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**Section I - Introduction**

Providing **all** citizens of Rhode Island with the means to access electronic databases from libraries and/or home would have a significant impact, influencing most phases of the educational process and information needs of the state's residents. As in many states, the issue of access to the internet, to electronic databases, as well as other educational resources continues to be a case of the haves vs. the have-nots. Although efforts are constantly being made by both schools and libraries, the paradigm exists, and will continue to do so unless state government steps in and makes solving this issue a priority. Schools and libraries across the state are funded at different levels, and the communities in which they reside reflect the amount of funding that comes from the communities. Access to electronic educational and research materials should not be dependent on where a person lives. This is a form of discrimination. The education of our children and the broadening of the adult knowledge-base are essential to the future of our state. We need to recognize this growing problem and work to provide a definitive answer.

Libraries across the state will benefit from the cooperative sharing of electronic resources and a chief goal of the statewide databases initiative to provide equal access to information for all Rhode Island citizens will be served. Equal access to information is vital to strengthening the education, economic development, research, and recreation needs of the people of Rhode Island. According to the 2004 Pew Internet & American Life Project Report\*, despite persistent gaps in internet usage among various demographic and socio-economic groups, "63 percent of people 18 or older" in the United States regularly go online for everything from news, to government and health information, to genealogical info, for entertainment purposes, and "81 percent of the nation's teenagers (12-17) go online". \*Source: *Pew Internet Project, Trends 2005 Report*

**Summary** In Spring 2005, The Databases Working Group ( DWG) was charged (see Appendix A) with developing an action plan for the implementation of access to core statewide-licensed databases. The plan recommends an infrastructure that includes:

- a funding model
- a designated body for coordination and implementation, including a fiscal agent
- a process for the selection of statewide-licensed databases
- a marketing/public relations plan.

It will also include any appropriate legislative recommendations for the Library Commission. To accomplish all of this, the DWG did an environmental scan of the best practices among those states providing such database access. We also surveyed most libraries in the state to determine currently shared databases within consortiums or other arrangements. The summaries of these scans are contained in section III.

In light of the findings from other states, coupled with the knowledge gained about the current level of database access and the infrastructures currently in existence in Rhode Island, we make the following recommendations.

**Section II - Recommendations**

## 1. FUNDING MODELS

In developing a funding model for Rhode Island, several statewide database projects throughout the country were examined. There was a plethora of considerations that each state faced in examining, planning, and implementing a library statewide-licensing project. Monetary support for statewide-licensed databases comes from a variety of sources. For a few states, all money is provided by the local legislature. Because of budget cuts, many states have found themselves becoming more creative in their funding approaches. Many are using federal grant money, such as Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) or Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), to meet a large percentage of their database costs. Other sources of income include member library contributions. These are determined by a statewide advisory committee. Please see Appendix B for a comparison of database funding sources, and Appendix C for a Statewide Virtual Library Comparison prepared by INCOLSA (Indiana).

Although many states use (LSTA) funds for database support, the LSTA funds here are primarily used to support the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS), with a small amount available for grants. The majority of states have their equivalent office funded by the state, but the State of Rhode Island currently does not provide sufficient financial support for OLIS staff and operations or for any new initiatives. OLIS has two income streams: 1) the state, as part of the Governor's budget for the Department of Administration, and 2) the federal government, in the form of a LSTA grant to state library agencies.

There are few clear parameters between the state and federal sides of the OLIS budget. Staff salaries/benefits are divided between the two funding sources in what is overall a 50-50 split, but some individual staff members are paid 100% by state funds, some 100% by federal funds. Most program elements appear on the federal side of the budget.

State funds cover half the salaries and benefits, approximately half of the LORI Delivery contract; the total fee for computer services provided by the Division of Information Technology (DoIT), and a portion of overhead; for example, telephone service and some office supplies.

Federal funds cover the remaining half of salaries and benefits; operating expenses for the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (Talking Books Plus); all other statewide programs such as Summer Reading Program and other children's and YA services; Web services; staff computer hardware and software; continuing education programs; LORI network expenses including the remaining half of LORI delivery; the literacy, LORI and any other LSTA subgrants that are awarded to individual libraries or organizations; and the remaining miscellaneous operating expenses.

Grant-In-Aid, (both tax-based and endowment-based), as well as public library construction reimbursement, are not included in this mix, as those are separate lines in the state budget and cannot be co-mingled with the agency operating funds.

However, the state does provide annual support to the Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC) at Providence Public Library (PPL). Rhode Island General Law 29-6-9 designated the Providence Public Library (PPL) as Rhode Island's SRRC in 1989. The annual state funding is provided via OLIS. The goal of the program is to provide quality reference services to all Library of Rhode Island (LORI) member libraries and to all residents of Rhode Island. The funding is currently at \$ 924,116 for 2006. The original concept and purpose of the SRRC needs to be revisited to better meet the current information needs of Rhode Island's residents.

The Database Working Group proposes the following funding model options. OLIS would continue its role as the state agency responsible for monitoring the expenditures of state monies.

### **Option A**

Revise General Law 29-6-9 State Aid to Libraries (Appendix E) that created the SRRC and have support and funding of statewide databases as the mandate.

### **Option B**

Submit new legislation to fund statewide databases.

### **Option C**

If no legislation is written, if no new funds granted, or if the statewide database licensing effort is not successful, individual libraries, consortia, and schools should form a Rhode Island cooperative buying group for subscription databases. As a group, Rhode Island libraries could save money by negotiating better prices and take advantage of prices offered to other statewide models.

## **2. DESIGNATE A BODY FOR COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION**

The body designated to coordinate and implement the statewide database initiative should:

- identify potential database products
- negotiate contracts with vendors
- serve as the fiscal agent
- act as the payroll agent for statewide database licensing, staff, and services
- provide technological infrastructure to support statewide access
- support training and continuing education for library community
- develop instructional materials, including web-based documentation
- administer surveys to determine library and library client satisfaction
- develop a review process and evaluation procedure
- establish effective methods to analyze usage statistics of all electronic resources

Working with the support of advisory committees, this organization would be responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the statewide database project, including the coordination of technologies, communicating with vendors and libraries, and scheduling advisory committee meetings.

The organization would also be responsible for identifying potential database products, negotiating contracts with vendors, and administering surveys to determine library and library client satisfaction.

The following options are suggested organizations for coordination and implementation. Each recommendation should be weighed equally.

### **Option A**

Statewide Reference Resource Center / Providence Public Library (see Appendix D)

Presently, the SRRC provides access to information resources to all Rhode Island library users. Funding for this resource center comes from state monies (FY 2006 - \$924,116).

As the new statewide database network organization, the SRRC would combine its past experiences of collection development, resource sharing, and training with a new organizational culture, model of funding, staffing and education to provide wide-range and comprehensive statewide database services to all Rhode Island residents.

### **Option B**

Higher Education Library Information Network (HELIN, Inc.) / University of Rhode Island

The HELIN consortium provides access to over 4.7 million books, periodicals, electronic resources, videos, and audio materials to more than 70,000 students, faculty, and staff at academic and health sciences libraries.

