

**STATEWIDE LIBRARY RESOURCES (SLR)
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT (LDD)
AND MONTANA SHARED CATALOG (MSC)
ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE DECEMBER 7, 2011
STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**

Activity Period: September 21, 2011-November 10, 2011

Goal One – Content - *Montana State Library (MSL) acquires and manages relevant quality content that meets the needs of Montana library partners and patrons.*

- The MSC created a “Twitter” account as another means to disseminate information and system updates to member libraries.
- Continued implementation work with EBSCO support to configure libraries for access to the new “MT Statewide Library Resources” discovery interface.
- Added Tutor.com’s Adult Education and Career Center product to the HomeworkMT suite
- Ongoing MSL Professional Development Collection assessment, selection and promotion of materials.
- Continued updating the scrolling bar on <http://mymontanalibrary.org>, so patrons could see changing content and follow links to their local libraries.
- Updated information comparing E-Book readers for librarians and their patrons.

Goal Two—Access – *MSL provides libraries, agencies, and its partners and patrons with convenient, high quality, and cost-effective access to library content and services.*

- Presented Montana Library 2 Go and Mobile Devices workshop so that “It will be much quicker and easier to share this information with patrons ... more people may be willing to use devices and check out ebooks.” (actual librarian feedback)
- Provided an e-reader training session for staff and the public at the Bitterroot Public Library in order to help librarians and patrons feel more comfortable with the tools and MontanaLibrary2Go
- Fall Workshop 2011 had 162 attendees and offered sixteen sessions on a variety of topics

- EBSCO and HomeworkMT Webinars – five EBSCO trainings on specific aspects of the new statewide databases. Tutor.com provided two Webinars in October showcasing the live tutor services offered by HomeworkMT.
- Montana Memory Project introductory trainings were held in Fort Benton and Dillon in collaboration with the Montana Preservation Alliance Touchstone Project
- Ready2Read Rendezvous: 45 librarians attended this first-ever convocation of library staff who have a strong interest in early childhood development.
- Onsite trainings in the EBSCO databases were held in Billings, Miles City, Havre, Butte, and Kalispell. 103 librarians attended the 90-minute sessions with EBSCO trainer Lisa Dennis.
- Provided technical support for PLD/ASLD annual retreat
- MEA-MFT presentations included the MSL Technology Petting Zoo and two sessions focused on HomeworkMT.
- Analysis of training activities to promote the statewide databases is underway. Attendance records will be analyzed to determine if there are regions in the state that remain underserved and then follow-up and additional training will be focused on those areas. Anecdotal reports from Missoula, Butte, Havre, and Miles City report a dramatic increase in the use of the database resource. Attendees at MEA-MFT conference expressed great interest in HomeworkMT.
- Conducted onsite training for MSC Cataloging in Simms for the Simms HS and Fort Shaw Elementary libraries.
- Conducted onsite training in MSC Reports and Directors Station in Helena at the Montana State Library.
- Conducted online training (webinar) for MSC “Reports: How To”.
- Conducted onsite training for more than 50 MSC libraries for on general topics concerning MSC circulation policies; Tips and Tricks, Inventory and ILL.
- Conducted onsite MSC new library training in Baker for Fallon County Library, in Lolo for the Lolo School Library and in Columbus for Stillwater County Library.
- The Montana Shared Catalog RFI/RFP Evaluation Committee met to discuss responses from vendors to the RFI for a consortial library management service for the MSC.
- Implemented “ShowMyPC” cloud-based remote desktop support and ticket system for the MSC Online Help Desk.

- Fallon County Library, Lolo School Library and Stillwater County Library went “live” in the MSC.

Goal Three—Consultation and Leadership - *MSL provides consultation and leadership to enable its patrons and partners to reach their goals.*

- Consultation topics included MSC procedures and guidelines, EBSCO Discovery Service, certification, LSTA, grants, library education, scholarships, records management, Interlibrary Loan standards, MontanaLibrary2Go, EBSCO statewide databases, HomeworkMT, courier services, board assistance, public library statistics
- The three MSL statewide consulting librarians visited 33 libraries, provided 15 trainings with 200 participants, and traveled approximately 9232 miles.
- Other MSL staff visited libraries in Ennis, Twin Bridges, Sheridan, Virginia City, Three Forks, Philipsburg, Miles City
- Meetings, conferences and training sessions attended: MSC Executive Committee, MSC Partners Sharing Group, MSC Fall 2011 Members Meeting, SirsiDynix Consortia Special Interest Group Conference, MLA Conference Planning Committee meeting, MSL ASLD/PLD Retreat, COSLA Gates Foundation State Libraries meeting, Sagebrush Federation Fall Meeting
- Provided training on Montana Public Library Statistics Center for Library Directors and Trustees at Federation meetings. Feedback comments included: “We have a mill levy coming up this year so I think it will help show our patrons how their money is used effectively – we’ll let patrons check on how we are performing.” “Knowing the true value of the services offered will make patrons see the library as an important community asset.”
- Met with Valier Public Library board to discuss a library district effort in the northern part of the county. The hope being that the library could achieve stable funding and services.
- Met with Boulder Community Library to discuss next steps in a building addition project.
- Met with Sidney/Richland County Library director, architects and consultant to discuss plans and technology needs for a new library.

