

Minitex

Member Reports to the Policy Advisory Council
December 6, 2019

<u>MN Dept. of Education</u>	Jennifer R. Nelson
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<u>State Government Libraries</u>	Erica Nutzman
<u>Minnesota State University System</u>	Pam Gladis
<u>Twin Cities & Southern State Colleges</u>	TBD
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MN Department of Education

State Library Services

December 2019 Update

No report.



MINNESOTA MULTITYPE
LIBRARY SYSTEMS

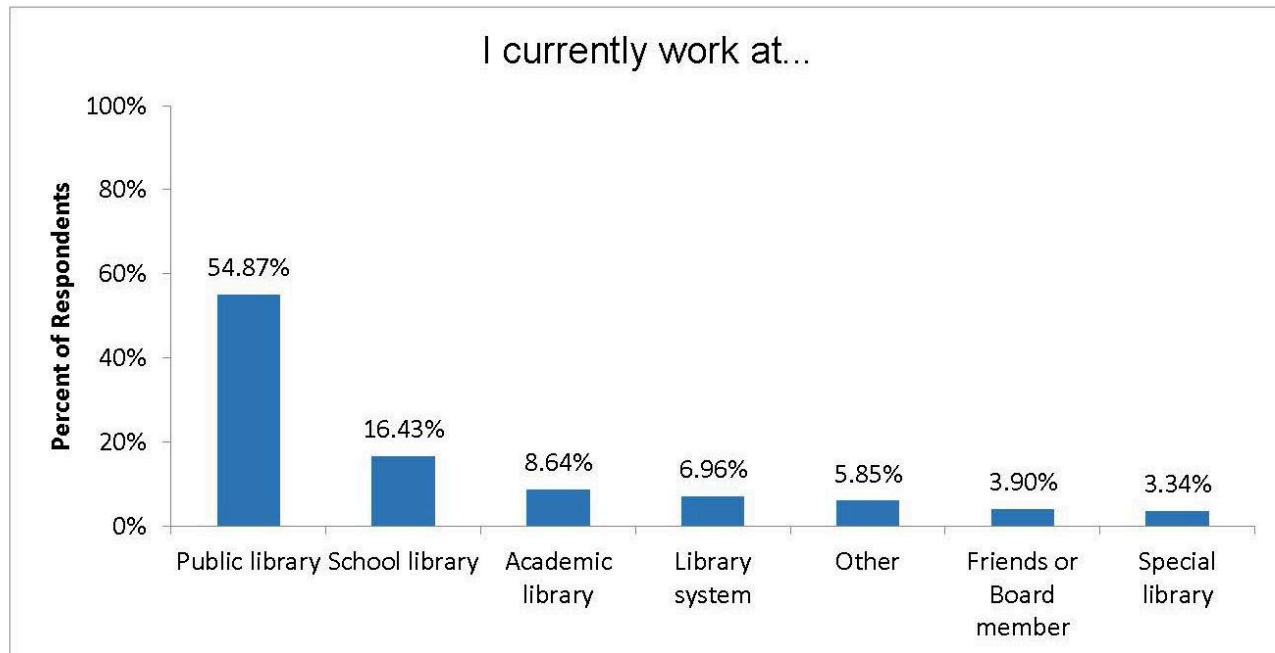
Minnesota Multitype Library Systems

December 2019

Submitted by Amanda Standerfer, MA, MLIS With assistance from Sarah Forbes, Ph.D.; Amanda McKay, MA, MLIS; and Becca K. Bartholomew, MS November 2019

Member Survey

As part of their strategic planning process, the seven multicounty multitype library systems (MCMT) conducted a SurveyMonkey survey to learn more about the needs of member libraries, to understand their satisfaction with past programs as well as ideas for future programs. A total of 359 library staff, friends, and board members responded to the survey.

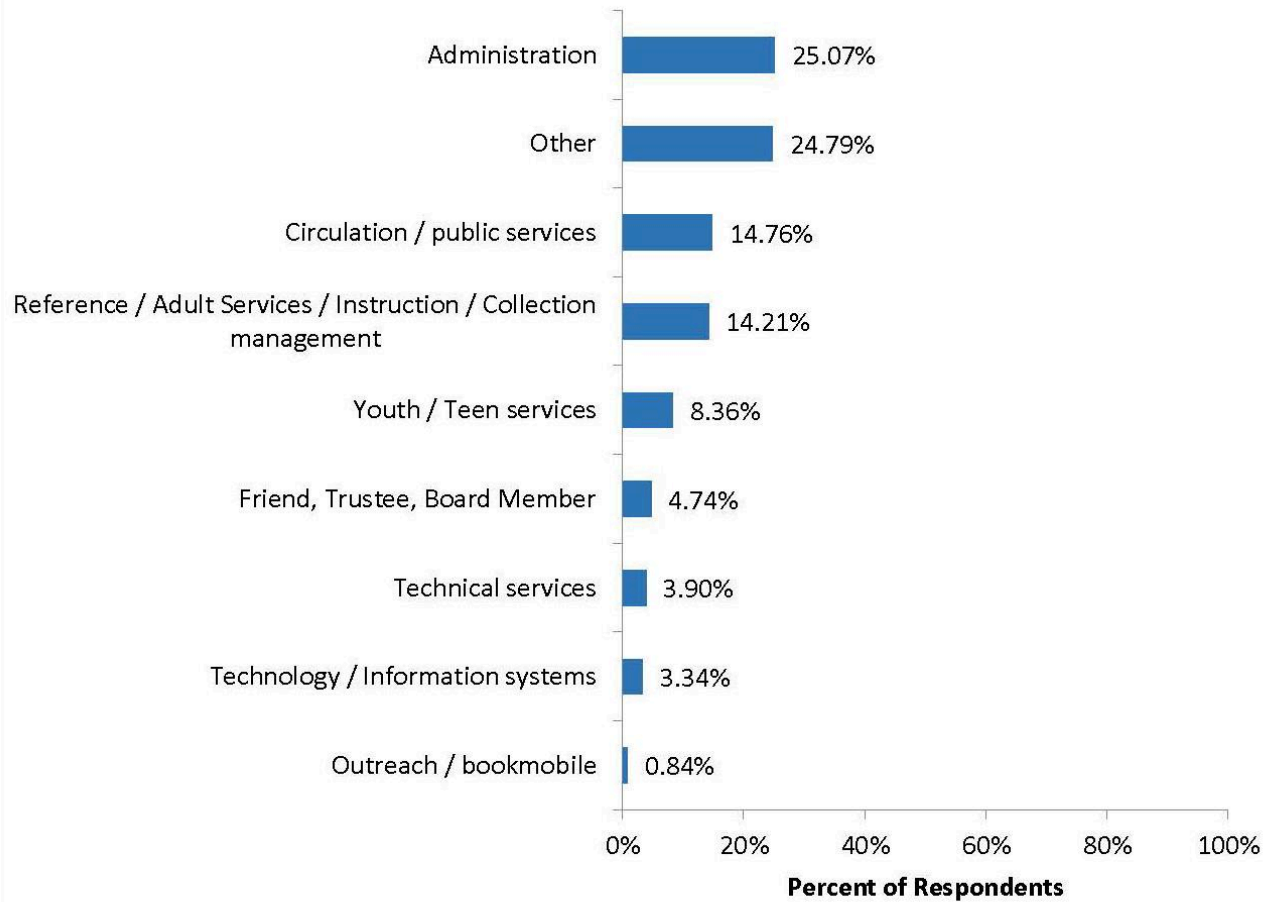


Other employment:
• Combined school and public library
• Retired librarian/library worker
• Educational system
• Bank
• Newspaper
• Government
• Tribal school

• Tribal library
• State Library Services
• Regional Services Cooperative

FINDINGS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over half of the respondents (55%) work in a public library, with another 25% working in a school or academic library.
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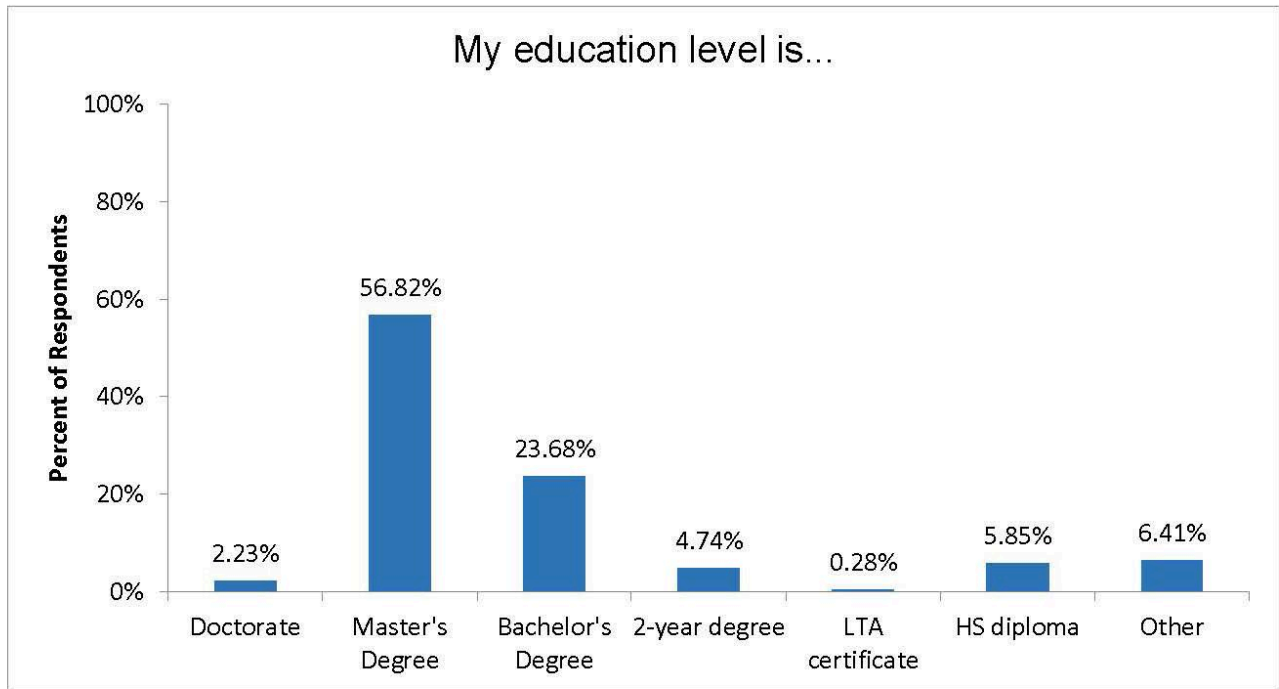
My current role is in...



Other role:

- Multiple roles in one position
- Single person operation
- Media specialist
- Teacher librarian
- Project manager, initiative coordinator
- Finance
- Library specialist

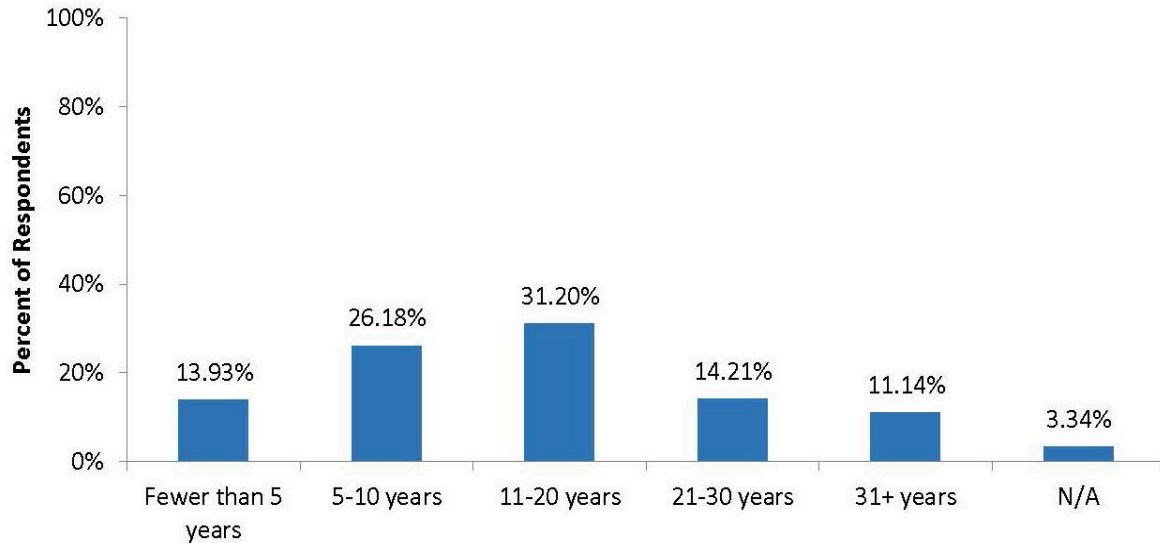
- Retired
- Volunteer
- Board member
- Teacher
- Consultant



Other education level:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some college, but no degree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GED

FINDINGS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respondents to the survey represent an educated group, with 83% earning at least a Bachelor's degree.
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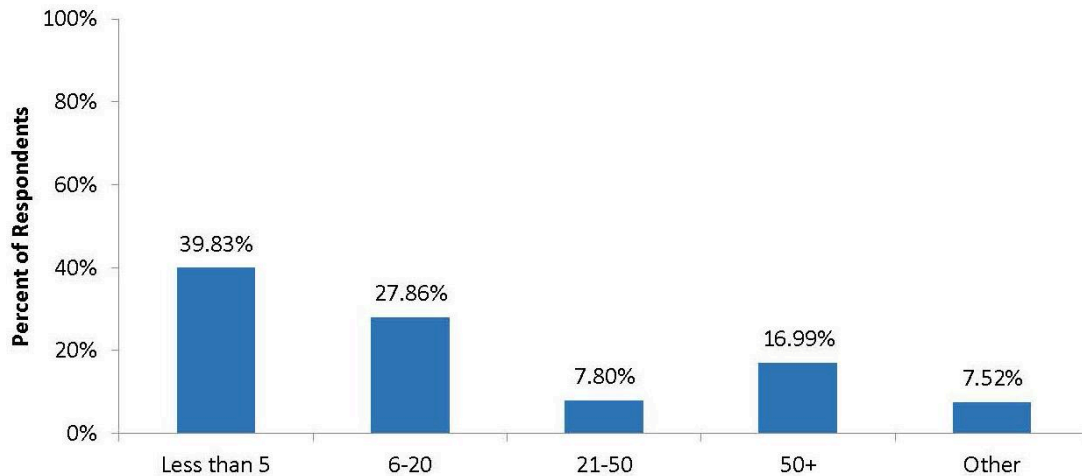
I have worked in libraries...



