

## In This Issue

8th Annual Meeting of MDL Set for June 10 . . . . . 1

OCLC Council Seeks Your Input about Draft Use Policy . . . . . 2

Check out These Best Practices for ILL . . . . . 2

Minitex Website Redesign Debuts . . . . . 3

RDA: An Overview . . . . . 4

MN WebJunction Tech Speak . . . . . 5

ELM & MnKnows Highlighted on MPR & KSTP-FM . . . . . 6

Challenges of Multiple Generations . . . . . 7

MN TechSpeak in WebJunction Minnesota . . . 8

JHSUM & MDL Add Photos to Flickr Commons . . . . . 8

Update on MDL's Minnesota Reflections . . . . 9

NEWS FROM THE MINITEX REGION . . . . . 9

- MN State Librarian Resigns
- Google Books
- ECRL Goes to Evergreen
- Public Library Ratings

## 8th Annual Meeting of MDL Set for June 10

*Marian Rengel*



The Minnesota Digital Library's 8th Annual Meeting will be June 10 at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis. Registration will begin at 10 a.m., in the Target Wing with the welcome session and keynote speaker beginning at 10:30.

Registration materials are available at: <https://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Conferences/Mdl2010.aspx> The deadline for registrations is Friday, June 4.

Rep. Mary Murphy, Hermantown, will be the keynote speaker. Murphy is chair of the House Cultural and Outdoor Resources Finance Division committee, which oversees allotment of funds raised through the Cultural and Outdoor Resources amendment to the Minnesota constitution.

The three afternoon sessions will feature two themed tracks. In "Legal and Policy Issues," Nancy Sims, University of Minnesota Libraries, and Kristin Eschenfelder, University of Wisconsin, Madison, will provide separate sessions, "Critical Thinking about Copyright and Privacy" and "Cultural Institutions in the Digital Age," and, then, will combine their knowledge and research in a summary and discussion session.

The second themed track is "The MDL and Other Projects in Minnesota." MDL project personnel will provide updates on Minnesota Reflections and related projects. Staff from the Minnesota Historical Society and the regional public library systems will join MDL staff to discuss their work on projects supported by Arts and Cultural Heritage funding. Finally, University of Minnesota Libraries staff will discuss their digitization project with Google.

Also featured will be a limited-registration track, "Digitizing for Minnesota Reflections," designed for organizations that want to focus on how the MDL digitizes objects and captures metadata. This will feature demonstrations and discussions and will be limited to 25 attendees, who must register only for this track.

As a special treat, the MDL has arranged for tours of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA) following the annual meeting. At 4:30 p.m., MIA docents will take groups of attendees through the museum. Registration for the tours is required. Only register if you are sure you will be able to stay for the tour.

There is no registration fee for this year's MDL annual meeting. The MDL will provide lunch and afternoon beverages.

The Minnesota Digital Library is supported by funding from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. The MDL digitization program is funded by Library Services and Technology Act grants from State Library Services, a division of the Minnesota Department of Education. The grant funds are provided through the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. ■

## OCLC Council Seeks Your Input about Draft Use Policy

The OCLC Record Use Policy Council is seeking feedback about its draft document, WorldCat Rights and Responsibilities for the OCLC Cooperative, which is to be the next generation of a WorldCat use policy. The draft and a related Frequently Asked Questions document are available for community review at:

- <http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/catalog/policy/questions/default.htm> and
- <http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/catalog/policy/questions/default.htm>

The Record Use Policy Council, which was convened by the OCLC Board of Trustees last September, produced the new document, which incorporates suggestions raised by the community. The Council was named after questions were raised about an earlier draft of a new OCLC records use policy, which has been withdrawn.

Rather than using legal language, the new draft policy is in the form of a code of good practices and is intended to outline the rights and responsibilities of OCLC members with regard to the use of WorldCat records.

The Council intends this document to help inform the decision making process for member library leaders as they seek to innovate around the shared resource that is WorldCat. Council Co-Chairs Barbara Gubbin, Jacksonville (FL) Public Library, and Jennifer Younger, University of Notre Dame said, "We have sought to encourage the widespread use of WorldCat data while also supporting the viability and utility of WorldCat and the OCLC network of services."

