

**ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY
CONSULTANT'S REPORT
JUNE 2007**

If you have any questions about this report, please contact me.
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FY08 SYSTEM AREA AND PER CAPITA GRANT PRESENTATIONS

Again this year the Illinois State Library will host presentations from each library system in July. Repeating last year's request, a minimum of four people should give the presentation: the System Director, the Board President, the business manager and another person whom you deem appropriate. We invite you to bring as many system Board members and as many staff as you like. These will be open meetings and you are encouraged to attend other system's presentations. Director Craig has asked that you focus on three areas in your presentations, your proposed budget, emerging trends and priorities both for the system and your membership and the system's triumphs and accomplishments.

The schedule is as follows:

Date	Time	System
7-19-07	8:30 – 12:00	Rolling Prairie Library System
7-19-07	1:00 – 4:30	DuPage Library System
7-23-07	8:30 – 12:00	Lincoln Trail Library System
7-23-07	1:00 – 4:30	Lewis & Clark Library System
7-24-07	8:30 – 12:00	Metropolitan Library System
7-24-07	1:00 – 4:30	Shawnee Library System
7-30-07	1:00 – 4:30	Alliance Library System
7-31-07	8:30 – 12:00	Prairie Area Library System
7-31-07	1:00 – 4:30	North Suburban Library System

NEW EMPLOYEES

Lawren Tucker of Petersburg has been hired as the new Chief Deputy Director of the State Library. He begins work on June 18th. Lawren most recently served as Policy Director for Illinois Senate President Emil Jones, Jr. and the Senate Democratic Caucus. Lawren succeeds Mike Ragen, who retired in January.

Lisa Waller has begun work as a Library Aide at the State Library Talking Book and Braille Service.

Brandon Myles and Brandon Lounsberry are serving as summer workers at the State Library.

5,000 ILLINET MEMBER LIBRARIES

Karen Egan of the Library Development Group did some calculating this week and determined we now have more than 5,000 libraries in ILLINET (Illinois Library Information Network):

PUBLIC - 797 (includes branches in 646 agencies)

ACADEMIC - 209

SPECIAL - 478

SCHOOL - 3,689 (libraries in 759 districts and private/parochial school libraries)

Total - 5,173

Congratulations to all Illinois librarians and keep up the good work!

LSTA REPORTS

The LSTA periodic report is due July 11, 2007, and the final narrative report is due on or before September 1, 2007. Libraries are encouraged to submit all reports as soon as their grant activities are complete. Submitting reports early is recommended—that way you can cross one more task off your “to do” list!

The LSTA final report is available at:

http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/pdfs/lsta07_finalreport.pdf

LINCOLN DVD AVAILABLE AT LIBRARIES

The Illinois State Library recently hosted the downstate Illinois premiere of a 35-minute documentary about Abraham Lincoln's 25-year pre-Presidential career as a lawyer.

Thanks to the generosity of the Illinois Judges Association and Illinois State Bar Association, every library in Illinois will receive a free copy of the documentary in DVD format. Copies for academic and public libraries, including branches, were sent to the regional library systems through ILDS this week. School and special libraries will receive their DVDs in September. Preparations are already underway to mark the 200th anniversary of President Lincoln's birth in 2009.

HOW MANY ILLINOIS LIBRARIES?

Karen Egan of the Library Development Group did some calculating this week and determined we now have more than 5,000 libraries in ILLINET (Illinois Library Information Network):

LIBRARY TYPE	NUMBER
Academic	209
Public	797 (646 agencies + branches)
School	3,689 (759 districts + attendance centers; public, private, and parochial schools)
Special	478
TOTAL	5,173

Reminder: If your library has not updated its ELI (Every Library in ILLINET) record, please do! The link to ELI is <http://eliillinois.org>. Contact Vicki Strohm (vstrohm@ilsos.net) for logins, passwords, and help!

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

Letters about Literature is a national reading and writing promotion sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress in partnership with Target Stores. Recently, winners of the annual Letters about Literature contest were honored at an awards ceremony from Secretary of State Jesse White's Chicago office.

For more information regarding Letters About Literature:

<http://www.illinoiscenterforthebook.org/projects.html>.

NEW PROJECT NEXT GENERATION PARTICIPATING LIBRARY

The Hayner Public Library District in Alton has been selected to serve as the newest host for Project Next Generation. Project Next Generation is a statewide mentoring program for young people established by Secretary White. Other Project Next Generation sites include public libraries in Beardstown, Bensenville, Bethany, Bloomington, Carbondale, Centralia, Champaign, Danville, Decatur, Des Plaines, Dixon, Elmwood Park, Effingham, Freeport, Harrisburg, Joliet, Kankakee, Macomb, Loves Park, Peoria, Quincy, Richton Park, Sparta and Springfield.