FINDINGS:

- A majority of respondents (83%) have at least 5 years of experience working in libraries.

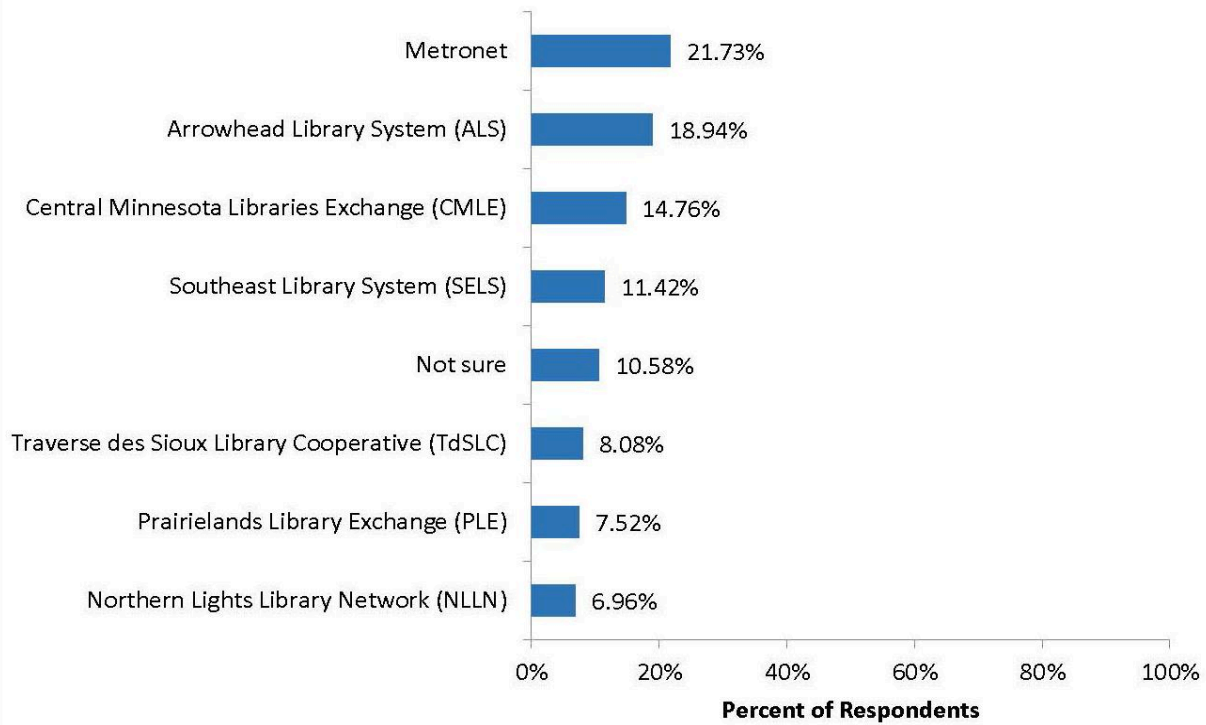
Number of employees in your library:



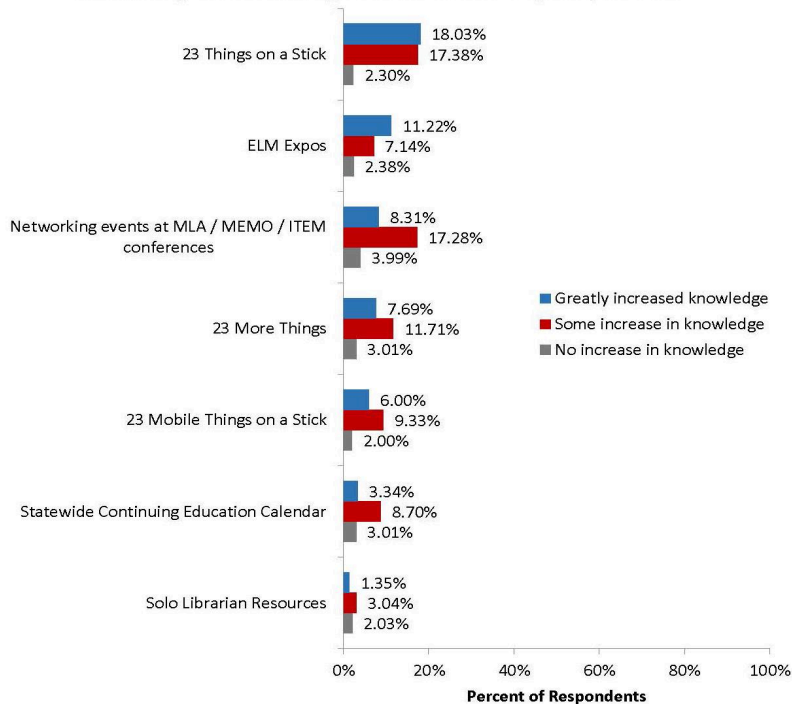
FINDINGS:

- Just under half (40%) of respondents are from small libraries with less than 5 employees.

My library is a member of...



Below is a list of projects that the seven MCMT's worked on collaboratively in the past several years. If you participated in this project, please indicate if it helped you increase your knowledge to better serve your patrons.



FINDINGS:

- Over one-third of respondents (35%) indicated some increase or a great increase in their knowledge from the 23 Things on a Stick program.
- Statewide Continuing Education Calendar and the Solo Librarian Resources were the least impactful.
- For each project, less than 4% did not increase their knowledge.

Which of the following projects listed above had the biggest impact on your work at your library? Why?

23 Things on a Stick/23 More Things/23 Mobile Things on a Stick

- Increased knowledge of social media and online tools
- Opportunity to try things they would not have normally tried
- Increased ability to help patrons, with immediately practical information
- Raised comfort levels with technology
- Self-paced fit into schedules better than longer trainings

Networking Events at Conferences

- Provided informative, good information for everyday use
- Allowed staff to share knowledge with librarians from similar backgrounds
- Provided real life applications
- Prepared staff for transitions to other departments
- Allowed staff to feel connected

Solo Librarian Resources

- Provided the most relevant information

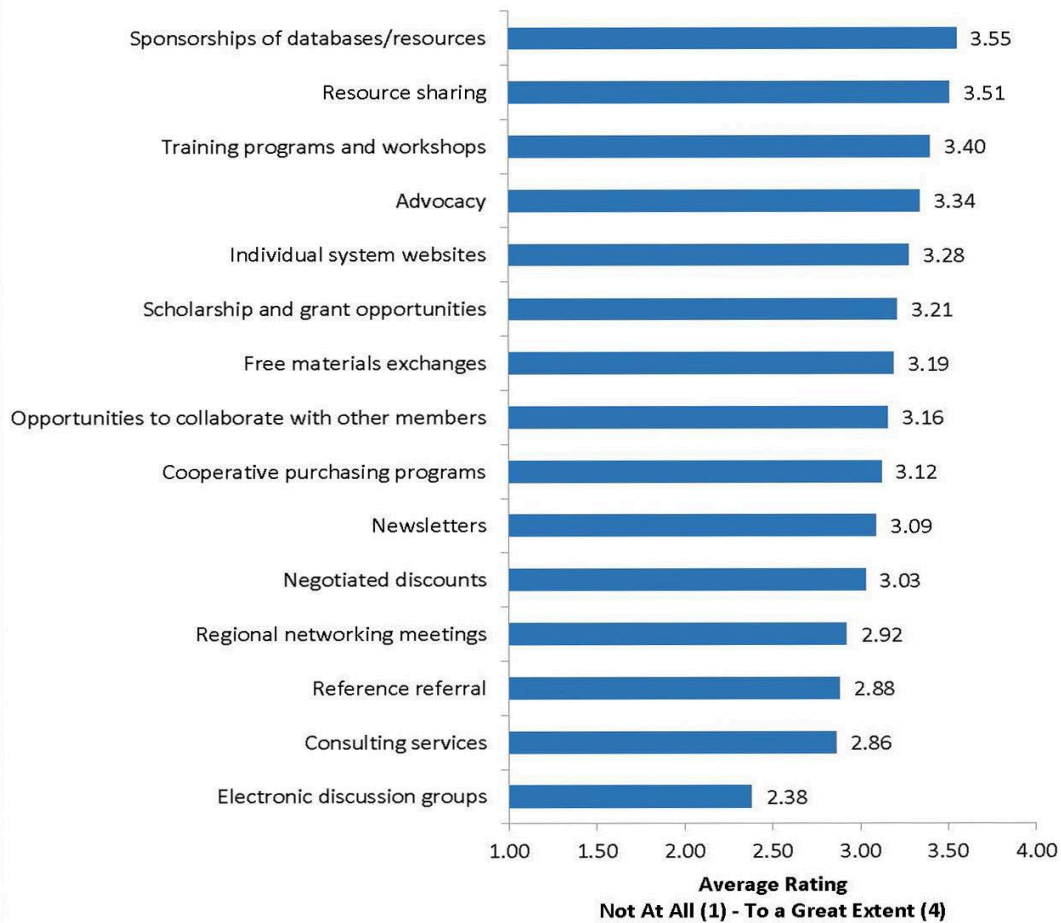
Statewide Continuing Education Calendar

- Raised awareness of opportunities

Other

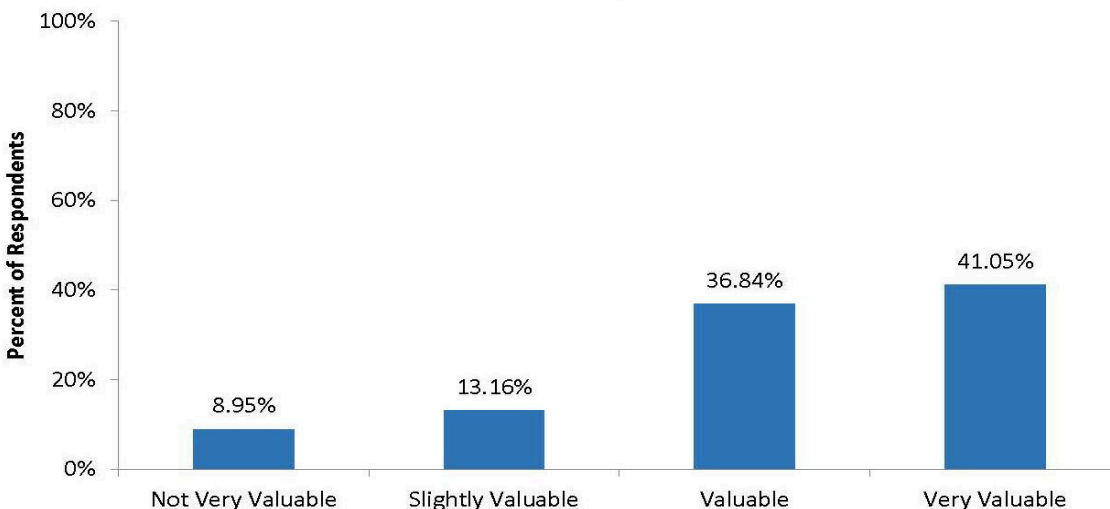
- Metronet provided useful resources
- Shared online resources (e.g., Brainfuse) provided access to resources one library would not normally be able to purchase

Please indicate how much you personally value the below MCMT programs and services.



FINDINGS: • Access to shared resources is highly valued among survey respondents.

How valuable is the work of your MCMT overall?



