

Agency Goals

LISD Goal 1: State employees have the information that they need to make good public policy recommendations and decisions.

Surveyed library users to determine the journals they consider most essential. These titles were retained during the first round of cancellations of subscriptions. Forty-one titles were cancelled; another round of cancellations will be made on the spring renewal list. The list of journal cancellations may be viewed at <http://msl.state.mt.us/lisd/journal-cuts-8-02.pdf>.

Surveyed previous workshop attendees on the value of the workshops to them in terms of doing their work. Developed new and revised workshops on library information resources and tools. Began fall series of workshops with training on using Google and other search engines. Implemented use of the new training laboratory using wireless desktop computers.

Promoted the availability of the Lexis-Nexis Environmental Universe database in the monthly update to library users. Trained on using this new database via a web-based training opportunity. Developed a workshop on this new resource to present in late September.

Learned the latest techniques for searching the Internet at a workshop by national expert Greg Notess at the Pacific Northwest Library Association conference in Missoula.

At the request of the Distance Learning Coordinator of the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), coordinated a collaboration with MSU Renne Library and NNLM/PNR to present a workshop "Access to Information for Public Health" for the Montana Public Health Association (MPHA) conference. Focused on resources available to public health workers through their local library by access to MLN, InfoTrac databases, WorldCat and many Montana library catalogs. A follow-up hands-on workshop was presented in the training lab.

Created an exhibit and handouts for the MPHA conference promoting the resources of MSL and MLN for public health professionals. The handouts will be further distributed by DPHHS at an environmental health conference in Great Falls.

Trained on configuring and implementing the Illiad interlibrary loan system. This will improve the efficiency of processing interlibrary loan requests on OCLC and Docline. It will also improve reports available to evaluate and manage the service.

Updated the Montana State Agency Library Resources brochure with the assistance of other agency librarians.

Gave tour of the Foundation Center resources to members of the Montana Shares Board of Directors.

LISD Goal 2: The staff of Montana libraries know about and have access to the professional literature they need. They obtain assistance from the MSL reference staff for patron questions they are unable to answer for local resources, Internet resources, and listservs.

Met with Golden Plains Federation members to discuss the pilot GILS project and citizen needs for information from state government.

Presented three 2-hour workshops on using Foundation Center resources and FC-Search by request of Lincoln County Library at Libby, Montana's fifth and newest Foundation Center Cooperating Collection. Representatives from non-profit organizations in Lincoln County and library staff members attended the sessions.

Posted seven lists of recommended print and web resources to Wired-MT librarians.

Regretfully, the standing order for ALA publications was cancelled in light of the severe reduction to the book budget. \$500 is available for books supporting library science and professional development this year. There will be fewer new resources described and posted to Wired-MT this year. Standing orders for updates to reference books were also severely reduced, affecting our ability to provide the most current reference backup to Montana libraries. The list of cancelled standing orders may be viewed at <http://msl.state.mt.us/lisd/book-cuts-8-02.pdf>.

Most library-related journal subscriptions have been retained; several for which less use could be documented were cancelled. The list of cancelled journals is available at <http://msl.state.mt.us/lisd/journal-cuts-8-02.pdf>.

LISD Goal 3: Montana citizens have easy access to a comprehensive collection of state publications.

Developed a first draft of a policy proposal governing electronic publications. Sought participation in a meeting involving the Secretary of State's office and the Montana Archives that will consider preservation of electronic government records.

Met with MSL/MLA Public Relations committee to begin developing a statewide marketing plan for libraries.

Continued development and testing of the state GILS database management, search engine and metatagging software. Prepared to train web content providers and publishers on how to metatag their web pages with the tools we are developing. To date we have harvested webpages from 51 agency websites and retrieved 9195 records.

Contacted Governor's office regarding a potential naming conflict with a program under development in their Office of Economic Development. No conflict exists and we may proceed with the name Find-It! Montana for the GILS project.

Developed proposals to meet with state publication depository system libraries at the Montana Library Association conference and to present an informational workshop on the GILS project.

LISD Goal 4: Users have easy and comprehensive access to information through the library

Staff trained on using the various components of the new SIRS catalog and integrated library system.