

# **Executive Director's Report**

## **For July 2005**

*Jan Ison*  
**Executive Director**  
**Lincoln Trail Libraries System**  
**September 19, 2005**

**Strategic Planning Committee** The first meeting of the LTLS Strategic Planning Committee was held on July 27, 2005. Committee members shared their experiences with planning--what worked, what could have worked better--and made suggestions about the process based on their experiences. Input mechanisms were discussed. Ideas for topics and speakers for a kick-off meeting for the strategic plan were presented.

**Illinois Library System Directors Meeting** The System Directors met at Lincoln Trail on July 6-7, 2005. Anne Craig updated the Directors on types of information to include in system presentations to the State Library that would be useful for ISL staff. Anne is particularly interested in getting an "advocacy day" attendance and spirit similar to the Texas program. Discussion began on how to accomplish that, and it will take lots of partnerships with libraries in Illinois and library organizations. Other key topics were the celebration of Systems' 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the survey that will be sent to all Illinois libraries and library staff to consider the future of libraries and library cooperation.

**OCLC Pricing Committee Meeting** The ad hoc committee appointed by the Director of the Illinois State Library reconvened on July 8, 2005 to begin to discuss the options for pricing OCLC Group Services to ILLINET members in July 2007 once the current Group Services Contract expires. The group reviewed a lot of data and began exploring equitable methods of cost distribution that did not rely on transactions. It is the goal of the committee to have a recommendation to the Director in the fall.

**LTLS Budget Presentation** On July 14, 2005 Nina Pals, James Quisenberry, Laura Barnes, Pat Boze, Joe Sciacca, and I traveled to Springfield to make our 2006 Budget Presentation to the ISL Management and Consulting team. The presentation was positively received and there was good dialogue between those from ISL and the LTLS representatives.

**World Future Society Conference** At the end of July, I attended the World Future Society conference, which was held in Chicago. I had previously attended a conference in Minneapolis 5 years ago. The conference is stimulating as the topics cover a wide range of future issues. The keynote speaker was Dr. Ken Dychtwald, a psychologist, gerontologist, and author of eleven books on aging-related issues. He provided a lot of thought-provoking information about the future of aging and made me think about the library's ability to respond to that growing generation. Another speaker was Joel Barker who popularized the concept of paradigm shifts for the corporate world. Barker's topics included discussion of the implications of short and long-term changes and how to explore the implications logically and holistically. There were many more programs, and over the next months I will provide more information about what I learned during the conference.

**Illinois Library System Exhibit** The Illinois Library System legislation was signed into law on August 17, 1965. That date marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the system legislation. During the next year, systems as a group and individually will celebrate this milestone. As part of that celebration, an exhibit is being created in cooperation with Eastern Illinois University Library to display at ILA, ISLMA, and other events during the year.