



Final Report

- *I am very proud of the LTLS staff for all the hard work -- let's see you do it again.*
- *Nicely organized and good speakers. Good location and venue. Nice to have this opportunity so close to home*
- *I believe this seminar was the best. It featured the best of the best and was reasonably priced. A BER (Bureau of Educational Research) conference cost \$195 for a few hours, and your symposium covered days.*
- *The whole symposium was impressive and I'm proud to be part of LTLS*
--From LTLS Members

- *Nicely organized and good speakers. Best symposium/conference I have attended in several years. Great speakers and leaders in the field.*
THANK YOU
- *Excellent Engaging presenters timely topic*
- *Thank you!! I learned a lot!*
- *Amazing job - I don't think I've ever seen such a distinguished roster of speakers packed into 1 1/2 days. Thanks!*
- *Easily one of the best conferences I've attended -- ever! Kudos to LTLS! An excellent conference. The LTLS Staff is great and the topic is most timely. Only LTLS could pull this off as well as providing the vision. Thank you so much.*
--From other attendees

The kind words from the participants made the Symposium on the Future of the Integrated Library System worth all the effort that LTLS staff put into it. In addition all of us learned much and the content was just what we needed. I believe that LTLS met a need for many members both large and small. It was great to see people from large and small libraries, school and public, academic and special all in the same room learning together and sharing information.

The conference overall was rated excellent by 76% of the people who completed the evaluations and good by 23%. There were about an equal number of LTLS members, Other Illinois and Outside of Illinois participants for a total of 228 participants. We had 77 people attend the conference from LTLS, which represented 26 LINC libraries. A most impressive number is that 11 out of 13 LTLS Board members were able to attend the conference and 8 out of 10 LINC Policy Council members were present. This will be a great help for our working together to have this same base information. For others who want to

learn about the conference Michelle Ralston did an excellent job of summarizing the speakers' content and that is on the Symposium blog at <http://lincolntrail.typepad.com/ilssymposium>. In addition, all of the presentation slides are on the Symposium web site and the podcasts of the presentations will be up in the near future.

My assessment is that the conference and the speakers did what we asked them to do and provided a solid basis for LTLS to move forward with a technology plan that encompasses both the ILS as well as other technology initiatives. It was a great kick off for planning for the future and with lots of things to consider.

Funding

We were very fortunate in that what we charged covered our direct expenses. Certainly it did not cover staff costs, but the reason we did this was for LTLS members so that is part of the service that we offer to our members. Planning and coordinating an event with over 200 people takes a lot of time and effort. It paid off. We also believe that getting more people from outside the system area was a benefit to our members. It is good to learn from others.

What would we change?

We would probably not try to focus three events in one. We would concentrate on the main event and make it two full days and not end on a Friday evening. Librarians often work on weekends and we should try to respect people's personal time as much as possible. I would like to design a focus event for Friday evening and Saturday designed for Governing officials based on the same topic of a symposium, but not try to do it all at once. It really is too much to do all at the same time. Even if we had the same speakers come in again, I believe a different time would be beneficial to all.

Next Steps -- Planning

- Finalize membership of the Technology Planning Committee
- Finalize the charge to the Technology Planning Committee
- Develop a schedule and a timeline
- Convene a Committee
- Develop a plan

Next Steps -- Action

- Get a spell checker for LINC Pac
- Implement more instances of WorldCat Local
- Conduct a presentation on WorldCat Local for member libraries
- Conduct follow-up regional meetings for LTLS members who attended the Symposium
- Get pricing to implement Library Thing for Libraries in LINC
- Get pricing to implement WorldCat local for all LINC members

Next Steps – ILS Software

Begin a process of evaluating options for the future software for LINC as the ILS.

A Word of Thanks

Lastly I want to recognize all the LTLS staff members who put so much time and effort into the event.

Donna Schaal – Overall Coordination

Joe Sciacca – WebSite and Pod Casts

Pat Boze – OPAC Panel

Michelle Ralston – Blog and of course late night photocopying with Donna.

Janet Hamilton – Registration and Support Work

Linda Kates and Mary Johnston – Support Work

Karen Wilkinson – Website and general assistance

Ramona Rollins – Financial oversight

Everyone else – Great support of the Conference team.

Thanks to ALL.