

March 6, 2015

Greater Minnesota Public Libraries 1

Minnesota State Colleges - Twin Cities & Southern Region 2

Minnesota State Colleges - Central and Northern Region 2

Multicounty Multitype 2

Private Colleges 5

East Regional Library Systems 8

State/Government Special Libraries 8

State University Libraries 9

University of Minnesota Coordinate Campuses x

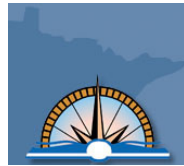
University of Minnesota Twin Cites 11

Greater Minnesota Public Library

Ann Hokanson

Because there are so many different public libraries in greater Minnesota, and they vary so greatly in size and services, I have decided to focus on a narrow theme each quarter for these reports. I have chosen Legacy funding for this report. I gathered the following information from regional system websites.

It was very interesting to me to see the different approaches to using the money and differing publicity from across the state. Some sampled information is below.



[The Arrowhead Library System \(ALS\)](#), through money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage fund, has worked with regional public libraries and artists to create permanent public artworks for the public to enjoy.

[Great River Regional Library System](#) publishes an event guide that lists classes and events throughout the region. Many are funded with Legacy dollars, and are easily identifiable by the logo as you page through.



[SELCO](#) has an array of Legacy programming, including performers, digitization projects, local community collaborations, author visits, and poetry and art projects.

[East Central Regional Library System](#) uses a calendar to organize and promote its classes and events.



[Lake Agassiz Regional Library](#) Legacy Events page.

[Kitchigami Regional Library's](#)

Legacy Fund Events are funded by the Legacy Amendment which dedicates monies to preserve Minnesota arts and cultural heritage. During 2014-2015 a variety of programs will feature history, music, literature and much more.



Minnesota State Colleges - Twin Cities & Southern Region

Tom Eland

No report.

Minnesota State Colleges - Central and Northern State Colleges

Cynthia Jorstad

Northland Community & Technical College - East Grand Forks/Thief River Falls (Cynthia Jorstad)

Our RN nursing program had a successful accreditation visit in January. The visit to the library went well; we had done a lot of clean up in the nursing and health collection areas.

The remainder of spring semester we are going to concentrate on weeding our reference collection, this may carry over into the summer, it's a long overdue task.

With much help from the MnPALS office, all our authentication logins now accommodate StarID ... we are all very pleased.

At their meeting in March, the MnSCU Board of Trustees will announce who will be our new college president. Three candidates were on campus in February.

Vermillion Community College (Sharon Evenson)

Working on inventory and lost DVDs this semester.

I took social media course from Wisconsin and would like to find time to incorporate this onto the library homepage.

The dwindling number of librarians in NHED will be getting together later this month.

One of the issues I will be bringing up is my concerns regarding the discussion of possible new ILS and where small libraries will fit in the new Pals plan. We do not have any real representation on the Deans and Directors committee in Pals and will that have an impact on the new system.

Our library cannot afford a discovery tool or any other all in one searching tool, we can barely afford the 2 databases we carry, each increase comes out of the book budget. I do not know where we would be if Minitex did not provide the resources that do. It would be nearly impossible for us to afford Ebsco or any general database and still be able to buy books.

Multicounty Multitype Library Systems

Ann Walker Smalley

Arrowhead Library System (Shari Fisher)

- Arrowhead Library System has scheduled several interactive Brainfuse homework help webinars.
- The Arrowhead 2015 Multi-type Budget was approved; the budget includes \$10,000 to start a K-12 e-book collection. Additionally, the website will be updated for easier and mobile access to information for all types of libraries.
- A resolution was passed by the ALS Board in support of the Duluth Seed Library in February. A letter expressing this support was signed by President Marge McPeak and is included in the Library Legislative Day packets.