As the new statewide database network organization, HELIN would provide expertise in knowledge management, skill in negotiating with vendors of electronic resources, proven fiscal responsibility, and the ability to provide comprehensive education and training on a wide-range of electronic resources to all residents of Rhode Island.

### **Option C**

Independent Agency – Rhode Island Library System (establish a new non-profit)

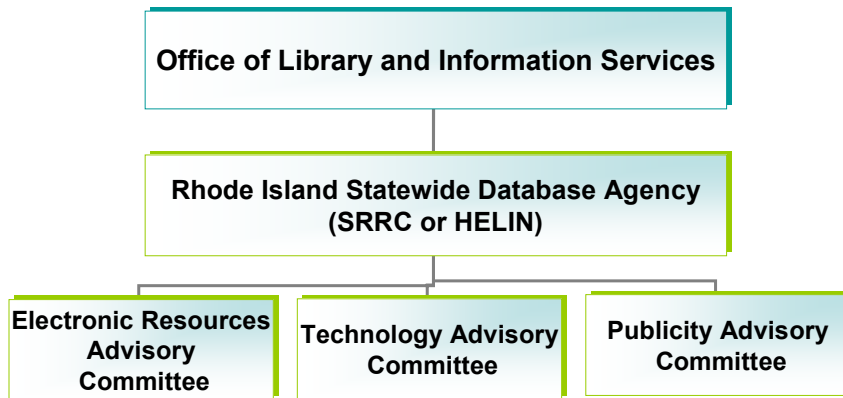
An entirely new, non-profit agency would provide the duties as designated above. This agency would be governed by a Board of Directors and advised by committees in the areas of finance, legislative issues, library outreach, community outreach, technology, and continuing education.

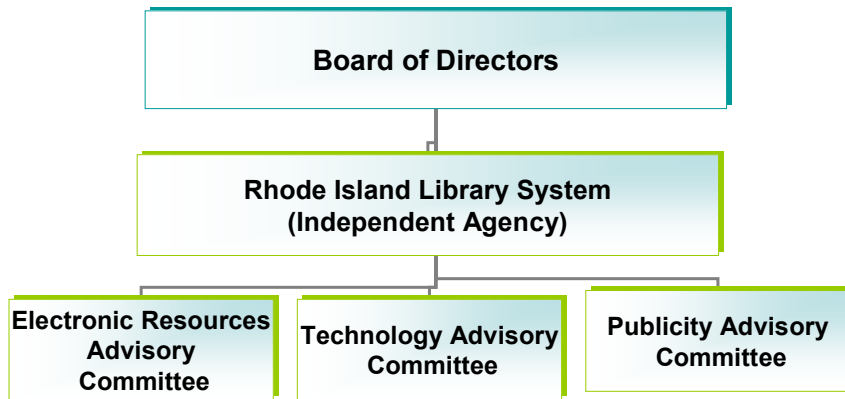
**Option D**

The Office of Library and Information Services

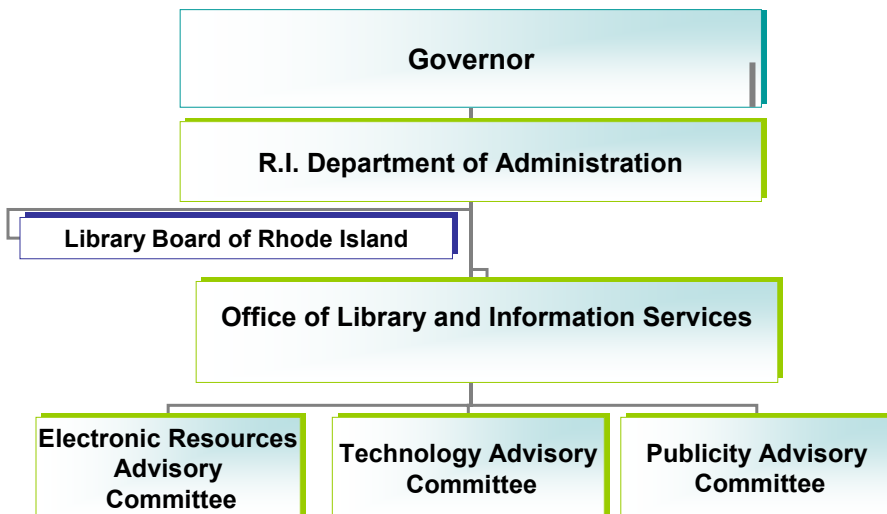
OLIS provides library services to Rhode Island residents through coordinated programs and services among multi-type libraries, disbursement of federal monies, and its advisory role.

Under a more autonomous model, OLIS would continue to provide the kinds of services it does today, including effective leadership, technological expertise, visibility and advocacy, while expanding its capacity to manage statewide database initiatives.





Databases Working Group Report  
Option C



Databases Working Group Report  
Option D

### 3. PROCESS FOR SELECTION OF STATEWIDE-LICENSED DATABASES

The *Rhode Island Libraries Databases Overlap List FY2005* (see Appendix F) contains 550 databases. In some cases, libraries hold the same databases, but from different vendors. Most of the databases available in the school and public libraries are different from those in the academic and special libraries so it will be a challenge to cover all of the learning/teaching levels represented by the many types of libraries in Rhode Island. While the DWG did not include costs on the overlap list, the group can say with

relative confidence that Rhode Island libraries are already spending in excess of 12 million dollars on electronic resources.

## **Recommendations:**

### **A) Databases:**

In order to gain a better understanding of what electronic resources are held in our libraries, the DWG created and then thoroughly examined the *Rhode Island Libraries Databases Overlap List FY2005* (see Appendix F). The spreadsheet indicates what databases are held by libraries throughout the state, the vendors used, and what libraries have which databases. We found that among all of the vendors our libraries purchase from, the most commonly used are EBSCO Publishing, Thomson Gale, and ProQuest. The databases for the school libraries are grouped into one category, but not every school has every one of the databases listed. The databases provided by CLAN are also included in their own category.

While actual selection will fall under the auspices of whatever group is responsible for implementation and coordination, the DWG contacted both EBSCO Publishing and Thomson Gale and asked for rough estimates on a database package for a statewide system with approximately 1 million potential users. Below are examples of packages the group might choose.

One electronic resource that the DWG believes is essential for a statewide system of databases is the index to the Providence Journal. This is available from 1989 on through ProQuest. A tentative quote of \$140,000 annually for unlimited access was provided by ProQuest.

