MESSENGER

MINITEX
Library Information Network

*A Program of the Minnesota Higher Education
Services Office at the University of Minnesota*

eBooks: What's the Story?
Monday, Nov. 18, 2002
&
Reference Linking with OpenURL:
Connecting Library Users & Resources
Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2002

MINITEX is presenting two one-day symposia next month on important topics of interest to library staff throughout the three-state region. The first of the sessions, "eBooks: What's the Story?," will provide partici-pants with the opportunity to hear what industry experts think about eBooks and what the future holds for them. The second, "Reference Linking with OpenURL: Connecting Library Users & Resources," will discuss OpenURL (the emerging standard that enables linking among dis-parate resources) and the potential it provides for new linkages among information resources and services.

The primary speakers for the eBooks conference and their topics are:

- Donald T. Hawkins, "Electronic Books: Not Dead Yet." Hawkins is Director of Intranet Development at Information Today, Inc. and Editor-in-Chief of *Information Science Abstracts* (published by Information Today).

- Joshua Morrill, "What Do Users Think About netLibrary: Separating Misperceptions From Reality." Morrill's presentation will be based on his work as Chief Evaluator for the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium's NetLibrary Project. Morrill is now Chief Evaluator for a statewide survey of library users and non-users for the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium.

The afternoon session will include demonstrations from several key eBook vendors with time allotted for question and answers. MINITEX will have consortial pricing in place for the various products.

The OpenURL session will include presentations by:

- MINITEX/LDS Joint Standards Review Task Force, Open Linking Working Group. The Working Group is exploring the benefits of

Opening Linking software and will want to determine whether there is enough interest to warrant a Request for Proposal to explore a consortial purchase of Open Linking software.

- Harry Samuels, a member of the NISO OpenURL Standards Committee, who will provide an overview of OpenURL functionality.

- Carey Hatch, Assistant Provost, System Administration for the State University of New York, who will discuss SUNY's experience with SFX, an OpenURL software.

- Vendor's representatives from 1Cate from Openly Informatics, SFX vendor from Ex Libris, Linkfinder Plus from Endeavor, and Open Linking Technologies from Fretwell-Downing will also make presentations.

Both events will be held at the Earle Brown Center, St. Paul Campus, University of Minnesota. Registration information for the two sessions has been distributed. Check the MINITEX website for complete information about the symposia.

http://www.minitex.umn.edu/train-conf/announce/

Also, see the Standards Task Force webpage (http://www.minitex.umn.edu/committees/standards/) for a background report about the work of the Open Linking Working Group and the development and potential of the emerging OpenURL standard.

Update on MINITEX Budget Developments

With the 2003 session of the Minnesota Legislature less than three months away, discussions of the MINITEX budget for FY 04/05 continue to move forward. With the State of Minnesota facing a budget shortfall that may exceed $3 billion, the proposed MINITEX budget carries no funding initiatives. Following the budget reductions for 02/03, which required the elimination of the statewide subscription to ProQuest Newspapers 5 as part of the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM), the goal for the coming biennium is securing funds to support existing products and services.

Funding for continuation of the statewide licensing of databases included in ELM is of particular concern, because $400,000 of the funds that have supported ELM for the past two years has come from a specific allocation to the MN Dept. of Children, Families and Learning (CFL). Without a new appropriation, those funds will not be available.

The proposed MINITEX budget, together with those for other programs of the MN Higher Education Services Office (MHESO), was the subject of hearings throughout the state last month. The Minnesota Higher Education Services Council met Oct. 11, to review a response to the MN Department of Finance's request for a 10% reduction plan for the budgets for FY04 and FY05. In place of a reduction plan, the Council reviewed a draft of a letter to be sent to the Finance Department that would describe the harmful impact of a 10% reduction on MHESO's programs. The Council also gave preliminary approval to its FY04 and FY05 budget request. In recognition of the budget shortfall, the request is targeted on financial aid to help students keep up with increasing costs of higher education. Under the proposed budget request, MINITEX and MnLINK would continue at current funding levels.