Central MN Libraries Exchange (CMLE) (Patricia Post)

Things are hopping at CMLE. Since our January 8 Board meeting, these are the activities that are keeping us more than busy:

- CMLE is in the midst of a strategic planning process that will include several activities
- Staff are crafting an online Member Needs Assessment to go live sometime in March to capture regional needs
- CMLE is partnering with the SCSU Library to offer an Edible Books Event on April 14th. Any and all in Central MN are welcome to join in!
- CMLE is sponsoring and partnering with K-12 personnel offering a Central MN EdCamp in mid-June.
- In February, we hosted our first Google Hangout, which went very well. We will convene monthly hangouts with our CMLE Outreach Panel; which consists of 7 media specialists, 1 public librarian, and 1 academic librarian (this group makeup models the makeup of our member libraries) and will help inform our strategic plan.
- Our staff continues to produce and send a weekly publication to 748 readers, capturing the weeks blog posts about national, state, and regional library news (typically 15 posts per week)
- SCSU is undergoing a major reorg. CMLE is not exempt from these activities and continues to participate as required.

Metronet (Ann Walker Smalley)

- All of the authors for Teen Lit Con have been booked. The national authors are Matt de la Peña, Gayle Forman, E. Lockhart, & Gene Leun Yang. Local authors are Steve Brezenoff, Kirstin Cronn-Mills, Pat Schmatz, Jonathan Friesen, Rebecca Hahn, & Patrick Jones.
- Both SPPS & MPS are planning on MILI for 2015-2016 school year.
- MetroBriefs began its sixth year in January.
- Metronet & MELSA are planning for Legislative Day (March 3) as has been done in the past. We met with 21 legislators.
- The Library Consultation Group has finalized its recommendations. They will go to the MDE Commissioner by February 1. See the [report](#) and information about the process.
- Our course proposal for OLLI was accepted. Melinda Ludwiczak from MELSA will work with Ann on the class “Not your Grandma’s Library!”
- Metronet is hosting the quarterly meeting of the multitype directors January 23. Prior to that meeting, all the directors will meet with State Library Services to review application and reporting procedures.

Northern Lights Library Network (Kathy Enger)

- **Supporting library advocacy activities** with second annual **Library Luncheon with Legislators** in Room 101 at MSUM on February 21, 2015, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Librarians from the region described their work to legislators in order to prepare for Minnesota Library Legislative Day. Eleven librarians spoke: Duane Arnold, Moorhead Public Schools; Hannah Budkland, Leech Lake Tribal College Library; Gloria Collyard, Red Lake Middle School; Terri Darco, White Earth Early Childhood Development; Gina Drellack, Bagley Public Schools; Kristi Hanson, Northwest Regional Library; Liz Lynch, Lake Agassiz Regional Library; Laura Probst, Concordia College Carl B. Ylvisaker Library; Larry Schwartz, Minnesota State University Moorhead; Peg Werner, Viking Library System; Perry Werner, Minnesota State Community and Technical College. Three legislators spoke: Senator Kent Eken, Representative Ben Lien, and Representative Bud Nornes. 28 people altogether attended.
- **Developing activities that bring all libraries together** by providing ongoing internships for graduates and undergraduates. Jordan Schroeer, Communication Specialist Intern, completed his fall internship. Jordan created NLLN’s first Facebook page, wrote press releases, and promoted NLLN. Media advisories have been written and submitted to newspapers and media outlets. Jordan completed the Directory of Legislators in the NLLN Region that is hosted via Omeka on the NLLN website (nlln.org). Katelyn Ostby is working as an intern with NLLN from January 2015 through June 2015, and applying to graduate schools of Library and Information Science. She is assuming duties of the Communication Specialist, along with completing the data collection for comparing reading scores with schools that have media specialists in the region. Katelyn may also assist Campbell-Tintah Schools as they automate their card catalog to Destiny. Katelyn completed her undergraduate degree in English, with honors, from NDSU, December 2014.
- **Providing career development, professional engagement scholarships, and library service funding** for staff and library board member participation in continuing education programs. 23 scholarships are committed.
- **Ongoing library administrative and technical support** for the White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood Program (WECC/ECP) as they prepare a new community library, Maamigin Achigaazo. The online catalog is reactivated and White Earth is in the process of acquiring materials and books described in the \$121,000 IMLS grant. White Earth moved donated MSUM library furniture from Townsite in Moorhead to White Earth during January, 2015.
- **Poets Across Minnesota:** 35 broadsides each of poets in the NLLN region, Belar, Bennett, Lajimoidiere, Vinz, and Zepper have been created by Patrick Vincent, professor of visual arts at MSUM and will be for sale at \$25/each to raise funds for NLLN’s scholarship fund.