### **EBSCO Publishing**

EBSCO Publishing was asked for an informal quote on a collection that, based on their experience, would be appropriate for our statewide database system. They provided the following information as a basis for initial discussion:

MasterFILE Premier:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/public/masterfileprem.asp">http://www.epnet.com/public/masterfileprem.asp</a>
History Reference Center:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/public/history.asp">http://www.epnet.com/public/history.asp</a>
Newspaper Source:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/public/newspapersrc.asp">http://www.epnet.com/public/newspapersrc.asp</a>
Health Source Consumer Edition	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/public/hsconsumered.asp">http://www.epnet.com/public/hsconsumered.asp</a>
Ultra Online Package:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/school/hsuop.asp">http://www.epnet.com/school/hsuop.asp</a>
Middle Online Package:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/school/midmop.asp">http://www.epnet.com/school/midmop.asp</a>
Primary Online Package:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/school/espop.asp">http://www.epnet.com/school/espop.asp</a>
General Science Collection:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/public/gen-science.asp">http://www.epnet.com/public/gen-science.asp</a>
Book Source Nonfiction:	<a href="http://www.epnet.com/public/booksources.asp">http://www.epnet.com/public/booksources.asp</a>

The price would be \$498,000 annually. For more complete information on the EBSCO databases, click on the URLs above.

Also included in the quote is the amount that school and public libraries would pay individually for the package:

Public (based on population served)

Small (30,000 or less)	\$19,460
Medium (30,001 to 200,000)	\$36,175
Large (over 200,000)	\$51,660

Schools (based on full-time enrollment)

Cost per High School	\$7,795
Cost per Middle School	\$4,598
Cost per Elementary School	\$3,095

### **Thomson Gale**

When Thomson Gale was approached, they were asked to provide a quote for a database package that included a general periodical index, a consumer health resource, a biographical resource, and a literature resource. The rough estimate was \$900,000. Products suggested include:

Basic periodical package with business and health databases (InfoTrac OneFile)	\$350,000
Biography database	\$100,000
Literature database	\$350,000
History database	\$100,000

These subscription prices are based on contracts of this type nationwide, and do not represent a price proposal for any specific Thomson Gale product or product package.

Currently CLAN libraries pay \$217,500 for a shared subscription to Thomson Gale's InfoTrac OneFile, Discovering Collection, and the Health and Wellness Resource Center.

#### **B) Selection:**

The coordination of the selection of electronic resources for a statewide system should be the responsibility of the Electronic Resources Advisory Committee.

#### **C) Master list of available databases in the state**

The master list of databases (see Appendix F– *RI Libraries Database Subscriptions Overlap List, FY 2005*) should be accessible to all librarians at a web location to be determined. This will allow librarians to refer patrons to libraries that have needed databases, based upon the current statewide referral policy.

#### **D) Federated Search Interface**

Federated search products allow simultaneous searching across multiple databases from a single, easy-to-use interface. For example, WebFeat, a federated search engine product recently demonstrated for RI libraries, is advertised as being used in over 1500 libraries, including half of the top 20 largest US public libraries and 10% of ACRL libraries.

This product is compatible with most searchable databases, including those that are licensed statewide and those that are individual library subscriptions. Each library could customize its own interface search page. WebFeat could also customize special pages for focused subject searching, such as a business reference page, featuring specific fields like company name, SIC, or NAICS. Many other federated search products are available, including MetaLib, Metasearch, and ZPortal.

Some library networks also use federated search products to search across many library catalogs at the same time, e.g., SEFLIN, the Southeastern Florida Information Network. A statewide federated search product could also provide database usage statistics, tracking and reporting information for each library.

When the LibFutures Working Group for One Catalog conducted their LORI survey, the participants were asked if they wanted federated search capabilities within a statewide database licensing program. The results showed overwhelming support for this additional service. Such capability would maximize the use of Rhode Island's licensed databases.

**Recommendation:** Assign to the Technology Advisory Committee the task of exploring and recommending a federated search interface for statewide access.

## **E) Advisory Committees**

The Databases Working Group recommends that three advisory committees be formed to work with the designated coordination and implementation organization.

Recommended committees are:

### **Electronic Resources Advisory Committee**

- Works with vendors and librarians within the state to stay current on new products
- Test and trial new products and make recommendations for purchase
- Works closely with the implementation and coordination group to evaluate e-resources annually
- Contribute to training efforts in libraries state-wide

### **Technology Advisory Committee**

- Investigates new technologies as they relate to the statewide database services, and potentially, a statewide one catalogue
- Works with the Electronic Resources Advisory Committee to determine if the technology available will support electronic resources selected
- Advises on authentication issues, such as proxy, VPN or another technology meant to safeguard the databases from unauthorized use

### **Publicity Advisory Committee**

- Creates the PR Calendar. This calendar will identify milestones and deadlines for completing promotion tasks and creating publicity
- Host listserv to communicate with the participating libraries
- Consider establishing a listserv for users
- Cultivates relationships with external expert resources (e.g. PR consultants or development specialists)
- Partners with Rhode Island Education Media Association (RIEMA) and Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA)
- Determines how to promote training/demonstrations, and communicates how training will be done

#### 4. MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

There will be two phases of marketing. First, there will be a *marketing/PR plan for funding purposes*. The general public and legislators will have to be persuaded to fund the databases. Secondly, there will be an *user marketing/education plan*. It will be essential to encourage use and provide user training.

##### A. Marketing/PR for Funding

- **Community Meetings:** Get the message out to the public by having community meetings at local libraries. Demonstrate what databases are/ how they work/ what their value is to students and adults. Give out names of local legislators to contact.
- **Public Service messages:** Produce a short “commercial” to play on Cox 3, any local TV public service channels or public service spots on commercial TV or radio.
- **School Meetings:** Have the local school librarians give an informational talk with a demonstration at school/ parent nights.
- **Legislature:** Have a group of librarians give a demonstration and talk to the appropriate legislative body.
- **Billboards:** Use display ads on public transportation buses and other visible locations.

##### B. User Marketing/Education

Once the LibFutures Steering Committee has communicated how the One Catalog and Statewide Databases will work (in concert as one integrated service or separately), a timeline of the rollout of this service must be developed. Because these decisions are still evolving, the following focuses primarily on marketing and educating potential users of the statewide databases.

A **Publicity Advisory Committee** (one of the three advisory committees recommended in Section II. 2, above) should be set up to oversee assigned duties.