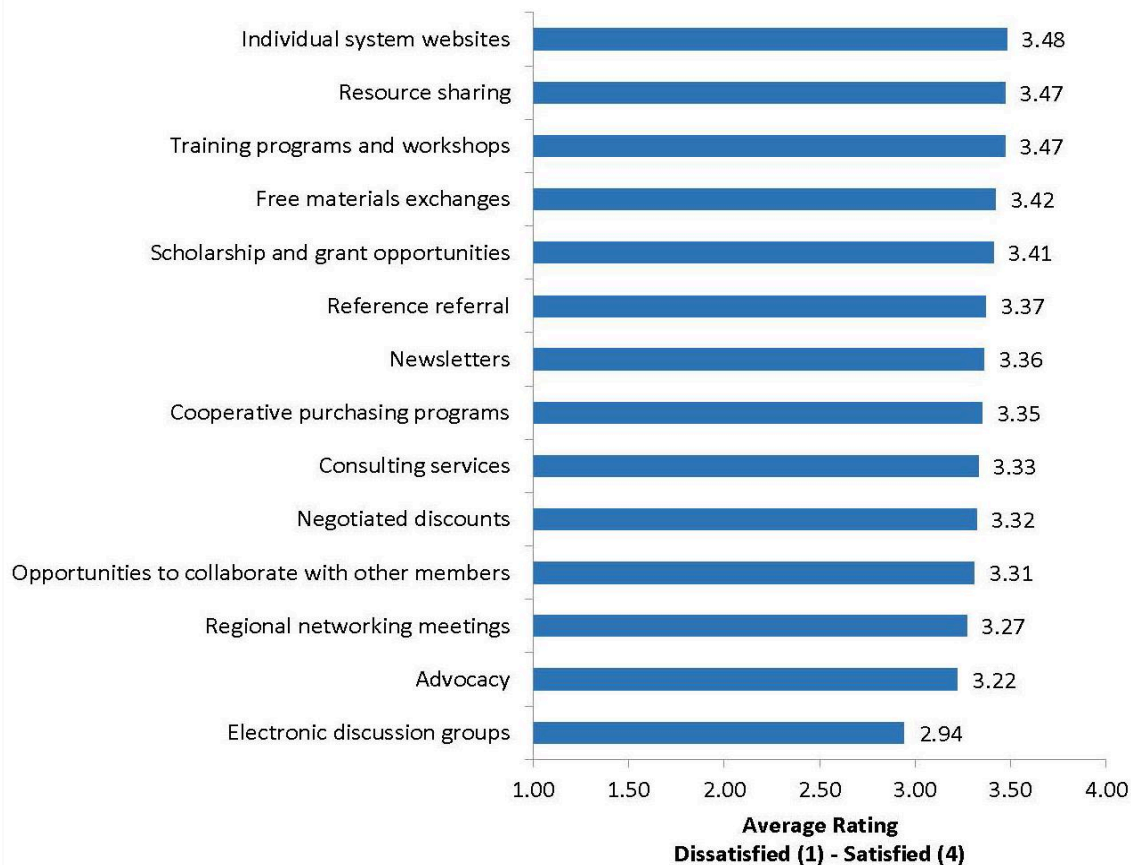
FINDINGS:

- A majority of respondents (78%) find the work of their MCMT to be valuable or very valuable.

Comments about the value of your MCMT's services and programs.

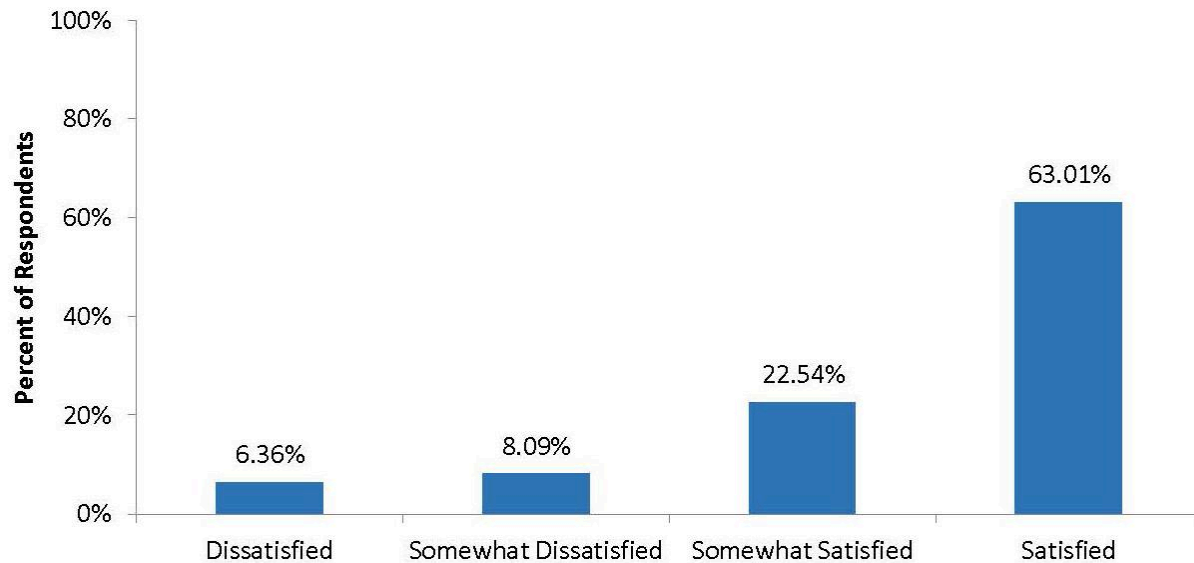
- Respondents report that many of the MCMT's services and programs were valuable, namely shared programming, continuing education scholarships, sponsorship of databases, networking opportunities, support system for various library types (e.g., school libraries, smaller libraries), support for the transition to an online card catalog, and the Metronet job board.
- Respondents commented that they recognize the value of the services and programs to other libraries, even if they are not personally using them.
- Respondents felt that MCMT's services and programs were focused on one library type and not inclusive of all types.
- Respondents indicated that not enough resources are provided, while others indicated that they are unaware of all of MCMT's services and programs.

Please indicate your satisfaction with the below MCMT services and programs.

**FINDINGS:**

- Not only is access to shared resources is highly valued, but respondents also have a high level of satisfaction for those services.

How satisfied are you overall with your MCMT's current services and programs?



FINDINGS:

- A majority of respondents (86%) are somewhat satisfied or satisfied with the current services and programs of their MCMT.

Comments about your satisfaction with your MCMT's services and programs.

- Respondents indicated that they are satisfied with and appreciate the services and programs.
- Specific services and programs mentioned included continuing education scholarships and teen grants, newsletter, kits, trainings, book repair workshop, collective resources, grant writing assistance, Metronet staff, proactive programming, support, and advocacy.
- Concerns expressed by respondents included a need for more staff to help with short-term projects, school libraries receiving limited services, activities not having long-term impact, trainings are not useful, scholarships are small, website needs updated, expanded marketing to raise awareness of offerings, regional networking meetings are not geographically reasonable and not a good use of taxpayer dollars, programs are not always relevant to small libraries, and the focus is often on academic libraries and technology.

How much do you value the work of other MCMT systems in the state?

- Many respondents indicated that overall, the other MCMT systems were valuable.
- Several respondents indicated that they were either unaware of the work of other MCMT systems or did not have a relationship with the other systems.
- There were a number of concerns reported as well. These included:
 - The structure may not be the most efficient for delivering funding and training.
 - There is a lack of communication between systems.
 - Many services are already handled by other organizations (e.g. MLA).

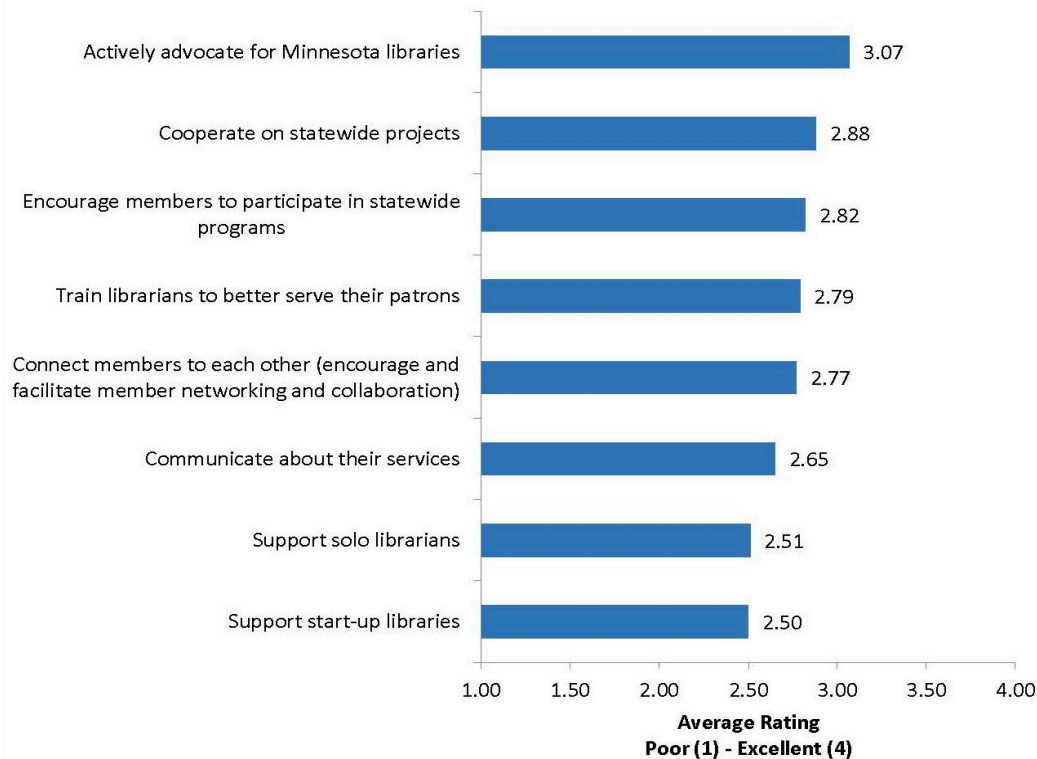
In my opinion, my MCMT's greatest accomplishment in the past 5 years is...

- Professional Development: training for staff, workshops, increasing the number and amount of scholarships and mini grants, Things on a Stick courses, ELM Expos
- Collaboration: networking, sharing resources, negotiating databases
- Communication: increasing communication between types of libraries, conducting this survey, shift in management, merger with Regional Library System, recruiting more schools, advocacy
- Online Resources and Technology: supporting ILL services, supporting electronic resources, podcasts, digitizing newspapers, eBook program for schools, VR kits, MILI
- Outreach: Better Together workshop, community outreach
- Programming: TeenLitCon, Teen Coop Advisory Group, legacy programming

I think my MCMT could improve by...

- Increasing communication and marketing about programs and greatest accomplishments; updating the website; listening to feedback
- Increasing advocacy at the local, state, and national levels
- Merging with the regional public library systems and disbanding the MCMT model
- Increasing collaboration between different types of libraries as well as with other organizations (e.g., MLA)
- Being more strategic in planning
- Bringing all libraries on board, and ensuring that all regions have access to the same services
- Increasing training programs and ensuring that offsite trainings are geographically feasible to attend

How well do the MCMT's...



What kinds of projects and services would you like to see the seven MCMT's work on collaboratively in the future?

- Continuing education on topics such as advocacy training and topics pertinent to different sectors
- Continuing education in formats such as podcasts, self-paced online programs, webinars, and one day workshops around the state with nationally recognized speakers
- New or expanded services such as a statewide library of eBooks, grant exploration, online services, statewide databases, PebbleGo, enhanced intrasystem reciprocal borrowing, new technology, streaming video services, OverDrive contract at the state level, and legacy programs
- Collaboration among the systems through statewide networking events, a library summit, increased sharing of materials and resources, system-wide programming, book clubs, collaborating on projects, and increased communication
- Increased advocacy for libraries and faculty librarian positions at colleges; raise visibility of libraries; and conduct a return on investment study
- Enhancements such as "going green" as a library system, focusing on fundraising, projects and services to strengthen regional programs, and a return on investment study
- Create diverse programming for patrons, including technology workshops for adults, STEM programs for children, "adulting" programs for college students, author visits, and K-12 information literacy modules
- Other ideas such as creating a bigger presence in the community, flattening the organizational structures, and increasing efficiency with ILL returns

What could the seven MCMT's do to have a greater impact statewide?

