbone. Public libraries have the opportunity to join STAGEnet, the North Dakota Statewide Technology Access for Government and Education network. STAGEnet is an Information Technology Department (ITD) managed program that connects libraries to the Internet using state funding and Federal E-rate funds. Thirty public libraries in North Dakota participate in STAGEnet. The E-rate funding application for the public libraries is filed via the North Dakota School Net consortium. For the 2005 funding year, North Dakota School Net received \$2,290,334 for Internet access.

Library Directory: The Library Directory, which contains information about academic, special, public, and school libraries, can be accessed through the NDSL Web site.

Library Filters: The State Library continues to partner with the Information Technology Department to offer North Dakota public libraries a centralized filtering program. The program allows each library to set the degree to which the Internet is filtered based on community standards. The local library has the ability to disable the filter if requested to do so by a patron. The filtering costs are supported by a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program.

LV2010 / LSTA GRANTS: The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC) strengthened library and information services throughout the state in 2006 with two grant rounds. In November 2005, nine public and school libraries received \$34,000 in Library Vision 2010 (LV2010) and Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants. The grants funded planning, innovative programming, the purchase of public access computers that make Online Library Resources accessible, a pilot project to expand services, and an oral history project. In August 2006, thirty-seven public and school libraries received LSTA and LV2010 grants totaling \$264,077. Four new libraries will participate in the Online

Dakota Information Network (ODIN), five libraries are joining InfoLynx, twenty-four libraries received computers and printers to access Online Library Resources and the statewide online library catalog, and four libraries received grants for planning and innovative programming. Federal LSTA money was designated to cover the cost of public library filtering for two years.

MLS Training Grants: The North Dakota State Library continues to administer a training scholarship grant program to develop professional librarians in North Dakota. Awards are granted to North Dakota residents who complete an ALA/MLS degree and work full time in a library in the state for at least two years after completion of their degree. This year, \$20,000 was awarded to seven applicants who have recently completed their ALA/MLS or who have been accepted into an ALA/MLS graduate program. The next training scholarship grant round will take place this winter. Information will be sent on the State Library LIST, placed on the State Library's Web site, and an article will be published in the *Flickertale*.

ODIN: Libraries of the ODIN consortium have shifted to new automation software. A tremendous amount of work took place at each participating library, all with the goal of improved access and functionality for library customers. ODIN is a statewide consortium consisting of over one hundred school, public, university, state agency, and special libraries.

Online Library Resources: North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota libraries continue to partner to purchase the Online Library Resources. The Online Library Resources package consists of: four databases from EBSCOhost containing fulltext magazine articles and reference resources; six databases from Gale Group containing various formats for the K-12 level and a collection of resources for education and library professionals; Worldcat from OCLC (an international database of materials owned by libraries around the world); and ProQuest's fulltext newspaper database. The cost of the Online Library Resources is shared by North Dakota libraries that want to provide access to these resources to their constituents. Participating libraries can provide links to the resources on their homepage. The Legislative funding received in April 2005 supported the purchase of additional Online Library Resources. These are the Health and Wellness Resource Center, Ancestry Library Edition, and Opposing Viewpoints, which are now available at no charge to all libraries and citizens in the state.

Patriot Act: The PATRIOT reauthorization legislation was signed into law by President Bush on March 9, 2006. It contains some changes from the original USA Patriot Act. Please refer to the American Library Association Web site, <http://www.ala.org>, for information on the topic.

Pavilion of States: The State Library, in partnership with the North Dakota Lewis & Clark Foundation and the North Dakota Center for the Book, again sponsored a booth at the Pavilion of States event that was part of the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. An estimated crowd of over 100,000 book lovers of all ages converged at the nation's Capitol on September 24, 2005, for the National Book Festival. This is an annual event

sponsored by the Library of Congress and hosted by First Lady Laura Bush. This event is an opportunity for people from all over the country to celebrate reading and books of all genres. In order for states to promote their libraries, authors, and literary heritage, the festival hosted a Pavilion of States event. North Dakota State Library Representative, Dave Anderson, and North Dakota Center for the Book Representative, Susan Hammer-Schneider, represented North Dakota at the Pavilion of States event. North Dakota featured the books *Hondo*, written by North Dakota author Louis L'Amour, and *Jake's Orphan*, written by North Dakota author Peggy Brooks. The 2005 festival featured more than 70 award winning, nationally known authors, illustrators, poets, and storytellers including: Sandra Brown, John Irving, R.L. Stine, David McCullough, David Baldacci, John Sanford, and Jeffery Deaver.