The planned time table calls for the Council to send a revised version of the draft policy to the OCLC Board of Trustees at the end of May for final review and approval. It is anticipated that a final document will be published mid-2010. For more information see:

<http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/catalog/policy/council/update/default.htm> ■



## Check out These Best Practices for ILL

*Becky Ringwelski*

The Minitex/MnLINK ILL Committee has conducted a best practices for interlibrary loan survey with the goal of gathering information from ILL staff about tips and best practices they have learned in their the day-to-day activi-

ties. We received a great response to the survey and have completed a number of reports related to the feedback.

The reports are available through the newly redesigned Minitex website. We've listed them together and hope that they will be of use. The reports can be found in the "Resource Sharing" section of our new website: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Sharing/Tools/>

### Best Practices Survey 2009

- Loan Periods and Due Dates
- Renewals
- Recalls
- Paperwork
- Borrowing/lending

### ILL Trends and Challenges

- Increasing volume of requests
- Restrictions on A-V materials
- Streamlining ILL Processing
- NCIP standard
- Multi-volume requests

### E-Journals

- Full-text internet website links
- Using E-journals for ILL

### ILL Workflow

- Aleph
- VDX
- OCLC WCRS
- General

We anticipate that this area of the website will evolve and include updates as they are warranted. We'd also appreciate information from ILL staff in the region that might be of use to other ILL staff in libraries.

Please let the Minitex/MnLINK ILL Committee member(s) know of any comments you have on these resources and thoughts for additional topics. The committee member list can be found at: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Committees/ILL/Members.aspx> ■

## Minitex Website Redesign Debuts

Scott Hreha



A new chapter in Minitex's online services began on April 6, 2010, with the launch of the redesigned Minitex website. The new site represents nearly a year's work by the Minitex Web Development Group, which includes Sarah Anderson, Rita Baladad, Michael Berkowski, Carol Nelson, Sara Ring, and me. Although our last major website overhaul was in July 2007, we had two reasons for redesigning so soon:

- to update the graphical elements to match the new Minitex logo and
- to reorganize the content in a more user-focused way.

In fall 2008, we worked with the advertising firm, Riley Hayes, to create a dual-faceted brand that would position Minitex as a leading resource for library staff in our region, while also creating a new website — MnKnows — to serve as a one-stop portal to electronic services available to library patrons in Minnesota.

After the MnKnows site ([www.mnknows.org](http://www.mnknows.org)) launched in March 2009, the next step in completing the brand transformation was to update the Minitex website with the new logo and a color scheme that would complement what we had developed for MnKnows. The result would also reinforce the idea of the sites as two halves of the whole package of library services and support available throughout the region.

Beyond the cosmetic makeover, there was another question that we hoped to answer with the new redesign:

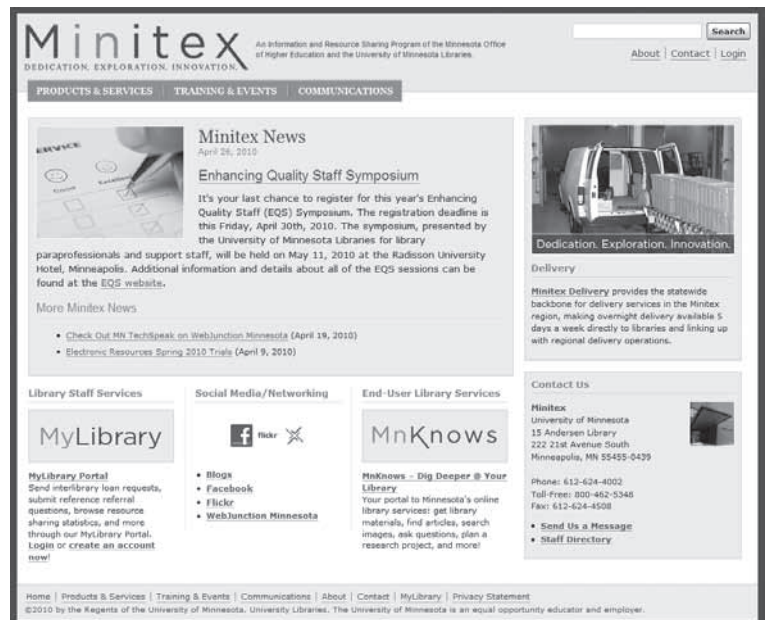
*How can we reorganize our website's content in a way that is intuitive, task-oriented, and focused on the needs of the library staff who use our site, rather than reflecting Minitex's internal organizational structure as it has since our first website was developed in the 1990s?*

This issue was brought to our attention when we conducted a formal usability study for the 2007 website redesign with the University of Minnesota's Usability Services department. During that study, we learned that, even though the overall layout and features tested very well, the Minitex unit-based organization — particularly in the "Products & Services" section — created significant barriers for searchers in finding information on the website.