- Increase awareness of resources and services through training on what a multitype is; communicating all of the resources and services available; improving the website; improving the newsletter and/or sharing a newsletter; and providing networking opportunities
- Increase advocacy at the local, county, state, and federal levels; for specific positions (e.g., licensed media specialists in schools, faculty librarian positions at the collegiate level); and for more funding and better pay for staff
- Expand resources and services, such as state-level eBook negotiating, increased database access, scholarship program for staff seeking an MLS degree, consulting services (e.g., grant writing, building projects), shared programs, OverDrive contract at state level, each region becoming an expert at something for the benefit of the state, lift recent restrictions placed on MNLink, and create K-12 information literacy modules
- Expand collaborations between rural and metropolitan entities, between school/college libraries and public libraries, and among the multitypes
- Expand marketing to advertise to all potential patrons (e.g., TV commercial), and promote the library and impact on patrons
- Review current structure and goals, consider dividing and joining regional public library systems, help libraries learn how to implement community-led modeling structures (aligning services to support community goals), and focusing on schools

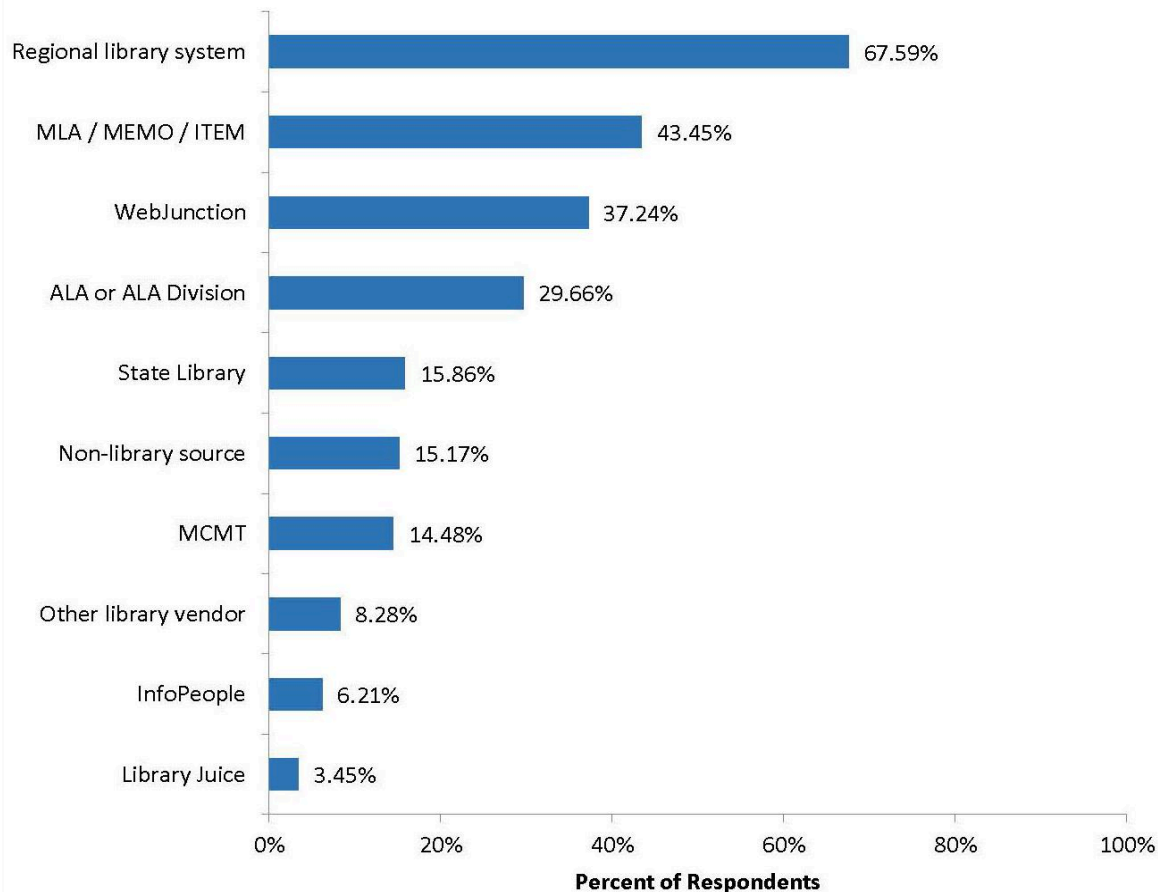
What needs do you or your library have that you think could be addressed by the seven MCMT's working collaboratively?

- Advocacy at all levels to increasing funding and for faculty librarian positions
- Additional training and continuing education; cataloging refresher course; specialized training; and concrete skills training (less leadership training)
- Additional resources and services, including solutions to the rising eBook/databases/video streaming prices; consulting services; more grants and scholarships; K-12 information literacy videos; OverDrive contract at state level; recommended resources from subject specialists (e.g., medical, legal); internet access; and marketing tools for school libraries

What factors should the MCMT's consider when looking for collaboration opportunities?

- Collaboration opportunities should be cognizant of logistical issues such as location, cost, providing multiple dates, available technology, and staffing levels.
- Collaboration opportunities at the MCMT level should include all library types and focus on new groups in order to expand awareness.
- Collaboration opportunities at the community level could include temporary community groups (e.g., college students) and partnerships with social service organizations.
- Collaboration opportunities should ensure usefulness for libraries, and reach the greatest number of libraries; consider discussions with stakeholders before launching new programs.

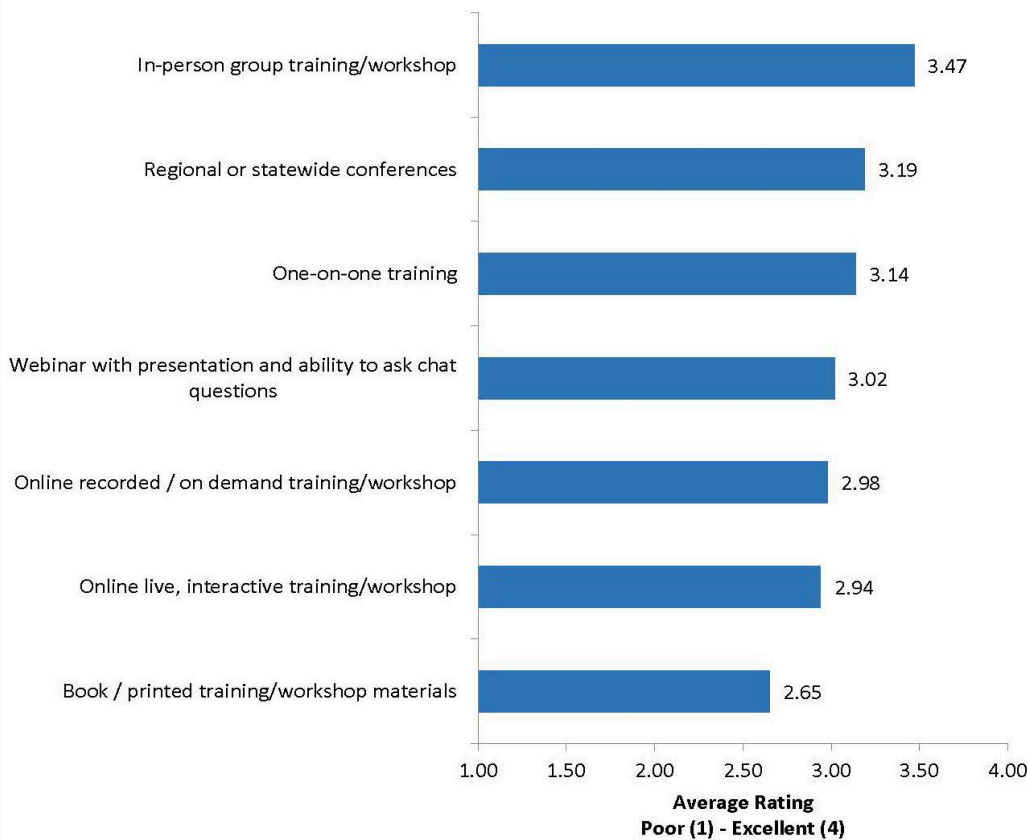
Where do you currently go for training and continuing education? Check all that apply.



Other sources of training and continuing education:

- Organizations: American Library Association, Public Library Association, American Association of School Librarians, Northern Lights Library Network, Minitex, Minnesota PALS, ITEM Conference, Bureau of Education & Research, School Library Journal, Junior Library Guild, The Association for Rural & Small Libraries, Novelist, OCLC, Urban Leadership Academy, StarNet, Scholastic, TIES, MCIT, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, MLA
- Discipline specific organizations: American Association of Law Libraries, Minnesota Association of Law Libraries, American Bar Association, Medical Library Association, National Library of Medicine, Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums Forums, University of Minnesota
- Local: local opportunities, county resources, school district sponsored training
- Online: Lynda.com, edWeb.net, online courses
- Companies: Ex Libris, SirsiDynix
- Social media: YouTube, blogs, vlogs, Facebook
- Other: VAR, other librarians, friends

When considering methods of delivery for training or continuing education, please rate the following:



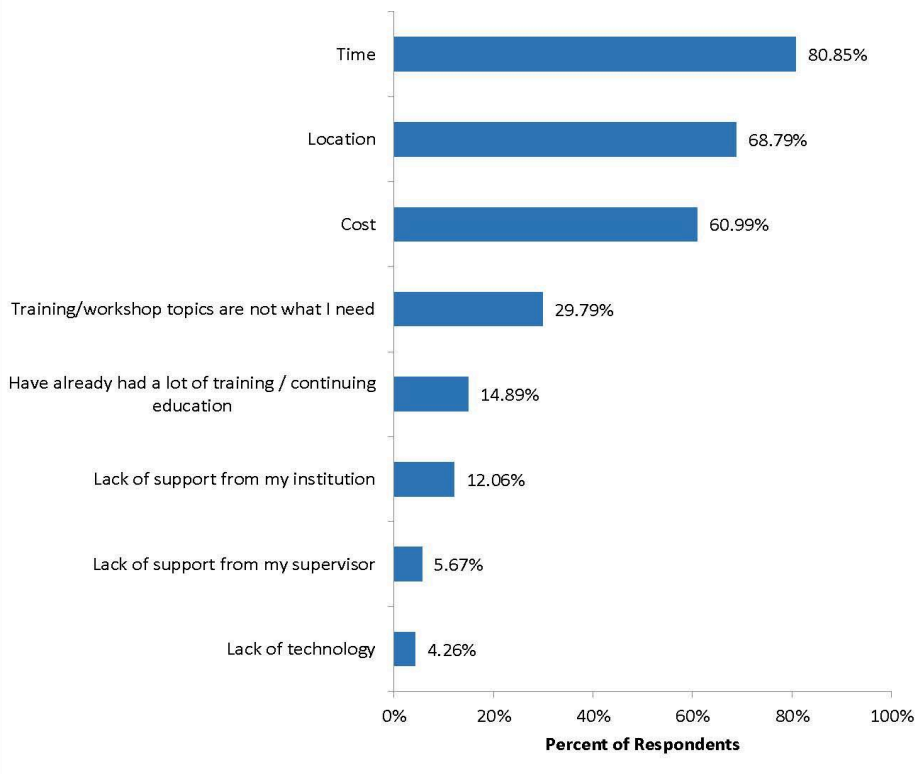
Other methods of delivery for training or continuing education:

- University courses
- Guided online programs

FINDINGS:

- In person training opportunities are preferred over online training.

What gets in the way of your participation in training or continuing education? Check all that apply.



Other obstacles that prevent participation in training or continuing education:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of staff to cover
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too many distractions with online training

What training topics are your highest priority right now?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer service, including dealing with difficult patrons and helping marginalized populations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program planning and evaluation; outreach to various ages and the community as a whole
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology, including integrating it into the curriculum, practical applications, social media, emerging technologies, and digital citizenship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity and inclusion; cultural intelligence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and security, including staff safety from patrons (e.g., drug use, harassment), building safety, and cybersecurity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection development and maintenance, including electronic resource management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literacy, including information literacy and early literacy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration, including management of personnel, facilities planning, grant applications and management, fund development, fostering teamwork, determining ROI, negotiating databases, and developing a strategic plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical training, including Dewey classification and cataloging, library tools, proper labeling, copyright rules, Horizon, reference services, K-12 software and databases, ELM, and OER

Any additional comments or thoughts you want to share at this point as we consider our strategic plan?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the MCMT structure; consider whether it is time to merge the multitypes together to serve the entire state, or perhaps diving the structure, as there is duplication of effort
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share training and resources across the various multitypes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on higher visibility to raise awareness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be sure that all libraries are included; many small libraries and school libraries feel excluded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider new offerings such as a new director information packet or portal with best practices; sponsoring statewide assessments (e.g., Edge Assessment); awarding conference scholarships

OVERALL FINDINGS:

- **Sharing Resources:** Some libraries are unable to provide certain resources to their patrons, thus resource sharing is a necessity. For other libraries, they need new ideas to effectively meet the needs of their patrons. Resource sharing was highly valued by respondents. Collaboration, which includes resource sharing, was mentioned as one of the greatest accomplishments in the past five years. While respondents were highly satisfied with the current resource sharing, they would like to see those efforts continue to expand in the future.
- **Equity:** There was a recurring concern that the MCMTs are not equitably focused on the various library types. For example, respondents indicated that school libraries were receiving limited services; small libraries were unable to participate in training opportunities due to location and staffing issues. This may be intentional, due to the focus of the MCMT, or perceived based on a lack of awareness.
- **Awareness:** Throughout the survey, respondents indicated that they may not be fully aware of what the MCMTs have to offer. They cited a lack of communication between MCMTs, and gave a low rating when asked how well the MCMTs communicate about their services. Respondents would like to better understand how to leverage the MCMTs.
- **Advocacy:** With libraries often operating on minimal budgets, respondents indicated that they would like the MCMTs to expand advocacy efforts at all levels. In addition, they would like the MCMTs to train the library staff on how to advocate locally. They requested additional promotional materials, and having information regarding the return on investment. Respondents are not currently as satisfied with the MCMT's efforts at advocacy as they are with other services and programs.
- **Continuing Education:** Survey respondents reported an interest in cooperative continuing education and training. Respondents rated in-person delivery types higher than online and individual delivery types. In the past, networking events at conferences allowed for knowledge sharing as well as a sense of connectedness. In the future, respondents would like more collaboration among the seven MCMTs. Respondents value the opportunity to collaborate with other members but feel that MCMT's could do a better job of fostering this collaboration. Respondents indicated that past attempts have had many logistical barriers, including location, costs, and having enough staff to cover their absence.