##### **Short Term Goals:**

- Develop mission and vision statements (including shortened “message” for advertisements and posters (see appendices G and H))
- Create a name, logo, “message,” and kick-off campaign for service
  - Have multiple logo prototypes and solicit feedback
  - Have this done by a professional (either willing to donate services or for a fee)
- Advertising (billboards, version of “At Your Library” poster campaign, easy-to-read brochures, press kits, press releases, PSAs, service brand freebies (bookmarks, idea sheets, mousepads, magnets – perhaps these can be donated/sponsored))
- User surveys

##### **Long Term Goals:**

- Develop ready-to-go/canned presentations and speeches for delivery by Service committee members, librarians, Association members, teachers, and others (powerpoints and brochures)
- Develop electronic and print brochures for the various constituencies
- Continue outreach to ensure sustainability of the service (see ideas in “Marketing/PR for Funding” section).
- User surveys

##### **Kick-Off Campaign**

- Send service information and materials to all participating libraries
- Make use of natural advocates and advance people (librarians, teachers, and prominent local scholars)
- Create “talking” points to help librarians promote service
- Use famous local personalities to promote/advertise service (commercials, billboards, posters, etc.)
- OLIS should be a central partner in selling the message to residents

- Maximize the media buzz by inviting key legislators (state and local) to ribbon-cutting/kickoff ceremony

### **Section III: Appendices**

- A. Charge from LibFutures Steering Committee to the Database Working Group
- B. Comparison of Funding Sources and Environmental Scan of Best Practices
- C. Statewide Virtual Library Comparison (INCOLSA)
- D. Plan for Implementation of Statewide Licensed Databases –SRRC
- E. Title 29 Libraries CHAPTER 29-6 State Aid to Libraries Section 29-6-9
- F. Rhode Island Libraries Database Subscriptions & Overlap List FY 2005
- G. North Carolina Libraries: Building Communities A Plan for Cooperation
- H. Marketing and Public Relations Samples

## Appendix A

### Charge from the LibFutures Steering Committee to the Database Working Group

**Purpose:** The Databases Working Group supports the important work of the LibFutures Steering Committee by recommending a plan to make available to all residents of RI core statewide licensed databases.

**Charge:** The Databases Working Group will develop an action plan for the implementation of access to core statewide licensed databases. This action plan should include any appropriate legislative recommendations for the Library Commission.

**Activities/Inputs:**

- Provide an environmental scan of current shared databases in the state within consortiums or other arrangements.
- Provide an environmental scan of best practices among the 30 states providing database access, identifying a preferred model for RI.
- The Databases Working Group will be represented at the meetings of the LibFutures Committee and regularly communicate with the LibFutures Committee by distributing meeting minutes, progress reports, and posting agendas.

**Output:**

- Recommend an infrastructure that will include: process for the selection of Licensed databases to be made available; designated body to coordinate and implement; funding model; fiscal agent; and marketing/PR.

**Outcomes:**

- Recommendations for statewide databases will be achieved by consensus and be based on national models.
- The Library Commission will have legislative recommendations based on thorough investigation and review of need and best practices.

**Membership Criteria:** ability and willingness to address issues from a state-wide perspective; knowledge of the diverse information needs and information seeking behaviors of the residents of the state; familiarity or willingness to learn about the issues pertaining to statewide databases; familiarity with developing budget & funding models; open-minded and ability to see the “big picture”; and willingness to devote time and energy to the work of the group.

## Appendix B

### Comparison of Funding Sources and Environmental Scan of Best Practices

An examination of the funding models for statewide database licenses was conducted for the states of Florida, California, Washington, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Indiana, and Michigan. A number of project managers and state librarians were contacted in the hopes of finding a workable model to meet Rhode Island's needs. Some models were found. However, what was revealing was the plethora of considerations that each state needed to address in examining, planning, and implementing a library statewide licensing project such as the one Rhode Island is about to undertake.

The following questions were designed to guide conversations with other statewide database librarians:

1. Does (*name of state*) State Library Services provide statewide licenses to databases?
2. How do you fund your statewide databases?
3. Is funding secure from year to year?
4. How is access provided to your databases?
5. Who selects the databases?
6. What issues have you encountered in providing statewide access to databases?

The following is a brief report on the research and interviews of the various funding models, as well as comments on management issues each of these states faced in developing statewide databases for their residents.

#### FLORIDA MODEL

<http://www.flelibrary.org/>

The Florida Library Network Council has posted their minutes to The Florida Virtual Library Plan. It is from these minutes, The Florida Virtual Library: Plan for Statewide Implementation (May 2002), and a telephone conversation with Mark Flynn, program administrator, State Library of Florida that I have gleaned the following:

**History:** RMG Consultants were hired to study and make recommendations for a statewide virtual library plan that would include a Web-based portal, agreed upon standards for resource sharing across libraries, funding, implementation of the plan, stability and sustainability, identifying a statewide database licensed product, and a union catalog of Florida's library holdings.

**Management:** The State Library of Florida is the fiscal agent for the Florida Electronic Library. The Florida Library Network Council – a multitype library council – is an advisory body which meets annually to discuss the Florida Electronic Library. The FLNC is funded by LSTA monies, and administered by the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services.

Two positions are paid for by LSTA funds. The administrator of the Florida Electronic Library is also the administrator for all IT in the state. This office includes 3.5 additional staff who work together on both library and technology needs for the state.

**Funding:** Recommended budget = \$8.5 million initial cost. \$3 million to \$5 million per year to sustain the Florida Electronic Library.

Actual budget = \$2.8 million. All funding comes from LSTA. Individual libraries pay nothing for access to these databases.

81% of the \$2.8 million goes to the vendor for statewide database licensing.

12% - salaries

7% - evaluation and marketing

#### **Databases:**

Infotrac OneFile

General Reference Center Gold

Health & Wellness Resource Center & Alternative Health Module

Health Reference Center – Academic  
General BusinessFile ASAP  
j|Informe!  
What Do I Read Next?  
InfoTrac Junior Edition  
InfoTrac Student Edition  
Computer Database  
Expanded Academic ASAPT<sup>TM</sup> with Ingenta  
InfoTrac Professional Collection

**Technical and Billing:** All libraries are funded through LSTA. No individual libraries pay for access to these databases. Gale is the vendor.

**Comments:** The vision for the Florida Electronic Library is to provide access to Florida residents to a “wide range of electronic information resources, digital content, and online information services organized in a coherent and cohesive manner.”

Mr. Flynn said there are two unresolved issues – one is the lack of school participation. He believes schools are key, but they were not represented at the table initially. Several times the State Library went to the governor and the legislators to obtain funding to extend licensing to the schools. The idea/proposal received support from the Governor and the House, but it was turned down in the Senate. The second issue is that the state lacks a central statewide interlibrary loan, or resource sharing, system. This is something Flynn sees as a roadblock to true integration of resources and services. Florida continues to work toward an integrated system.

Flynn also stated that it is because there are so many library partnerships in place in the state that statewide licensing has moved forward and continues to progress.

## **CALIFORNIA MODEL**

<http://www.library.ca.gov/html/electronicDBs.cfm>

I emailed Rushton Brandis, Technology Consultant, California Library Development Services Bureau on May 18, 2005. We have had numerous email conversations in the past 7 days. The following are direct quotes from information received from Mr. Brandis on how California has fared in their exploration of statewide databases licensing.

**History:** “During the formation of the Library of California (1999) - a statewide, multitype library network - state funds were made available for database subsidies. In an initial effort the California State Library used these funds to provide free access to Rand California <<http://ca.rand.org/cgi-bin/homepage.cgi>>. An evaluation of the 438 participants indicated that about half had no significant use of the database. Comments from librarians indicated that lack of training and insufficient staff time contributed to the lack of use.

