

**CONNECTICUT DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD  
MIDDLETOWN LIBRARY SERVICE CENTER  
Minutes of the Meeting on February 4, 2009**

**Present:** John Coleman, Karen DeLoatch, Sarah Gager, Eric Kelly, Irene Iwan, Diane Klare, Carol Kubala, Carolyn Marcato, Deborah Sanford, Kate Sheehan, Arthur Skerker, Kendall Wiggin, Jonas Zdanys

**Others:** Lynette Baisden, Sharon Brettschneider, Eric Hansen, Gail Hurley, William Sullivan

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of October 16, 2008 were approved as presented. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Arthur Skerker announced that he was retiring from state service effective March 31, 2009 and would be relocating to Vermont, therefore he would no longer be able to serve on the Board. All present expressed their appreciation to Art for his service and wished him well.

**5. Public Comment**

There was none.

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

Kendall Wiggin reported that the Governor's budget was released this morning. A summary of all the items are on the attached State Library Report. iCONN has made out OK. During the current fiscal year, iCONN received a mid-year reduction of 5% bringing the budget down from \$2,067,485 to \$1,964,111. The Governor's budget included a small \$4,000 increase to \$1,968,994. The budget called for the elimination of the two service centers, a zeroing out of the InfoAnytime line of \$150,000 and elimination of bonding funds for public library construction. Ccar saw a modest increase, and Ccard and State Grants remained the same as the current year. The elimination of the service centers is complicated because it does not take into consideration that we have an unbreakable lease in Willimantic until January 2011. It also doesn't address issues of the technology training labs, collections and staff offices. Currently all the iCONN staff work out of the Middletown Library Service Center. Our state agency testimony before the Appropriations Committee is set for February 11<sup>th</sup>. We have been asked to make a Results Based Assessment on three programs, including iCONN. We have good data from this program that proves its worth to citizens and local colleges and municipalities so this should not be a problem. Ken also reported that he will be going to Washington to participate in a panel to discuss the Google book search settlement.

**7. Department of Higher Education Report – Jonas Zdanys**

Jonas Zdanys reported that the Governor's budget proposes a merger of the state technical high schools with the community colleges. Among other things, this would

allow students to take college courses while in high school and may have an impact on access to the academic databases.

## 10. Reports

### a. Commission on Educational Technology – Kendall Wiggin

Kendall Wiggin reported that the January meeting of the Commission was postponed pending the release of the Governor's budget. It is still unclear what the Governor's budget includes for the Connecticut Education Network (CEN). Ken also reported that it appears that the federal reinvestment act will include money for broadband. If so, CEN will apply on behalf of Connecticut's schools and libraries to extend fiber to all areas of the state.

### b. Database Committee – Eric Hansen

Eric Hansen reported on the January 6 meeting of the iCONN Database Committee. There are two new members on the committee: Anne O'Connor of E.C. Scranton Memorial Library in Madison and Yan Toma of Danbury Library. There was confirmation that both *Consumer Reports* and the *Consumer Reports Buying Guide* will be licensed exclusively by EBSCO and that Cengage Gale is trying to fight this. Eric briefly reviewed the forthcoming bid and evaluation process for the iCONN databases. There was a trial of both *World Book* and *Grolier* encyclopedias for children and the Committee provided feedback on both in comparison to *Columbia Encyclopedia* which we now have in *Kids InfoBits*. The next meeting of the Database Committee will be February 26.

### c. Statewide ILS Meetings – Sharon Brettschneider

Sharon Brettschneider reported that at their last meeting, the Statewide ILS Task Force had a presentation from Nora Blake of MassCat who recently migrated from a union catalog on Auto-Graphics to a shared Koha Integrated Library System. Since this meeting, staff met with a smaller group from the Task Force to try to draw up a more concrete plan to present to the larger group. At that meeting, more uncertainty was expressed for the possibility of moving to a true statewide ILS in one step. We are now exploring other models to achieve some of the goals we hoped to achieve with a statewide ILS.

### d. Digital Library Progress – William Sullivan

Bill Sullivan described in more detail the evaluation process for the iCONN bid, which will be awarded to a single vendor. There was substantial input and consensus from the Database Committee on the bid requirements. It calls for a 3-year contract with no price increases plus options for three, one-year renewals with price caps. The procurement schedule allows vendors three weeks to respond. Proposals will be reviewed for compliance with the mandatory requirements as well as on whether they are within our budget. There will be an in-depth, hands-on review by the entire Database Committee for four weeks. The award announcement will be made on or about April 13. All databases will be operational by July 1. Bill reviewed the latest usage statistics which showed an increase in page views (the most important stat) versus one year ago, a decline in remote logins by IP and library card number, and an increase in the percentage of remote login attempts by IP that are successful. Bill also distributed for discussion two documents, one highlighting the strengths of iCONN relative to Google and other web search engines, and one highlighting Google's systemic advantages. Gail Hurley reported that she is following up on a number of libraries who are overdue in submitting their holdings updates to reQuest.

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 pm. The next scheduled meeting will be held on April 1, 2009 at the Middletown Library Service Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Baisden,  
Connecticut State Library