Focus Groups

Eight virtual focus groups were conducted with 26 individuals attending. In addition, three interviews were conducted with people unable to attend a focus group session.

After a brief introduction to the planning process and the focus group agenda, participants were asked to think about the collaborative work of the MCMTs and what made them proud and what they were curious about. Participants cited a wide range of MCMT activities and services as points of pride, including advocacy work, training, and continuing education, newsletters, group database, and eBook purchases, and job listings. The "23 Things" initiatives were frequently noted as points of pride.

Participants were curious about future possibilities for collaboration and what the MCMTs could do in the future to support library members. In addition, participants wondered how the MCMTs could leverage their strong ties with school libraries to benefit the library sector overall. A few participants wondered if there was a role at all for the MCMTs or if they should be restructured or absorbed into another entity.

When asked what the MCMTs do really well, respondents said that advocacy, shared learning, and networking stood out. Some participants indicated that the newsletter content was helpful to their work. Group purchases of databases and eBooks were also noted by participants.

For areas the MCMTs could improve, many respondents talked about additional communication (especially to raise awareness about what the MCMTs do) and collaboration. Collaboration on database access, eBooks, and continuing education was specifically mentioned. Participants expressed some confusion about which systems handled which activities and often had little knowledge of what happened outside of their own system (whether MCMT or public system). Participants also identified overlap between the Minnesota Library Association and the Minnesota State Library services. Several participants indicated that this planning process was an opportunity for the MCMTs to be intentional about their work going forward and to take a hard look at their purpose that is unique compared to other systems/organizations. In short, some participants welcomed a deeper conversation about how the MCMTs could innovate and collaborate with a clear vision going forward that might be different from current programs and activities.

Participants noted several opportunities for a collaborative effort of the MCMTs. Continuing education and networking continues to be a big need and statewide and the MCMTs could create and curate a speaker roster for libraries to use for in-house staff training. Participants noted that a comprehensive, statewide continuing education calendar would be beneficial to all types of libraries. Several participants mentioned the possibility of a podcast that tackled statewide library issues. More library staff members are comfortable with online videoconferencing, like Zoom, so this opens new collaboration opportunities. Also, some programs developed by individual MCMTs could potentially be expanded to all MCMTs if there was sufficient interest and funding.

Barriers for collaboration identified by participants included the need for more funds, a pervasive scarcity mindset, lack of time to participate, and the different needs of the different types of libraries. There was also confusion about which systems do what works, and how to access resources provided. The various governance structures and geographies can also be challenging for collaboration. Several participants noted that fear of change may also hold back increased collaboration.

System Model Review

According to Minnesota Statute 134.351: "Each multicounty, multitype library system is encouraged to develop services including, but not limited to the following: referral of users, intrasystem reciprocal borrowing, cooperative collection development, cooperative reference services, staff development, research and development, cooperative storage facilities, publicity and community relations." This is a tall order for any cooperative, but this is made especially challenging in a state as large and geographically and economically diverse as Minnesota.

Minnesota MCMTs have a few key strengths that are not present in other multitype library systems throughout the country. The main strength is the way that funding is allocated at the state level. The formula seems to provide for an equitable division of available funds throughout the state. In other states, the formula is the biggest challenge and the biggest source of consternation amongst system staff and their member libraries and creates many opportunities for inequitable delivery of services

because of the disproportionate distribution of funds. Minnesota's formula accounts for this challenge and distributes the mainly nearly equitably across the state. However, the amount of funds available is quite low — less than \$2 million annually — to complete the long list of tasks in the statute, which then results in inequitable distribution and access to the services provided. Further adding to this division is the strong push for alignment with the regional public library systems, encouraged in this document: [Office of the State Legislator Report: Public Libraries](#). Some MCMTs have moved into alignment but there are resulting challenges with continuing to effectively serve academic, school, and special libraries.

The main question to answer is whether maintaining multitype cooperation is important to overall improvement of services to all of the citizens of Minnesota.

Areas to Explore

Other states have also had to grapple with this question of library service to all types and a few models come to the surface that might be of value to Minnesota.

Ohio's model (<https://library.ohio.gov/using-the-library/find-an-ohio-library/#RegionalLibrarySystems>) has some similar strengths that might be applicable to the varying needs and available resources of Minnesota libraries. Ohio's four regional multitype library systems receive the same amount of funding in order to deliver continuing education services for the Ohio State Library. That is the only statutory responsibility of the multitype library systems. However, once that has been met, library systems can choose to offer enhanced services for a fee. The fee varies from region to region and is based largely on what is offered by the system. Enhanced membership is voluntary. This could be useful for Minnesota to streamline what is being provided by the MCMTs into a single focus and then have add-ons available as works for their region.

Another model to consider is the model that had been used by the Illinois multitype library systems. Prior to 2011, when there were still nine regional multitype library systems, the systems' directors (calling themselves Illinois Library Systems Directors Organization - ILSDO) would meet at least bi-annually to discuss and move statewide cooperative projects forward as well as be an affinity group for discussion of needs around advocacy. As the organization grew and the political challenges intensified, the group pooled their resources to share a single part-time staff member that focused on statewide issues, which increased their effectiveness in moving initiatives forward. The benefits of this affinity group were that administrators experiencing similar challenges had a cohort of colleagues to discuss and strategize with on a statewide scale. Ultimately, this group dissolved after 2011 when the nine library systems were consolidated into two. This model has benefits for Minnesota MCMTs in that it creates a shared space and staff to focus on truly statewide initiatives and so that no one system feels that they are contributing more to the effort.

New Jersey (<https://librarylinknj.org/>) is another model for multitype library cooperation. New Jersey also experienced a tumultuous 2010 (<https://librarylinknj.org/transition-year-fy2012>) that resulted in the reduction of their regional library systems down to a single system called Library Link NJ: The New Jersey Library Cooperative. Ultimately, New Jersey is now served by this single multitype library system. It is a non-profit corporation that is funded by the New Jersey State Library and its members do not pay dues for services. Library Link NJ documented their transition very thoroughly and

transparently on their web site. The benefits to Minnesota MCMTs would be a pooling of resources into a single entity with governance representation that is geographically diverse.

The Saskatchewan multitypes (<https://mlb.libguides.com/mlb/index>) perform a unique role in the library landscape of Canada. They were born 20 years ago, with the statutory duty to make policy recommendations that have an impact on all types of libraries in the province - though they are not allowed to lobby or advocate. In fact, they are also not allowed to have a social media presence. In addition, they also serve the more traditional roles of promoting resource sharing and cooperative services. Communication with all stakeholders and consensus among the Multitype Library Board (MLB) members are two of their primary goals. With the increase in social media as the main method for connecting with people, communication has become increasingly difficult. The report *Celebrating Cooperation among Saskatchewan's Libraries: The Multitype Library Board, 1996–2016* (2016) (https://mlb.libguides.com/ld.php?content_id=20055777) is extremely useful in gaining a broad understanding of the history and future challenges the MLB. This model has advantages because of the broad type of representation on their board (it is more than just academic, public, school, and special represented). Also, this organization appears to have no paid staff and functions purely as a board. As such, they have managed to accomplish quite a lot for an all-volunteer organization.

The Wisconsin Library Services (WiLS) (<https://www.wils.org/>) began in the 1970s, though they are one of the few that was not organized as a result of state statute. The organization was mirrored on MINITEX and has grown and evolved with the changing needs of their members. A quick look at their annual financial report (2017-2018 <https://www.wils.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/WiLS-Annual-Financial-Report-17-18.pdf>) reveals that while membership is free, to gain the most benefit from membership, fees are collected for specific services. On the positive, members only pay for the services they want or need at a given time; however, it could leave some smaller and/or less well-funded libraries unable to take full advantage of critical services. However, a quick look at their latest consulting offering of strategic plan development through peer cohorts is cost-effective at under \$2,000. This model also keeps the organization only providing services that their members want and need since the continued success of the organization is reliant on members paying for services provided.

The Minnesota Services Cooperative (<https://www.mnservcoop.org/mnservcoop>) shares a lot of the same DNA with the former ILSDO. It is comprised of the executive directors of regional cooperatives that cover the whole state of Minnesota. Outside of cooperative purchasing contracts and an annual conference, the organization defers back to the regional cooperatives for the procurement of programs and services.

Looking outside of the library world, alliances of community foundations might be a fruitful path. Minnesota (<https://mcf.org/>), Illinois (<https://allianceilcf.org>), California (<https://lccf.org/>) and Florida (<https://www.fpnetwork.org/cff>) all have thriving cooperatives of community foundations. Each of these groups organize their membership in different ways (some are only open to regional community foundations and others are open to any funder that has a principal office in that state); however, they all have defined missions centered around continuing education and economies of scale.

EJ Water (<http://www.ejwatercoop.com/>) is an additional cooperative whose story has resonance with Minnesota MCMTs. EJ Water is a non-profit water utility cooperative serving rural municipalities in

Central Illinois. They began by serving just a few small communities, and have grown to serve over 2500 square miles - and are expanding their utility offerings to include fiber. Their model has, at the center - serving underserved populations and looking for creative ways to effectively deliver the water utility. Water utilities across the country struggle because of duplication of effort. By providing effective consolidation while still maintaining local control, the communities benefit.

State Government Libraries

December 2019

In anticipation of our 50th anniversary in 2023, the Archives Committee has been permanently re-established to determine the best way to collect historical information about the history of CALCO.

The group has lost a member with the closure of the James J. Hill Library.

A few other updates:

Legislative Reference Library

Submitted by Erica Lincoln

A 2017 [appropriation](#) allowed the Legislative Reference Library to undertake the digitization of 29,000 audio tapes of House and Senate committee hearings and floor sessions covering 1991-2003. This [digitization project and resulting database](#) enhances the [existing collection of digital hearings](#) and was completed in October 2018. We've been surprised by the usage statistics on these materials—the audio files have been accessed 5300 times in the past year—far exceeding the usage when researchers had to travel to the Legislative Reference Library or the Minnesota Historical Society to access the physical audio cassette tapes. More recently, born-digital House and Senate audio files from 2004-2006 have been added to the collection.

At year end, we begin looking at other Libraries' statistics, and we've noticed a few upward trends. Reference questions are on track to be up 28% over last year, and up 55% over the number of reference questions five years ago. Also, the number of articles requested through our customized current awareness services is on track to be up 9% over last year, and up 64% from 2014 levels.

Laura Bell was hired as the new senior library assistant; she will begin work on December 9, 2019.

State Law Library

Submitted by Erica Lincoln

The State Law Library has been working on a project to update the biographical information of all Minnesota Supreme Court justices on our website. We are in the final phases of this project.

We were also awarded a grant in conjunction with the Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society to have a number of oral history recordings transcribed.

The library has also been working on digitizing videos related to the library and the court.

The library has begun a project to digitize legal briefs from our microfiche collection that goes back to 1980.

The library created a display about Education and the Law that has been up since the end of August.

Ramsey County Law Library

Submitted by Erica Lincoln

Sara Galligan presented at AALL, about how County Law Libraries serve unrepresented litigants in state court matters.

The library hosted a CLE, including two retired Ramsey County judges who contributed chapters to the book, "Tough Cases."

The library received the first new judge's portrait in many years this summer, and it is now hanging in the library.

This link is to a post on the *Ramsey County Law Library Blog* that discusses the book:
<http://ramseylawlibrary.org/?p=3638>

They also unveiled a new judge portrait for the library collection, and held a reception.

State Services for the Blind - Communication Center

Submitted by Dan Gausman

New director at State Services for the Blind

We are pleased to announce the hiring of our new director at State Services for the Blind, Natasha Jerde. Natasha is an internal hire, having worked previously in supervision in our Work Force Development Unit.

Discontinuation of Dial in News

Our Dial in News periodicals have been discontinued. We continue to produce local newspapers for broadcast on the *Radio Talking Book Network*. National Federation for the Blind's *Newsline* continues with dial in and app service.

The duplicate records in our Braille collection on our WorldCat Discovery page have at last been deleted. All Connexion orphans have been deleted by OCLC. This problem resulted from a failed batch load of poor quality records, and a subsequent batch load producing duplicate records. Phase two of the cataloging project will work to improve the contact information in the MARC records for the

purposes of interlibrary loan.

The continuing promise of the Library of Congress to supply Braille readers with refreshable Braille displays continues to intrigue. It is uncertain to what effect this will have on hard copy Braille. The release date of this program continues to be uncertain.

