

8. MINITEX Director's Report

1. Attached is a flyer on **My Health Minnesota → Go Local**, Health Services in the Land of 10,000 Lakes. This is a project undertaken by the University of Minnesota Health Sciences Libraries and MINITEX with additional LSTA funding from the Minnesota State Library. We can discuss further during the meeting.
2. I'll fill this report out further prior to Friday's meeting.

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2. Criteria Subcommittee of the Advisory Council will meet after this meeting to begin a review of the MINITEX Criteria for Participation. Members are: Joan Roca, Chair; Dan Gjelten, Karla Gedell, Wendy Lougee, Suzanne Miller, Anne Ryan, Peg Werner, and Todd Digby.
3. Kathy Drozd, Fred Finch, and I will be attending a national Delivery Conference – *Moving Mountains: A Symposium Exploring Library Courier Services* in Denver on September 14-15. I'll be on a panel presentation about the MINITEX Delivery System. There are 106 people registered from 28 states.
4. State Fair exhibit was successful in the Education Building. I'll ask Mary to give a short report.
5. Attached are stories from end users about how they are using interlibrary loan services. I find these very refreshing and we are examining ways we can make better use of them and share them with the library community, which essentially initiates these requests. The same goes for the stories we are receiving from the MnLINK Gateway.
6. The MINITEX/OCLC User Group meeting registration is now open/ The meeting will be held Monday, Oct. 16 at the Sheraton Minneapolis West hotel. In addition to our keynote speaker, Lorcan Dempsey, we have an exciting set of breakout sessions. Highlights include a panel discussion on the future of Technical Services, presentations of regional digitization projects using OCLC's CONTENTdm, an ILLiad User Group, and an orientation to MINITEX and OCLC for those new to working with us, and updates on services, options, pricing and efficiency tools for technical services, ILL and public services staff.
7. Assignment Calculator -> Research Project Calculator for 9th to 12th graders available after next week. We have just about completed the revision of the University Libraries' Assignment Calculator into the Research Project Calculator and we will roll it out, hopefully, the week of September 18th. Time permitting, we'll demonstrate it. A sidebar to this is that several of us will be meeting with Suzanne Miller and Commissioner of Education Seagren and some of her staff on September 25th to discuss how this Calculator can be publicized and used in the K12 system.
8. MINITEX Web Page Survey. A MINITEX staff task force is working on a revision of the MINITEX Web Page. As part of that revision, we put up a survey recently and received a number of responses from users of the Web Page. Results are available for distribution and are quite positive overall.
9. We continue to plan to place a QuestionPoint Virtual Reference link on the Elm4you.org Portal and recruit a number of local reference librarians to cover a certain number of hours per week. This will be

in collaboration with the MN State Library since we will be using our reference staff who are funded through a LSTA grant from the State Library. This service will provide us with 24/7 coverage for the whole state. We will use one-time funds from reserves and we will need to raise some additional funds for the full statewide license. Virtual reference links will also be placed on the MnLINK Gateway and on individual library web pages if they so desire.

10. Our video of Cathy DeRosa (Perceptions in February) and Stephen Abrams (May) were viewed by hundreds of people, some from outside our region. Perceptions will be taken down this week while Abrams is still being viewed and we'll leave that up. Feedback from Abrams ranged from '*fantastic to it was fabulous. Thanks so much for making it available. Everyone who came back from this conference talked about their minds exploding and the need for all librarians to understand these future trends--so that we could start re-defining and re-creating library services.*' We will be taping our keynote speaker, Thomas Frey, at the MnLINK User Group meeting on Monday and it should be available later this month.

One thing I wanted to point out from the above reports is that we are trying to 'listen' to our MINITEX customer base, which, in my opinion, are both the library staff in local libraries as well as end users (through their stories on feedback forms and their questions about MnLINK Gateway and input from library staff). This is important as we formulate our future service programs.