To achieve this goal, the Web Development Group worked with Minitex staff to eliminate acronyms, rename navigation elements, and split each unit's content into its constituent parts as appropriate. We also developed "mega-flyout" menus for the three main navigation categories ("Products & Services," "Training & Events," and "Communications") to reveal more of the site's underlying structure and help website users find deeper levels of content more quickly and efficiently.

While it is still too early to measure the success of these efforts, we're confident that our new website design and organization will help us to better serve our participating libraries now and into the future.

If you would like to comment on the new Minitex website, send your feedback to me at [hreha002@umn.edu](mailto:hreha002@umn.edu) or use our web contact form at <https://www.minitex.umn.edu/Contact/> (choose the "Website or other technical issues" category). ■



## RDA: An Overview

Mark Ehlert



### The Basics

The second edition of the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* (AACR2) has served libraries and their catalogs for 30 years. With the greater variety of information resources at the public's disposal today, and the burgeoning electronic means by which the public searches for these resources, new cataloging rules were needed. After several years' development, *Resource Description and Access* (RDA), the guidelines to succeed AACR2, is set for release in June 2010.

The new cataloging code offers a comprehensive set of instructions for creation of information resource metadata; like AACR2, these can take the form of MARC-encoded bibliographic and authority records. And following in AACR2's footsteps, RDA will be accessible in print format and as an online, browser-based resource.(1)

Dubbed *RDA Toolkit*, this online manual will present the entire text of RDA, cross-references to AACR2, and additional workflow tools to aid catalogers in their daily tasks. The annual subscription fee for the Toolkit begins at \$195 for the solo user; simultaneous user access requires a \$325 per year fee and possible supplemental costs. Special pricing for consortia and library schools is available on a quoted basis. The cost for the print version of RDA has yet to be determined. Beginning the day of release through Aug. 31, 2010, the co-publishers of RDA will offer at no charge to libraries a full preview of the *Toolkit*.

Further information on this new cataloging tool is provided at:

- <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/>, including
- subscription fees (<http://www.rdatoolkit.org/pricing>),
- recordings of recent webinars showcasing the *RDA Toolkit* (<http://www.rdatoolkit.org/training/guidedtour>) and an
- FAQ (<http://www.rdatoolkit.org/faq>).

The co-publishers have established an electronic mailing list to distribute announcements on pricing and Toolkit updates; visit <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/rdalist> or send a message to [rdatoolkit@ala.org](mailto:rdatoolkit@ala.org) to subscribe.

### Testing RDA

The matter of implementation has come to the attention of libraries already; some have made the decision to put RDA into practice right away while others have stated that they will wait. For the Library of Congress' Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control, unanswered questions remain on the benefit of the new code(2). Therefore, in response to these issues, the three national libraries in the United States (the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agriculture Library) and over two dozen volunteer institutions and individuals will begin formal, real-world testing of RDA in June. Among the testing institutions regionally are the Minnesota Historical Society (led by Sarah Quimby) and the Chester Fritz Library at the University of North Dakota (under Shelby Harken). Individuals in the area are also involved in this endeavor; Mary Huismann from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and Bobby Bothmann from Minnesota State University, Mankato, are part of the MLA/OLAC group of testing partners.

This testing period is scheduled to last nine months total:

- The first three-month block is devoted to orientation to the new rules and the *Toolkit*.
- The next three months are dedicated to the comparative cataloging of sets of predetermined resources as well as items present in each institution's regular workflow.
- The final three months culminate with process analysis and the issuance of an official report.

The results of this test, to be released in early 2011, will inform the national libraries' joint decision on whether to adopt RDA for their collections. Details on the RDA testing procedures are available on the Library of Congress website (<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/>).