I continue to explore the physiological reading differences between reflected text, projected text, tactile text, and audio. Eventually, this will manifest in an initiative promoting reading in preferred formats.

Perpich Center for the Arts

Submitted by Erica Lincoln

ZINES!

The Library started a zine collection this summer! “What is a zine?” you might ask? Well, briefly, they are self-published works created to share thoughts, feelings, art, experience, knowledge, and more with others.

Thanks to the work of Elleri Scriver (Lit alum, 2018), the library now boasts almost 200 zines for students and staff to peruse and be inspired by.

State Universities

December 2019

Bemidji State University

Submitted by Pete McDonnell, Department Chair

- The A. C. Clark Library recently wrapped up hosting the NEA Big Read project. Partnerships for the project included the Bemidji Public Library, Bemidji High School, as well as three tribal and community college libraries in our region (Leech Lake Tribal College, Red Lake Nation College, and White Earth Tribal and Community College). Events and programming included book discussions on *The Round House*, by Louise Erdrich, an artist talk with *Bowwow Powwow* illustrator Jonathan Thunder, and an Ojibwemowin/English story time. In collaboration with our community partners, we were able to distribute nearly 700 copies of *The Round House* to students, faculty/staff, and members of the greater Bemidji community at no cost to them. This project was funded through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and Arts Midwest.
- The A. C. Clark Library renovation is officially complete! Students are getting used to the new spaces that were renovated during the summer, and are definitely taking to the new furniture and layout. Library staff are benefitting from being located on the same floor, and new building tenants such as the Center for Professional Development and Honors Program seem to be

settling in. Anecdotally, library use in general seems to be up this semester.

- The next big campus project is the re-building one of the main academic buildings (Hagg Sauer Hall), slated to be completed in Summer 2020. More information on the project is here: <https://www.bemidjistate.edu/offices/finance-administration/hagg-sauer-hall-project/>
- The Library partnered with the new Tutoring Center in our space on a Graduate Student Research Night, as well as our semester-ly “Long Night Against Procrastination” event. We’re looking forward to more collaborations with the Tutoring Center.
- The Library department won a campus competition for *Best Halloween Costumes*, and made the cold Fall a bit more bearable with some Halloween hijinks like *Ghostbusters in the Library!*
- A. C. Clark Library on Social Media:
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/A.C.ClarkLibrary/>
 - Twitter: https://twitter.com/BSU_Library

Metropolitan State University

Submitted by Beth Clausen, Dean, Library and Information Services

- Due to the success of having two CF librarians on board for fall semester to backfill for librarians on sabbatical, we will also have CF with us for Spring semester. They will be responsible for regular reference service hours as well as special projects.
- We have posted the position of Library Services Manager and are in the process of creating a peer MMA position that will be Operations Manager and focus on space and IT in the library and relationships with those campus units.
- The person we are hosting from the Community Technology Empowerment Program/Americorps program has been working with our students and the local community through the public library branch that is in our building each week holding help sessions and productivity tool workshops. He is also working closely with the career center on resume assistance. By participating in this program, we are reaching a lot of people that may not know where to get the technology help they need.
- The library is in the process of rethinking e-Reserve and assisting faculty in most efficiently and compliantly embedding library and other published resources into their D2L course sites.
- Per usual, the librarians have been busy presenting and preparing to present at local and national conferences and writing for various publications and publication formats.

Minnesota State University, Mankato
Chris Corley, *Interim* Dean of Library Services

No report.

Minnesota State University, Moorhead
Martina Malvasi-Haines, Executive Director

1. The Livingston Lord Library dedicated a study room to Arthur Storms who was the first student to receive a bachelor's degree (1926) from the Moorhead State Teachers College (now MSU Moorhead). His lineage continues as two great grandnieces are currently attending MSUM.
2. Hired an electronics resources librarian, Mary Muehlberg, to fill a vacancy created by a retirement last year. Mary comes to MSUM from NDSU, and will start in January, 2020.
3. The library is hosting the RACE exhibit fall semester. This exhibit, produced by the American Anthropological Association, and sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund - explores race and diversity. Additional programming has occurred on campus in support of the exhibit including exploration of the exhibit by all sections of FYE.
4. The library has been conducting VR demos for students, faculty, chairs, deans, and administrators and gathering data that will guide the decision about implementation of a VR lab on campus.
5. The library is hosting the *Tri-College Libraries Professional Development Workshop* on Wednesday, April 1, 2020. This year's workshop will focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
6. Professor Pam Werre, chair and CMC librarian, was appointed to the Batchelder Award Committee. This is an ALA committee and the Batchelder Award is given to a US publisher for the most outstanding children's book originating in a country other than the United States, and translated into English for publication in the United States.
7. Professor Pam Werre co-presented with Carol Sibley at the IBBY regional conference in Austin, Texas, in October 2019. The title of their presentation was, "*How is the Classic Journey of Home/Away/Home Depicted in Vietnamese and Hmong Refugee Narratives?*" 8. Professor Pam Werre co-presented with Carol Sibley at the 2018 IBBY Conference in Athens, Greece. The title of their presentation was "*East Meets West in the Middle: Fifty Years of Fiction about Immigrants from Southeast Asia.*"
9. Assistant Professor Larry Schwartz, and Dr. Martina Malvasi-Haines, Executive Director - have been selected as judges for this year's Midwest Book Awards.
10. Karen Kohoutek, library technician in tech services, presented a paper on the relationship between H.P. Lovecraft and the 18th-century novelist Horace Walpole at the *Dr. Henry Armitage Memorial Scholarship Symposium of New Weird Fiction and Lovecraft-Related Research*. This symposium is an academic conference held in conjunction with *NecronomiCon Providence*, a 4-day International Festival of Weird Fiction, Art, and Academia. In addition, Karen's paper from

the 2017 Symposium was just published in *Lovecraftian Proceedings No. 3*, their official journal. Also debuting at this event will be the Hippocampus Press book, "*The Secret Ceremonies: Critical Essays on Arthur Machen*," which includes Karen's essay, "*A Fit Symbol for His Meaning: Arthur Machen and the Inexpressible*."

11. In January 2020, the library will be opening two new centers: Copyright Center and Grants Resource Center. Librarian Colleen Gordon will head these new initiatives. Colleen is copyright certified, and next semester (along with colleagues Professor Travis Dolence, Distance Learning/Web Librarian, and Assistant Professor Larry Schwartz) will be creative commons certified.
12. During spring semester, Professor Travis Dolence will collaborate with professors and students from the Computer Science department to present a workshop on Raspberry Pi. This workshop will be open to the university and community.
13. Professor Travis Dolence had several poems published in the published in the *Water~Stone Review* (<https://waterstonereview.com/>).
14. Assistant Professor Trista Raezer-Stursa, university archivist, will be writing articles for *MNopedia* with her first article on the Prairie Home Cemetery in Moorhead. She will also be writing some stories for the Prairie Public radio program, *Dakota Datebook*.
15. Associate Professor Brittney Goodman, HIP Librarian (high impact practices), has developed a 1-credit information literacy course, to be offered starting fall, 2020.

St. Cloud State University

Rhonda Huisman, Dean, University Library

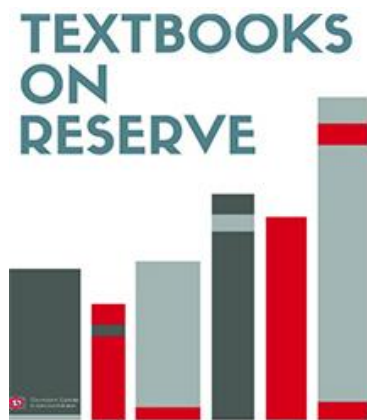
- SCSU Librarians, along with 3 other MNState library partners - received a MNState Collaboration Grant to support the development of OER materials and resources working faculty cohorts on each of the campuses. There were more than 40 applications from all of the campuses, and our lead librarians (Jennifer Quinlan, Melissa Prescott, and Rachel Wexelbaum) will be hosting webinars, a lunch-n-learn, and providing individualized support for the faculty throughout the spring semester.
- University Library (supported by Tom Steman in Archives) hosted the Annual Miller Center Art Show in November. We had more than 30 submissions, and a reception was held on November 14 to announce the winner, "Splintering Essence" (see our FB page [@stcloudstateuniversitylibrary](#) for photos of the all of the entries, and other events happening in our library this fall).



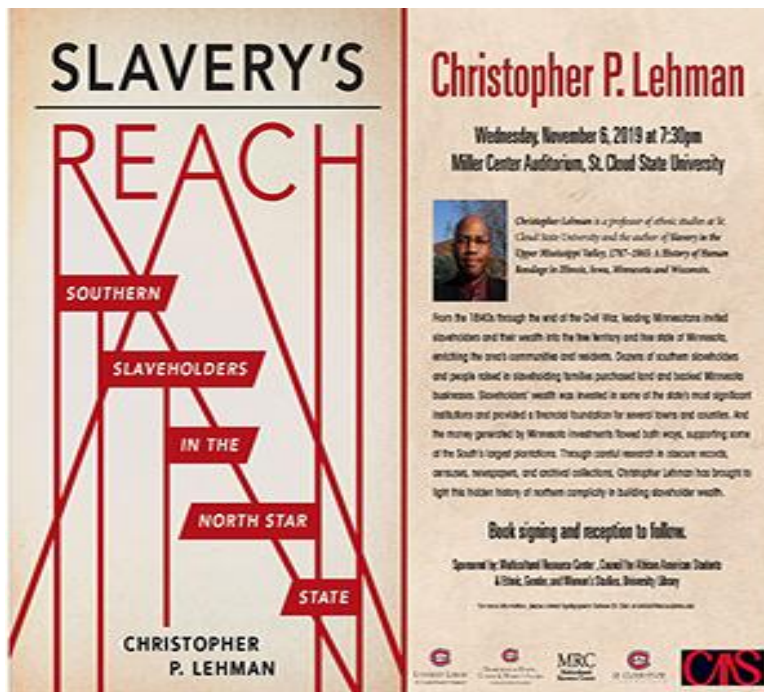
Exhibit Open!

November 14 - January 13
Miller Center, 1st Floor West

- We continue to move ahead on our Shared Print Project (through the CALD/UMN LSTA grant), and the development of the MOU, etc. There was a great discussion at the CALD meeting on 11/8 concerning the wider call for participation, funding, structure, and potential future for sustaining the shared print analysis work.
- The TAPS (Textbook Affordability Project for Success) initiative is in the second year of implementation in the library, and we've seen a dramatic increase in the number of new library users and circulation of textbooks on reserve. We are working with our library student advisory group, student government, the SEM group, and the foundation on promoting and sustaining these efforts to provide regular and free access to course materials. Our advisory group is hosting a textbook drive again this semester, and we hope to keep expanding these resources and materials in the spring.



- Strategic direction and planning are underway, and we hope to have a drafted plan ready for campus review in January. We have held many meetings, focus groups, and a retreat to review and discuss the future of our library services, resources, instruction, and connections to our library communities, stakeholders, and students.
- We co-hosted a book talk on 11/6 given by one of our professors, Dr. Chris Lehman about his new book, "Slavery's Reach." It was well attended, and thanks to Darlene St. Clair (librarian, and Director of the Multicultural Resource Center) and Melissa Prescott (Diversity and Inclusion Librarian) for their support and initiative in supporting Dr. Lehman's work.



- We had one faculty member, Jo Flanders, retire in October. We thank her for her service, and wish her well in her retirement.

Southwest Minnesota State University Submitted by Pam Gladis, University Librarian

- The Southwest Regional History Center moved into the library! We are working with the current director, Jan Louwagie, on transitioning management of the collection to the library, as Jan will be retiring in June.
- We are drafting our Self-Study for our Program Review this Spring.
- Spearheaded by Pam Gladis, University Librarian, and Dr. Emily Deaver, Professor of Environmental Science & leader of SMSUS's Undergraduate Research Conference, our Undergraduate Research Journal initiative is well underway. We might even have an inaugural issue this Spring/Summer in *Discovery: SMSU's Journal of Undergraduate Research*
- The Undergraduate Research Conference took place on December 4. We award a Library Research Award for \$250. This year's winners was a Culinary student who presented on Quick'r Curry – a new product that was researched, created, taste-tested, and marketed!
- We've started adding documents related to our Undergraduate Research endeavors to our digital archives.
- COLT: Center for Online Learning & Teaching is under development in the library. Identifying

space and services to support teaching & learning on campus has been on the library's radar for a few years. Timing to create the Center is aligning well with new initiatives our new university President, Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya, is implementing.

