

Executive Director's Report

For January 2005

Jan Ison

*Executive Director
Lincoln Trail Libraries System
February 28, 2005*

ALA Midwinter

ALA Midwinter Conference was held in Boston from January 14 – 18, 2005. The highlight of the conference was the President's Program, which included Malcomb Gladwell, the author of The Tipping Point and Blink. Mr. Gladwell had some interesting insights into how events or products can transform into what he calls epidemics. The Tipping Point is a great read and I highly recommend it. Other presenters were Nancy Talanian, Director of the Bill of Rights Defense Committee, and Margaret Blood, President of Strategies for Children. This was a very exciting program. The Bill of Rights Defense Committee web site <http://www.bordc.org> is very useful. LTLS will be using this reference as we discuss issues with the members.

ILSDO Institute

The ILSDO Institute was held in East Peoria despite a major snowstorm. The main presenter was Andy Horsnell who provided an overview of business development for libraries with emphasis on earned income. Another part of the program with OCLC Vice President Cathy De Rosa was postponed due to the weather. We will be holding that session this spring in the central part of the state.

LINC Directors Group

Several meetings were held during the month. The LINC Directors Group reviewed recommendations from the IType Reduction Committee and the LINC Pac Committee. The recommendations have been distributed to LINC members for comments. The LINC Policy Council will take action on these items as soon as possible.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee met and reviewed continued membership eligibility. They also approved a draft revision of the membership Policy that was forwarded to the Board of Directors. The draft policy was distributed to the membership for comments with formal action anticipated at the February Board of Directors meeting.

Lumpkin Grant

Mattoon Public Library, along with several other libraries in the LTLS and RPLS area, received a major grant from the Lumpkin Foundation to purchase materials for young adults. Pat Boze and I attended a planning meeting to discuss how to identify these joint purchase items in the LINC Catalog.

Staffing Changes

The last day of January turned what had been a good month into one that was less than successful. Kim Fraser, LTLS Business Manager, resigned to accept a position at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois. This is a "big" loss for the system, but we all wish Kim well. Kim's last day at LTLS will be February 25, 2005.