- **Supporting Spotlight on Books** conference for people interested in youth literature from around Minnesota. The 27th Annual Spotlight on Books Conference will be held at Chase on the Lake in Walker, Minnesota on April 10 and 11, 2015.
- **Conducting research:** Kathy conducted qualitative, grounded theory research to determine the function of multitype library systems. The research is completed and currently in use by the multi-type systems in Minnesota as an infographic to ask for increased funding from the legislature:

The Function, Responsibilities, and Duties of Multicounty, Multitype Library Systems in Minnesota

The seven multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota function as intermediary between all types of libraries, ensuring that resources are shared and cooperation occurs among all library types, including academic libraries, public libraries, school libraries, and special libraries. Through library cooperation and resource sharing, Minnesotans receive the best library service possible, in the most efficient manner. Each multicounty, multitype system is as unique as the libraries they serve. The multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota are Arrowhead; Central Minnesota Library Exchange (CMLE); Metronet; Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN); Southwest Area Multicounty, Multitype Interlibrary Exchange (SAMMIE); Southeast Library System (SELS); Traverse de Sioux Library Cooperative (TdS). The multicounty, multitype systems are mandated by Minnesota Statute 134.351.

During 2014 and 2015, a qualitative grounded theory study of the responsibilities and function of the multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota was conducted by Northern Lights Library Network and reviewed by the multitype system directors. The study used as data fourteen quarterly reports from 2009 to 2014 submitted to Minitex recorded in the multitype system wiki. Each line from each report was coded, categorized, and analyzed for themes. It was determined from the reports that multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota perform the following duties:

Build and Sustain Relationships between and among librarians:

Communicate between and among libraries through electronic communication systems and printed literature.
Visit local libraries and sustain relationships with librarians.
Discover and communicate needs at the grassroots level.

Develop Librarians Professionally

Administer continuing education grants for library staff.
Teach librarians about new library resources.
Teach new technologies.

Improve Local Library Collections

Support interlibrary loan services.
Support union catalogs
Find cost-effective eBook solutions.

Sponsor and Support Funding for libraries

Write and receive grants that support libraries.
Raise funds for libraries.
Share library resources.

Champion for libraries

Meet with library stakeholders.
Meet with legislators on behalf of libraries.
Publicly promote libraries.

Create, develop, and maintain programs that enrich the lives of Minnesotans

Sponsor literacy initiatives through programs, conferences, and workshops.
Facilitate improved library services.

Move the discipline of library and information science forward

Provide leadership in library organizations and associations.
Present at conferences and publish articles in the library literature.
Collect and analyze library data.

Lead and administer agency

Manage human resources.
Design and implement strategic plans.

Southeast Library System (Ann Hutton)

No report submitted.

Southwest Area Multicounty Multitype Interlibrary Exchange (SAMMIE) (Shelly Grace)

- Executive Director visited 8 libraries.
- Scheduled ELM training for 3 school libraries, and working on more. Sent offer to schedule training to superintendents, principals and teacher librarians in the SAMMIE area.
- Initiated conversation with ITEM President, Mary Mehsikomer, and the multitypes on training needs of school library/ media center library assistants.
- Executive Director accepted into the MLA Institute for Leadership Excellence (MILE).
- Executive Director attended the Multitype Directors' quarterly meeting.
- Executive Director volunteered to work on MLA's 125th Anniversary Committee.
- 15 libraries approved for Teen Tech Week Grants.
- Provided funds for two YA Author Visit Grants.
- Opened registration for 5th Annual Teen Summit.
- Executive Director attended meeting between multitype directors and Jennifer Nelson, State Librarian, and Emily Kissane, State Library, on multitype aid application and reporting forms.
- Collected information from member libraries on knowledge and use of maker spaces.
- Approved 9 scholarship applications for the 3rd fiscal quarter (January - March).

Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative (Orrin Ausen)

No report submitted.

Private Colleges

Kathy Parker

Bethany Lutheran College (Alyssa Inniger)

- Bethany library is down another staff member (cataloger). At least for the time being, we will be redistributing duties instead of filling the position.
- We started an internship program in the library archives. Each semester a student will assist archivist Erling Teigen with various duties including digitization efforts. Our IT department built a platform to house content which will hopefully be publically available within the next year.
- We are involved in the second year of a low-cost, beyond-the-walls Booketology program. Similar to the March Madness bracketology, patrons are invited to vote for the Ultimate Villain. Feel free to follow along and vote through our [Facebook page](#).

Carleton College (Brad Schaffner)

Carleton College Library is currently recruiting a collection development librarian. The Collections Strategy and Development Librarian will provide leadership, vision and strategic direction for the Carleton College Library in the development and management of its collections in all established and emerging formats, ensuring that the scope and caliber of library resources support the curriculum and mission of the college. See the complete [job description](#).

College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University (Kathy Parker)

At CSB & SJU, we are continuing to strengthen our staff resources to support effective use of technology. We have hired a new Library Technology Support Specialist and learn from the digital scholarship undertaken by our close partner the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library. We recently remodeled a small room in our Music Library as a recording studio, used both by music students and by students in other disciplines for recording podcasts and video voice-over tracks. Next under consideration is development of IPTV services.

Several CSB/SJU staff participated in the fall CLIC library marketing workshop (thanks, CLIC!) with Kathy Dempsey. Building on that knowledge, they are developing a systematic approach to understanding the needs of SJU sophomores and juniors, a population we identified as minimal library users. They have undertaken several research initiatives, and will soon begin a marketing campaign. We hope to continue to learn more about the intersection of gender and library services as this project proceeds.

College of Saint Scholastics (Kevin McGrew)

We are in the process of finishing up our Assessment in Action project. I've been working with our Inst. Researcher and a faculty member from the Sociology Dept. to assess student learning in our info lit program. We designed an instrument to measure I.L. skills before instruction from a librarian and after. We are also assessing our faculty member's I.L. competency. We will presenting a poster at ALA in June.

We are also in the midst of implementing Islandora, PALS' open-source digital repository. Things are going smoothly thus far and we are happy with the product.

Concordia College Moorhead (Laurie Probst)

The Carl B. Ylvisaker Library continues to be engaged curriculum development and student learning projects. As part of a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon foundation, the campus has hosted two faculty workshops on digital humanities. Presenters were Miriam Posner (UCLA) and Justin Schell (UMN). Lisa Sjoberg, College Archivist, is co-PI on the grant. Beginning this fall, Lisa will be teaching one of the classes in a new major in Heritage and Museum Studies. Students in this major will have the opportunity to work in the College Archives, campus museums, and other regional cultural organizations and develop skills for careers in museums and archives. This spring, the library launched a paid internship program. The inaugural group of three interns are working in the areas of marketing, archival collections, and instructional design. In January we welcomed peer tutors from the Academic Excellence and Writing Center into the library. The student writing tutors offer consulting services in the library five nights a week.

Cooperating Libraries in Consortium [CLIC] (Ruth Dukelow)

In January and February, the CLIC libraries were trained on Intota Assessment and Intota ERM, and we are now in the process of loading our ERM data. Our plan is to start pre-migration work for the Intota Management System later this fall, with a migration date in 2016.

Our CLIC theme this year is Marketing, and we have a CLIC Marketing Task Force working on projects to promote reference and ILL. Hamline University (Terry Metz)

We've begun vetting a draft library program planning statement (LPPS) document among key library stakeholders as an initial step in an extensive library space planning exercise. We expect this exercise will require two years, or more, to complete.

