

Consultants' Report For May 2005

Lincoln Trail Libraries System
June 20, 2005

Diversity Grant Activities	Kit Condill attended meetings of the Champaign County Jail Library Group, strategizing about how to improve library services to inmates at county jails. He also attended a meeting of the Latino Partnership of Greater Champaign County, along with Amy Weber, and discussed the possibility of developing a partnership. LTLS held a virtual I-LINC presentation on "Collection Development for Diverse Communities." It was given by one of the Diversity Forum speakers. Other activities included planning the Diversity website and preparing for FY2006 grant applications.
ALA Conference Bus Trip	Plans were finalized for a day-long bus trip to see the ALA Conference exhibits in Chicago on Monday, June 27. Two busses will make the trip, stopping at Monticello, Champaign, and Gibson City. There are currently 76 people signed up and there is a strong effort to build additional attendance. There are 34 spaces still available.
Cataloging Maintenance Center	The LTLS CMC received a final 19 items for the Original Cataloging Pilot Project from assigned libraries in the Alliance Library System. The CMCs meet in Springfield June 29 to discuss publicity and procedures for the new upfront original cataloging service that will begin in FY2006.
Urbana Ribbon Cutting Ceremony	Amy Weber, Pat Boze, and Joe Sciacca attended the dedication of the recently completed Urbana Free Library Addition.
Eldridge Retirement Party	Amy Weber, Donna Schaal and Joe Sciacca attended a retirement party in honor of Jim Eldridge. Eldridge was a long time board member at both Rantoul Public Library and LTLS.
LINC Configuration	Automation staff worked on several projects during May: 35 libraries submitted forms to change their configuration to the new shared itypes, Remote Patron Authentication software was set up and tested, and an initial testing of the Horizon server's response time, according to the contract benchmarks, was conducted at LTLS with help from LINC member libraries.
Digital Collections	Another meeting of the ebook/downloadable audio book committee was held at Lincoln Trail. There is a lot of interest in moving forward with this as a LINC consortium initiative. LTLS has received several quotes for this service and there are funds in the Automation Equity Fund to begin to test this service.
Prompt Cat	LTLS Received its first records from OCLC utilizing the Prompt Cat product. Staff was able to download the records and input into LINC. Staff reviewed the records for quality and determined that this will be helpful for the Cataloging Centers in the future.
Book Market at the Square	2nd Annual Book Market at the Square. LTLS is again hosting the web site for the Book Market at the Square event scheduled for August 27, 2005. The event brings together East Central Illinois libraries, book vendors, and authors to celebrate books, reading and literacy. Last year over 2000 people attended. This year Lincoln Trail Libraries System and Champaign Public Library, Parkland College Library, The University of Illinois Library, and The Urbana Free Public Library are hosting this popular book market again. It will be a fun day of activities for all ages including readings by local authors, craft ideas for kids and an Adult Spelling Bee. The web site is located at http://www.lincolntrail.info/bookmarket/index.html
IOUG Meeting	On May 13, staff attended the Illinois OCLC Users Group meeting in Chicago. Joe Sciacca developed a presentation on the use of the Traverse Web system for accessing the library's OCLC statements online. The Traverse Web system will enable libraries to access their account information and print needed invoiced and statements reducing the need to mail this information to libraries
Library Visits	Carle Foundation Hospital Library, Casey-Westfield Community Unit School District C-4, Champaign Community Unit 4 Schools, Giertz Education Center at Krannert Art Museum, Marshall Public Library, Milford Community Consolidated District #280, Tolono Unit 7 School District, Tuscola School District #301, Villa Grove Community Unit School District #302