PUBLIC LIBRARY PER CAPITA AND EQUALIZATION AID GRANT FY2008

As stated in the FY2008 Illinois Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid grant requirements, libraries must submit a Disaster Plan that has been adopted by the library board after October 15, 2005. To access information about Disaster Planning, Basic Guidelines, Disaster Prevention, Disaster Recovery and an example of a Disaster Plan prototype, log on to:

http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/equalizationgrant.html#percapita. Another excellent plan is the dPlan(tm): The Online Disaster-Planning Tool. Medium and large libraries might find this plan particularly useful. The link to the dPlan is <http://www.dplan.org/>.

The 2008 Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant applications will be mailed in early July. The grant application and all supporting documentation must be postmarked on or before October 15, 2007 or hand delivered to the Illinois State Library no later than 4:30 p.m. on October 15, 2007. For questions please contact Mary Downing at 217-782-5506, 800-665-5576 or mdowning@ilsos.net.

ASKAWAY

This virtual reference program recently marked its one-year birthday. The ISL AskAway program coordinator, Debra Aggert, will now highlight monthly the best of the best questions and answers posed. During the month of April there were about 4,000 questions between chat sessions and email questions. There are approximately 230 libraries participating in this program.

E-RICH

The Illinois State Library's Electronic Resource Service web page has been totally revamped. A new feature of this page is the Consideration Application that allows for electronic resource suggestions for possible inclusion in the menu of E-RICH offerings. These suggestions may originate from librarians, patrons, and vendors. The newly revised page is located at:

http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/erich.html.

NOVELIST AND NOVELIST K-8

Novelist & Novelist K-8 are available to ILLINET member academic, public, special, high school, middle school and elementary school library buildings. The Illinois State Library will subsidize 50% of the cost for each library building.

Application and Invoice Instructions can be found at:

http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/pdfs/novelist2007_invoice.pdf

Contact Gwen Harrison (gharrison@ilsos.net) or 217-785-7334 for further information.

WEBJUNCTION ILLINOIS WANTS YOUR PICTURES!

A soft launch of WebJunction Illinois is forthcoming. Developers want to create a “group portrait” of the Illinois library family. They want pictures of your libraries, staff and volunteers, programs at your libraries, special collections, artwork and artifacts. All ILLINET member libraries are invited to be part of this historic project. Visit the LibraryU homepage at <http://www.libraryu.org> to find out how to upload to the Illinois Libraries Flickr photo group.

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

The response to this project has been outstanding. The Illinois Veterans History Project is designed to create a permanent record of the names and remembrances of American war veterans and civilians who served.

Secretary White will soon send public libraries a colorful poster to display along with the forms. To pick up additional forms contact Pat McGuckin at pmcguckin@ilsos.net or download a PDF file and print out your own at http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/ard1383.pdf.

Additionally, the Veterans History Project will be expanding to include audio taped interviews. Many librarians have commented that they would like to conduct these interviews as part of their patron outreach programs.

The Illinois State Library has arranged for an official with the Library of Congress to conduct a training session on conducting such interviews as a pre-conference event at this year's Illinois Library Association annual conference in Springfield. This training session has been scheduled for October 9th from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m.

SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (SPLMI)

Friday, June 8th marked the conclusion of another successful SPLMI. Forty public library administrators and directors new to the Illinois library community participated in this library continuing education event, sponsored by the Illinois State Library and the University of Illinois at Springfield.

INSTITUTE FOR SCHOOL AND PUBLIC LIBRARIANS (ISPL)

June 10 marks the beginning of this library continuing education event for 50 Illinois school and public librarians. Bradley University (Peoria, Illinois) hosts this Institute in cooperation with the Illinois State Library.

ILLINOIS CENTER FOR THE BOOK AWARD

Bonnie Matheis, Coordinator of the Illinois Center for the Book Award, received a Boorstin Center for the Book Awards, presented by John Y. Cole, Director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The Illinois Center for the Book was recognized “for celebrating and honoring Illinois authors through projects that have been created, expanded or reinstated in recent years, including the Illinois Emerging Writers Competition, the Illinois Authors Directory and the Illinois Literary Heritage Award.”

FORTHCOMING

6/21-27/2007	American Library Association Annual Conference – Washington, D.C.
6/29/2007	Deadline for entries for 3 rd annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition, information and entry form at http://www.illinoiscenterforthebook.org/PDFs/2007EmergingWritersEntryForm.pdf
7/12/2007	ILLINET Network Advisory Council Meeting, Illinois State Library
8/7-9/2007	Synergy, Pere Marquette State Park Lodge, Grafton
9/20/2007	Government Documents Conference, Illinois State Library
9/20-21/2007	Reaching Forward South annual conference, Springfield – register at www.reachingforwardsouth.org
10/9-12/2007	Illinois Library Association Annual Conference, Springfield
10/25-26/2007	Health Science Librarians of Illinois Annual Conference, Urbana
11/1-3/2007	Illinois School Library Media Association Conference, Springfield