For the past seven months, we've developed much closer collaboration between the physically separate law and undergraduate libraries on our St. Paul campus. For example, the consolidation of access services and technical services operations of both libraries is nearly complete.

However, the recent announcement of the pending merger between William Mitchell College of Law and Hamline University School of Law...to establish a Mitchell|Hamline School of Law...makes the future evolution of Hamline libraries unclear. The merger agreement designates the Mitchell campus as the main hub of library services. The merger agreement stipulates that a law library presence will remain at Hamline, but it's unclear what relationship that library will have to the new law school and to other stakeholder at Hamline, such as the Legal Studies Department and the Masters of Public Administration program. All affected parties are holding discussion about how to sort out and establish new relationships with the least interruption for library services to students and faculty.

We are launching a pilot project to consolidate library reference, ITS help desk service, and writing center support into a single physical point-of-service presence on the Bush Library's main floor.

Macalester College (Terri Fishel)

LibTech Conference – March 18 & 19th – we are gearing up for the conference that will be held in a little over two weeks. The conference filled in less than 30 hours this year. For those interested, both keynote speakers will be [streamed live](#). For information on Courtney Greene MacDonald, author of Putting Users First and Boyhun Kim, Associate Director for Library Applications and Knowledge Systems at University of Maryland, Baltimore, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, author of the Library Mobile Experience: Practices and User Expectations.

Open textbooks discussion – as part of Open Education Week, the library is sponsoring a conversation with Tim Taylor, Managing Editor of the Journal for Economic Perspectives, who has published several textbooks in OpenStax and David Ernst from the U of M Open Textbook Library to talk about their involvement in the open textbook movement. We hope to start the conversation about implementing open textbooks in place of some of the more expensive texts currently in use. The library has 25 textbooks placed on reserve this semester by the student government as a means of alleviating the high costs of textbooks used in some of the more popular classes.

Summer 2015: The library will be partnering with Advance IT Minnesota (AITM) in delivering the SPARCS program to provide youth technology development opportunities for female high school students in Minnesota. The plan is to hold a five-day, affordable, high quality technology day camp for young women in grades 8-12. We have considerable support with faculty and staff on campus and we're looking forward to offering an exceptional experience for the students. We're considering the summer 2015 program a pilot and if all goes well, will develop a regular program. SPARCS = Sustaining Passion, Ambition and Resolve for Career Success.

Northwestern Health Sciences University (Anne Mackereth)

Northwestern Health Sciences University's recent proposal to digitize historical photographs for Minnesota Reflections was accepted by the Selection Committee of the Minnesota Digital Library in February. We are now sorting through the photographs to select those which best meet the criteria for inclusion in Minnesota Reflections. We expect to complete the project later in 2015.

Martin Luther College (Linda Kramer)

Along with the Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative, we have just made the switch from Sirsi-Dynix Horizon to Innovative's Sierra product and are trouble-shooting and making suggestions for improvement. I am also part of the committee working on a redesign of our college website.

St. Olaf College (Roberta Lembke)

St. Olaf College Libraries is in the final stages of our long range planning activities. The Libraries adopted seven principles that will help guide this work during the upcoming years. These principles reflect both our long-standing commitment to excellence in our collections, the services we provide, and the quality of our staff, as well as demonstrate our commitment to continuous improvement and adoption of new research methods, technologies, and work processes. Seven teams were formed to identify goals for each of the statements. The composition of these teams varied, with some including students, faculty, and our Carleton colleagues. The planning document is in final review by our Faculty Library Committee, the Provost, and the President.

St. Olaf recently moved our Research Desk Services to our Circulation Desk. This move doesn't signify a merging of the two areas, but instead a deepening of their collaboration. Student employees from each area were trained jointly trained in core services with the expectation that each can serve as a basic backup for the other. Librarians and staff also went through similar training. Feedback from students and faculty on the desk location has been overwhelmingly positive. Our new Access Services Librarian fully represents our commitment to this model, as she has a joint appointment in both Access Services and Research and Instruction.

