TLA NEWSLETTER

State of TN Budget Woes Affect Local Libraries

Citing "the gravity of the budget situation and the falling economy," C. Warren Neel, Tennessee Commissioner of Finance and Adminstration, has asked all branches of the state government to freeze out-of-state travel, withhold payment of 25% of state grants, and prepare budget reduction plans of 5% and 10%.

In response to the request, Secretary of State Riley Darnell has frozen hiring and the purchase of nonessential items (including library materials). The State Department has also suspended the grants to local libraries that are provided through the State Library and Archives.

The suspension of these grants will directly affect the budgets of the four metropolitan public libraries, which receive $1.1 million from this source. The Nashville and Memphis libraries receive an additional $400,000 to help them provide services for the blind.

The grants are suspended "until further notice," according to Darnell. If, however, Neel's proposal for withholding 25% of the grants is applied, Nashville would lose $71,000, which it uses to buy books. The amount represents 3.3% of its book budget.

Neel's policy on out-of-state travel is a "hard freeze" that affects those working for the state library, the regional library system, and the public universities.

Neel also directed all branches of state government to "review all in-state travel and cancel any travel that is not directly related and crucial to job performance." He requests the same kind of review and cancellation of "in-state group meetings."

A casualty in the latter category includes a statewide workshop for public library trustees, sponsored by the State Library. The workshop for fiscal year 2002 has been canceled.

Individual librarians have expressed concern as to their ability to attend such in-state events as the TLA or TENN-SHARE conferences. With decisions left to each department, it is uncertain at this point how these will be affected.

The State Library also appears unlikely to begin another cohort of its Public Library Management Institute in the spring. The PLMI is a three-year training sequence expressly intended for librarians in managerial positions who do not have a master's degree in library science.

Commissioner Neel's justification for budget reduction plans notes that increases in revenue for fiscal year 2001 "are the second lowest since before 1970. The only lower rates were in the last recession."

TLA Membership Has Large Contingents of Trustees, Nashvilleans

TLA Membership Committee co-chairs Laurel Best and Donna George delivered some "interesting statistics" to the TLA Board of Directors at its August 25, 2001, meeting.

As of July 5, 2001, the total membership of the association is 658 members. Of these, the largest single membership category is that of Trustee, of which there are 166 members.

Adding members registered as Friend (10) or Retired (32) to the trustees' number produces a significant group within the association--1/3 of its members--whose service in the library field is voluntary or unpaid.

In institutional counts, the significant clusters of paid librarians are much smaller than the single trustee category.

Nashville Public Library leads the way with 19, followed by MTSU and UTK with 17 each, ETSU (15), Knox County Public (14), Memphis Public (11), and Lipscomb and TN Tech with 10 each.

Geographically, the largest single component of members lives in Nashville, home to 104 members. Middle Tennessee cities with significant membership include Murfreesboro (27) and Clarksville (23).

Knoxville, with 47, is second in number of members. Johnson City (21) joins it as the other eastern city with membership greater than 20.

Memphis is third in the geographic category with 38 members.

Cities with 10-20 members are Jackson (19), Cookeville (16), Chattanooga (15), Morristown (13), Shelbyville (12), Bolivar (11), Savannah (11), Dover (10), and Elizabethtown (10).

At the other end of the scale, there are 77 locations with a single member, out of a total number of locations of 134.

Of 195 institutions, 123 of them have a single member.

TLA has 9 members with out-of-state addresses.

Besides trustee, friend, and retired, other memberships with no affiliation noted include student (5), consultant (2), and business representative (1).

Some members are listed as affiliated with library vendors. These include Ingram Book Co., with three members, and, with one member each, EBSCO, Gale Group, McCarty Holsapple McCarty , SIRS Mandarin, and The Book Market.

Small Town Power

Looking at the geographic list of TLA members, one notices some unexpected things.

Not too unexpected is the concentration of members in middle Tennessee, nor the fact that, for the most part, the biggest chunks of members come from the biggest chunks of population.

But some of places having between 5 and 10 members are a little surprising.

Questions as to size prompted a look for information in the Tennessee Public Library Directory and Statistics, 2001.

Gainesboro, with 7 members, has a population of 9,553. Erin, also with 7 members, has a population of 7,801.