Funding totaling approximately $620,000 that MINITEX receives annually through an interagency agreement with CFL to support interlibrary loan, reference, and delivery is expected to be available for '04/'05 according to a letter that CFL Commissioner Christine Jax sent to Bill Asp, Chair of the Minnesota Library Council. The funding, which comes to Minnesota as part of annual LSTA grants, is to be migrated to state sources within three years under the terms of the state's proposed 2003-2007 LSTA plan. Letters discussing this issue (a letter from Jax to the Council and a response from Asp) are available at the Council's section of the Minnesota Library Association website:

http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/Legislative/MN%20Library%20Council.htm

With the beginning of the legislature three months off (and its end, eight months away), the final size of the MINITEX budget is an unknown quantity. We'd like to thank the librarians, library staff, students, and others who spoke in support of MINITEX programs during the HESO budget hearings; we will keep you

up-to-date as discussions of funding for MINITEX services to participating libraries and their users continue.

Plans for MnLINK Gateway ILL & ILL Policies Directory Move Forward

Work toward implementation of the MnLINK Gateway ILL software and development of an Online Interlibrary Loan Policies Directory for Minnesota libraries are coming together with the scheduling of the first ILL training sessions and announcement of plans for the ILL directory. Bill DeJohn and Ken Behringer distributed memos to Minnesota library directors earlier this month outlining the schedules for the two projects.

ILL Policy Directory

The goal of the directory is to provide an up-to-date listing of ILL policies of all Minnesota libraries that "will be housed on the MINITEX web site and be accessible from the MnLINK web site and will be beneficial to all libraries in Minnesota as well as other MINITEX participating libraries in North and South Dakota." The memos noted that managers of Minnesota libraries' ILL departments will receive instructions about creation of their directory entry in early November.

Establishment of a policies directory was part of the charge of the MnLINK ILL Subcommittee, which has created a list of ILL policy recommendations that can be found at:

> http://www.mnlink.org/groups/ill-subcommittee/7-23-02policyrec.html

The MINITEX Advisory Committee endorsed these policy recommendations at its Sept. 6 meeting.

Gateway ILL Implementation

MINITEX, together with Anoka County Library, Great River Regional Library, and the Plum Creek Library System, will be the beta test libraries for the MnLINK Gateway's ILL component. Behringer noted in his memo that Fretwell-Downing has pre-

sented its VDX software "to begin the implementation round of interlibrary loan training." The beta test libraries are to receive training by mid-November, and the expectation is that they will be able to begin to use the software once training is complete.

Staff of MnLINK's Mankato server staff will be trained together with staff of the beta libraries, and the Mankato staff will "assume training responsibilities for the ILL staff at the balance of the MnLINK Gateway sites." The initial training sessions are expected to occur in mid-December with additional sessions scheduled early in 2003. "Current training plans call for each Gateway library to send up to two ILL staff members for the training sessions."

Implementation of Fretwell-Downing's ZPORTAL software, which will replace OCLC's SiteSearch as the basis for the Gateway's searching capability, is expected to come after the majority of Gateway server site libraries have received training on VDX.

Statewide ELM Marketing Campaign Planned

Staff of MINITEX and MN Higher Education Services Office (MHESO) are planning a statewide campaign to increase the visibility of the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM). The campaign's goal is to increase Minnesota residents' awareness of ELM resources, which include the Gale databases (including InfoTrac), The OCLC Collection, and the shared MINITEX eBook collection. We are working with the Advertising Federation of Minnesota to develop an integrated marketing and advertising campaign, which will be launched over the next few months.

Directors of Minnesota libraries will be receiving letters discussing the planned campaign, which is expected to include news releases to Minnesota media outlets. Along with the news releases, the media outlets are to receive an ELM fact sheet and a list of names and telephone numbers of local residents willing to be interviewed about their use of ELM resources.

The campaign will emphasize:

- the wealth of high-quality information available through ELM to all residents of Minnesota.

- the fact that access is freely available through websites of local libraries and the MnLINK Gateway.

Please contact Mary Parker (612-624-1024, 800-462-5348, m-park1@umn.edu) if your library is planning an ELM promotional campaign this fall so we can coordinate our efforts. We'll keep you posted!

MINITEX Advisory Committee Discusses Budget and Participation Criteria

The proposed MINITEX budgets for Fiscal '04/'05 and the ongoing survey of MINITEX participating libraries in Minnesota were the primary topics of discussion during the MINITEX Advisory Committee's quarterly meeting on Sept. 6. Nearly all participating Minnesota academic libraries have responded to the Criteria survey, and the great majority report that they meet the key criteria noted in the survey. Responses were being received from Minnesota state government libraries as part of the survey's second phase.