For OCLC's part, their Metadata Contract Services has volunteered to be a testing partner too. This unit and other OCLC member institutions will upload RDA records to the WorldCat database as part of the testing process. OCLC is presently refining WorldCat to accept the new RDA data and the revised MARC21 tags and subfields that will support that data.(3)

## Minitex and RDA

Minitex and the Bibliographic and Technical Services (BATS) unit, in particular, are committed to offering training opportunities on RDA, from general information sessions to nuts-and-bolts cataloging workshops with the RDA rules and the Toolkit in hand. We will announce the first sessions soon. If you want to learn more about RDA, Minitex Coordinator Mark K. Ehlert has begun a series of articles on the new cataloging code. Read them in the March, April, and forthcoming June 2010 issues of the *Minitex/OCLC Mailing* (<http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Communications/Oclc/>). And BATS will continue to communicate news updates on RDA as they develop.

Keep up with these announcements by visiting our blog (<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/minitex/bats/>) and subscribing to our Twitter feed (<http://twitter.com/minitexbats>).

### RDA and Your Library

What does all of this mean for your library? At the very least, catalogers should be made aware of the existence of RDA records as they will appear in WorldCat and other bibliographic record outlets come this autumn, if not earlier. Other matters to consider in preparation for RDA include:

- Subscription to RDA Toolkit: At what level of cost can your institution sustain access to RDA Toolkit? Note that this subscription price is a separate expenditure from those for other cataloging tools such as Classification Web and Cataloger's Desktop.
- Training: How much training will your staff require? Will travel be necessary? Should all cataloging staff attend, or only few, who then pass on their learning to the remaining staff?
- The ILS: Will your ILS vendor provide an upgrade to your catalog system to accept RDA bibliographic and authority records? If not soon, when? What should catalogers do when they encounter an RDA record in the course of their daily cataloging: move it into the catalog as-is (irrespective of the catalog's ability to validate the MARC coding) or convert it first to the AACR2 standard?
- OPACs: Changes to the catalog affect not only catalogers and acquisition personnel. What alterations if any should be made to the public side of the catalog? RDA is built on the relationship structures described in the FRBR and FRAD models.<sup>(4)</sup> How "FRBR-ized" should the catalog become?
- Other standards: If your catalog can accept RDA records and your staff is trained, should your library wait for other standard-making bodies to revise their guidelines for particular formats or classes of material? Consider CONSER's serial cataloging standard and BIBCO's various monographic standards, not to mention the successor to the *Library of Congress Rule Interpretations* (LCRIs), the *Library of Congress Policy Statements* (LCPSs).

RDA calls for a different approach to bibliographic and authority record cataloging and has the potential to affect all aspects of library services.

(1) RDA will also be available on Cataloger's Desktop, but requires a separate subscription at the pricing given above. See <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/news/catalogersdesktop>

(2) Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control. *On the Record: Report of The Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control*. Washington, D.C.: The Library of Congress, 2008. <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/lcwg-ontherecord-jan08-final.pdf>

(3) For the most recent changes, see <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/worldcat/tb/258/default.htm>

(4) See, for instance: Tillett, Barbara. *What is FRBR?: A Conceptual Model for the Bibliographic Universe*. [Washington, D.C.]: Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service, 2004. <http://www.loc.gov/cds/FRBR.html>

## ELM & MnKnows Highlighted on MPR & KSTP-FM

Cecelia Boone



With the goal of increasing the public's awareness of the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM) and the MnKnows website (mnknows.org), Minitex has supported on-air announcements on the news stations of Minnesota Public Radio as well as advertisements on the MPR and KSTP-FM websites. Both ELM and MnKnows have been highlighted on MPR, while a website ad for MnKnows appeared on the Listeners Loyalty Club website for KSTP-FM (llc.ks95.com).

As we noted in the January issue of the *Minitex Messenger* (<http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Communications/Messenger/2010/01January.pdf>), this effort began last fall with announcements and website ads for MnKnows on MPR. The MPR website ad resumed early this year, and we placed an ad on the KSTP-FM website for the month of April.

Results have been interesting. MPR staff tells us that our ad has had one of the highest click-through rates (the percentage of website users who click on a URL in an advertisement to be linked through to the referenced site) that they have seen on their site. In addition to a month-long ad on the KSTP-FM Loyal Listener Club website, the MnKnows ad also had two weeks of "Featured Link" status on the website that will last through the end of May.