Then there's Whiteville, the third of this trio of 7-member wonders. (Actually, there are four with 7 members. But Martin--with its population of 16,751 plus a university--is a megalopolis by comparison and has to be considered the d'Artagnan of the crew.)

The Tennessee library directory lists Whiteville as having 0 population, which can't be right, because 7 of them are TLA members. A look at the 2000 census reveals that Whiteville has a population of 3,148.

This means that Whiteville has a per capita TLA membership of .002 (rounded). Not impressed? Nashville's is .0002; even Gainesboro's is .0007. Don't miss the extra zeros.

This kind of showing, by these relatively small communities, is no doubt a testimony to the active involvement in library matters of the trustees of the public libraries in those towns.

--jbb

TLA Conference News

2002

William Black, co-chair of the 2002 Conference Program Committee, issued the following call for proposals on July 17 on the TLA list:

The Program Committee is now accepting proposals for the TLA conference next year. The deadline is October 19. Program proposals can be submitted by accessing the proposal website link on TLA's homepage.

We are interested in ideas for specific topics or thoughts about themes for the conference. You can use the official form on the program proposal site or you can email ideas or call us to talk.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Members of the program committee are:

Laurel Best, Linebaugh Public Library

William Black, MTSU

Martha Earl, UTK - Medical Center

Tena Litherland, Webb School, Knoxville

Linda Phillips, UTK

Margaret Vaughan, Linebaugh Public Library

2003

Annelle Huggins, chair of the TLA Site Selection committee, reported to the TLA Board at its meeting of August 25, 2001, that the agreement for the 2003 conference location would be finalized that week.

The agreement is with the Chattanooga Convention Center. Rental cost will be $6,275.

Agreements will follow with Chattanooga Marriott for lodging block and meal events and with Days Inn Rivergate for a lodging block.

2004

Huggins also reported that discussions continue with the Southeastern Library Association for a joint conference with TLA in Spring 2004.

TLA/CULS Fall Conference Oct. 26: Reaching Out

The TLA/CULS Fall Conference will be held Oct. 26 in Dickson at the Renaissance Center. The theme of the conference is "Reaching Out Across Campus and Beyond."

The keynote speaker will be Hannelore Rader, University Librarian at the University of Louisville, Kentucky.

There will be two panel discussions, one on "Reaching out to faculty" and another on "Reaching out to students."

There will also be information and discussion about online degrees in Tennessee.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend! This conference promises to be of interest to academic librarians across the state. Watch TLA-L for further announcements.

--submitted by Perveen Rustomfram

Follow-up on Economic Value of Libraries

Don Reynolds, Director of the Nolichucky Regional Library, suggests the following as additional sources of information for those interested in following up on Betty Jo Jarvis's July article on the economic value of libraries:

"What Are Kentucky's Libraries Worth?"
   http://www.kdla.net/libserv/pubnew/kpln7-801.pdf
"Library Service - How Much is it Really Worth?" (Miami)
   http://www.mdpls.org/pdf/annualpdf.pdf
Your Library's Contribution to your Community (Barrie, Ontario)
   http://www.library.on.ca/consulting/casestudies/barrie_case_study.htm
Placing a Value on Public Library Services (St. Louis)
   http://www.slpl.lib.mo.us/libsrc/restoc.htm
The Role of Public Libraries in Local Economic Development (Kansas)
   http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/ippbr/IPPBR_report.pdf

Gates Training Grant Received

The Tennessee State Library and Archives is the recipient of a Training Program Grant in the amount of $137,250. This grant is the final component of the U.S. Library State Partnership Program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the purpose of which is to provide cash grants to implement training programs which will promote long-term sustainability of public access computing in public libraries and to assist state Libraries in meeting the ongoing needs of public libraries for training in the use of information technology resources.

The grant application that TSLA submitted to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation calls for SOLINET to provide training at nine sites throughout the state. Jack Stacy of TSLA will also be providing workshops on TEL as part of this training series, which will begin in October of 2001 and run through October of 2002.

For further information, contact Jack Stacy at jstacy@mail.state.tn.us.

Richiuso's Historical Records Directory Published.

The Tennessee State Library and Archives has just published a Directory of Archives and Historical Records Repositories in Tennessee, compiled and edited by John-Paul Richiuso.