The Advisory Committee authorized the survey to check on compliance by Minnesota's libraries with two sections of the MINITEX Criteria for Participation:

- *It is expected that the library will have at least one full-time professional librarian to administer the library service program.*

- *The MINITEX Document Delivery Program should not be considered a substitute for local ownership of needed resources. Infrequent and/or supplemental information needs should be referred to the MINITEX office (approximately five percent) and 95 percent of user information needs should be met by their own library and/or library system. The figure of 95 percent was chosen to protect the value of the Network, so there is more equal sharing of resources through out the Network, and no one library abuses its Network participation.*

The Committee recommended that Bill DeJohn and staff of MN Higher Education Services Office (MHESO) work with the few libraries not currently in compliance with the goal of resolving the questions.

Minnesota public libraries that participate in MINITEX will be queried in the third round of the Criteria survey.

DeJohn and Ann Kelley updated the Committee on the current state of budget developments. DeJohn noted that MINITEX already took a 10 percent budget reduction for '02/'03 and that another cut may be required. The MINITEX line item in HESO's budget request is $4.681 million. Of that total, $2.406 million supports basic operations and $2.275 million goes for support and licensing of electronic resources. While MINITEX will seek no budget increase from the 2003 Legislature, MLA and MEMO plan to include requests for budget initiatives for programs to aid libraries in their combined legislative platform.

The Advisory Committee also recommended that HESO include the revised recommendations of the MnLINK ILL Subcomittee for interlibrary loan for the MnLINK Gateway as part of MINITEX operating procedures.

New E-mail Address for Overdues and Recalls

The MINITEX Document Delivery Program now has an e-mail address for all overdue, recall, and billing questions from participating libraries that do not use an automated system to submit their ILL requests to the MINITEX central office:

overdues@othello.minitex.umn.edu

We believe that a central e-mail address will help expedite our turn-around time in processing overdue notices, recalls, and queries as well as providing better customer service to you. Use the email address to notify our staff of:

- overdue notices
- recalls
- bills
- queries and questions about overdues, recalls, and bills

If your library currently uses an automated system — such as PALS, SDLN, ODIN, OCLC, or Wiscat — you should continue to send your messages through that system as you have in the past. As we said above, this new e-mail address is intended for use, primarily, by libraries that to don't use an automated system to submit their requests.

Please don't hesitate to contact us either via the new "overdue" e-mail address or by phone:

Kevin Lian-Anderson, Library Supervisor
(612-625-6355, 800-462-5348)
Ruth Kudlaty (612-624-8720, 800-462-5348)

Change in MINITEX "IFM" Service for Out-of-Region Referrals Effective Nov. 1

Currently, MINITEX refers serial requests to libraries outside of our region unless you include a note reading "no IFM" in the "location" field of your request. On Nov. 1, we will be changing our "out-of-region" referral policy. At that time, if you would like us to refer your photocopy request to libraries outside of the MINITEX region, you will need to specify "out of region" in the "location" field on OCLC, PALS, or the MINITEX ILL webform.

MINITEX chooses "out of region" locations based on such factors as cost, the ability of the potential lender to transmit to us via Ariel, and the expected turn-around time. It is not necessary for you to list potential lenders when you select this option; we will choose and assign them for your "out-of-region" requests.

For questions, contact Agnes Lee, (612-624-4574, 800-462-5348, leexx050@umn.edu) or Carol Nelson (612- 624-7879, 800-462-5348, c-nels@umn.edu).

MINITEX/OCLC Libraries Contribute More Original Records to WorldCat

MINITEX/OCLC member libraries contributed 22,452 original cataloging records to the OCLC WorldCat database during FY02. This is an increase of 7.8% from the 20,827 original records created the previous year.

Good work, catalogers!

Update from MINITEX Delivery

Staff of the MINITEX Delivery Unit would like to update everyone on a change we have made to better handle transportation of requested material retrieved by MINITEX staff from the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis Campus and the Minneapolis Public Library.

Since we moved into our new quarters in Elmer L. Andersen Library, the MINITEX Delivery Unit has used a van to pick up material from Wilson Library on the Minneapolis Campus' West Bank and the Minneapolis Public Library on a daily basis. This has improved the time in transit for most materials requested from those libraries.

