

Executive Director's Report For February 2005

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Lincoln Trail Libraries System
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OCLC Meeting

I attended a meeting in Springfield along with LTLS staff members Pat Boze, Kim Fraser, Maria Nowak, and Donna Schaal and several Illinois State Library staff members including Mike Ragen, Acting Director of the Illinois State Library. The group discussed numerous issues related to OCLC billing, such as refunds and late payments. The State Library said they intend to do another grant for the Lincoln Trail contract next year.

OCLC Members Council

OCLC Members Council was held in Dublin, Ohio on February 6–8, 2005. More than 175 delegates, alternates, Board members, network directors, guests, and OCLC staff participated. The theme for this meeting was “Future Patterns of Technology Landscapes: Moving Libraries Beyond Their Comfort Zones” and focused on WorldCat, e-content, and the OCLC strategy and finances.

ISLMA School Library Study

I attended a forum sponsored by the Illinois School Library Media Association regarding the findings of the Keith Curry Lance “Illinois Study of School Libraries.” In addition to a presentation from Lance on the study findings, sessions focused on how to communicate the study findings around the state and how to make strong presentations.

Newman Public Library

Joe Sciacca and I participated in an input session for a new strategic plan for Newman Public Library. The library received an LSTA grant to assist with this process. There were more than 20 community representatives participating, and Wiseman Consulting Group facilitated the event. Joe and I appreciated being asked to participate in the program.

LINC Director's Group

The regular LINC Director's Group meeting was held on February 23. The February meeting is traditionally the meeting when libraries are informed of the LINC costs for Central Site and Cataloging Center for the next fiscal year. In addition, libraries are provided an opportunity to review data to be sure that the elements of the formula for each library are correct. In addition, committee members from LINC libraries provided an update on activities of LINC committees.

LINC Cataloging Center Users Group

Following the LINC Directors Group, staff of libraries that use the LTLS Cataloging Center participated in an update on the Center. LTLS staff described the plans to eliminate the cataloging backlog. In addition, LTLS described the usage of prompt cat, a service of OCLC that is available as part of the Illinois Group Services package. LTLS will begin using this service to expedite some of the cataloging.