This directory provides detailed information on the nature and holdings of 138 archives and historical records depositories in the state, some of them, but by no means all, are located in libraries.

Copies are being sent free of charge to all academic and public libraries and selected special libraries.

If your library does not receive a copy, you can request one from Jay Richiuso at *jrichiuso@mail.state.tn.us*.

The directory will also be available at the TSLA website and will be updated frequently.

TN Colleges Contribute to Digital Library of Appalachia

Two college libraries in east Tennessee are participating in a digitization project spearheaded by the Appalachian College Association and funded by the Mellon Foundation. The resulting online "collection" is called The Digital Library of Appalachia.

The Tennessee libraries contributing materials and time to the effort are those of Tennessee Wesleyan College and Lincoln Memorial University. They are joined by the libraries of Berea College (KY), Cumberland College (KY), Lees-McRae College (NC), and West Virginia Wesleyan College.

Organizing the selection process that gives definition to the project is the Digitization Committee of the Appalachian Library Information Cooperative Exchange. The theme chosen for the pilot project is "Community in the Appalachian Experience."

The LMU library is contributing photographs of Cumberland Gap from the late 19th century and letters by author Jesse Stuart, a former student of the college. TWC is digitizing a children's book from the 19th century that has a unique inscription bearing on literacy and teaching in southern Appalachia.

To follow the project's progress, go to
http://www.acaweb.org

New Library News

Obion Breaks Ground

--submitted by Evalyn Campbell

Over three hundred citizens of Obion County waited expectantly for the whistle to blow. Small children played in the dry earth while their parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors stood patiently in hot, humid West Tennessee sun. All wielded shovels and a love for and pride in their community as they lined the perimeter of the future home of the Obion County Public Library. All had responded to an open invitation to participate in the August 9, 2001 formal groundbreaking ceremony for the library's new twenty-seven thousand square foot building.

It was the culmination of a dream, thanks to the overwhelming generosity of three donors who, up to that point, had been anonymous. Having chosen this special time to reveal themselves, the donors Bill and Carol Latimer and Mrs. Tom (Kathleen) Elam enthusiastically turned the first shovels of soil at what is to be the entrance of the building to make way for construction that is scheduled for completion late next year. The Latimers and Mrs. Elam are all well known for their philanthropic endeavors, and when they became aware of the need for a new library home they teamed to pledge the funds necessary to purchase the prime location property and to design and build a state-of-the-art facility that will be the hub of community activity in the Union City and Obion County area.

"We are so appreciative of the fact that Bill and Carol Latimer and Mrs. Elam, when they heard of the need, stepped forward to provide the funding for this wonderful new facility," said Jack Hudgens, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Obion County Public Library. "From the outset they wanted it to be a building of outstanding beauty and efficiency --one everybody would be proud of. We believe we will be able to meet their expectations, thanks to their generosity."

"I've always wanted to do something for the people of Obion County," stated Mr. Latimer. "Carol, Mrs. Elam, and I feel that it is a privilege to be able to give this new library to the people and for the people of Obion County. Our hope and prayer is that this new larger library will be able to help in both the education of the young and in providing enjoyment for the people my age and older."

Mrs. Elam echoed those sentiments, "We needed a larger space for the library, and I feel very good for what it will do for the town and the county. I was just so happy to be able to help this happen. It's part of the future."

The contemporary lodge styled building will be situated on a large wooded lot in Union City on the main artery through Obion County. Designed by the Anderson Vaughan architectural firm of Jackson, the facility will be built by Allen Searcy Building Contractor of Union City. The services of noted library consultant Anders Dahlgren have been utilized to insure its functionality, and the expertise of Reelfoot Regional Director Susan Rogers has been tapped as a daily resource lifeline. "It's a great architectural plan," said library director Mary Carpenter. "It will house something for everybody with plenty of room to grow. We are indeed fortunate."

By their presence, the over three hundred citizens who turned out for the groundbreaking ceremony expressed their own appreciation for the magnanimous gift, the largest in the history of Obion County. As they stood in expectant silence, the loud, shrill sound of a child's toy whistle in the hand of assistant director Evalyn Campbell pierced the air. In one unified motion, the children, parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors--indeed, the family--of Obion County etched with their shovels the outline for the new Obion County Public Library.