We have now started a daily pick up of materials from Walter Library and the BioMedical Library on the Minneapolis Campus' East Bank. This will improve delivery times for materials requested from both of these libraries. If you have any questions about these changes contact Fred Finch (612-624-3374, 800-462-5348, finch006@umn.edu).

MULS Updated in MnSCU/PALS and the MnLINK Gateway

The MULS database in MnSCU/PALS and the MnLINK Gateway was updated in time for this new academic year and now contains 380,850 holdings attached to 161,557 bibliographic records for serials owned by 210 libraries in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The new numbers mean the database has grown by more than 5000 holdings and over 2400 bibliographic records since Aug. 1, 2001.

Remember: No new MULS fiche was produced this year, so library staff need to use the MULS database in OCLC, MnSCU/PALS, or the MnLINK Gateway for current information. The file in MnSCU/PALS and the Gateway is updated annually in late summer/early fall. MULS data available through either the OCLC ILL or OCLC Union List services are always the most current with MULS participating libraries and the MINITEX/MULS staff adding, modifying, or deleting holdings on an ongoing basis.

OCLC Plans More Use of Union List Holdings (i.e., your MULS holdings)

OCLC has announced plans to implement enhancements to the OCLC Interlibrary Loan service and the OCLC FirstSearch service that will display holdings in OCLC-based union lists to users of OCLC ILL & FirstSearch. With implementation expected before the end of the year, the enhancements mean that your library's union list holdings will become significant in new OCLC arenas and underline the importance of keeping them up-to-date.

In OCLC ILL: The union list holding (if one has been created) will be displayed to potential ILL lenders on all lending requests.

• This feature will allow lending libraries that participate in union listing to quickly identify requests that can be declined immediately.

From OCLC FirstSearch: Users will see union list data when holdings are displayed from a WorldCat serial record.

• This enhancement will make libraries' holdings more visible to, and usable by, their patrons, saving time for both groups.

To facilitate updating of union list holdings, OCLC has announced enhancements to the Local Data Record Updating Service (LDRUS), which allows batch updating of union list holdings. More information about these enhancements was provided in a MINITEX-NEWS message in August, which is available at:

http://lists.minitex.umn.edu/pipermail/minitex-news/2002-August/002129.html

Contact Cecelia Boone (612-624-6353, 800-462-5348, c-boon@umn.edu) or Dave Linton (612-624-3360, 800-462-5348, linto001@umn.edu) in the MINITEX/MULS office if you have any questions about the LDRUS enhancements.

MINITEX Staff Attend Area Library Conferences

MINITEX staff enjoyed the opportunity to talk with staff members of MINITEX participating libraries during this fall's round of annual association conferences. MINITEX staff attended and brought the MINITEX booth to conferences of the Minnesota Library Association, MEMO (the Minnesota Educational Media Organization), and the Mountain/Plains Library Association (which took the place of the annual meetings of the South Dakota Library Association and North Dakota Library Association this year). MINITEX Reference Services staff attended the annual conference of Education Minnesota, the state's largest teachers' group.

MINITEX staff presented sessions on MINITEX's work in support of collaboration and resource sharing in the three-state region, OCLC's plans for Connexion (the web-based successor to OCLC Passport software), resources available through the Electronic Library of Minnesota, and e-Books at the various conferences.

Staff of the MINITEX Contract Cataloging Program brought their own booth to MLA and MPLA and will staff a booth at the annual meeting of the Lutheran Church Library Association in the Twin Cities in November.

CPERS Fall Trials Underway

Fall trials for MINITEX e-resources have begun. Visit the CPERS web site for information about products available for trials and timelines: http://www.minitex.umn.edu/cpers/

Webinars, a New Way to Connect
By Karen Docherty

Have you seen e-mails asking if you would like to attend a webinar? MINITEX recently started offering web-based training sessions as a way to reach out to libraries in the region for training and information purposes. Thus far, webinar topics have included instructions on implementing the Gale link to library holdings feature and an overview of the new Gale–Ingenta partnership. MINITEX Reference Services and other MINITEX units are developing webinars and plan to host a sessions on a variety of topics in the future. Upcoming opportunities will be posted to MINITEX electronic distribution lists and to the MINITEX Calendar of Events webpage.

What is a webinar?