The Rand experience indicated to us that it is very difficult to provide a single database that has universal appeal to all library types. The fact that so many libraries made no use of the product perhaps makes a case for insisting on some commitment of resources (funding, staff time, training) on the part of libraries rather than providing a completely free resource. Libraries may already have commitments to existing resources and may not wish to switch those to another unless it is clear that the resource will continue to be available for a number of years. If not, there will be a concern that staff time and the training required for staff as well as patrons will be wasted.

Subsequent efforts were directed at providing subsidies to the regions within the Library of California thereby providing a decentralized approach that hopefully would provide more desired products to end users. Regions could choose to use funds for databases, or they could choose to use the funds for other purposes. Many, but not all, regions chose to expend at least some funds on databases.

All allocations from the state budget for the Library of California dwindled and finally ended. The regions eventually ended their contracts [with the database vendors]. We do hear consistently a desire for subsidies for databases from public library directors.”

**Management:** “The Library of California is a statewide program, established in 1999, to provide equitable access to library materials and information resources for all Californians. Administered by the California State Library, under the policy direction of the Library of California Board, this program has both a statewide component for infrastructure support and development, and a regional component for direct service delivery to and through libraries. Seven regional library networks provide the regional services specified in the Library of California Act.” [http://www.library.ca.gov/loc/About\\_LoC/about\\_loc.cfm](http://www.library.ca.gov/loc/About_LoC/about_loc.cfm)

**Funding:** There is no funding for statewide library databases today. There are some electronic databases for employees of the State of California provided by the State Library Services Bureau, which is a division of the California State Library. State funding for these databases is administered through the California State Library. In addition, beginning in July 2005, LSTA monies will be provided to fund OCLC FirstSearch WorldCat to CALIFA, a network of California libraries. CALIFA includes public, school, academic, special, government and system libraries in its current list of approximately 275 members. No funding from the state is guaranteed from year to year.

**Databases:** OCLC FirstSearch WorldCat was chosen by the State Librarian for CALIFA. Mr. Brandis said, “The development of Open WorldCat through Google and Yahoo was a factor in the decision.” So it looks as though there are two models for accessing databases for some residents of California. One is for state employees, managed by the California State Library. The second is for the 275 members of CALIFA - administered and managed by CALIFA.

**Comments:** “In California, the amount of funds that would be necessary to fund statewide database licenses is substantial. Beyond the current activity for access to WorldCat, there are no plans to dedicate funds from the state or LSTA sources for such a project.”

#### **WASHINGTON MODEL**

<http://www.secstate.wa.gov/library/libraries/projects/sdl/>

I spoke with Will Stuvenga, Project Manager for Statewide Databases of Washington state. The following information is extracted from a phone conversation we had on May 24, 2005.

**History:** The Statewide Database Licensing Project has been in existence since 1998. The decisions about which and what type of databases to choose were decided at that time. The Statewide Database Advisory Committee, made up of librarians from each type of library, with input from the Washington library community found that a general periodical and local newspaper database would best serve all libraries in the state. Proquest was selected as the vendor at that time and continues to be the vendor today. In 1997, money was requested from the state legislature, but was turned down. Several more attempts have been made to secure funding from the state, but to no avail as of this date. Another attempt will be made sometime in the future.

**Management:** The Project Manager and the Electronic Resources Librarian are the staff of the Statewide Database Licensing. These two librarians are funded through LSTA money distributed by the Washington State Library Services. The State Library Services is governed by the Secretary of State’s Office. Decisions about which databases to purchase and how money should be used are made by this office under advisement from the State Librarian. The State Librarian allots LSTA money under advisement from the Library Council of Washington and the Statewide Database Advisory Committee, of which Mr. Stuvenga is a member.

**Funding:** The cost of the statewide databases has been \$1 million for the past five years. Half the money to fund the statewide databases comes from LSTA money distributed by the state library services and the other half comes from member libraries. Libraries contribute according to a formula that includes FTE. There are several very small public libraries and tribal libraries who receive the databases free. The databases have been instrumental in leveling the playing field for all libraries and all Washington

residents. This coming fiscal year, Proquest has cut the cost of the statewide databases in half for the same number of databases plus three more. (!)

**Databases:** The Washington Statewide Database Licensing has a contract with Proquest. The databases included in this contract are:

ProQuest General Periodicals

ABI Trade & Industry

eLibrary

eLibrary Elementary

Ethnic NewsWatch

Alt-PressWatch

CultureGrams

ProQuest Newspapers – 5 local newspapers; 5 national newspapers

**Technical and Billing:** All of the databases live on the ProQuest server. ProQuest provides all the technical support. The Statewide Database Licensing staff handle the negotiations with the vendors and provide limited technical help if needed. ProQuest bills each library or Education Service District (there are 9 in Washington) individually. Member libraries include Hospitals, Schools, 2-Year College, and Private Academic. The public academic libraries receive funding from the state and therefore do not qualify for additional funding for these databases.

**Observations:** I am not sure about the LSTA funding and how much the state is willing to support statewide databases using these funds. Either way you look at it though, the state will have to earmark funding in order for this project to work. Whether it is through LSTA (and the state supports OLIS more from state funds than federal), or through the General Assembly, the state needs to be a player in the funding of statewide databases for libraries and residents of Rhode Island in order to create an equitable distribution of online resources for all. Leveling the playing fields should be a strong incentive.

## CONNECTICUT MODEL

<http://www.iconn.org> for information: <http://www.iconn.org/siteindex.aspx>

contact person: Sharon Breckscheider 1-860-757-6665

**History:** The Connecticut Digital Library was authorized by Public Act 00-187 (Section 35) and appropriated \$2 million dollars in FY 2000 – 2001.

**Management:** The Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board advises the State Library Board and the Board of Governors for Higher Education on policy, needs assessment and content selection for the Connecticut Digital Library, currently known as iCONN. The 15-member Board is composed of one representative from the Commission for Educational Technology; one representative from the State Department of Education; one representative from the business community, or a library user; one parent of a student in a Connecticut K-12 school; one student in a Connecticut K-12 school or college; one Teacher in a Connecticut school or college; seven professional librarians with at least two representatives from each audience served: school, public and academic libraries; and the State Librarian and the Commissioner of Higher Education, or their designees, serve as ex-officio members of the Board. (from: <http://www.cslib.org/about.htm>)

iConn, The Connecticut Digital Library is administered by the Connecticut State Library in conjunction with the State Department of Higher Education. It is a component of the Connecticut Education Network, which is mandated to provide "state-of-the-art, high-speed, reliable Internet access and video, voice and data transmissions that electronically link all educational institutions in the state, including public and independent institutions of higher education, the state's libraries and all elementary, middle and secondary schools and other institutions including businesses, job centers and community organizations" (Public Act 00-187, Section 35). (from: <http://www.ctpta.org/news/nw-2000-11-01.html>).

iConn has five people on its staff.