Nashville Flocks to New Libraries

--submitted by Seth Alexander

Nashville Public Library officials have circulation, library card registration and number of visits statistical totals that reveal a surge in library activity since the openings of five new branch libraries, a new main library, and three renovated branch libraries.

The library's building program began in 1997 when Metro Council approved $115 million in funding for the program. East Branch Library, a renovation project, was the first completed project, reopening on April 30, 2000. The aggressive building program culminated on June 9, 2001, with the grand opening of the new main library downtown.

From July 2000 through July 2001, more than 2.7 million visits were made to all branches of the Nashville Public Library. Total library visits rose nearly 8 percent compared to the previous year, this increase despite some libraries being temporarily closed while collections were relocated from previous facilities and for renovations.

Nashville *cont.*

Memphis Readies for Move

After 7,166 people gathered for its grand opening in June, the new main library has averaged approximately 2,700 visits per day, nearly three times the average daily visits at the old main library for June and July 2000. Bordeaux Branch Library, which in May celebrated one year in its new facility, increased by three times its total visits from July 2000 through July 2001 compared to visits during the previous year.

Hermitage and Edmondson Pike branch libraries, which opened Aug. 26, 2000 and Dec. 20, 2000 respectively, were new libraries and thus have no previous statistics for comparison. To date, these two branch libraries have combined for more than 480,000 circulated items, close to 300,000 visitors, and nearly 10,000 library cards issued.

Edgehill and Thompson Lane branch libraries, which reopened March 10, 2001 and March 15, 2001 respectively, were closed for more than four months for renovations and cannot be accurately compared to statistical data from the previous year.

"A library renaissance has been taking place throughout the country during the past few years, and the library activity in Nashville definitely adds to that national boon in library use," said Nashville Public Library Director Donna Nicely. "The increases in attendance and activity at our libraries all show me that the community welcomes our quality services and programming."

Preparing to move into its new Central Library building, the Memphis/Shelby Co. Public Library has announced temporary changes in service.

The Main Library at 1850 Peabody, which opened in 1955, will close for the last time on Sept. 9 to allow for the movement of the library collection into the new Central Library at 3030 Poplar. Service at the new location is expected to begin in November.

Memphis patrons are encouraged to use their most convenient branch library in the meantime.

Also, the Memphis library has suspended interlibrary loans through OCLC and Impact, effective Aug. 3. The service will resume after the opening of the new Central Library.

Magness Board in McMinnville Fires Librarian, Seeks New Direction

In McMinnville, the public library board of trustees told librarian Susan Curtis on Aug. 24 that "her services were no longer required," according to the McMinnville Southern Standard.

Curtis, who served the library for 15 years and was certified by the State as a public library manager, told the Standard that she received no notice. "They fired me without reason. I don't know why I've been fired," Curtis was quoted as saying.

Trustee Tim Pirtle told the newspaper that "the library is moving in a new direction. We are looking for someone with a master's in library science."

Pirtle also expressed the board's interest in making the function of the library building-- called the Magness Public House and Library after its donors, William H. and Edgar Magness-- closer to the one originally intended.

The Magness building could be a "cornerstone of Main Street revitalization," said Pirtle, who mentioned piano recitals and community plays as functions desirable in such a role. "The library shouldn't just be a dusty, old book depository," he added.

According to the Standard, a recent study by a Library Ad Hoc Committee reported the building to be "unsuitable for the needs of the community." Curtis herself was "particularly vocal about abandoning the Magness building and moving the library away from downtown."

On this issue, the newspaper reported Pirtle's opinion that "libraries in the future might not need as much space due to technology and resource sharing."

ch@yourlibrary:
UTK's AskUs.Now!

--submitted by Margaret Casado

UT Knoxville Libraries has initiated a program offering chat reference services to the UTK community. The debut of this new service coincided with the beginning of the fall semester, August 22.

We are using LivePerson software to facilitate chat services for anyone logging in to ask questions via the Internet in real time. When the service is closed, visitors have the option of sending an email message with their question.

Current staffing hours are Monday - Friday, 9-11 and 2-4. Visit our Web page:

www.lib.utk.edu/refs/askusnow

to see how we have implemented this most recent addition to our suite of reference services. We'll be glad to have you visit!

