

MEMO

TO: Montana State Library Network Advisory Council

FROM : Sarah McHugh, Statewide Projects Librarian

DATE: March 11, 2010

RE: Working Draft-LSTA FY 10 monies available for additional projects/services

I. These ongoing projects/services are included in the working draft LSTA FY10 list:

OCLC Group Services:

- CONTENTdm is the software behind the Montana Memory Project, which is a collection of digital collections and items relating to Montana's cultural heritage. Many Montana libraries, museums, archives, and cultural institutions have added and are in the process of adding materials to this collection. The Montana State Library (MSL) and the Montana Historical Society Research Center share equally the annual software, storage and hosting costs for this statewide digitization project.
- QuestionPoint is the tool behind the AskMontana statewide virtual reference service. AskMontana is a consortium of 21 libraries (academic, public, school, and special) that provide chat and email reference services. AskMontana uses OCLC's Questionpoint software to provide this service. It is a member of the 24/7 cooperative that allows offers chat and email service 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Non Montana librarians help Montana citizens when a Montana librarian is not available. In return AskMontana's librarians agree to help non Montana patrons at least 20 hours a week.
- OCLC Gap: Beginning in May each year, Montana libraries begin enrolling in Montana OCLC Group Services under the established local cost formula. In October, OCLC determines if there is any gap between that fiscal year's total cost for our statewide 15 simultaneous cataloging seats, cataloging, Interlibrary Loan, and the Group Catalog and what's been collected by OCLC from the enrolled libraries, as of October 1. If there is a gap, MSL would cover that amount.

MSC New Libraries: The Montana Shared Catalog (MSC) is a library consortium that shares knowledge, skills, and resources among its membership as well as an Integrated Library System (ILS). Created in 2002 with the participation and financial commitment from 17 initial, multi-type libraries, the MSC now includes over 100 Montana libraries. LSTA is used to assist new libraries in joining the MSC with funding amounts based on the number of bibliographic records, population served/FTE students, staff and faculty.

MSL Fall Workshop: 2011 will be the 13<sup>th</sup> annual MSL Fall Workshop, a 2-day training event for library workers from all types of libraries and for trustees. The FW features half-day sessions on a variety of topics – including those requested by MT librarians -- and opportunities to network and share problems and solutions. There is no registration fee.

MontanaLibrary2Go: This project utilizes the OverDrive product to offer Montana library patrons a collection of downloadable E-content. MontanaLibrary2Go offers downloadable audio titles to patrons of participating libraries. Titles are available for download on MP3 players and iPods. 38 libraries currently participate in this project with new libraries added quarterly. The consortium members cover the cost of new content, which is selected monthly by a statewide selection team. MSL covers the cost of the annual hosting fee, assists new libraries with the one-time OverDrive participation fee and assists with the cost of obtaining MARC records from OCLC for new content.

Literacy Projects: These include Children's Services (the Summer Reading Program) and the Early Learning Statewide Initiative (Ready 2 Read), which is concluding its first year of implementation. 45 public and tribal libraries participated in the Ready2Read program in FY10.

HeritageQuest Online: The HeritageQuest Online database subscription has been in place for almost two years. This is a subscription for all Montana public libraries. The annual subscription cost has been covered by a combination of contributions from public libraries which are based on a local cost formula and LSTA. Libraries able to contribute do so in amounts from \$100-\$800, based on population served. Once commitments are gathered each year, it is determined whether or not the subscription can be renewed, with accompanying LSTA. In FY10, 42 libraries contributed to the cost of the renewal.

Montana Memory Project .25 Technical Support Position: Over the past two years the Montana Memory Project has grown significantly. Well over 45,000 images have been added to the database, in the last two years, resulting in over 58,000 images being accessible via the MMP. There are currently 20 institutions participating in the project, with many more which have submitted project planning documents or have approached the MMP Steering Committee about adding content. In January, MSL was able to partner with the Montana Historical Society Research Center to create a .25 support position for the MMP. The position, which is a modified position at the Historical Society, has been staffed for about 5 months so far and provides substantial, necessary support to contributing and interested institutions. MSL and the Historical Society Research Center each pay half the cost of this position.

Program Products (LSTA Projects Promotion): The MSL Communication/Marketing Coordinator uses this funding to assist libraries in promoting LSTA funded projects and pilots. Examples include the promotion of AskMontana, the statewide virtual reference service.

II. These are suggestions for additional projects/services from MSL staff and the Montana library community:

Trustee Training revived There is a new trustee certification program in place and it would benefit libraries to encourage this group. The proposed funding covers two single day trainings which could be held in two locations around the state.

GIS Support for Libraries This project would assist public libraries with GIS and mapping related projects. A particular focus would be the integration of GIS with public library statistics.

Literacy position This would fund a 5 hour/week programming support position for the Ready 2 Read project. The responsibilities would include managing the administrative tasks of this project and being MSL's literacy representative across the state.

Author Tour revived The Author Tour was highly successful in the past. This proposal would allow MSL to collaborate with libraries on author expenses to make it possible to bring an author to some of the smallest and most rural communities. Proposed funding would cover a 1-week tour, 12 presentations.

Summer Institute revived The revival of the Summer Institute would provide training and networking opportunities for Montana librarians. The Institute would enable MSL to actively help library directors meet the new certification requirements. There would be 2 opportunities in 2 separate locations, to facilitate travel. Both sessions would be 2 days in length and take place in the summer.

AskMT Mobile Pilot This pilot would add the virtual reference service to mobile devices, allowing patrons to text a librarian and receive reference support via their mobile phones. Mosio, which offers the Text a Librarian product, offers a discount to libraries using the QuestionPoint software (AskMontana libraries).

Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference The proposal is to send a selected group of 5-7 librarians to the Association for Rural & Small Libraries conference in Denver (October 14-16). The conference provides much needed support and networking to librarians serving our smallest communities.

Statewide Projects Regional Summit MSL needs to engage in conversations with neighboring State Libraries about the types of projects and services we all offer, focusing on how to develop and fund these and future projects in a more regional manner. A day and a half summit to discuss more regional approaches to shared catalogs, couriers, database purchases, digitization efforts and literacy projects might include Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, Oregon and Washington.

Newspaper digitization/online subscriptions: Digitization of historic newspapers and access to online newspaper subscriptions continue to be of interest to many Montana libraries. The State Historical Society Research Center is currently digitizing up to

100,000 pages of selected state newspapers under an NEH grant provided through the National Newspaper Digitization Program. The Montana Memory Project Steering Committee is beginning the process of evaluating software solutions for newspaper digitization and storage. Copyright plays a part in this discussion.

Traveling Digitization Lab Libraries and institutions interested in adding content to the Montana Memory Project often have to first consider the purchase of scanning equipment. In some cases, the contribution of content is a one-time project. Many small libraries, museums and archives hold unique, wonderful Montana treasures but lack the funding to purchase the needed equipment. This proposal would fund a “traveling digitization lab” of 3 laptops and 3 scanners, to be shared around the state where needed for these one-time digitization projects.

III. The suggested projects/services that may be included in an RFP for databases are described in a separate memo under Agenda Item 7 (Database renewal and discussion).