A webinar is a live meeting/seminar/demonstration/training session that takes place over the web.

The visual component is web-based. You sit at your computer and view a presentation available on the web. The presentation can be made up of PowerPoint slides, a live web session, a sharing of documents (such as Word or Excel documents), or a combination thereof. Some meetings allow for the collaborative sharing of a document, which means that more than one person can edit the same file.

MINITEX provides the audio connection via a conference call on your telephone. If you have a telephone that has a speakerphone, you may wish to use it so you do not have to hold your handset throughout the presentation. It's also a great way for your co-workers to participate in the session along with you.

MINITEX sessions typically are limited to 10 attendees and generally last 20 minutes-one hour. These small, focused sessions provide an excellent way for library staff around the region to ask questions and to receive personalized attention during the training.

Webinars are an efficient way to transmit and share information. There is no transportation involved — so webinars save time and money! They also are a perfect vehicle for sharing timely and important information and for training library staff on a variety of topics.

How does a webinar work?

MINITEX uses the PlaceWare web conference software, which is hosted on the PlaceWare servers. This means that all you need is your telephone and your web browser – there's no need for additional equipment or software.

1) MINITEX announces upcoming webinars to MINITEX libraries via multiple electronic lists and via the MINITEX website.
2) Library staff in the MINITEX region register for the desired session.
3) MINITEX sends an e-mail message with the URL and necessary login information.
4) 10 minutes prior to the start of the webinar, the attendee goes to the URL provided in the e-mail message (from step 3) and waits for a call from MINITEX staff to patch them into the conference call.

Technology Requirements?

PC Users
- Windows 95, 98, Me, NT 4, 2000 or Sun Solaris
- Microsoft Internet Explorer (4.0 or later) or Netscape Navigator (4.x)
- 64 MB of RAM
- A monitor display set to 800 x 600 pixels (1024 x 768 is recommended)
- The URL of the Meeting Center, Login ID and password (MINITEX emails this information to you a few days prior to the webinar session you registered for)
- A separate phone line for the audio portion

Macs Users

For the best results we suggest using Netscape 4.7.x with Mac OS 8.0 - 9.x or Classic Environment in Mac OS X on a G3 or G4 computer (this includes the iMac and iBook).

It's also helpful if you allocate more memory to the application Netscape (if you haven't already done so). We suggest at least an additional 5 MB of RAM. You can do this by selecting the icon of the application **Netscape**, go to **File** in the menu bar, select **Get Info**, in the Get Info window select **Memory**.

Internet Explorer for the Mac is not supported at this time.

Who uses webinar technology?

> MINITEX
> OCLC
> Vendors of library products and electronic resources (ProQuest, Lexis-Nexis, ebrary, etc.)
> The University of Michigan
> The University of Wisconsin
> Hewlett Packard, CISCO, Prudential, American Express, Dow Jones, Capital One, and more

Many organizations and corporations use webinar technology for training and information dissemination. Companies are discovering the time, money savings, and sales opportunities that come with web-based meetings.

Webinar Etiquette

Keep in mind that other people are usually participating with you in a webinar session. This means it is important for you to be ready when the session begins.

- Have the e-mail that contains the URL and login instructions handy.
- Before the start of the session, login by going to the URL that has been sent to you via e-mail.
- Be at the phone number that you have provided on the registration form, as MINITEX staff will phone you to patch you in to the conference call.

- Use your telephone's mute button if you have back ground noise around your computer area. Voices of patrons or staff, ringing telephones, and other noise can be distracting for webinar participants.
- If we can't reach you by telephone to patch you into the conference call within five minutes after the webinar has begun, we will be happy to reschedule you to attend a different session.

Suggest a Webinar
Is there a topic that you think would make for a great training session? Please suggest ideas for a MINITEX webinar. Chances are, if you want to know about something, so do other folks in the region. Please email your idea to Karen Docherty at kdochert@umn.edu.

More Information

If you would like additional information about webinars or PlaceWare software, please contact Karen Docherty at MINITEX (612-624-2924, 800-462-5348, kdochert@umn.edu)

NEWS FROM THE MINITEX REGION

MN Library Council Formed to Provide Voice for Libraries

The Minnesota Library Council, formed to provide unified leadership to the Minnesota library community and act as an advocate for the community's interests, held its first meeting in September and is working to mold its vision, develop consensus about its role, and to organize its operation. Formed partially in response to the budget cutbacks at MN Library Development and Services earlier this year, the Council includes representatives from various types of libraries, library and library trustees organizations, and others involved with the work of libraries in Minnesota.