Greenback Welcomes Library of America

--submitted by Clara Sue Hammontree

The Greenback Public Library, fresh from the receipt of a Library of America Grant, had a booth and program at the Greenback School Open House Tuesday, August 21 to introduce the new 50-volume Great American Writing Collection.

The library also had "Welcome Library of America Day" at the library on Friday, August 24th. Classes from the local school attended, along with other patrons. Refreshments were served, along with bookmarks and bookbags given out. Readings and re-enactments from the collection were presented by Friends of the Library and by library staff.

Tennessee Travel Websites of Interest

--submitted by Ross Bowron, ETSU Quillen College of Medicine Library

Lonely Planet
http://www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations/north_america/nashville/

http://www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations/north_america/memphis/

This site has the profiles of two tourist destinations in Tennessee: Memphis and Nashville. They give a pretty good overview of these cities including the local events, some of the main attractions, a brief history, and a general overview of the locations. The information about these locations even includes how to get there and a map. Unfortunately, this website doesn't have a profile of the Great Smoky Mountains available online. You actually have to buy the book on the Deep South for that.

Fodor's
http://www.fodors.com/

This website does a lot of the same stuff as the Lonely Planet guides, but it includes links to hotels, travel agents, the weather center for the area, and nightlife information. Another good feature of this site is that it has information about Memphis, Nashville, AND the Great Smoky Mountains. The only thing missing from this and Lonely planet is the other cities and areas in Tennessee.

State of Tennessee Department of Tourist Development
http://ndweb.state.tn.us/cgi-bin/nd_CGI_50/bfTourism/PgSplash

You need Flash 3 or better to view this site. This site has very little in the way of explanation, but it is very self-explanatory. You can click on the maps to get to the region in which you are interested. Once you have found the region, you can pick a city and it will bring up a list of the different options for that city. There is a legend as a side bar that explains what the entries are, and clicking on the entries takes you to a more detailed listing.
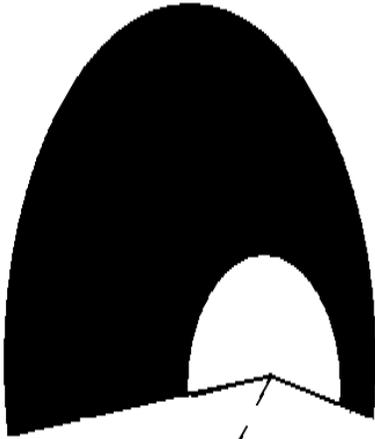
See-Tennessee.com
http://www.see-tennessee.com/

See-Tennessee.com is a new Web site about the "Volunteer State." This site contains useful content and photographs from Tennessee's 95 counties and the eight largest cities: Chattanooga, Clarksville, Jackson, Johnson City, Knoxville, Memphis, Murfreesboro and Nashville. It also contains hyperlinks to most of the educational, recreational, genealogical, and business web resources available in Tennessee.

Tennessee State Parks
http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/

This website has a clickable map that lets you click on any of the state parks within Tennessee. There is also a list of features that are in these different state parks, and if you click on one of these features, it shows only the state parks with those features. This website doesn't show any of the national parks that are available in Tennessee. In order to see the list of National Parks in Tennessee, you have to go to the National Park website, *http://www.nps.gov/parks.html.*

Prepare to SHARE: TENN-SHARE 2001 Fall Conference, Dickson, Sept. 24

Driving the Future:

Some Multitype &/or Statewide Resource-Sharing Ventures

With the TENN-SHARE fall conference in Dickson taking place on Sept. 24, it's time once again for Tennessee librarians to put their collective heads together to try to figure out where it is their collective efforts should be taking them.

TEL was the product of such thinking. It is now an established part of the library landscape, and now the question is, "Where next?"

The following examples of ventures from other states show in various ways the value of a good map, good driving, and ready access to fuel.

--jbb

Venture: Georgia Library Learning Online (GALILEO)

Features: Statewide, multitype: Electronic databases (EBSCO, Proquest); Internet access; statewide database of academic collections (GIL) and public collections (PINES); shared automation for academics (Endeavor Voyager) and publics (Sirsi); Digital Library of Georgia; statewide library cards.

Sparkplug: Advisory Committee on Information Technology, University System of Georgia.

