

**CONNECTICUT DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MIDDLETOWN LIBRARY SERVICE CENTER**  
Minutes of the Meeting on February 1, 2006

**Present:** Melissa Behney, Patricia Daragan, Nicholas Eshelman, Elizabeth Frechette, Irene Iwan, Anne-Marie Kaminsky, Carolyn Marcato, Deborah Salewski, Arthur Skerker, Kendall Wiggin, Jonas Zdanys

**Others:** Lynette Baisden, Steve Cauffman, Sharon Clapp, Lorraine Huddy, William Sullivan; Hal Bright, John Coleman (incoming board members)

**Absent:**

**1. Call to Order**

Kendall Wiggin called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

**2. Introductions**

There were two new incoming members to the board. Ken welcomed everyone and asked that the board introduce themselves.

**3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair – Jonas Zdanys**

Jonas Zdanys reported that the Nominations Committee, which included representatives of the State Library, nominate Patricia Daragan as the Chair and Melissa Behney as the Vice Chair. It was moved by acclamation. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Melissa Behney MOVED (2<sup>nd</sup> Art Skerker) to accept the minutes of December 7, 2005 as presented. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

Nicholas Eshelman MOVED (2<sup>ND</sup> Anne-Marie Kaminsky) to accept the agenda of February 1, 2006 as presented.

**6. Public Comment**

There was none.

**7. State Library Report – Kendall Wiggin**

Ken reported that ProQuest will be coming to Connecticut in March to film some of the missing issues from the *Historic Hartford Courant* project. Contributors that made a commitment toward a donation to the project will receive a 70% discount on the 1923-1985 editions. The Commission for Educational Technology (CET) met in January and considered the annual report to the legislators. It included an explanation on the role of the CET. Ken will be working with the strategic planning committee of the CET. Ken reported that he did not ask for additional funding for iCONN in this session, but will in his submission for the next bi-annual budget. The Governor has been supportive of iCONN in the past.

The Willimantic Library Service Center has moved to a new location in Willimantic. Their new address is 1320 Main Street, Suite 25. The building has lots of parking and a computer-training lab. Sharon Brettschneider has been working to verify that libraries have sent back their Letter of Agreement that would give the CEN the authority to apply for E-Rate discounts on the libraries' behalf. The preliminary list for the 1st of 2 waves of library connections should be in February. The CEN will hold an informational forum on February 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. and February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1 – 2 p.m. to attend in person at their East Hartford location or electronically via video web cast. Directions to the meetings are at: <http://www.ct.gov/doit/cwp/view.asp?a=1242&Q=254090>

The Connecticut State Library is participating with WebJunction on a Spanish Language Outreach program funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Three people from Connecticut attended a Training Institute in Seattle. Those trainers will now conduct workshops in Connecticut. Elissa Scudder (Danbury Public Library) will conduct a workshop at the Danbury Public Library on February 27 from 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Nancy Moscoso-Guzman (New Haven Public Library) will hold a workshop at the New Haven Free Public Library on March 10 from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Kellie O'Donnell-Bobadilla (Hartford Public Library) will give a workshop at the Van Block Avenue Facility Meeting Room in Hartford from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Please register for these workshops at: <http://24.123.220.34/cslib/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>

#### **8. Department of Higher Education Report – Jonas Zdanys**

Jonas Zdanys reported that the statewide CEN content committee – which includes representatives from public and independent colleges and universities -- has issued a preliminary report and is working with colleges on the delivery of various kinds of educational programming over the Connecticut Education Network, in both synchronous and asynchronous delivery, much of which may rely on iCONN's resources for both teaching and learning. He also reported that increasing numbers of two-year colleges in Connecticut are interested in offering four year programs and in becoming four-year institutions. These institutions will need more teaching and research resources, and that may put a higher demand on iCONN. He also reported that he had been part of a meeting to discuss an effort to enhance reading readiness in Connecticut. He noted that there are not enough elementary students who can read at mastery levels in the urban schools and that there is a statewide interest, and push, to have all Connecticut students reading by the end of the first grade. He noted that the effort would entail focused student developmental efforts and more professional development of staff, each of which may require iCONN resources. Finally, he reported that Bill Sullivan would be coming to a meeting of the Standard Advisory Committee of the Board of Governors, to make a presentation about iCONN.

#### **9. Old Business**

##### **a. Nominations Committee – CDLAB Doc 06-01 – Jonas Zdanys**

Jonas Zdanys reported on the recommendations of the nominations committee to fill the vacancies on the board. Jonas Zdanys MOVED (2<sup>nd</sup> Arthur Skerker) that the Connecticut Digital Library Board approves the appointments of Hal Bright and John Coleman in the categories of public librarian and parent of K-12 student, respectively, to the Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board for a first term beginning in January 2006.

#### **10. Reports**

##### **a. Database Committee – Sharon Brettschneider**

Sharon Brettschneider announced, thanks to the efforts of Jane Emerson, that the bid for the databases has been released. Tier 1 databases are available to all public libraries, schools, historical society libraries and colleges in Connecticut. The bids are due back February 21st. Sharon, Bill Sullivan and Lorri Huddy will review the bid's mandatory requirements. There will then be evaluation days for teams of public, school and academic librarians to review the databases for content.

##### **b. Digital Library Progress Report – William Sullivan**

Bill Sullivan welcomed Lorri Huddy as the new electronic resources coordinator for iCONN. Lorri has been working very closely with Jane Emerson (who is retiring) to ensure a smooth transition. Bill distributed the January issue of the *iCONN Times*, which highlights recent the additions of the Hartford Courant Historical collection, an expansion of the Health Resources section, and an overview of the results of the public awareness study. He distributed a Thomson Gale press release announcing the

opportunity of using AccessMyLibrary.com as an additional way to access licensed Gale resources through Google. He and his staff are exploring this additional method of accessing iCONN with Google and with several database vendors, including Gale, ProQuest and EBSCO. Sharon Clapp authored an article on the Hartford Courant Historical collection for the CT League of History Organizations, and organized a direct mailing of the flyer to all historical societies in the state. The Love Your Library project generated total proceeds of \$7,500. The final net proceeds figure, after accounting for publicity expenses, has not yet been determined. The Board discussed how the proceeds will be used. Hal Bright MOVED (2<sup>ND</sup> Elizabeth Frechette) to assign the funding to the Hartford Courant Historical project. The motion passed. To promote awareness of iCONN among K-12 teachers, Bill is exploring placing paid ads in the monthly newsletters of the Connecticut Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers – Connecticut, and discussed pricing for the ads. Sharon Clapp designed a new ad for this purpose, and a subsequent ad might focus on specific iCONN resources, such as Math and Science. The Board suggested putting the ads on the iCONN website. Bill reported that a “remember my library card number” checkbox will be added to the login screen so that the library card number only has to be entered once.

c. Educators’ Awareness of iCONN - CDLAB DOC 06-02 – Sharon Clapp

Sharon Clapp reported on the *Executive Summary: Study of Educators’ Awareness of iCONN*, a study that measures the awareness of iCONN in the K-12 environment. Forty-seven people completed the survey. The study reported that only 63% of teachers were aware of iCONN. The findings of the study recommended building relationships with and among educators to further promote iCONN’s awareness and to ensure that it is a core resource for all educators in the state.

d. Public Awareness Initiatives planned for 2006 – Sharon Clapp

Sharon Clapp distributed a listing of initiatives for public awareness of iCONN to be accomplished in the next year.

**10. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting will be on April 5, 2006 at the Middlesex Community College Library in Middletown.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Baisden,  
Connecticut State Library