Public Awareness: The objectives of the Public Awareness Program at the State Library include promoting the services of every library in the state as well as those of the State Library. The major projects for the year included:

- Working to inform the general public about improved library service in the communities of public and school libraries that receive grants.
- Distributing a bimonthly media tip sheet on behalf of North Dakota's libraries.
- Facilitating getting a proclamation from the Governor to declare June 1 as Summer Reading Kick Off @ Your Library Day.
- Designing and obtaining plastic bags with a State Library logo for promotional use.
- Writing and producing the Flickertale Newsletter (the State Library newsletter).
- Writing and producing the Discovery Newsletter (newsletter for persons enrolled in the Talking Book program).
- Assisting librarians with preparing press releases.
- Designing brochures that are available for use by all libraries through the NDSL Web site.
- Sponsoring and implementing the Governor's Summer Reading Program (designed for children with disabilities).
- Distributing a list of ideas that libraries can use for promotional purposes.
- Designing programs for events.
- Writing press releases and newspaper articles to promote events and services such as the Online Library Resources, the State Library's training events, and "April is for Authors."
- Partnering with other agencies and libraries to plan a summer reading program kick off event that nearly 3,800 people attended.
- Worked with the media statewide on coverage for the Summer Reading Kick Off.
- Distributing information via the State Library's LIST, newsletters, and e-mails concerning performers and programming available to North Dakota libraries.
- Working with librarians across the state to promote their library services.
- Keeping librarians informed via the State Library LIST.
- Distributing a summer reading manual and incentive forms to public libraries across North Dakota.

Public Library Handbook: The North Dakota State Library produced the three-volume set entitled *Handbook for North Dakota Public Library Board Members*. The handbooks are designed to assist with public library management. A copy of this handbook was mailed to each North Dakota library board president and each public library director. If you would like to request a paper copy, please contact Lorretta at the North Dakota State Library. The handbook is also available for printing on the North Dakota State Library's Web site at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us/TrusteeManuals.html>.

Public Library Statistics: The North Dakota Public Library Statistics report for Fiscal Year 2005 was mailed to libraries in early September. Dunn Center Public Library was added to the Group V reporting libraries. Both library attendance and reference questions saw increases in the past year. Attendance increased by 103,231, and the number of reference questions increased by 16,627. Libraries spent \$1,806,461 on collections, which is an increase of \$81,234 from Fiscal Year 2004.

Spring Workshops: Librarians and library board members from across the state had a multitude of training opportunities during the annual Spring Workshops held in Fargo and Bismarck. The workshops were sponsored by the North Dakota State Library. The sessions gave participants a chance to brush up on their Online Library Resources searching techniques, learn to professionally mend a book, study collection development, develop a reconsideration policy, and learn more about managing a library and its staff. Two of the workshops presented were specifically designed for public library board members and library directors. *How Priceless is Your Library? Measuring the Economic Impact of Your Library* featured Dan and Sharon Wiseman of Wiseman Consulting. Key topics were: how to collect and measure data, how well you are serving your library patrons, and the value and economic impact libraries play in their communities. The other session designed for public library board members and directors was *The Anatomy and Function of the Public Library and the Public Library Board* presented by Dr. Richard Ott. This session provided practical information about the functions and personnel involved in the management of a public library. The North Dakota State Library offers a variety of workshops each spring and is interested in hearing about your training needs. Please e-mail Doris Ott at dott@nd.gov with suggestions on training that would benefit you and your library.

State Agency Services: The North Dakota State Library is always looking for ways it can better serve state agencies. One department set up to meet this important need is Statewide Catalog Development. Many state agencies have their own libraries and resource centers housed within their departments. For those agencies that are willing to share their resources with the public, Statewide Catalog Development provides cataloging services, training in using the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN) and electronic resources, and consultation on a variety of library-related topics. The libraries of the following agencies are cataloged and holdings can be found in the ODIN catalog: (1) Protection and Advocacy Project, (2) Children's Special Health Services, (3) North Dakota Geological Survey, (4) Prevention Resource Center, (5) North Dakota Water Commission, (6) North Dakota Department of Transportation Materials Division, (7) Division of Emergency Management, (8) Business Information Center, (9) North

Dakota Securities Department, and (10) North Dakota Game and Fish Department. The Game and Fish project began in April 2006 and records continue to be added as the project progresses. Materials located at these libraries are available for use by any North Dakota citizen.

State Documents: The State Library administers the North Dakota State Document Depository Program. This program ensures the permanent retention of documents published by North Dakota state agencies, and catalogs them for easy public access via ODIN. State documents include reports, newsletters, periodicals, brochures, and meeting minutes, as well as, maps, videos, and sound recordings. Agencies are required by the North Dakota Century Code to submit eight copies of every publication to the State Library. Six of those copies are distributed to the other depository libraries – North Dakota State Archives and Historical Research Library, UND Chester Fritz Library, North Dakota State University Library, Minot State University, Valley City State University Library, and the Library of Congress. The remaining two copies are retained by the State Library, one for circulation and one for permanent retention. The State Library currently receives and disseminates about 200 titles per month, from over 150 agencies. In addition, a rapidly-increasing number of documents are being published electronically, either as well as or instead of on paper. The State Library provides access to those editions via ODIN as well. Monthly and quarterly listings of new publications are available at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us/StateGovernment.html>.