Planning Vehicle: "A Vision for One Statewide Library"-- generated by the committee through conference calls and e-mail--became the proposal presented by the USG chancellor to the state legislature.

Fuel: State lottery funds dedicated to education.

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Venture: Florida Distance Learning Library Initiative

Features: Statewide, multitype: Electronic databases (FirstSearch); statewide courier service; toll-free reference desk. Builds on FLIN (Florida Library Information Network, administered by State Library), established in 1968 as the cooperative network for ILL and resource sharing, the basis for which is a statewide OCLC database.

Sparkplug: Library Subcommittee of the Florida Insitute on Public Postsecondary Distance Learning.

Planning Vehicle: 1997 Planning Report defining the initiative.

Fuel: Current funding for electronic access and document delivery comes from the Florida Distance Learning Network Board, the Board of Regents, and the Board of the Florida Institute on Public Postsecondary Distance Learning. Current funding for the courier service comes from a matching LSTA grant through the State Library.

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Venture: Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL)

Features: Statewide, multitype: Electronic databases (Ebsco, FirstSearch) defined as "a core collection of digital information resources at lower per unit cost"; cross-database searching through gateway (WebZ); statewide ground courier service and Ariel for document delivery (ILL); Kentuckiana digital library; Academics only: shared automation (Endeavor Voyager).

Sparkplug: State-Assisted Library Council of Kentucky (SAALCK) directors.

Planning Vehicle: "A Vision of a Digital Library Network for the State-Assisted Academic libraries of Kentucky," developed by SAALCK in 1996 and handed off to the Committee on New Technology of the Commission on Higher Education Institutional Efficiency and Cooperation. The Commission includes a recommendation to "establish a statewide electronic library" in its final report.

Fuel: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997, which established virtual university.

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Venture: Louisiana Online University Information System (LOUIS)

Features: Statewide, multitype: Electronic databases—Proquest, Gale, OCLC, Lexis-Nexis; Internet access ,

with state university as ISP. Academics only: shared automation.

Sparkplug: Louisiana Board of Regents Task Force on Libraries, chaired by Carolyn Hargrave, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs at LSU. Reorganized to form the Louisiana Academic Library Information Network Consortium (LALINC).

Planning Vehicle: Plan for greater cooperation and resource-sharing among Louisiana academic libraries.

Fuel: Started up with a grant from the LA Education Quality Support Fund (federal $ for offshore mineral rights set aside for education). Ongoing: LA Quality Support Fund, "pooled" state funds; DOE/IMLS grants; membership dues.

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Venture: Massachusetts Library and Information Network (MLIN)

Features: Statewide: electronic databases (InfoTrac, Electric Library, NetLibrary eBooks). Multitype: Online catalogs of regional consortia, supported by document delivery.

Sparkplug: Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners

Planning Vehicle: Strategic Plan for the Future of Library Service in Massachusetts, which established six regional multitype (academic, public, school, special) consortia.

Fuel: Increased funding for libraries in 1996-1998, appropriated in response to the strategic plan.

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Venture: Michigan's plan for statewide resource sharing, proposed for implementation in 2002.

Features: Statewide, multitype: catalog of all libraries, delivery of materials not available electronically, universal library card; uniform, locally-customized web interface for all libraries, catalogs, and databases.

Sparkplug: Library of Michigan.

Planning Vehicle: "Our Preferred Future," a 1999 conference of librarians and trustees, which produced the Action Team for Library Advancement Statewide (ATLAS), which in turn formulated a goal statement *(http://www.libraryofmichigan.org/ future/atlas/SLSdraftdoc62200.html)* that will be worked into a plan by the Michigan Library Consortium, an association of multitype libraries.

Fuel: ? (Michigan already has Access-Michigan, a collection of electronic databases—FirstSearch, InfoTrac, Electric Library—available statewide and funded with LSTA and state funds.)

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Venture: North Carolina Libraries for Virtual Education (NC LIVE)

Features: Statewide, multitype: Electronic databases—including products from Gale, EBSCO, Proquest, and OCLC; digital library; portal to statewide state government information.

Sparkplug: NC LIVE Steering Committee, the executive committee of which was called the Librarians Working Group. The Steering Committee was formed after representatives of public libraries, public academic libraries, and community college libraries attended the annual meeting of the library directors of the North Carolina Center for Independent Higher Education, where they reviewed and endorsed

a concept paper on the virtual library project.