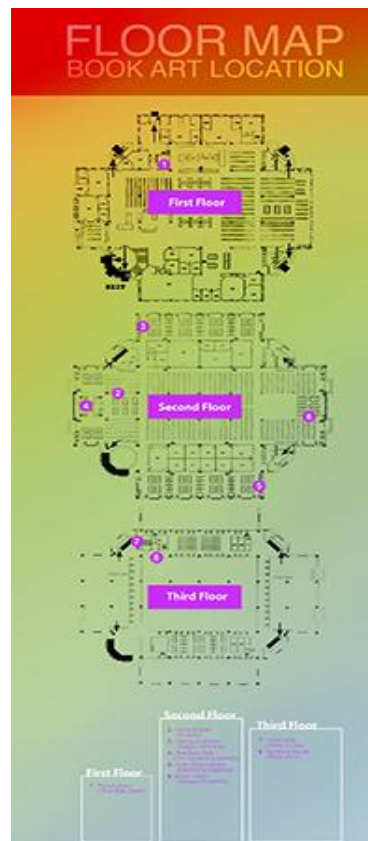
- We now have four VR Oculus Go headsets available for checkout. These came as part of a grant Instructional Design Librarian Kate Borowske worked on with our Agriculture program.
- Liz Fladhammer, Circulation technician, is working with PALS on testing their Inventory Tool.
- The library was notified of a new endowed scholarship created by long-time SMSU librarian Mary Jane Striegel. Funds from the account will be available next year.

Winona State University

Submitted by Kenneth Janz, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the Library and CIO

Taste of Italy 2019 - Student Art Exhibit Post Travel Experience and Reflections The students in Chun Lok Mah's Art + Design Travel study course creatively interpret Book Art. The art is on display on all three floors of the Krueger Library from November 25, 2019 through December 6, 2019. Maps for the art locations are available at library services desks.

A *Meet the Artists* and Closing Reception are scheduled for Friday December 6, 2019, from 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., on the second floor Athenaeum area of the Krueger Library.



Library Prepares for Finals Week. A number of events are planned in the library the week before and the week of finals! Therapy dogs will be in the library December 4 and 9, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. The Long Night Against Procrastination will be taking place on December 4, from 6:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.! The library will be working with students to get ahead on projects, papers, and studying while enjoying coffee, snacks, and fun de-stressing activities. Finally, *Pizza with the President* will be taking place on Monday, December 9 from 6:00 p.m. until gone.



OpenRiver: Digital Collections. Each week we are adding to or enhancing our digital collections found in [OpenRiver](#). Most recently we finalized the student created *HIV/AIDS Winona Oral History Project*. The interviews in the [HIV/AIDS Winona Oral History Project](#) collection were recorded in spring 2016, as a part of Dr. Mary Jo Klinker's Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course titled *Introduction to LGBTQ Studies*.

The collection can be found here: <https://openriver.winona.edu/hivaidswinonaoralhistoryproject/>

NASA SpaceApps Hackathon Better Than Ever This Year. For the third year in a row, the Library partnered with Computer Science to host the [NASA International Space Apps Challenge Hackathon](#) this past weekend. The [Space Apps Challenge](#) is a 48-hour international event, with over [29,000 participants in 200 cities across the globe](#) participating this year to solve one of up to [26 real world challenges](#) presented by NASA engineers. Winona State is the only SpaceApps site in the state and our third-year hosting was a breakthrough event with four teams, 39 participants, and three challenges solved! Our event embraced interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation, with teams focusing on educational game development, envisioning our return to the moon through interdisciplinary art and storytelling, and exploring how to reconstruct noisy, or incomplete data sets.

Both of our local papers took note of our event. We have nominated our participants for consideration in global judging based on their outstanding efforts.

- Winona Post Feature: <https://www.winonapost.com/Article/ArticleID/66589/Teams-rise-to-Space-Apps-challenge>
- Winona Daily News: https://www.winonadailynews.com/news/local/space-apps-winona-set-to-bring-people-together-to-think/article_4fb1255f-b1ea-565c-8c95-2f9f7139bea7.html

Library Tech Tuesday Focuses on the Wonders of Wireless. November 19, the Digital Learning Commons hosted November's Tech Tuesday in the Krueger Library. This month's event focused on the many ways that wireless networking is changing the way we live, work, and play. Char Gorak, Chad Kjorlien, and the DLC student workers demonstrated various wireless devices and services, including AirTame wireless displays and the new Oculus Quest wireless VR headset. Students entered a raffle to win a pair of wireless earbuds. A good time was had by all!



Minnesota State 2 Year Colleges - Twin Cities & Southern Region
December, 2019

Council Representative: Elissah Becknell

Colleges Represented: Anoka Ramsey Community College, Anoka Technical College, Century Community College, Dakota County Technical College, Hennepin Technical College, Inver Hills Community College, Minneapolis Community & Technical College, Minnesota West College (Canby, Granite Falls, Jackson, Pipestone, Worthington), Normandale Community College, North Hennepin Community College, Ridgewater Community College (Hutchinson, Willmar), Riverland Community College (Austin, Owatonna),

Rochester Community College, Satin Paul College, South Central College (Faribault, North Mankato), Southeast Technical College (Red Wing, Winona)

Anoka Technical College

Submitted by Jill Holman

No report.

Anoka Ramsey Community College

Submitted by Gina Pancerella-Willis

No report.

Anoka Ramsey Community College, Cambridge Campus

Submitted by Julianna Boner

No report.

Century Community College

Submitted by Jane Young

No report.

Dakota County Technical College

Submitted by Michael Kirby

No report.

Hennepin Technical College

Submitted by Jennie Simning

No report.

Inver Hills Community College

Submitted by Brenda Besser

No report.

Minneapolis Community & Technical College

Submitted by Elissah Becknell

No report.

North Hennepin Community College

No report.

Saint Paul College

Submitted by Ben Tri

No report.

Central & Northern State Colleges

December, 2019

Council Representative: Bridget Reistad

Alexandria Technical & Community College, Alexandria

Nina Battistini, .5 Faculty Librarian

No report.

Central Lakes College, Brainerd

David Bissonette, Librarian

No report.

Hibbing Community College, Hibbing

Rachel Milani, Library Technician

They're getting settled into their new library space in Hibbing! With their new location at the heart of campus and the newly renovated space, the library is always busy. They're circulating an average of 150 items per month (which is about 150 times what they circulated in the old space, so they're thrilled with these numbers). They're also running an "Intro to the Library" escape room with BreakoutEdu kits for a class that will be an exciting way to get students engaged with the library's services.

Itasca Community College, Grand Rapids

Steve Bean, Library Technician

No report.

Lake Superior College, Duluth

Bridget Reistad, Faculty Chair, Erickson Library

This fall the library hosted several public events. A reception for "LSC goes Global," a photography exhibit of students' global learning trips to Rome and Italy and the Dominican Republic currently on display in the library was held on Student Success Day. For Veterans' Day, the library hosted a reception and speaker for the unveiling of its new "Battle Notes: Music of the Vietnam Era" collection. The collection was donated by the wife of the late Lee Andresen, author of Battle Notes and longtime History faculty member at Lake Superior College.

Mesabi Range Technical College, Virginia

Kim Johnson, Library Technician

No report.

Northland Community & Technical College, East Grand Forks / Thief River Falls

Cynthia Jorstad, Librarian

The librarian had a busy semester providing instruction on navigating Alma. The students seem to roll with the changes and like it. Some of the faculty are less than enthused. The librarian hopes to have a “faculty only” session during an upcoming in-service. Both libraries continue to work on an aggressive weeding project. Although this is not directly related to the library, the college recently announced it is discontinuing the football program, effective immediately. All are looking forward to a restful and recuperative semester break!

Pine Technical College, Pine City

Adam Bezdicek, .5 Librarian

No report.

St. Cloud Technical & Community College, St. Cloud

Vi Bergquist, CIO

The St. Cloud Technical & Community College Library launched an [MReader](#) program this fall for new English language learners and are extremely pleased with the results. The books have had tremendous circulation, in fact they can hardly keep them on the shelves. The ESL faculty have been an important part of promoting the program. In fact, they launched the program with the assistance of one of our faculty members, Becky Colestock. The M-Reader program, for those unfamiliar with it, is a free service hosted by the Extensive Reading Foundation and was designed to make reading fun while at the same time allowing faculty to know whether or not students understood their reading. The assessment is accomplished by conducting a short quiz about the reading material on the MReader web site after the student finishes a book. If you are interested in learning more you can check it out yourself here: <https://mreader.org/mreaderadmin/s/index.php>

The library plans to keep adding books to their collection to keep up with demand. The books are quite inexpensive, most costing from \$6.00-\$10.00 and there are lots of familiar publishing sponsors such as Pearson, Cengage, Macmillan, Oxford University Press, and National Geographic Learning. The ESL Faculty said they feel like the program is helping to get students to read a lot more and that’s a wonderful result.

Vermilion Community College, Ely

Debbie Erzar, .05 Library Technician

No report.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

LIBRARIES

University of Minnesota – System Report

December, 2019

Crookston

- The library at UMC has undergone some major changes during the fall semester, mostly in the building itself. All of the print periodicals are now housed in open stacks on the second floor, which has made some improvements in circulation. The children's books have been moved to a separate area, which has allowed the Early Childhood Education students easier access to them. In fact, one of the instructors has brought her class to the library to work with these materials as a group. The space has worked out very well for that purpose.
- The library will be the new home of the University Archive, beginning in the spring semester 2020. We have been working with University Relations and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations to begin this process. The archive will be housed in the space formerly occupied by print periodicals and videocassettes.
- Several other changes were made during the summer that have had a noticeable effect on the use of the library's space this semester. We painted the walls on the main level and reduced the footprint of the front desk. We also moved some furniture around in that space, adding some comfortable seating, etc. These changes on the main level have resulted in a larger number of patrons utilizing this area.
- This semester the library was involved with a first year experience course, the first ever course of that type at UMN Crookston. The library had three sessions of information literacy within each section of that class, which worked very well.

Duluth

- Library Course Pages (and course content)
 - For Fall Semester we have implemented *Leganto* (Branded as *Library Course Pages*) in every UMD course with a presence in the learning management system (Canvas). Each Library Course Page include a LibGuide, and in 2019 we have already experienced a 26% increase in use of LibGuides! We are also using Library Course Pages to deliver free ebook access to students for any course for which the library has licensed a copy of the required texts.
- ILL

- Thanks to new functionality in Tipasa, we are now able to integrate ILL-user account information into our regular patron account information (managed via Alma/Primo).
- DNT Archive
 - The *Duluth News Tribune* donated its archives to our library. This includes original photographs, and documents, from the 1940s through the 1990s. We are working on a plan to process the collection and then digitize as much as possible.
- Stressless
 - This is the busiest week in our library: the last week of classes. To help manage this difficult time of year, we have a variety of activities and treats to help manage stress - or provide a brief respite from the stress. We have zoo animals, massages, free coffee, yoga, and more! This year more UMD departments and student groups are providing support for or facilitating these activities.

Morris

Submitted by LeAnn Dean, Director

No report.

Rochester

Submitted by Mary Beth Sancomb-Moran

- The Rochester library introduced virtual reality goggles, and the technology was used by the sociology instructors who required viewing of an experience for class. We're hoping more instructors will take advantage of this resource.
- Library instruction was woven into the newly-redesigned first-year course; assessments will be done at the end of spring semester to determine the efficacy.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

LIBRARIES

University of Minnesota Libraries - Twin Cities

December, 2019

Envisioning a new space for the Health Sciences Libraries

In summer 2020, the Health Sciences Education Center will open its doors and will serve as a new home to the Health Sciences Library and Wangenstein Historical Library. The new Library home anchors the Health Sciences Education Center, providing technology rich environments and expertise that will promote new insights into learning and entrepreneurship to develop and address the health challenges of our time. Here's how we've helped our students, faculty, and researchers prepare for working in our new spaces. [Follow more move and program updates.](#)

Launch of the South Asia Open Archives

The public launch of the [South Asia Open Archives](#) (SAOA) online occurred at the Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison in October. SAOA is a rich and growing curated collection of key research materials from and about the region of South Asia, with historical and contemporary sources covering a variety of subjects in English and other South Asian languages. SAOA preserves, digitizes, and makes its content freely accessible to the world on the web. It is the product of five years of intensive labor involving collaboration among of a broad consortium of research libraries (in South Asia and around the world) and their respective South Asian Studies librarians. It is enriched by substantial contributions of content, human and material resources from a community of libraries, research centers, archives and other institutions partnering to bring these resources out for global scholarship and pedagogy. Administratively hosted by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), and presented online for open access in partnership with JSTOR/Ithaka, SAOA aims to serve as a critical node in open access scholarship.

BTAA ILL Coordinators In-Person Meeting

On October 24 and 25, the University of Minnesota Libraries and Minitex hosted the Big Ten ILL Coordinators in-person meeting (held every two years). Guest speakers for the event included Lorcan Dempsey from OCLC, who gave a high-level overview of the OCLC white paper *Operationalizing the BIG Collective Collection*, and Nancy Sims, who facilitated a discussion on the CONTU guidelines for interlibrary loan photocopying, and how ILL operations are rethinking copyright policies and processes in adherence to Section 108. Other topics included sharing digital resources and annual data reporting.

2019 Electronic Resources Minnesota (ERMN) Conference

The first (and very successful) Electronic Resources Minnesota conference was held on Thursday and Friday, October 3 and 4, at the Continuing Education and Conference Center on the St. Paul Campus. Planning committee members included Sunshine Carter, Rita Baladad and Anne Hatinen (both from Minitex), and Stacie Traill. The program is available [here](#).

