



July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

FY2006 LINC Annual Report

MyMediaMall

MyMediaMall, a new product featuring downloadable audiobooks, e-books, and mobipocket books, was released to all LINC libraries and their patrons on October 1, 2005. This new product provides 24x7 access to an online digital library collection of over 1,000 fiction, nonfiction, and children's titles. Access is provided through either the LINCpac catalog (MediaMall tab) or directly through the MyMediaMall website (www.mymediamaill.net).

The LINC libraries became the first consortium to join the MyMediaMall group of libraries from the North Suburban (Chicago) area. In FY2006, LINC patrons circulated 20% of the total items checked out on MyMediaMall.

AskAway

The Illinois State Library introduced a new statewide cooperative virtual reference service, AskAway, this year. Several of the LINC libraries moved from the regional MyLibrarian virtual reference project to this new service during the year. Now, instead of 16 libraries answering virtual reference questions, there are over 200 statewide partners sharing the responsibilities of managing the 24x7 email/chat reference desk.

A link to the AskAway service was added to the LINCpac catalog in February, 2006.

Spanish LINCpac

After an upgrade in January, a Spanish version of LINCpac was available. Several libraries chose to have the Spanish version added to their regular PAC profile as a way to reach out to customers who speak this language.

10 Libraries Join LINC

For the first time in four years, Illinois State Library grant money was available for new libraries joining LINC. Eight libraries qualified for grants while two additional libraries funded their own startup costs. The new members are:

Kansas Public
Paris Public
Newman Regional
Sidney Public
Philo Public Library

Mattoon High School
Mattoon Junior High
Bismarck-Henning Junior High
St. Joseph Junior High
Bement Schools

LINC Policy Council

LINC Policy Council spent much of FY2006 examining whether to implement a local holds option in Horizon. A committee was appointed to investigate and make a recommendation. A test of local holds was implemented in June but was rescinded after 3 weeks of testing. This issue continues to be examined. Along with the discussion of local holds were group discussions about the value of resource sharing and the cooperative values of the LINC libraries.

A listserv, LINC-L, was set up for library staff to share questions and information on the use of Horizon.

LPC members also discussed implications of the purchase of Dynix by Sirsi, creating a new company called SirsiDynix.

FY2006 LINC Policy Council Members

- Alice Cisna, Chair
- Scott Drone-Silvers, Vice-Chair
- Rick Dulaney
- Lynn Schmit
- Mary Bissey
- Kathy Fell
- Anne Newman
- Barb Turner
- Cynthia Helms
- Fred Schlipf
- Jan Ison

Upgrades & More

Although a major upgrade to Horizon and LINCPAC (to 4.1) was cancelled mid-year, a minor Sybase and LINCPac upgrade was finished, as was a major upgrade to WebReporter 4.1. Other new products implemented during the year included:

- LiveNetwork at Champaign Public Library
- ECIP that supports PC Reservation software at Mattoon Public Library
- Receipt printers at several libraries
- Edifact & Z39.50 to support Champaign Public Library's B&T customized acquisitions/cataloging
- MediaScheduling for Unity High School
- DebtCollect for Urbana Free Library
- Horizon 8.0 testing by several volunteers and LTLS staff

FY2006 Statistics

Circulation	4,438,883
Patron Holds	511,188
Interlibrary Loans	442,636
Web Catalog Searches	2,252,753
LINC Libraries	105