Looking at the traffic to the two sites, we have gained data to show that the ELM site receives significant usage by students and teachers at Minnesota K-12 schools. During April, the top five referring sites to ELM:

- mpls.k12.mn.us (Minneapolis Public Schools)
- mnknows.org
- sowashco.k12.mn.us (South Washington County Schools)
- flschools.forestlake.k12.mn.us (Forest Lake Area Schools)
- orono.k12.mn.us (Orono Schools)

For MnKnows, the top referring sites in April included a mix of public library, Minnesota K-12, state government, and other sites.

- tds.sirsi.net (Traverse des Sioux Library System)
- llc.ks95.com (KS95 Loyal Listener Club)
- cloquet.lib.mn.us (Cloquet Public Library)
- lawlibrary.state.mn.us (MN State Law Library)
- northmankato.com (City of North Mankato, including Taylor Library)



MPR ad for ELM



KS95 Loyal Listener Club Website Advertisement

## Challenges of Multiple Generations, Google Books, & ILL Info. Fill Annual Minitex ILL Conference

Discussion of the challenges of dealing with library colleagues of all ages, the development and future of the Google Books project, and breakout sessions on ILL topics filled the day for about 160 participants in the 18th Annual Minitex Interlibrary Loan Conference on May 4. David Stillman, co-founder of BridgeWorks, a company focused on speaking, training, and consulting about generational issues in the workplace and the marketplace, presented the keynote address: "What Happens When Generations Collide: Who They Are. Why They Clash. How to Solve the Generational Puzzle at Work."

Wendy Pradt Lougee, University Librarian and McKnight Presidential Professor, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, discussed the history of the Google Books project, the ongoing legal challenges about the project, creation of the Hathi Trust, the University Libraries' participation in Google Books, and related topics.

Afternoon breakout sessions discussed:

- ILLiad: Updates from the ILLiad Conference, version 8.0
- MnLINK Gateway VDX: Best practices, NCIP, user alerts
- Aleph ILL: Best practices, workflow
- General ILL: Delivery, e-delivery, internet resources

Minitex Director Bill DeJohn presented a Minitex Update to complete the day's calendar.

The PowerPoint slides used by Lougee and DeJohn are available on the Minitex website (<http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Conferences/>), and persons interested in the work of David Stillman may find more information at: <http://www.generations.com/>. ■



*Former NDSU colleagues chat: Tom Bremer, now Dean of the Library at Winona State University, chats with Loretta Mindt (beside Tom), Deb Saylor (far right), and Laura Rizzo, a new NDSU staff member.*



*Obinnaya Oji and Raquel Franklin from Minitex*



*Bill DeJohn, Becky Ringwelski, David Stillman meet at the Minitex ILL conference.*



## MN TechSpeak in WebJunction Minnesota

A new group has been established on WebJunction Minnesota called MN TechSpeak. Established by the Minitex IT unit,

*This group is intended for Library IT staff across Minnesota to share information concerning the support of technology in libraries. We all solve similar problems in supporting library specific software, operating systems, and enterprise architecture systems. Use this group for discussion and sharing of information regarding your own technology issues and installations. Please introduce yourself in the discussion section of the group when you join!*

You'll find it on WebJunction Minnesota in the right hand frame under Minnesota Groups – the last group. MN TechSpeak will provide a space for IT and system staff in Minnesota libraries to ask questions of each other as well as answer questions and suggest areas of interest. Staffs with all levels of technology knowledge are welcome.

Give it a try at: <http://mn.webjunction.org/techspeak>

Also, we've set up a new Twitter feed to announce when we have made a posting to MN TechSpeak. Our goal is to make the group more discoverable and lead more readers to the site. You can find the feed at <<http://twitter.com/mntechspeak>> ■



*In this example of the JHSUM photos that have been added to the Flickr Commons,*

*David Gantman, a St. Paul butcher, holds the Torah scrolls that he saved from a smoldering synagogue in this circa 1930 photo. The synagogue may have been the Sons of Moses synagogue, which burned to the ground. The Orthodox Sons of Moses congregation was largely composed of Russian and Rumanian Jews, and worshipped in what had been a church on the West side of St. Paul on Thirteenth and Canada St.*

## Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest & MDL Add Photos to Flickr Commons

The Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest (JHSUM) and the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) have teamed up with Flickr.com to make photographs from the Steinfeldt Photography Collection available on the Web at Flickr Commons.