**Funding:** iCONN is funded wholly by the State of Connecticut at a cost of two million dollars per year. This money is not part of the State Libraries budget but comes from the budget for the Dept. of Higher Education and

is earmarked specifically for electronic resources. There is a connection with the Connecticut Education Network and Dept. of Higher Education for the purposes of funding. Although the money comes in from the Dept. of Higher Ed., it is the State Librarian who is instrumental in securing that funding and bringing everything together. The State Library contributes staffing for working with various library constituencies, writing RFPs, working with vendors, and providing an authentication portal.

**Databases:** Gale is the primary vendor.

Databases include:

[Associated Press Photo Archive - select User Guide and Guided Tour](#)

[Business & Company Resource Center](#)

[Discovering Collection](#)

[Expanded Academic ASAP](#)

[General Reference Center Gold](#)

[Health & Wellness Resource Center](#)

[HeritageQuest Online](#)

[iCONN Newsstand Newspaper Collection](#)

[jInforme!](#)

[InfoTrac Junior Edition](#)

[InfoTrac Student Edition](#)

[InfoTrac OneFile](#)

[Kids InfoBits](#)

[Professional Collection](#)

[Wilson Biographies Plus](#)

[What do I Read Next?](#)

**Comments:** The selection process primarily consists of multi-type libraries writing up RFP. There is a very rigid RFP process in Connecticut -- the database selected is the one that earns the most points from the RFP. So getting the RFP right is very important, because it becomes a quantitative decision rather than qualitative.

They purchase the databases based on a two tiered model. The first tier (1 million dollars) is spent on databases common to all library types. The second tier is used to fund databases to specific library types. About half goes to Higher Education and the other half to fund databases more useful to school and public libraries.

Authentication can be through the iConn.org portal or the state library can provide direct vendor links to libraries who wish to have them.

## **MASSACHUSETTS MODEL**

Contact: Marlene Heroux 1-617-267-9400 x 250

<http://mblc.state.ma.us/grants/licenses/index.php>

**History:** Statewide database access grew out of the Strategic Plan for Libraries in Massachusetts (1993). The vision became a reality in 1997 when a Gale SearchBank database demonstration project was implemented for all Massachusetts libraries. The State Legislature originally funded this limited 6 month demonstration project.

### **Management:**

The Massachusetts BLC works as the fiscal agent and database subscription coordinator – licenses, proxies, etc. The BLC provides access and authenticates at the state level. Each region is responsible for setting up authentication, passing cookies, and providing URLs. The BLC also coordinates statewide training in database usage.

Marlene Heroux, Database Coordinator writes the initial RFP and posts it to the MBLC web site for 40 days for the vendors' responses. The Database Advisory Committee (comprised of members representing multi-type libraries from around the state) determines selection based on vendor visits and trial responses from an all library online survey. The trials are made available to all libraries and they have an opportunity to submit their opinions/recommendations via an online survey. Because it takes a year to complete a contract, they do a five year contract – 2 years plus 2 years plus 1 year. The division in the years gives them the opportunity to back out if necessary.

**Funding:** The official statement from their web site says: "Funding for the program is jointly shared by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the six Massachusetts Regional Library Systems." Marlene indicated that funding has been drastically cut in the past 3 years, from \$4 million to \$300,000. The model was to have half the money paid for by the Massachusetts BLC and half the money to come in through the regional systems to fund the databases (but keep in mind that the money coming from the regions was the state money that the BLC distributed to them – but because of budgetary flow processes the BLC first has to give the money to the regions and then they give it back to fund the state-wide databases). So essentially, the databases were initially bought with all state funding. Today databases are paid half from LSTA funds and half with the state monies coming back in from the regions.

**Databases:** Massachusetts subscribes to eleven databases from Gale.

**Comments:** The regions of the state got together and purchased newsBank for access to the Boston Globe a few other newspapers. The newsbank subscription is not handled through the MBLC. Some of the larger libraries in the state – Boston and Worcester have helped fund access to the newspapers for other regions who could not afford it.

## **INDIANA MODEL**

Contact Margaret Mohundro  
<http://www.inspire.net>

**History:** The INSPIRE project began with state funding in 1998. A timeline of their progress is available at <http://www.inspire.net/news.html>

**Management:** INCOLSA acts as fiscal agent for purchasing and licensing. "INSPIRE is managed and operated by INCOLSA which is the agency contracted by the Indiana State Library for this purpose. The Indiana State Library and Historical Board allocates government funding to INCOLSA to carry out these functions." (INCOLSA is equivalent to New England's NELINET)

**Funding:** Total INSPIRE budget is about \$2 million per year. Database costs are \$1.5 million per year. They get \$1.25 yearly from the state legislature for database purchasing only. They use INCOLSA funds (INCOLSA gets \$2.4 million from state, plus some LSTA, private grant money, fees, dues, etc. for a total budget of about \$7.2 million) for the other \$250,000/yr for database costs. They use LSTA funding for INSPIRE operations -- tech support, hardware and software, training, help desk staffing. They must work hard on advocacy each year to keep the databases funded. They work with the Indiana Library Federation's Legislative Committee.

**Databases:** INSPIRE's primary vendor is Ebsco. They have about 20 Ebsco databases. Database titles include: Academic Search Elite, Biography Resource Center, Business Source Premier, Clinical Pharmacology, Company Profiles, ERIC, Health Business Fulltext, Health Source/Consumer Edition, Health Source/Nursing Academic Edition, Informe!, Knight Ridder Collection, LitFinder, MAS Ultra, Master FILE Premier, MEDLINE, Middle Search Plus, and Newspaper Source.

### **Comments:**

One thing to note -- academics, large publics and large schools may go directly through the vendor. Example: INSPIRE's primary db vendor is EBSCO, and we have about 20 EBSCO databases. Indiana University purchases many EBSCO databases for students. So, IU sets it up with EBSCO to get the INSPIRE databases directly and not go through the INSPIRE Website or interface. (Call about this if you want to talk more -- there are some good things and bad things about this. (317) 298-6570).

Because of the state contract for Academic Search Elite, it was mentioned that Ebsco allows academic institutions to pay the difference only in the price between and Academic Search Premier and Academic Search Elite.

Access is provided via either IP address or registered username and password. This system was developed by INCOLSA using PHP and MySQL relational database management software.

## **MICHIGAN MODEL**

Contacts: Suzanne Robinson from the Michigan Library Consortium (1-800-530-9019)  
Sheryl Mase, Library of Michigan ([smase@michigan.gov](mailto:smase@michigan.gov), 517-373-4331)  
<http://michiganelibrary.org>

**History:** “The Michigan eLibrary has grown from the combination of several statewide projects. The original projects were AccessMichigan, a project to provide commercial licensed databases to Michigan's libraries and the Michigan Electronic Library, a collection of internet resources selected by librarians. In addition, the Action Team for Advancement of Libraries Statewide, has also laid groundwork for portions of the current Michigan eLibrary.” (from: <http://www.michiganelibrary.org/about/steering.htm> )

**Management:** MeL is a project of the Library of Michigan (the state library). They prepare the RFPs, seek input from librarians about database vendor selection and handle money and licenses. For access to the databases and training for library staff , the Library of Michigan has a contract with the Michigan Library Consortium (which is similar to our NELINET). MLC offers training to all of its participating members. Any type of library may join – membership dues are \$135 annually. 1.5 people at MLC currently provide training and support for the licensed databases. They also hire “substitute trainers” who are geographically disbursed throughout the state and pay them on a per diem basis.