As of June 1, 2015 the St. Olaf Libraries will assume the responsibilities for maintaining the 20,000 volume Kierkegaard Library collection. The Kierkegaard Library is owned by the college, but has operated independently since it first opened in 1976. Prior to that time, it was a private collection of Howard V. and Edna H. Hong. The library staff is in the process of assessing the collection to determine preservation (many of the materials are pre-1856) and cataloging needs. We are very excited to have this opportunity.

University of Northwestern St. Paul (Ruth McGuire)

One piece of good news from UNW- Lindsey Daggett began work early January at the library, filling the position of Weekend/Periodicals Supervisor. I had been down a staff person for an entire year so that we were all excited to see her come on board and are now functioning at full staffing levels. Her training and orientation into the position & UNW has been made easier since she was formerly a library student employee, graduating from UNW in December.

University of Saint Thomas (Dan Gjelten)

Following the completion of the University's strategic plan, the Libraries are holding monthly all staff conversations about our own strategic direction. We'll be reviewing our vision and mission statements, and then taking on the future of collections, library space, research/instruction, organizational structure, etc. and trying to do it with as much staff involvement as possible while also being efficient and honoring everyone's time. Sometime during the 15/16 academic year, the Libraries will conduct an external program review.

Intota implementation: Along with the rest of the CLIC consortium, we are spending a lot of time working on the migration to ProQuest Intota. It has involved a great deal of communication between the developers and our library staff.

The UST Libraries conducted the LibQUAL survey in the fall. We found that we'd increased in user satisfaction since the first time we'd done the survey (2008) and scored higher than our comparable academic libraries who conducted the survey in 2014. We certainly learned a lot about our users interactions with the library. We received just under 500 comments along with the answers to the questions. My personal favorite comment, which I think nicely describes the challenge of academic libraries in an information rich world: "Excellent resources, but it seems more difficult than it should be to get the resources, and oftentimes the information can be overwhelming." You can say that again.

Another survey will be conducted this spring with our graduating seniors, who were polled as incoming freshmen regarding their research skills. The same questions will be asked this cohort and we hope to find that they've improved their skills!

East Central Regional Library

Barbara Misselt

No report submitted.

State Government/Special Libraries Report

Liz Reppe

DEED Library (Dru Frykberg)

The DEED Library is partnering with Minitex to promote the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM), especially LearningExpress.

Matt Lee of Minitex is providing training for staff serving job seekers so they can recommend LearningExpress at DEED's nearly 50 statewide WorkForce Centers. Agency colleagues are excited to refer clients to LearningExpress to explore careers, create resumes and cover letters, prepare for employment exams and more.

Consider following @deedlibrarian on Twitter to learn about DEED resources and services of interest to librarians.

Legislative Reference Library (Elizabeth Lincoln)

The Legislative Reference Library librarians have been busy with reference work as the legislative session gets into full swing. Other staff have been busy processing the many reports the Legislature requires to be produced at the beginning of the legislative session.

The Legislative Reference Library and the Department of Natural Resources Library have been exploring a joint project that will expand the electronic versions of DNR publications in both libraries.

State Law Library (Liz Reppe)

The State Law Library has debuted its new Facebook page. We encourage you to visit the page and “like us”! We can also be found on Twitter @StateLawLibrary.

In February, the library hosted a screening of the documentary [Who Built Our Capitol](http://www.whobuiltourcapitol.org/). This film tells the story of the workers who came from across the state and country to build our statehouse. Film-maker Randy Croce was present to talk about the making of the documentary. Marvin Anderson, former State Law Librarian, also joined us to talk about his grandfather, who was one of the workers featured in the film. The film can be borrowed from the State Law Library or can be viewed online at <http://www.whobuiltourcapitol.org/>.

In January, State Law Librarian Liz Reppe traveled to Detroit Lakes to talk with librarians from the Lake Agassiz Regional Library System about legal resources and State Law Library’s services to libraries, librarians and the public. While there, she also visited the Becker County Law Library to get a tour and learn about its self-help clinic.