Among the functions to be pursued by the Council are:

- Complete the unfinished work of the Minnesota Library Leadership Coalition;

- Script strong, clear messages about the needs of Minnesota's library community and establish a continued dialogue with key stakeholders;
- Serve as advisors to the Department of Children, Families & Learning (CFL) and others on library issues;
- Facilitate the creation of a long-term vision for Minnesota's libraries and identify the best structure to support that vision;
- Contribute to the creation of a statewide plan which supports the vision for Minnesota's libraries.Educate the library community on the critical need to become active in legislative activities – in particular the 2003 and 2004 sessions;
- Advocate for strengthening of services at the state library agency;

The Council's membership includes:

Regional Public Library System Administrators
Marlene Moulton Janssen, MELSA
Ann Hutton, SELCO

Public Library Representatives
Bill Asp, Dakota County Library
Audrey Betcher, Rochester Public Library

Multi-County, Multi-Type Library Systems
Susan Baxter, Metronet
Patricia Post, Central Minnesota Library Exchange (CMLE)

MEMO
Ann Walker Smalley, Metronet
Lars Steltzner, School Media Specialist

MLA
Melissa Brechon, Carver County Library
Peg Werner, Viking Library System

Academic Libraries
Carol Johnson, College of St. Catherine
Kristi Tornquist, St. Cloud State University

CALCO
Shirlee Sherkow, MN Dept. of Transportation

Special Libraries
Mark Reidell, Dakota County Historical Society

Trustees
Jack Cole, Minnesota Library Trustee Association

MINITEX
Bill DeJohn

MnLINK
Ken Behringer

Ex Officio
Elaine Keefe, MLA/MEMO Lobbyist
Ken Hasledalen, MN Dept. of Children, Families & Learning (CFL)
Bill Asp has been elected to head the Council's Executive Committee.

More information about the Council and its work will be available on the Minnesota Library Association webpage:

http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/Legislative/MN%20Library%20Council.htm

Momentous Times for Twin Cities Downtown Public Libraries

The reopening of one of our library gems, the unveiling of plans for a new, major downtown library, and the search for new directors have made this summer and early fall exciting times for supporters and staff members of St. Paul and Minneapolis libraries. The downtown St. Paul Public Library officially reopened on Oct. 5 after a two-year, $15.9 million renovation project. Plans for the planned Minneapolis central library building were unveiled Oct. 1.

St. Paul Public Library Reopens & New Director Named
The renovation of St. Paul's downtown library, which dates from 1917, expanded space, installed 21st century technology, and highlighted the building's historic features – some of which have been hidden from view for years. More information is available at the library's website:

http://www.stpaul.lib.mn.us/

On Oct. 8, St. Paul Mayor Randy Kelly announced that Gina La Force, Director of the public library system in Markham, Ontario, will become the new director of the St. Paul Public Library. La Force, who has headed the Markham system for eight years, is expected to assume her new position next month replacing Carole Williams, who has been director for the past five years. La Force has more than 20 years of professional library experience, 15 of them in senior management. As director of the Markham system, she was responsible for a staff of 180 employees and had an operating budget of just under $6 million. The St. Paul library has a budget of $12.6 million with a staff of 217.

La Force received a bachelors degree from Queens University at Kingston, Ontario; a master of business administration in labor relations from McMaster University; and a master of library science from University of Toronto. She is a member of the American Library Association and current past-president of the Canadian Association of Public Libraries.

Williams, who will retire Nov. 1, has been on the staff of St. Paul Public Library for 28 years. Her appointment as director in 1997 was the culmination of service that began when she became a Librarian I in the Community Relations Office in 1974. Through the years, she served as supervisor of a branch library, extension services manager, assistant library director, public services manager, and acting library director. Before joining the St. Paul Public staff, Williams worked for the Fond du Lac (WI) Public Library and the Public Library of Des Moines and taught in the Des Moines and Libertyville (IL) Public Schools. She holds a bachelors degree in English/Elementary Education from the University of Iowa and an MLS from the University of Michigan.

