

Consultants' Report For October 2005

Lincoln Trail Libraries System
November 21, 2005

Horizon 8.0

Lincoln Trail has been chosen to be a beta partner in the testing of Horizon 8.0. As a result, Pat Boze participated in two day-long SirsiDynix Horizon 8.0 introductory training sessions. Donna Schaal was able to attend one session. Nanette Wargo and Sharon Sizemore, Champaign Public Library, later came to Lincoln Trail to view the Horizon 8.0 Acquisitions and Cataloging modules.

Continuing Education and CLaSS

The deadline for subscribing to CLaSS was October 21, 2005. Fifty-one agencies subscribed, representing 78 buildings. There were a few agencies that did not re-subscribe this year, which were primarily schools. According to these agencies, budget and time constraints were the biggest factor impacting their ability to subscribe. In FY2005, 51 agencies subscribed (89 buildings); and in FY2004, there were 37 subscriptions (64 buildings). The decrease in buildings from FY2004 to FY2005 was largely due to the number of schools that did not re-subscribe. Nine agencies subscribed for the first time. There are 49 agencies in LTLS that have never subscribed to CLaSS (2 academic, 30 school, 16 public, and 7 special).

Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning Committee met for their third meeting. They developed working drafts of the mission and vision statements and began reviewing the ILSDO survey of Illinois libraries. At the next meeting, they will conduct a SWOT analysis and continue their discussion of the survey.

Annual Illinois Library Association Conference

Consultants went to the annual ILA conference in Peoria. The highlight of the conference was the System's 40th anniversary party. The event was well attended. Consultants attended the keynote address entitled "Service at Google Speed—How Libraries Must Compete," as well as many other programs on topics including technology needs of Spanish speakers, customer service, creating a fund development office, and how free is our press. Vanessa Whippo participated with Cataloging Maintenance Center representatives from Prairie Area Library System and Lewis and Clark Library System in a talk table at the conference.

Lectures

Amy Weber and Joe Sciacca attended two programs at the University of Illinois. Roy Tennant, User Services Architect of the California Digital Library, spoke at the GSLIS Windsor Lecture series. Tennant discussed the impact of Google and Amazon, etc. on user expectations. The 2005 Distinguished Lecturer was Dr. Jorge Orlando Melo Gonzalez, Director of the Department of Libraries and Fine Art at the Banco de la Republica and of the Luis Angel Arango Library. He spoke on "Democracy and Libraries in Columbia: From Oral Culture to the World of the Book."

Library Visits

Central Citizens' Library District, Clifton; DeLand-Weldon CUSD #57; Gilman-Danforth District Library; Hoopeston Public Library District; Onarga Community Public Library District; Paxton Carnegie Library; Rantoul Public Library; Watseka Public Library