State Aid to Public Libraries: The State Library awarded \$500,000 in State Aid to Public Libraries in April 2006 to 57 public libraries in North Dakota. This amount was 46 percent of the eligible level in state statute. The State Library continues to work with the public library directors to achieve full funding by the legislature for this program. The grants are used to purchase materials and pay for staff to deliver information services to their communities and support interlibrary loan services to citizens statewide. The program was initially funded during the 1979 legislature and began in fiscal year 1980.

Statewide Catalog Development: The Statewide Catalog Development Department does the cataloging for 43 libraries across the state. Many of those have received grants to join the statewide catalog. Since this department began, over 368,000 records have been added to the ODIN catalog. This department has been busy helping the libraries for which they catalog learn to use the new ODIN software effectively. This department also continues to catalog their new titles and delete their withdrawn titles. After migration to new ODIN software, the goal was to complete the latest grant round projects. The Napoleon Elementary School cataloging project was completed in January 2006; the Larimore Public Schools project is nearly complete; and work on the Cavalier Public School and Northwood Public School projects continues. The State Library has recently begun a pilot project. Hebron Public School, Hebron Public Library, and Glen Ullin School are the participants, whose holdings will be searchable on WorldCat only. After the project is complete, these libraries will loan their materials via the North Dakota Interlibrary Loan program. This project is designed to allow libraries to offer Internet accessibility to their collection, to participate in the statewide Interlibrary Loan program, and to select a circulation system that fits their needs.

Summer Reading Program: Governor Hoeven proclaimed June 1, 2006, Summer Reading Kick Off @ Your Library Day. Nearly 3,800 adults and children attended this year's *Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales* Summer Reading Kick Off on June 1 at the North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Heritage Center. About thirty organizations partnered to make the event possible.

Technical Services: Two North Dakota State Library catalogers obtained approval from OCLC to enhance bibliographic records for books. They underwent an extensive review period in order to achieve the enhance authorization. In addition, a State Library professional cataloger attended a week-long training session for creating name authority records to contribute to the Name Authority Cooperative Project (NACO).

Think Tanks: Librarians, library board members, and citizens had a chance to give input and share ideas on the future of North Dakota libraries during a series of Think Tanks held in Fargo, Dickinson, and Minot in February 2006. Over one hundred people attended the Think Tanks which were sponsored by the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council and the North Dakota State Library. The Think Tanks were an effort to network and gather information crucial to library services across the state now and in the future. The following keynote speakers from each community were featured: Fargo – Patty Corwin, Senior Lecturer for the NDSU Sociology Department; Dickinson – Nancy Johnson, State Representative for District 37; and Minot – Dr. Thomas Seymour, State Senator and Professor of Business Information at Minot State University. Information collected during the “Think Tanks” is available on the North Dakota State Library’s Web site at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us/Thinktankinfo.html>.

Training: The State Library provided teachers and librarians across the state with a course entitled *Electronic Resources Searching Techniques*. The course included basic and advanced searching techniques for the ODIN catalog and Online Library Resources, including Opposing Viewpoints, eLibrary, Health and Wellness Resource Center, Ancestry Library Edition, EBSCOhost, Gale Group, and ProQuest newspapers. Seventy teachers and librarians took advantage of the training held in Bismarck, Dickinson, Grand Forks, and Fargo in June. The Reference staff at the North Dakota State Library conducted thirteen State Employee Library Orientation sessions. The trainings are designed to inform state employees of the resources and services available to them from the State Library. Twenty-five state employees completed this training in the past year. In addition to state employee training, the Reference staff began offering introductory training to citizens of North Dakota. The trainings were hosted by North Dakota public libraries. Ten libraries invited NDSL staff to their communities to train their patrons. A total of seventy-three participants from communities across North Dakota participated in this introductory training.

Conclusion:

Our mission is to provide access to information for North Dakotans. The goals of the North Dakota State Library, as stated in its Long-Range Plan, are: Serve as a leader in

the library and information field, Promote and advocate library awareness, Provide and develop library and information services statewide, and Achieve customer satisfaction. We invite you to contact us for assistance at any time.

NDSL DATA -- July 2005 – June 2006

INFORMATION SERVICES

Number of interlibrary loan requests processed: 28,563
Number of reference questions answered: 3,111
Number of telephone calls: 8,871
Number of items mailed: 30,745
Number of items checked out: 26,532
Number of walk-in patrons: 7,259

TECHNICAL SERVICES

Number of items cataloged for NDSL general collection: 2,396
Number of items cataloged for state document collection: 701
Number of electronic state documents added to collection: 325
Number of items cataloged for state agencies: 1,180
Number of items cataloged for statewide library catalog: 55,897
Number of items distributed through State Document Depository Program: 2,116
Number of items added to Library of Congress authority list: 33

DISABILITY SERVICES

Number of items checked out: 70,077
Number of active patrons: 25,671
Number of telephone calls: 6,669
Number of volunteer hours: 4,769.5
Number of DRIS listeners: 512