The JHSUM photos in the Flickr Commons are also available in MDL's Minnesota Reflections collection (<http://reflections.mndigital.org/>) Inclusion of JHSUM materials on Flickr Commons puts the images in the same web neighborhood as the Library of Congress, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Jewish Women's Archive. The photos can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/commons/>

In 2008, MDL was looking for a way to introduce Minnesota Reflections photos to a wider audience and approached JHSUM about piloting JHSUM's photos in Minnesota Reflection on Flickr Commons. With technical and administrative help from MDL staff, JHSUM has joined with major public photo archives to bring our intent to the desktop, with assurances that the images are free of any known copyright restrictions.

For more information about JHSUM photographs on Flickr Commons, please email [history@jhsum.org](mailto:history@jhsum.org).

The Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest is the leading organization dedicated to telling the story of 150 years of Jewish history in the region. Founded in 1985, the organization provides programming, publications, exhibits, and curriculum to the local and regional community, as well as offering reference and reproduction services to all interested users. ■



## Update on MDL's Minnesota Reflections

The Minnesota Digital Library is wrapping up work on Phase 6 of digitization for Minnesota Reflections (<http://reflections.mndigital.org>) and has announced the opening of applications for Phase 7. For Phase 6 (the 2009-10 project), MDL digitized more than 11,000 objects from 34 organizations, including 14 organizations new to the MDL.

The Phase 6 projects included more than 3,000 photographs and 7,800 document pages, plus 159 maps and one audio project. Some projects are still in the delivery and scanning stages, with metadata yet to come.


 The logo for Minnesota Reflections, featuring the words "minnesota" and "reflections" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, separated by a vertical line.

Everything the MDL digitizes goes into Minnesota Reflections, its database of digital objects from across the state that now contains more than 49,000 objects. Three organizations contributed or will contribute collections that they digitized to meet MDL standards and want included in the Minnesota Reflections collection. The database will easily include more than 53,000 objects when all of the Phase 6 work is complete this summer.

The MDL is accepting applications for Phase 7 (2010-11), with digitization of these projects to begin in July. Check at the MDL's homepage (<http://www.mndigital.org>) for the Phase 7 Call for Projects and Application Form. For the seventh year, the MDL will be accepting photographic, document, and map projects.

The MDL will now also accept audio projects for digitization, specifically audio tapes. The MDL conducted a prototype project in Phase 5 with the Northeast Minnesota Historical Center, digitizing a collection of oral histories about the fishing industry on the north shore of Lake Superior (search "north shore oral history" in Minnesota Reflections to see the collection). A second audio project, from the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest, will be part of Minnesota Reflections this summer. The MDL will accept audio tapes only.

Consult with the MDL Outreach Coordinator, Marian Rengel (<mailto:mrrengel@stcloudstate.edu>) to discuss digitization projects that your organization is considering. Once again in Phase 7, digitization work funded through the Minnesota Digital Library is made possible through a Library Services and Technology Act grant from State Library Services, a division of the Minnesota Department of Education. (Marian Rengel) ■

## News From The Minitex Region

### Suzanne Miller Resigns MN State Librarian's Role

Suzanne Miller, who has served as Minnesota State Librarian and Director of State Library Services (a division of the Minnesota Department of Education) for six years, announced her resignation to take the position of Foreign Service Information Resource Officer with the U.S. Department of State. Her last day as State Librarian was May 4.

In the message announcing her decision, Miller says she has mixed feelings about her job change:

*I am sorry to leave Minnesota at the cusp of great change for libraries and the essential services that they provide for Minnesotans. I know that the current State Library Services staff will continue to maintain smooth delivery of services and will work effectively to build a brighter future for Minnesota library services in libraries of all types.*

But, as she explained, "It has been my desire to work in Foreign Service since I was very young. This is my opportunity to make a long standing dream come true."

The Department of Education will name an interim director soon.

## University of Minnesota Libraries Add to Google Books

In April, the University of Minnesota Libraries sent its first shipment of books to Google to be digitized as part of the Google Books project ([books.google.com](http://books.google.com)). When complete, the multi-year project will have digitized more than 1 million volumes (books and bound journals) from the University Libraries' general collections.