**Funding:** Sheryl Mase indicated that they receive no state funding for databases. Funding for databases comes from LSTA funds. (a figure of 2.3 million was mentioned – but she didn't have the exact figures on hand). However, the State Library is currently receiving adequate funds to support its state library and staff. Information below is from their web site, but Sheryl specifically indicated that the databases do not receive state funding.

“The Michigan eLibrary has been funded by a variety of sources including state appropriated funds through the budget of the [Library of Michigan](#), [Library Services and Technology Act \(LSTA\)](#) funds administered by the Library of Michigan, and funding from the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#).”

**Databases:** MeL has over thirty databases from Gale, FirstSearch, eLibrary, netLibrary, SIRS  
A list of their databases is available at <http://www.michiganelibrary.org/databases/database.htm>

**Comments:** The Michigan Library Consortium also has a contract with the Library of Michigan to implement the MeL library catalog project -- they have 3 staff people working on that project. The catalog and the new gateway interface (including federated searching) made its debut in January 2005. To learn more about the catalog and gateway project including their policies and procedures for implementation see <http://michiganelibrary.org/catalog/index.html>.

**Hope Houston and Susan McMullen**  
**June 2005**

**Appendix C**

**Statewide Virtual Library Comparison (INCOLSA)**

Prepared by Indiana Cooperative Library Services Authority (INCOLSA) – not available

## Appendix D

### Plan for implementation of Statewide Database Licensing Project

Administrator for Statewide Database Licensing:

State Reference Resource Center at Providence Public Library

Serving as the primary contact for statewide electronic subscriptions:

1. Fiscal agent
2. Implementation and coordination of licensing
3. Technology support to RI libraries
4. Web design for site
5. Training for library staff, coordination with vendors
6. Coordinate advisory committees

The SRRC at PRO should:

- serve as the fiscal agent, contract authority, and the payroll agent for statewide database licensing staff and services
- provide the technology infrastructure to support the statewide access
- provide administrative staffing to support the statewide project
- provide space for housing staff functions
- strengthen and formalize its leadership role to represent the electronic research interests of all Rhode Island libraries

Using these current and previous models, PPL has a proven record for statewide leadership and experience:

- LORI grants to purchase databases for all CLAN libraries
- Reading Across Rhode Island and Center for the Book
- Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative
- 2002- CLAN group purchase, with three databases from a single vendor
- LORI Continuing Education training sessions

SRRC working with the support of the advisory committees will be responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the project, including coordination of technologies, communications with vendors, communications with state's libraries, and facilitating the meeting of advisory committees.

Fiscal agent:

With the advice and consent of the LORI Committee, the State Reference Resource Center at the Providence Public Library will serve as the contracting authority for the statewide database licensing project.

Administration and implementation:

With the advice of the Electronic Resources advisory committee, the SRRC will identify potential database products. The SRRC is also responsible for identifying new appropriate vendors and opportunities; contract negotiations; and library satisfaction of the licensed databases.

SRRC will review Web portal products for federated searching.

SRRC will implement a Web portal, with a user-friendly, multi-lingual interface, able to search across all the resources presented.

SRRC will offer continuing education, training, support, and user documentation.

- Develop a continuing education process that responds to member needs and new trends and developments, including initial user training, support programs, documentation, and communications
- Training coordinator will provide training services to libraries with instructional materials, including web-based materials
- Develop a review process and evaluation procedure; Establish an effective method to analyze usage statistics evaluation of all electronic resources

Advisory Committees:

Some advisory committees may be standing or permanent, while others may be temporary with specific tasks to be performed within specific timeframes

- **Electronic Resources:** The members of this advisory committee test and evaluate potential resources. They consider recommendations by users according to the established selection criteria. The committee will create an electronic resources collection development policy; identify and review potential products (trials); recommend resources for purchase; interpret usage statistics.
- **Technology Committee.** The committee will keep current with new technologies and services that could further expand a virtual library for Rhode Island
- **Marketing Committee.** The committee will recommend appropriate marketing materials to the SRRC, responding to the various needs of multi-type library patrons.

Submitted by Dorey Conway,  
Providence Public Library

Based on administrative models from Florida Virtual Library, Maine Marvel! Virtual Library, and NC Live

**Appendix E**

**TITLE 29  
Libraries**

**CHAPTER 29-6  
State Aid to Libraries**

**SECTION 29-6-9**

**§ 29-6-9 Rhode Island library network.** – (a) In order to provide each individual in Rhode Island with equal opportunity of access to resources that will satisfy their and society's information needs and interests, the department of state library services is hereby authorized to establish a Rhode Island library network to be administered by the department of state library services for the purpose of maintaining, promoting, and developing a program of statewide resource sharing and interlibrary cooperation. The department of state library services shall include as part of its budget a budget for the administration and operation of the Rhode Island library network to:

(1) Provide central support services for the Rhode Island library network, such as delivery of materials, telecommunications, consultant services, and access to bibliographic and other information sources;

(2) Reimburse libraries for the actual cost of providing services to individuals outside the library's primary clientele; and

(3) Support the development, maintenance of, and access to the resource sharing potential embodied in specialized collections and services at the Providence public library and other libraries which can be provided most cost-effectively on a statewide basis.

(b) By fiscal year 2000, the state shall provide from state and federal revenue sources one hundred percent (100%) of the funding for the following statewide library services:

(1) Reference resource center at the Providence public library;

(2) Interlibrary delivery system;

(3) Interlibrary telecommunications system;

(4) Electronic interlibrary loan system;

(5) Library holdings database;

(6) Cooperating libraries automated network; and

(7) [Deleted by P.L. 1996, ch. 100, art. 29, § 1.]

**Appendix F**

**Rhode Island Libraries Database Subscriptions & Overlap List FY 2005**

See separate file for Appendix F

## Appendix G

### North Carolina Libraries: Building Communities

#### A Plan for Cooperation

Developed by the State Library Commission's Interlibrary Cooperation Committee

Approved by the State Library Commission (June 14, 1999)

#### Our Vision

*All of North Carolina's libraries work together to enhance services and access to information so that the people of North Carolina are empowered by knowledge.*

#### Our Values and Guiding Principles

1. All libraries are central to education, lifelong learning, and the economic growth and stability of North Carolina.
2. Local libraries serve as an essential gateway to information available in the State and worldwide.
3. Where residents live in North Carolina will not determine their ability to get information available through libraries in the State.
4. Library cooperation will make libraries easier for people to use.
5. Library cooperation will reflect the reality that every library serves the needs of its local community first and holds a valued place in that community.
6. Library cooperation will build on, but cannot replace, strong local and State support for libraries.
7. Every library has something to contribute to cooperation and recognizes that cooperation bridges the gaps that exist among different types of libraries.
8. Library cooperation means sharing materials, technology, staff, expertise, and programs.
9. Strategies for library cooperation must be founded on mutual benefit in a spirit of teamwork and trust.
10. Experimentation and innovation among all types of libraries in collaborative enterprises are valued and encouraged.