Planning Vehicle: "Working Together for Excellence: A Vision for North Carolina LIVE," adopted in 1996 at the initial meeting of the Steering Committee.
http://www.nclive.org/backgrnd/ ncvisn.shtml

Fuel: "Pooled" state funds from the budgets of the UNC system, the Community College System, and the State Library.

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Venture: North Dakota Library Vision 2004.

Features: Statewide, multitype: Electronic databases (Gale); online WebZ catalog (Online Dakota Information Network—ODIN) with patron-initiated ILL processed and delivered by state library; universal library card.

Prepare to SHARE: TENN-SHARE 2001 Fall Conference, Dickson, Sept. 24

> ### Driving the Future, cont.

Sparkplug: Legislative Council Interim Budget Committee on Government Services, which called for a study of library services in 1995. In response, the Governor's Advisory Council on Libraries appointed a Library Study Steering Committee, on which all types of libraries were represented. This committee's goal was to present the Legislative Council with a plan for the future of statewide library services.

Planning Vehicle: North Dakota Library Vision 2004, approved in 1996.

Fuel: The state legislature passed enabling legislation for the plan in 1997

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Venture: OPLIN (Ohio Public Library Information Network) Statewide Resource Sharing

Features: Statewide, multitype (school/public), multisystem (Epixtext, DRA, MultiLIS) Z39.50 catalog via "technology overlay," allowing users to locate materials and request delivery; courier service for document delivery.

Sparkplug: State Library of Ohio

Planning vehicle: "Anyone, anywhere, at any time can borrow anything from any other Ohio Library." This simple vision statement was the focus of the Statewide Resource Sharing Summit that promoted the current plan.

Fuel: LSTA; also, participating libraries share delivery costs.

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Venture: Prospector project (Colorado/Wyoming).

Features: Regional (multistate), multitype, multisystem (Innovative Interfaces, CARL, Endeavor) union catalog: Users can look up library holdings and circulation information with a single query of the global database and, once located, request that items be delivered to their home library; courier service for document delivery.

Sparkplug: Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries and the University of Northern Colorado.

Planning Vehicle: Joint grant proposal for the Colorado Unified Catalog
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Fuel: Colorado Technology Grant and Revolving Loan Program, with in-kind support from CARL.

A very complete account of the implementation of the Prospector project, published for LITA, may be found at *http://www.lita.org/ital/1902_prospector.html*

People

The MTSU Library has filled two key leadership positions on the Library Administrative Council.

Rhonda Armstrong has been appointed to the post of Coordinator, User Services. Rhonda has been serving as User Services Librarian and Assistant Professor at MTSU, responsible for off-campus library services, reference, and bibliographic instruction. Prior to her work at MTSU, she held a reference position at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Her experience includes reference work at Chattanooga State Technical Community College and programmer analyst positions in the private sector. Her MLS is from Indiana University. Rhonda is currently Chair of the College and University Libraries section of TLA and holds a number of committee appointments including serving as the library's senator in the MTSU Faculty Senate. She participates actively on campus and within the profession.

Virginia Vesper has been selected to serve as Coordinator, Collection Management. Ginny's most recent position was as Collection Management Librarian at MTSU where she was responsible for the assessment and evaluation of library collections. Prior to her work at MTSU, she served in two capacities at Winthrop University. - as Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Library Instruction, and as Head of Monograph Acquisitions and Collection Management Officer. Ginny has been an adjunct faculty member in the English and Education departments at MTSU. Her MLS is from the University of Michigan. She holds the rank of Associate Professor at MTSU and serves on a number of library, university and professional committees.

In addition, a senior cataloging position in Collection Management has been filled by **John Hitchcock**. John comes to

People ● ● ● ● ● ●

MTSU from Ingram Library Services where he was responsible for original cataloging, problem solving and liaison work with customers. Prior to his work at Ingram, John had extensive library experience, particularly in cataloging. He has an MLS from the University of Tennessee and an MA in Secondary Education from Tennessee Technological University. He contributes regularly to the profession through committee work.

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The Austin Peay State University Library is pleased to announce several staff changes.