Among the volumes included in the first shipment were selections from Minnesota's distinctive collections related to forestry, bee-keeping, and Scandinavian literature and area studies. Other titles identified as candidates for digitization are the 1916 document "A preliminary survey of the more important archives of the territory and state of Minnesota"; a 1918 book, *Minnesota election laws in theory and practice*; and an undated volume titled "Economic development of Minnesota: 1849-1873, from the messages of the governors." The volumes will be returned to the Libraries after they are scanned.

The scanning project is part of a 2007 agreement between Google and the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC, the academic arm of the Big Ten Conference) to digitize approximately 10 million unique volumes from the collections of CIC libraries that signed the agreement.

When the works scanned are determined to be in the public domain, Google will provide the libraries with copies of the digital files created through the project, which will be archived in the HathiTrust ([www.hathitrust.org](http://www.hathitrust.org)), a non-profit shared digital repository launched by the CIC with an ever-expanding number of supporting institutions.

According to Associate University Librarian Peggy Johnson, "This initiative is an example of the kinds of cooperation -- both among peers and with outside parties--that will further access to the collective resources held in our libraries. The Google project, coupled with programs to coordinate preservation of print collections, offers promise for effective and sustained access to library collections in the future

## East Central Regional Library Switches to Evergreen

The East Central Regional Library, which is based in Cambridge and serves Aitkin, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine Counties, will soon become the first Minnesota public library system to migrate to an open source integrated library system, Evergreen. The migration is also a first for the PALS office in Mankato, which is hosting East Central Regional's new Evergreen-based catalog.

Barbara Misselt, Director of East Central Regional Library, said migration from the library's SirsiDynix-ILS is going well, and staff are doing testing and training on a test server. Plans call for a "go-live" date of May 24. East Central's libraries will be closed May 17-23 to complete implementation of the new Evergreen system.

Steve Elfstrand, Executive Director of PALS, agreed that the East Central migration is going well. Working with East Central has been a good first test for the PALS staff of moving a library catalog to Evergreen. Support for Evergreen systems continues PALS' exploration of open source software, and hosting Evergreen systems is another service offered by the PALS office. PALS has a support contract with Equinox for problems for which they need assistance, but Elfstrand says the PALS staff has found Evergreen intuitive and, generally, easy to work with.

Evergreen, developed in Georgia for the Pines consortium of public libraries, was launched in Sept. 2006. Currently, Evergreen is used by over 544 libraries of every type -- public, academic, special, school, and even tribal and home libraries -- in over a dozen countries worldwide.

## 6 Minitex Region Libraries Ranked in Hennen's Public Library Ratings

Five Minnesota libraries and one in South Dakota were included in Hennen's American Public Library Ratings (HAPLR) for 2010 as being among the top 10 of their respective population categories.

The libraries were ranked in categories of those serving 500,000, 250,000, 100,000, 50,000, or 1,000 residents.

The Minitex region libraries included in the list were:

- Hennepin County Library, Minnetonka, MN
- Ramsey County Library, Shoreview, MN
- Runels Memorial Library, Edgerton, MN
- Grand Marais Public Library, Grand Marais, MN
- Beresford Public Library, Beresford, SD
- Browns Valley Public Library, Browns Valley, MN

The ratings are based on information gathered by state library agencies and submitted to the Institute for Museums and Library Services. ■

## Minitex Messenger

Minitex

University of Minnesota, 15 Andersen Library  
222 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0439

Phone . . . . . 612-624-4002  
WATS . . . . . 800-462-5348  
Director . . . . . 612-624-2839  
Fax . . . . . 612-624-4508  
Main Website . . . . . [www.minitex.umn.edu](http://www.minitex.umn.edu)  
Office Hours . . . . . Monday—Friday, 8:00 am—4:30 pm

Director: Bill DeJohn  
Minitex Messenger Editor: Cecelia N. Boone

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Minitex  
University of Minnesota  
15 Andersen Library  
222 21st Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0439

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## May 2010

- 8th Annual Meeting of MDL Set for June 10
- OCLC Council Seeks Your Input about Draft Use Policy
- Minitex Website Redesign Debuts
- RDA: An Overview

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