

8. Future Developments that could affect the MINITEX Region – An Open Discussion

1. The Bridge to Higher Learning: A New Vision for Minnesota's High Schools In the Global Information Age. A Report from the Future of High Schools Task Force of the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals in Partnership with the University of Minnesota's Consortium for Postsecondary Academic Success.

The Governor of Minnesota has raised the issue of whether Minnesota's high schools are obsolete. Bill Gates, Microsoft, has been providing grants for new high schools that reinvent themselves. Whenever you raise questions about one of the local K-12 schools, all kinds of people have all kinds of ideas and reactions. This report is worth reviewing because it deals with what is seen as a crucial feeder mechanism into colleges and/or the work force. And, there are some concerns.

The report puts forth a new vision for high schools in Minnesota:

*The new vision for Minnesota's high schools should be to prepare every student to earn a credential or a degree at a postsecondary educational institution – whether it is a technical school, two-year college, or four-year college of university. (p.3).*

See the Chart on page 7 and answer the question: how does the high school in your community rank on this chart? **I am interested in how academic and public library directors are involved in their community K12 schools. These are the future freshman, work force and tax payers and supporters of libraries. Are library directors involved in these community issues involving K12 education?**

2. *175 New Schools Open as Part of a National Movement to Address Dissatisfaction with High School.* From Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. August 27, 2007.
3. Open Source Integrated Library Systems.

I am including three articles on Open Source Integrated Library Systems

- a. *Holt Perspective: HEARING THE "M WORD" AT DC-ALA? By Dr. Glen Holt*

Holt retired from the directorship of St. Louis Public Library. Prior to that position, he was a history professor at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus. He is reporting on his discussions and observations during ALA Midwinter in Washington, D.C. His topic is the issue of Integrated Library Systems. Holt writes a regular column for the Library Leadership Network, an online newsletter. Some of you may recall I purchased a trial subscription a couple of years ago for the Advisory Council but few members could remember to go online and check out the articles. Holt referred to Carl Grant's blog.

- b. *Thoughts from Carl Grant – If there were any doubts left about open source.....*

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Carl Grant resigned last year from Ex Libris and is now a consultant. His blog contains some interesting observations about Open Source Integrated Library Systems and if you are interested in that development, you can gain some information from reading the enclosed.

- b. *ILS Assessment: A Background Document (Univ. of Winsor, June 1, 2007)*  
This is an interesting but brief report on a library's assessment of Integrated Library Systems and future needs of libraries. It is only 7 pages. The last page contains references to various reports and articles with their URL so you can access all of them over the Web.

4. Future Service Scenarios from SOLINET

This is a good follow up to several of the discussions we have had over the past year. SOLINET is the Southeastern Library Network, Inc. They held several discussions in FY07 to explore their members' vision of the future of libraries and SOLINET. Not a bad idea!

Attached is their "Executive Summary" of their Member Scenario Planning Discussions. The six areas of focus for members in the next three to five years are:

- *New service models for libraries*
- *Changing role of collections*
- *Staff transformation*
- *Re-purposing buildings*
- *More assessment*
- *Keeping up with and in control of technology*

They also make some recommendations (p. 7) for their network, SOLINET, that would support these focus areas. I don't know if these would be of interest to the Council members and didn't include them for that purpose. I think we are doing some of these things already.

The three scenarios are attached at the end of the Executive Summary.

- a. *Information Management 2.0 Advances Collaboration, Communication, and Knowledge Management*. An Outsell Information Management Service Briefing.

I have only included the front page of this report since Advisory Council members should have received this report directly from Outsell in their e-mail. Though this report seems to concentrate on corporate libraries, they indicated in their September 8, 2006 report (which you should have received) that "...many of the robust applications were in academic and public libraries..." Well, I see a lot of references to Web 2.0 on the web in various

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listservs, but I believe only a handful of libraries are actively practicing it in the MINITEX region. **Prove me wrong!!**

**The question remains: given the next few years, what would you like to see in place in the three state region by June 2010?**

- a) September 2007
- b. October-December 2007
- c. January – March 2008 (MN Bonding session)
- d. April – June 2008
- e. July – September 2008
- f. October – December 2008
- g. January – March 2009 (MN Legislative budget session for FY10 & FY11)
- h. April – June 2009
- i. July – September 2009
- j. October – December 2009
- k. January – March 2010
- l. April – June 2010