DSpace North American Group Convenes at University of Minnesota

Nearly 50 repository developers, technology directors, and institutional repository managers from 13 U.S. states, Canada, Europe attended the 2019 [DSpace North American Users Group Meeting](#) at the University in late September. Jointly sponsored by the University of Minnesota Libraries and the [Texas Digital Library](#), the two- day meeting provided opportunities to discuss ideas, strategies, best practices, use cases, and the future development of DSpace 7 with members of the growing DSpace community. This very well-received meeting was made possible by its planning committee: Erik Moore (R&L), Ed Warga (Texas Digital Library), Valerie Collins (R&L), Emily Janisch (R&L), Lisa Johnston (R&L), Bill

Tantzen, Mary Gibney, and John Butler. To extend the reach of the meeting, four DSpace 7 workshop sessions were [video recorded](#).

Bio-medical Library Security Update

Beginning December 2nd, new [protocols for access](#) to Health Sciences buildings on the Minneapolis campus have been put in place. These changes were implemented to ensure the safety of students, faculty, staff, patients, and visitors. University affiliates can use their University ID card to access all doors with card readers. Visitors without University affiliation will need to use three designated public entrances to the health sciences buildings Monday through Friday; appointments or a Library Guest Card will be necessary. Visitor access to the Wangensteen and Bio-Medical Libraries on weekends is also possible via an entrance to Diehl Hall. Further information can be found on the Bio-Medical Library [website](#).

STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Erin Reardon, Medical School Liaison, November 2019

CURRENT EVENTS

For full information on events and exhibits, visit *continuum* at <http://www.continuum.umn.edu>

First Fridays: “Just a Dog” & “The Hound Underground”

December 6, 2019 | 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Elmer L. Andersen Library, Room 120

Friends Forum: The Secret Life of Libraries: An evening of radio antics with *A Prairie Home Companion* veterans, Sue Scott, Tim Russell and Richard Dworsky

December 9, 2019 | 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Coffman Memorial Union Theater

Friends Forum: A Feast of Words: Dancing for the Constitution

January 30, 2020 | 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Coffman Memorial Union Campus Club

First Fridays: “Fantastic Beats? Find them at the Bell Library!”

February 7, 2020 | 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Elmer L. Andersen Library, Room 120

CURRENT EXHIBITS

Bluff Towns

October 17 through December 15, 2019
Architecture & Landscape Architecture Library

Rapunzel, Peanuts, and Thousand-Year Eggs

October 14 through January 31, 2020
Elmer L. Andersen Library, Wallin Center

The Secret Lives of Books

September 18 through December 23, 2019
Wangensteen Historical Library

The Secret Lives of Books

September 18, 2018-December 23, 2019
Wangensteen Historical Library, 568 Diehl Hall

A Woman's Place: Women and Work

November 11 through February 21, 2020
Elmer L. Andersen Library, 1st floor

Unity Without Uniformity: Celebrating 100 Years of the International Institute of Minnesota

October 14 through January 20, 2020
Elmer L. Andersen Library, 2nd and 3rd Floor Atrium Gallery

Private Colleges Report

December, 2019

Compiled by Terry Metz, Hamline University

Augsburg University *(Mary Hollerich)*

No report.

Bethany Lutheran College *(Alyssa K. Inniger)*

No report.

College of St. Scholastica *(Kevin McGrew)*

No report.

Cooperating Libraries in Consortium (*Carla Urban*)

No report.

Gustavus Adolphus College (*Julie Gilbert*)

No report.

Hamline University (*Terry Metz*)

No report.

Macalester College (*Terri Fishel*)

No report

Martin Luther College (*Linda Kramer*)

No report.

North Central University (*Judy Pruitt*)

No report.

Northwestern Health Sciences University (*Anne Mackereth*)

No report.

University of Northwestern, St. Paul (*Ruth McGuire*)

No report.

University of St. Thomas (*Dan Gjeltten*)

No report.

CRPLSA Report to MPAC

December, 2019

Compiled by Jim Trojanowski

One significant focus for CRPLSA has been OCLC costs and pricing transparency. As we compare costs among the twelve regions, there doesn't appear to be any consistency in pricing and one region has stopped using OCLC for cataloging. We are also exploring the possibility of a statewide OCLC

contract for the 12 regions.

We continue to debate and discuss our legislative priorities and strategies. In addition to funding for the 12 regions, we are discussing our request for the bonding bill and additional flexibility in the use of RLTA funding.

There is some interest in re-exploring a statewide OverDrive collection. When CRPLSA approached OverDrive about this more than five years ago, OverDrive was unwilling to consider it despite the fact that Wisconsin had a similar collection.



PALS Report **December, 2019**

Compiled by Johnna Horton, PALS Executive Director

Staffing: We welcomed Jill Holman, most recently Librarian at Anoka Technical College, to our team in late October. She is our Systems Support and Training Specialist, supporting several applications for Minnesota State as well as EZproxy and Alma Analytics. She will also take on support of St. Cloud State's EZproxy instance.

Documentation Project: A small group continues their work to create accessible documentation templates and an internal style guide for our office. This follows a review and tweaking of how we use our customer relationship management software, Oracle Service Cloud.

Islandora: Most of the Islandora team attended IslandoraCon in October in Vancouver, British Columbia. We were interested to learn about the new version of the software, including some increased preservation functionality. We anticipate migrating all of our customers to the new version by late fall of 2021.

OER Initiatives: As a result of legislative action during the last session, Minnesota State has been tasked with increasing the number of Z-degrees (zero cost for course materials) at our two-year colleges. I will be working with the librarians at each of the grant winning institutions to help them build a network of support for this work.

Alma/Primo VE life:

Our help ticket count isn't slowing (600 tickets were created in the last two months), but the tickets are increasingly complex. We consider this a positive sign of our members really digging into the system and using it more fully. We continue to have monthly meetings with Ex Libris support to work through

some of the more urgent issues.

A training survey has been created and sent to the membership asking for topics for training and areas of emphasis. This will inform our training schedule for the first few months of 2020.

The MnPALS Consortium participated in the Central Discovery Index (CDI) development. Thank you to Stacy Traill and John Halvorson at U of M Libraries, who did some additional testing for us!

We continue to revise our consortium contracts and agreements to align with the new architecture and functionality of Alma/Primo VE.

School Libraries' Report

December, 2019

Submitted by Robin Weber

No Report.

Greater MN Public Libraries

December, 2019

Compiled by Stacy Lienemann

GREATER MN PUBLIC LIBRARIES SURVEY

I informally surveyed a variety of greater Minnesota public library staff about how libraries are responding to Macmillan's ebook embargo. We often hear about how large, metropolitan libraries are affected but not a lot about how small libraries and non-metro libraries are responding. Here are the results:

Jami Trenam, Great River Regional Library

Our e-collection is highly patron driven. I will continue to purchase Macmillan titles as they are requested. I am glad that OverDrive is including verbiage alerting patrons to the purchasing limits on those titles that are impacted. We did alert our board and shared info about the embargo on our library's social media.

One of the most challenging pieces is keeping tabs on the changes and expired content, as well as the public perspective that since the books are "in the cloud" there should not be a wait as there is for print materials. The dollars just don't stretch as far as they do for print which is a unique challenge - it's our faster growing area, but according to our user/non user study, most people still depend on us for the physical items so it's not as simple as cut from print to increase the digital funding.

Complicated!

Dawn Johnson, Spring Grove Public Library (population 1,330)

Spring Grove is a tiny rural library. We rely on ebooks and eAudios for many of our shut-in patrons. We do not have it in our budget to buy these for our library, but instead participate in the system purchase that all 38 SELCO libraries enjoy. I am irritated by MacMillan's decision and am fighting back in the only way I can; I am avoiding the purchase of their print books.

Jenny Trushenski, Martin County Library (buyer for Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative's OverDrive account)

Our regional Overdrive Committee met and decided not to make any changes to our collection development plan in response to the Macmillan e-book embargo. The embargo will lengthen wait times for Macmillan titles, although the affordability of e-books has a greater impact on wait time than the embargo will. (We usually cannot afford to purchase the number of copies of e-book titles that would be required to keep our wait list time at a reasonable level.)

Our patrons are not well informed of the pricing issues surrounding libraries and e-books, and this is one reason we decided against boycotting Macmillan titles. It didn't seem that it would make an impact on either the publisher or the public. All of the varying regulations and restrictions levied by publishers in regards to e-book sales to libraries have required difficult decisions, including not purchasing titles, not purchasing multiple copies of titles, and losing e-book titles (even with holds on them) when they expire.



ITEM Report

December, 2019

Submitted by Sara Florin & Kim Haugo

The main focus this year is the 2020 Vision. We are in the middle of strategic planning around 5 areas (standards, member benefits, events and PD, communication, and advocacy) identified by a task force committee.

The new ITEM standards were launched at our fall conference. We are working on writing grade band standards K-12.

Schools

There is nothing to report at this time.

Metro Area Public Libraries

December, 2019

Submitted by Margaret Stone

No report.



604 East Boulevard Ave Bismarck ND, 58505 Phone: 701.328.4292 Fax: 701.328.2040 Library.nd.gov

North Dakota State Library

Report for December, 2019

Compiled by Mary Soucie, State Librarian

Library visits: Statewide Cataloging visited two public libraries to discuss cataloging procedures and migration.

IT visited seven public libraries and one combined public/school library to discuss and assist with IT needs.

Soucie visited Lisbon and McKenzie County Public Libraries for a Librarian for a Day.

Meetings, conferences: Soucie attended the monthly meetings of the ODIN Executive Committee. Soucie and Clairmont-Schmidt attended the ODIN Steering Committee Quarterly meeting.

Soucie has been appointed to the Census 2020 Complete Count Committee by Governor Burgum and is serving as a member of the Education and Libraries Task Force.

The State Library hosted a teen from Cass County, Allison, in a reverse Librarian for the Day. Allison spent time in each department, learning about the services offered by the State Library. It was a fun day and we hope to do more of these in the future.

Soucie was interviewed by KX News regarding the McMillan Publishing library embargo. Soucie and Marketing Specialist Meier assisted NDLA and the North Dakota Digital Consortium with crafting and

disseminating statements regarding the embargo. Soucie was interviewed again in November. NDSL has extended their boycott of McMillan e-books through January 2020, in support of the Digital Consortium.

Several NDSL staff members serve in various capacities on the NDLA Board and attended board meetings as required. Soucie, Clairmont-Schmidt, Stroshane, Redding, ILL Clerk Kurtz and Talking Book Reader's Advisor Murphy attended the NDLA Annual Conference in West Fargo.

The Library Development Team hosted Summer Summits in Bismarck, Grand Forks, Minot and West Fargo. Soucie presented at each event.

ILL/Center for the Book: ILL Manager and Center for the Book Coordinator, Mosser, and Soucie attended the Library of Congress National Book Festival in Washington D.C. We handed out buttons, answered questions about North Dakota libraries and North Dakota and shared fun facts about the state.

Statewide Cataloging: We have completed Phase I of the contact catalog project for Dickinson Area Public Library; Phase II began on Oct. 1. Phase I focused on cataloging a backlog for one of the schools that DAPL serves and Phase II focuses on a backlog at DAPL.

Outreach: The State Library staffed a booth at the State Fair. Although it is a good opportunity to interact with a wide variety of people, after evaluating the costs and the ROI we have decided not to staff a booth in the future.

Talking Books Manager Hammer-Schneider did a presentation about the TB Service to the staff of Trinity Care Center in Minot and to the residents of Valley View Assisted Living in Bismarck and Souris River Assisted Living in Velva.

Library Development presented information on databases at teacher in-service days in Wing and McClusky.

Talking Books: We are the second state to move to 100% Download on Demand (DoD) for our Talking Book patrons. This allows them to receive up to 10 books on a single cassette. We returned our physical collection to the National Library Service, which took several months.

We recorded a marketing video, "A Day in the Life of a Book." Emily, from Vision Services/School for the Blind, assisted us in both shooting and editing the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ycZwWsg71U>

NDLCC: The NDLCC met on August 25, at the Leach Public Library in Wahpeton. The Council finalized the Library Vision grant opportunities as well as updated grant scoring rubric, guidelines, grant application and grant report forms. The Council adopted final version of Library Standards for Public Libraries; they waived standards compliance for this round of grants only since we are between the old and new version of the standards.

The NDLCC and NDSL announced three grant opportunities. Two are competitive grants: General Collection

Development and Innovative Partnerships and one non-competitive grant: Technology Infrastructure. All grant opportunities closed on Sept. 30. We received thirty-nine collection development grants, eighteen partnership grants and thirty-one infrastructure grants. NDSL provided the NDLCC with a prioritized list of libraries for the infrastructure grants at their October 10 meeting. The Council made award decisions for all grants at the meeting.

Personnel: Library Assistant Allie Suko joined the staff on July 24th. She is working the reference desk as well as doing some processing tasks



South Dakota State Library

Report for December, 2019

Compiled by Dan Daily

No report.