North Carolina Libraries: Building Communities June 14, 1999 page 2

A Plan for Cooperation

#### Strategic Directions

##### I. Access

*Strategies in this area will make it easier for libraries and their users to get the information or items they need.*

1. Expand and strengthen access to NC LIVE beyond public and academic libraries:
  - Enable all North Carolinians to access NC LIVE from home or office.
  - Include public and privately supported schools (K-12) in NC LIVE.
  - Explore expansion to other communities of libraries
2. Develop innovative and responsive document delivery systems and explore ways to coordinate and expand to serve the maximum number of libraries and library users.
3. Explore implementation of an easily managed system of statewide borrowing privileges that addresses issues of equity and local practice among libraries.
4. Increase Internet access to specialized resources:
  - Unique local and statewide collections in libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies.
  - Local, state, and federal government information.
5. Expand funding for statewide networking and hardware to support high-speed universal access to the Internet.

##### II. Services

*Strategies in this area will help libraries improve services to their users by sharing knowledge, ideas, expertise, and costs.*

1. Provide staff development and training programs for libraries throughout the State.
2. Develop models for improving cooperation in areas such as information literacy instruction, policies and guidelines, programming, and expertise.
3. Design outcomes and assessment measures for cooperative library programs, including ongoing evaluation of users' needs and satisfaction.

##### III. Materials

*Helping people find the information they need depends on having accurate information about what is available outside their local library. Strategies in this area will help expand collections and make information about those collections more widely accessible.*

1. Evaluate and expand the core resources of NC LIVE on an ongoing basis.

2. Use OCLC's WorldCat database as North Carolina's union catalog:

- All libraries sharing materials will enter their holdings into WorldCat.
- Entering records describing unique holdings will be a priority.
- North Carolina libraries will have web access to WorldCat.

3. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of collections statewide and pursue avenues for cooperative collection development.

#### **IV. Advocacy**

*Libraries are dynamic, interactive centers of community and institutional life. Strategies in this area will help libraries meet the challenges of rising costs, changing technologies, and diverse user needs.*

1. Promote and celebrate libraries and their contribution to the quality of life and economic growth and development in North Carolina.
2. Advocate for residents' needs for cooperative library services and access to information.
3. Secure suitable funding to meet those needs.

## Appendix H

### Marketing/PR – examples from select states

**Georgia:** There are numerous examples of flyers and presentations on the Georgia site.  
[http://neptune3.galib.uga.edu/cgi-bin/homepage.cgi?style=&\\_id=c607f163-1149377157-6121&\\_cc=1](http://neptune3.galib.uga.edu/cgi-bin/homepage.cgi?style=&_id=c607f163-1149377157-6121&_cc=1)

**Florida:**

#### Who Should Use This Site?

**These are just some of the ways Florida residents can benefit from using the Florida Electronic Library**

- An elementary student writing a homework report on George Washington locates biographical information in...  
**Kids Infobits™**
- A middle-school student preparing a “How To” speech finds instructions on kite flying in...  
**InfoTrac® Junior Edition**
- A high-school student reporting on the ethics of cloning finds the newspaper information required in...  
**InfoTrac® Student Edition**
- A school social worker reads the latest statistics on single-parent families in the...  
**InfoTrac® Professional Collection**
- A middle-aged man scans company information before his employment interview in...  
**General Reference Center Gold™**
- A graduate student searches for literary reviews from her home computer in...  
**Expanded Academic ASAP™**
- A state employee finds Washington Post articles to support his recommendation in...  
**InfoTrac OneFile™**
- A senior citizen looks up herbal remedies in...  
**Health & Wellness Resource Center – Alternative Health Module**
- A programmer keeps up-to-date on high-tech happenings in...  
**Computer Database**
- A Spanish-speaking couple finds current consumer product information in Spanish before purchasing a new home in...  
**¡¡Informe!**

## Indiana:

Get INSPIRED!



### **INSPIRE Powers Indiana**

INSPIRE puts the power of an online research library on your desktop. INSPIRE's 26 databases are designed to meet the information needs of all the citizens of Indiana. Through INSPIRE, Indiana residents have access to 10,000 magazines, encyclopedias, almanacs, and other materials for research, school projects, business information, and lifelong learning.



### **INSPIRE to Build Indiana's Future**

INSPIRE is an innovative, high-tech service used by students doing course assignments; business people planning for future developments in their companies; and citizens seeking information on government, health, finance, travel, and business and educational opportunities. INSPIRE is the foundation for a statewide information infrastructure for business and education for the 21st century.



### **Indiana Leads the Nation**

Indiana was the first state to provide this kind of groundbreaking and innovative INSPIRE database service directly to ALL its residents -- from Internet at home, office, school, and library. Indiana is leading the way in making this type of information access and technology available to all its residents.



### **INSPIRE Statewide Access**

INSPIRE databases serve all Indiana residents from their homes, schools, offices, and libraries. INSPIRE meets the needs of everyone from sophisticated scholarly researchers, entrepreneurs, and scientists, to students, retirees, and those pursuing lifelong learning. INSPIRE's statewide accessibility allows all our residents - urban and rural, rich and poor - access to a vast array of the most current information on a variety of subjects.



### **INSPIRE Searches**

Indiana residents performed more than 13 million searches on the 26 INSPIRE databases in 2004.



### **INSPIRE Value for Indiana**

Currently, \$1.25 million in state funding pays for INSPIRE databases. If libraries in Indiana were to purchase these databases on their own, the cost would be more than \$10 million. INCOLSA is about libraries sharing resources to produce the greatest benefit for Indiana's citizens. The cooperative statewide effort of INSPIRE maximizes the impact of tax dollars for library services and information.



### **Library Cooperation Pays Off**

Cooperative statewide library activities like INSPIRE, funded in part by the state of Indiana, show cost-efficient, cost-effective, responsible use of taxpayer investment. INCOLSA, the Indiana library network, operates INSPIRE.



### **INSPIRE for Education**

INSPIRE delivers current, accurate, and safe information over the Internet for Indiana's children. INSPIRE levels the educational playing field for children in all Indiana schools by providing equal access to

information regardless of the school's budget or student population. INSPIRE provides tomorrow's information economy workers access to a diverse set of quality information resources today.



### **INSPIRE for Kids**

INSPIRE Kids, a unique interface developed for children, ensures our youngest citizens learn Internet and research skills to enhance their schoolwork and to better prepare them for college and careers.

[INSPIRE](#), The Indiana Virtual Library, is a service of [INCOLSA](#) and the libraries of Indiana.

INSPIRE databases are funded in part by the Indiana General Assembly.

INSPIRE is supported by the Institute of Museums and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Indiana State Library.