Deborah Fetch, formerly Head of Cataloging, has been appointed Director of Library and Media Services after a nationwide search. The library faculty and staff are very pleased to keep her vision and leadership at Austin Peay.
Sean Hogan has joined our staff as Instruction Librarian.
Aaron Dobbs has been appointed to the permanent position of Network Services Librarian after serving in a temporary position last year.
Sharon Johnson, formerly Head of Acquisitions/Periodicals, is taking over new responsibilities as Collection Development Librarian.
Philenese Slaughter, formerly Periodicals Librarian, is facing new challenges as Acting Head of Technical Services.

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Glenn Selfe is leaving the Knox County Public Library System (Knoxville) in October after 22 years with KCPLS in order to relocate to Austin, Texas. Executive Assistant to KCPLS Director since 1990, Selfe is also a past TLA Board Member, having served on the steering committee for and as Chair of the TLA Paraprofessional Round Table.

TLA Event Calendar

See online page for updates at www.tnla.org/events.html

September, 2001

TENN-SHARE Fall Conference, Sept 24, Dickson

Nashville Library Club, Sept 27, 5-8:00p.m., Nashville PL; open to public. More info: lalexander@tnstate.edu

October, 2001

TEL 2nd Birthday Celebration, Oct 1-15

Southern Festival of Books, Oct 12-14, Nashville

TASL 2001 Conference, Oct 18-20, Paris

The Ethics of Electronic Information in the 21st Century, Oct 18-21, Memphis

TLA/CULS Fall Conference, Oct. 26, Dickson (see p. 3 for details)

North Carolina Library Assn, Oct 2-5, Winston-Salem, NC

Missouri Library Assn, Oct 3-5, St Louis, MO

Library Information Technology Assn National Forum, Oct 11-14, Milwaukee, WI

Kentucky Library Assn, Oct 17-20, Owensboro, KY

Mississippi Library Assn, Oct 17-19, Jackson, MS

Virginia Library Assn, Oct 17-19, Richmond, VA

Georgia Library Assn, Oct 31- Nov 2, Jekyll Island, GA

Charleston Conference: Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition, Oct 31-Nov 4, Charleston, SC

November, 2001

Library Research Seminar II, Nov 2-3, Univ of Maryland

Amer Soc for Information Science & Technology, Nov 4-8, Washington, D.C.

Virtual Reference Desk Digital Reference Conference, Nov 12-13, Orlando, FL

Information Strategies 2001, Nov 14-15, Fort Meyers, FL

American Assn of School Librarians, Nov 14-18, Indianapolis, IN

December, 2001

January, 2002

Library Legislative Day, Jan 29, Nashville

Assn for Library & Information Science Education, Jan 15-18, New Orleans, LA

ALA Midwinter Meeting, Jan 18-23, New Orleans, LA

February, 2002

Music Library Assn, Feb 21-15, New York, NY

March, 2002

TLA 2002 Annual Conference, March 26-28, Nashville

Public Library Assn, Mar 12-16, Phoenix, AZ

April, 2002

National Library Week, Apr 14-20

postscript

Clarity.

Anyone with low vision appreciates corrective lenses for the clarity that they bring to eyesight. Only rarely--when in an impressionistic mood--might we prefer blurredness.

In order to provide useful information at TENN-SHARE's fall conference in Dickson on Sept. 24, this newsletter includes a section called "Driving the Future" (pp. 8-10), which presents an overview of some significant statewide/multitype resource-sharing projects outside of Tennessee. At the heart of each of them is a planning document that translates a vision into words. These words become all-important in any project's attempt to enlist support. The clearer they are, the better.

For example, the OPLIN vision statement for statewide resource-sharing is a single, bold sentence: "Anyone, anywhere, at any time can borrow anything from any other Ohio library."

It may be that in Tennessee such a statement would be regarded as a hallucination rather than a vision. Even so, as a rallying cry it's a "darn sight" better than the kind of blather that renders library service goals as a cant-filled haze.

An example of this kind of strategic impressionism from an unnamed state says that "all citizens will be served by a partnership of libraries that empowers them to access and use information confidently and effectively." Uh-huh. Somebody empower the legislature to stay awake until the end of the presentation.

Librarians should leave impressionism to artists. There is nothing to lose and everything to gain from expressing a vision for the future of library services in terms that are specific, sharp, and clear.