Williams' colleagues credit her with successfully advocating for the Central Library's renovation. A recent article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* quoted Kathleen Flynn, support services manager, as saying "She's a dynamite lady. When it comes to picking a project and pushing through with it, she's just superior"

Minneapolis Public Building Plans & Director Search

Views of the proposed Minneapolis Central Library, designed by the firm of international architect Cesar Pelli are available at:

http://www.mplib.org/ncl_design.asp

Limitations imposed by a salary cap have created major problems in the search for a successor to Mary Lawson, former director of Minneapolis Public. The search had been narrowed to two candidates (Saul Amdursky, Director, Kalamazoo (MI) Public Library, and Norman Holman, Senior Vice President and Director of Capitol Planning and Construction, New York Public Library), but both withdrew citing salary as a critical issue. State law limits the salary that can be paid to the library to a percentage of the Governor's salary. While the Library Board received a waiver that would have allowed a salary of up to $120,000, Library Board members said a national study showed a salary of $135,000 would be needed to attract a candidate to direct Minneapolis' public library system. The Board will meet to consider possible next steps.

Jan Feye-Stukas has served as interim director since Lawson's departure after the library board declined to renew her contract at the end of 2001.

SDLN Advisory Committee Meets in Chamberlain

The SDLN Advisory Committee met on Oct. 22 to discuss the selection of a successor to PALS as the integrated library system (ILS) to support SDLN operations. The SDLN Advisory Council decided among the four ILS vendors (Endeavor, Ex Libris, Horizon, and VTLS) that made public demonstrations last summer. The decision is expected to be announced by the end of the month — after the vendors have been notified.

Contract negotiations and system implementation will be governed by the late-2004 target date for SDLN's migration from PALS.

Dakota State University Goes Wireless

Dakota State University (DSU) has become South Dakota's first public university to implement a campus wide wireless network. The network means that DSU students can connect to the University's computer network and the Internet "from literally anywhere on the campus."

A question and answer page is available on the DSU website

> http://www.departments.dsu.edu/news/spotlight/02/wireless_dsu_july22.htm

DSU students helped installed the wiring for the system, which was in place in time for Fall Semester.

Changes in Directorships at MINITEX Libraries

Marvin Anderson has retired after 22 years as Minnesota State Law Librarian. He was honored during a retirement party held Sept. 9, which featured speakers including Chief Justice Kathleen Blatz, Chief Judge Edward Toussaint, other jurists, col-

leagues, and friends who praised Anderson for his dedication to the State Law Library, the Minnesota judicial system, and community service. Current Law Library staff presented Anderson with a donation in his name to the Ethel Gordon Community Care Center and Shelter in St. Paul, which is named for a longtime member of the library staff, who is now deceased. In addition, the former Special Collections Room in the library has been renamed the "Marvin R. Anderson Special Collections Room."

Born and raised in St. Paul, Anderson attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, and the University of Minnesota School of Library Science. He served in the Peace Corps in Senegal and practiced law from 1969-1974. He received the Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession from the American Association of Law Libraries in 2000, an award that recognizes members near the end of their career who have made a significant contribution to law librarianship.

Barbara Golden, Electronic Services Librarian, has been named Acting State Law Librarian.

Patricia Post is the new director of the Central Minnesota Libraries Exchange (CMLE), succeeding Patricia (Trish) Peterson who retired June 10 after 19 years of service as Director. Post earned her MLIS from Dominican University. Prior to becoming CMLE Director, she had worked in special libraries for 10 years, the last seven of them as Information Services Manager for the MN Institute of Public Health in the Twin Cities. Her earlier library positions included work at the College of St. Catherine and at Cray Research.

MINITEX's Electronic Communications

In addition to our print publications, MINITEX maintains a number of electronic communications vehicles to provide information about our programs.

The MINITEX electronic discussion group, MINITEX NEWS, will allow MINITEX users to exchange questions and answers about new technologies, MINITEX policies and procedures, and other issues. To subscribe, follow these steps:

1. Send an e-mail message to: **majordomo@lists.minitex.umn.edu**
2. Subject: **[Leave the subject line blank]**
3. The message area should contain a single line that reads:
   subscribe minitex-news

The MINITEX World Wide Web homepage (http://www.minitex.umn.edu) provides information about MINITEX services and programs and access to MINITEX publications. It also allows searchers to link to other Internet homepages.