

Executive Director's Report

For November 2004

Jan Ison

*Executive Director
Lincoln Trail Libraries System
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CODI Conference

Pat Boze and I, as well as Nanette Wargo from Champaign Public Library, attended the CODI (Customers of Dynix, Inc.) Conference in Portland, Oregon from November 3–5. Some sessions included a sneak preview of the next version of the Horizon web catalog. This product is in beta test right now and should be available after the first of the year. Acquisitions, Cataloging, and Serials sessions, as well as new Horizon products like Electronic Resource Management and OpenURL provided much new information. Pat and I also met with Jack Blount, Dynix CEO, and other management-level employees to discuss outstanding issues.

Diversity Consultant

Following receipt of applications and interviews, Kit Condill was hired to manage the LTLS grant project to promote the use and development of library services for culturally diverse communities. He will provide consulting services to libraries, governing officials, and other agencies in all topics related to cultural diversity, conduct training and education sessions, assist libraries in program development, work with contractors, and maintain a web site for the project.

ALA Budget Analysis and Review Committee

I attended the quarterly meeting of ALA/BARC. The key purpose of the committee is to review and make recommendations regarding financial issues for ALA. Among the topics of discussion was review of the FY 2004 audit, status of income and expenditures for 2005, options for increased revenue—possibly a dues increase, and a look at long term financial prospects for ALA.

Synergy

This was the last session of Synergy III, which was held at Hickory Ridge Conference Center in Lisle, Illinois. As with the other sessions, this was very uplifting and exciting. The most exciting part was to work with a team of synergists and assist in helping them address issues related to their growth in the library profession. It was a real pleasure for me to be a mentor, and I highly recommend that any person invited to do this accept.

ILA Nominating Committee

I am a member of the ILA Nominating Committee. We met at ILA Conference and again via conference call in November. We agreed on people to invite to be candidates for ILA offices. We had a very good list of potential candidates, and we ended with an excellent slate for the spring election.