The State Law Library also hosted a free continuing legal education program entitled “Stress, Addiction, Mental Illness and the Rules of Professional Responsibility”. Our CLE programs are open to all and many attorneys from around the capitol complex attend. This program was repeated a few weeks later as a WebEx for law clerks in outstate Minnesota. In January Dennis Skrade retired. Dennis was the Head of Technical Services and worked at the State Law Library for over 29 years. At his going away party Dennis was serenaded by a fellow bagpiper. Video of the performance and other pictures of the event are available on our Facebook page.

State University Libraries’ Report

Joan Roca

Metropolitan State University (Christine Schafer)

Metropolitan State University Library has successfully changed two MSUAASF librarian positions (Director of Technical Services and Cataloger/Acquisitions) to IFO positions. We will be advertising for these two new positions before the end of this month. The position titles are Eresources and Discovery Librarian, and Cataloging and Acquisitions Librarian. We’re very excited about this positive change.

Last Wednesday night, 4/29, the university library in collaboration with the Dayton’s Bluff Branch of the SPPL and the Institute for Community Engagement and Scholarship, hosted a Video Gaming Event featuring games from the past 4 decades. We had very good participation, 79 attendees.

Minnesota State University Moorhead (Brittney Goodman)

The MSU Moorhead Library’s Percent for Art committee will be meeting with four finalists for a 100,000 art installation in April.

Minnesota State University, Mankato (Joan Roca)

One of the main activities this semester was to finish our program review work and prepare for the external visit, which took place this week. The reviewers were very engaging and stimulated great conversations. We are excited in anticipation of their report as the visit has generated very positive energy to start our next program cycle.

We have recovered well from the unfortunate suicide incident that occurred in our building at the beginning of February. It was tough for a couple of weeks but we were moved and energized by the caring support we received from across our campus and beyond. We thank those of you who sent cards and messages of support.

We are preparing to deal with some budget challenges that are due, like at most MnSCU institutions, to enrollment declines and lower state funding.

Southwest Minnesota State University (Kathleen Ashe)

Recent Projects and Activities

- Upon completion of the library's self-study in the fall, the McFarland Library brought in Dr. Joan Roca, Minnesota State University, Mankato to review our operations and services. We will use both our self-study and Dr. Roca's report next year as we develop our next three year strategic plan.
- The Library launched our [SMSU Digital Archives](#) website this February with an article in the Marshall Independent newspaper and through our the university's news source SMSU Today. Librarian Pam Sukalski, project leader, was interviewed for our school news station KSSU News about the project as well. This project has been largely funded through grants from the SMSU Foundation. Initial comments from Foundation Board members, the Alumni Director and an alumnus from California, as well as the Athletics Department have been exceedingly positive. Librarians at Metropolitan State have asked Pam to consult with them as they prepare their own digital archives.
- Staff updates and
- The Library faculty has elected Pam Sukalski, Instruction/Web Services Librarian, as the next department chair/University Librarian for a three year term beginning next fall. Prof. Sukalski has also been appointed the University's Interim Assessment Coordinator for spring semester and in that capacity she attended AAC&U General Education and Assessment conference. This was held in conjunction with National Value Rubric Training which she also attended as she will be serving as one of three project raters from SMSU for the Minnesota Pilot Project we are participating in with AAC&U. She will be rating projects in the area of Critical Thinking.
- Pam is also presenting at the [14th Annual Information Literacy Summit presented by DePaul University Library](#) and Moraine Valley Community College Library on April 10th. She and Dr. Lori Baker, English Professor, will present on a pilot project they are conducting with Dr. Baker's ENG151: First Year Academic Writing course. The presentation is entitled: Meeting Students Where They Are: Individualizing Information Literacy Instruction in a Composition Classroom.
- Librarians Mara Wiggins and Maria Kingsbury presented at the February 26 Faculty Forum "Walking Dead University". Prof. Kingsbury presented Constructing and deconstructing disability and Prof. Wiggins presented The zombie genre, A second presentation is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7 at 7pm at the Marshall/Lyon Co Public Library.
- Mara Wiggins has also been invited to present at the MnWE Conference 2015 (Minnesota Writing and English) held at Inver Hills Community College March 26-27. She will be at a roundtable presenting "Individual Research Consultations: Targeting a Student's Research Needs."
- Pam Sukalski and Kathleen Ashe will be attending the ACRL Conference in Portland Oregon later in March.
- The Library has been granted a 50% fixed term position for the next academic year. This will be primarily an instruction position. We hope that this position will be replaced with a full time probationary position in FY17.

