

Executive Director's Report

For October 2004

Jan Ison

*Executive Director
Lincoln Trail Libraries System
November 15, 2004*

- Library Meetings** LTLS staff met with the staff of Champaign Public Library to discuss ongoing issues related to Dynix. The key issue for Champaign is response time. LTLS staff deployed a sniffer on the network at both LTLS and at Champaign. Following that, a Dynix network team came to LTLS to examine the situation onsite and meet with Champaign staff and ICN staff to further explore options. The outcome is that Dynix and ICN agree that the Champaign "Citrix" server needs to be "rebuilt" because of the heavy traffic on the network. The Horizon traffic is only about 3.5% of the network bandwidth.
- Board Visits** Paula Kaufman and I visited Mahomet Public Library District and met with Lynn Schmit. Mahomet is in great need of a new facility. The library is very cramped; the staff must weed the collection regularly, resulting in a very new collection with little depth. Susan McKinney and I visited the Illinois Fire Service Institute Library. Lian Ruan gave us a tour and update on all the projects that they are involved in. They have plans to build a library facility in the next few years.
- ILSDO** The System Directors met in Peoria for a one-day meeting. The discussion included final preparation for System Presidents' meeting the next day, Advocacy Day 2005, funding for Illinois Library Systems and library grants, System Consultants Workshop, and other shared concerns.
- Presidents' Roundtable** The System Presidents and Directors met in Peoria on October 16. The meeting was designed to begin a shared planning strategy for systems in the next year. In 2005 Systems will be 40 years old and the time is now to plan for the next 40 years. The meeting was discussion-filled with several directions agreed on.
- Committee Meetings** The Membership and Planning/Policy Committees met in October. The Membership Committee reviewed 66 libraries for continued membership eligibility. In addition, the committee began discussion on revision of the current membership criteria with the goal of recommending OCLC membership as a criteria for full membership in LTLS. The Planning/Policy Committee reviewed the Interlibrary Loan Policy and the Reciprocal Access Policy with the intent of updating the policies. LTLS staff will draft language for revisions of the policies to provide to the committee for review.
- LINC Directors Group** On October 13, LTLS held the first LINC Directors Group meeting virtually. We used a tool called WebEx, along with a conference call, for library directors to connect to the meeting. LTLS staff were able to present a PowerPoint information update along with live demonstrations of Dynix products for the Directors to see. The participants could ask questions. Many hours of travel time were avoided by using the new technology. We will continue to investigate this option for meetings and training.
- OCLC Members Council** The first OCLC Members Council meeting for FY2005 was held in late October. Agenda items included discussion of the Environmental Scan with a keynote of gaming. Groups discussed the options that gaming provided for library service and how gamers communicate is a possible opportunity for how librarians should communicate with each other and patrons. We also received an update from Jay Jordan and information about various global perspectives on OCLC services.