- Montana Certification Program for Librarians, Staff and Trustees – Twelve certificates were awarded during this report period. This included a certificate to MSL employee Jo Flick. Issued thirty OPI renewal unit certificates to school librarians. Added 75 MSL training events to the master CE list to help program participants track their credits
- PEEL Library Education Project – Continued to monitor scholarship recipients by collecting quarterly reports concerning employment, mentoring activities, and utilization of library education. At this time there are three scholarship recipients who will continue to make reports until April 2012. At that time they will have met the PEEL requirements.
- SWIM Library Education Project – Three partial scholarship awards were increased to \$14,400. Issued stipends to and collected reports from students attending the Idaho, South Dakota and Wyoming library association fall conferences and the American Association of School Librarians conference in Minneapolis. Collected quarterly reports from all 73 scholarship recipients. Reports were shared with the SWIM Advisory Council. Notified all MLIS students that SWIM funds would cover more than the estimated 80% of UNT tuition costs which will represent a considerable savings to the students. SWIM partners met by phone to discuss submitting a “continuation” proposal to IMLS in December. The continuation grant category would require MSL to again be the lead agency and the partners agreed this would be a hardship, especially without a state librarian in place. If IMLS offers these grants next year, the SWIM partners will consider it again. All states see a continued interest in library education, but there is concern about employment opportunities for new librarians. UNT is currently recruiting for a second SWIM cohort that will begin MLIS classes in fall 2012.

Goal Four—Collaboration - *MSL promotes partnerships and encourages collaboration among its partners and patrons so that their information needs can be met.*

- Presented information on MSC and Montana Library2Go to Hi-line libraries. Two libraries have applied to join phase 15 of Montana Library2Go. Provided training and technical support for two new OCLC libraries. Provided training and technical support for libraries participating in the Montana Memory Project.
- Presented E-Book workshops at 4 different locations to around 100 librarians and members of the public.

- MSC Phase XIII libraries; Fallon County, Lolo School and Stillwater County migrated their data into the MSC and are now live in the system. New library training for Henry A Malley Library (Broadus), Ekalaka Public Library and Prairie County Library is scheduled for Nov 17-18 in Miles City. Go live dates for these libraries have not yet been established.
- Organized “copy cataloging parties” for Simms/Fort Shaw schools and Darby Schools to help get their collections manually entered into the MSC.
- Connecting to Collections Project – Preservation surveys were done on site at the Conrad Mansion in Kalispell and the Virginia City library/archives/museum. The survey reports, including recommendations for improving storage and exhibit areas, will be completed in November. The project brochure will be printed and distributed in the next few weeks. The final project report is being drafted. MSL and the Montana Historical Society continue to work toward submitting a proposal to IMLS for a CTC implementation grant.

Goal Five— Sustainable Success - *MSL is a well-run organization and a sought-after employer; it is efficient and effective (measured against partner and patron outcomes), and successfully engaged in its ongoing mission.*

- Continued working with Procurement Office staff on the RFP for the evaluation of MT’s five-year LSTA plan. Only one proposal was received by the deadline. It was evaluated by MSL staff and accepted. The contract is now being finalized with Communication and Management Services of Helena. The vendor will collect and analyze data and draft the evaluation report for the MSL Commission to review in February.
- Preparation of the State Program Report for the 2010 LSTA grant award has begun. The annual report is required by IMLS and must be submitted by the end of the year.
- Lead MSL Statewide Library Consultant completed a remote management and essentials of management course in order to improve management skills
- Screened statewide projects librarian applications and assisted with program manager’s interview process of state librarian candidates.
- Hired Elizabeth Babbitt as the new MSL Statewide Projects Librarian
- Provided feedback on E-Rate information for individual BTOP libraries.
- Participated in RFP evaluation for E-Rate consultants.