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

Wendy Lougee

Recent Programs and Projects

CIC Geospatial Data Discovery Project

Geospatial data are increasingly critical to research (geospatial data are data that can be given a geographic coordinate location). A group of geospatial librarians within the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC = Big 10+ University of Chicago) has been working on a collaborative effort to provide access to geospatial data. The University of Minnesota is taking the lead on this project, with help and support from U-Spatial, a campus consortium of colleges and the Libraries.

The project will expand the University of Minnesota Libraries' implementation of an Open Geoportal, using a spatial interface for data sets held by CIC institutions. CIC partners will share metadata and linkages to data sets to be incorporated in the Geoportal discovery interface. Test the portal here: [Spatial Data @ University of Minnesota](#).

Content Services Initiative

Launched officially in June 2014, the Content Services Initiative is developing a service model to support the creation, production and dissemination of digital scholarship including an investigation of the service and platform needs for content creation by the University's faculty and instructors.

In addition to offering consultation services on all areas of publishing, the initiative will provide infrastructure and services to disseminate content. Early projects include ejournals and migrating robust, longstanding blogs to a stable and enduring publishing platform.

Open Textbook Library

A new, Wordpress based Open Textbook Library (OTL) will be released Spring 2015. The new OTL will include the ability to build a repository of open textbooks and present open textbooks in a number of different formats (PDF, EPUB, HTML, etc.) all in a new professional design. A proposal has been submitted to CIC provosts to solicit institutional partners in the form of contributors of open textbooks and hosting of workshops to engage faculty in the issues surrounding open textbooks and concerning participation in a U of M initiated open textbook project. Several campuses have agreed to participate.

Partnership for Affordable Content

The Partnership for Affordable Content project will soon solicit proposals and award development grants to faculty and instructors seeking to forgo their high cost textbooks and course materials in favor of open textbooks and resources, library licensed content, and lawful determinations of fair use. We hope to begin working with 20-30 courses and faculty/instructors in the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters based on proposals received.

Grant Awards

Doris Duke Foundation awards grant to U Libraries

The University of Minnesota Libraries, in partnership with Penumbra Theatre Company, received \$168,750 from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation to support the adoption and use of "Umbra: Search African American History." This freely available online search tool will provide access to digital materials on African American history and culture from around the country. The Umbra project is a partnership between the University of Minnesota Libraries' Givens Collection of African American Literature and Performing Arts Archives and Penumbra Theatre Company. Curator Cecily Marcus is principal investigator for the grant. The first and second phases, 2012-2015, were dedicated to research and development of the online search tool and were funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Staff Appointments

Sheri Stone has joined the Libraries as Director of Human Resources and Organization Development. Stone came to the Libraries from the University of Minnesota's Office of Human Resources where she was Assistant Director-Labor Relations.

CURRENT EXHIBITS, Future Programs

For full information on events and exhibits, visit [continuum](#).

“The Job Is Never Done”: Fifty Years of Documenting Social Welfare History
Exhibit on view through May 22, 2015
Elmer L. Andersen Library Gallery

Weird, Wild & Wonderful: The Second New York Botanical Garden Triennial Exhibit on view
through May 15, 2015 Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Reedy Gallery
T.R. Anderson Gallery, Wilson Library 4th floor

6th Annual Pankake Poetry Event: Michael Dennis Browne April 16, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Elmer L. Andersen Library

Kerlan Award Ceremony, honoring Sharon Creech
April 18 @ 12:00 pm -2:30 pm Andersen Library

Cookbook Author Deborah Madison; Friends’ Annual Celebration
May 5, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm McNamara Alumni Center