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STATE LIBRARY OF OHIO 2000 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW BEGINNINGS

After 68 years

in the same location, the

State Library began

searching for a new home.

After 68 years in the same location, the State Library learned in June 1996 that the Ohio Supreme Court would be moving into the Ohio Departments Building. Thus started four years of touring downtown warehouses, searching for a new home.

At long last, in February 2000, a lease was signed for the Jeffrey Mining Corporate Center at 247 East First Ave. The owners of the building, Preferred Real Estate Advisors, a Philadelphia company specializing in converting abandoned industrial and warehouse buildings into office space, would renovate the old factory space to meet the State Library's needs.

What do we gain in the new facility?

■ The new site increases our square footage by 19,410 sq. ft.; from 82,444 sq. ft. scattered over 4 floors to 101,854 sq. ft. on one floor.

■ Planning includes space for a large meeting room and a computer training lab.

■ There will be approximately 200 free parking spaces around the building.

Anyone who has lived through a renovation has some idea of the opportunities and challenges we faced. We worked with library design consultants to plan the most effective and efficient use of our new space. We will be in our new location for a very long time, so decisions we make now must also take into account future needs. Can we plan our electronic needs to encompass future technologies? How can we use our space to allow future expansion?

While we planned the interior of the future Library, Preferred Real Estate worked with the Italian Village Commission to develop a design that would fit into the neighborhood.

What was left of the old factory was gutted. Constructions crews worked to rough in the plumbing and to pour the concrete floor. Electricians worked to bring power to where we need it. Wall insulation was hung, interior walls were studded, air ducts were hung and insulated, and the exterior of the building was steam cleaned.

By December 2000, all the planning and labor will mean that the State Library will have a new home in a developing and vibrant neighborhood.

The State of Ohio telecommunication network operated by the Department of Administrative Services presents an opportunity for libraries to establish a video network which would allow public, school, and academic libraries to provide education and training opportunities to library staff and library customers. There has already been some limited, but encouraging, use of this network by various types of libraries. However, one of the limitations on using this video network is the small number of sites with the necessary equipment. That situation is changing. Many of the OhioLINK libraries have the capability. More and more schools are rapidly gaining the capability. An OLC project will soon provide the capability to many of the public libraries. Under this project OLC is seeking public libraries who are willing to set up a video conference facility and make that facility available. In essence, a statewide video network that can link libraries, schools, universities, and state agencies is rapidly becoming a reality.

Now that the technological infrastructure for the video network is in place, a critical issue becomes the programming or content that will be available to deliver over the network. What training programs will be available to libraries? Who will develop these programs?

The State Library hosted a meeting in which the continuing education providers discussed these issues. Represented at the meeting were the Regional Library Systems, OHIONET, OLC, Kent State School of Library and Information Science, INFOHIO, and OPLIN.

After an overview of the network, discussion centered on potential uses of the video network. Two major uses were identified – communication and training. For communication purposes the video network could be used for a variety of electronic meetings. For example, a director discussing space utilization plans with another director. A library board which is considering placing a levy on the ballot could meet with another board which has successfully run a levy campaign. Another example is that legislators could meet electronically with constituents.

The video network also has potential for training purposes. Ohio's colleges and universities can offer formal courses. This could also include offering a Masters in Library Science. Continuing education workshops and seminars could be offered over the video network. Also, the video network would allow speakers to be "shared" throughout the state. Using the video network to allow interest groups to get together was another use that was identified.

On June 29, 2000, approximately 100 participants throughout the state gathered at seven sites to take part in a teleconference hosted by OLC. The video network was explained and questions were answered. Based on number of participants and questions, it appears that a large number of public libraries are interested in participating in the proposed video network.

The State Library will continue to be involved in promoting and using this exciting new technology. It is expected that the network will be in place in 2001 and will be utilized by public libraries on a prototype basis.

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JERRI (JOINT ELECTRONIC RECORDS REPOSITORY INITIATIVE)

One problem the State Library has been struggling with in recent years is how to manage State of Ohio government publications which are produced and distributed electronically. Section 149.11 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) requires state agencies to provide the State Library with 100 copies of any publication intended for general public use and distribution. This ensures that any Ohio citizen has access to any government publication. Unfortunately, this section of the ORC applies to print publications only. Publications produced in an electronic format only are not considered in the existing law. As government agencies produce more publications in electronic format, ensuring access to these documents now and in the future becomes a problem.

At its September 28, 2000 Board Meeting, the SLO Board approved entering into a personal service contract with the Ohio Supercomputing Center (OSC) to fund the Electronic Publications Pilot Project (EPPP).

Working with staff from the Ohio Historical Society and the State Library, OSC will purchase software to automatically gather (or harvest) web-based State of Ohio publications, which meet established criteria. Harvested publications will be stored on a computer at OSC. SLO and OHS staff will create catalog records for these publications on their respective on-line catalogs. These records will include links to the publication residing at OSC.

As a pilot project, EPPP will build the foundation that will become JERRI (Joint Electronic Records Repository Initiative). JERRI will create an electronic archive and corresponding search interface for the permanent storage and preservation of electronic resources with enduring value. This electronic archive will include State of Ohio electronic publications identified using the tools created and implemented with EPPP.

We have wondered: Is the State Library institutionally, structurally, and organizationally sound?

ORGANIZATIONAL STUDY

During 1996 and 1997, the State Library struggled to develop a strategic plan. When finalized, the plan covered 1998 to 2003 and was aimed at making the State Library a partner in the Ohio library community.

For the past few years, we have wondered: Is the State Library institutionally, structurally, and organizationally sound? Is it strong enough to continue as a service provider to and partner with its customers into and through the 21st century?

To answer these questions, the State Library contracted with Deloitte & Touche to perform an organizational study. During the second half of FY2000, through a series of focus groups (both internal and external), interviews, and reviews of policies and procedures, D&T studied the State Library's organization and discovered that we have no glaring faults in our organizational structure.

Are there structural issues? Of course, there are. But, in most cases, organizational changes we implement as a result of the study will be transparent to you, the customer. All that you may notice is an improvement in service.

In FY1999, the State Library contracted with Advanced Strategic Management (ASM) to conduct the Talking Book Study, the study of library services to Ohioans who are unable to read normal printed material as a result of physical limitations. The Study included recommendations concerning current and future needs, the best manner in which to provide the services to meet those needs and the State Library's role in the provision of those services. The State Library Board accepted the final report, Partnerships for Service, in July 1999.

The study contained 29 recommendations for change. After a year of discussion by consumers, the staffs of the libraries involved, and the State Library Board, some of the recommendations have been accepted, some rejected, and some continue to be discussed.

The report's emphasis on "partnerships" brought about the addition of representatives from OPLIN, the Radio Reading Services, the Department of Aging, and the Rehabilitation Services Commission to the Consumer Advisory Committee. The position of audio-visual repair worker has been reinstated in the talking book program at the State Library as a half-time position. The recommendation to move the machine-lending functions out of the State Library was considered at length and finally rejected.

The recommendation to integrate the automated files at the regional libraries and the machine lending agency has been accepted and the initial planning will begin during FY 2001, after the State Library's move. An extensive marketing plan will be developed in the months ahead. In the years ahead, other recommendations will form the basis for ongoing progress in the program.

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GATES FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has created the U.S. Library Program to establish access to information technology resources through partnerships with public libraries. This program provides grants to public libraries serving low-income populations to help bridge the digital divide. The grants provide hardware, software, training, and technical support to help libraries access digital information.

During the past year, Ohio has been preparing for the implementation of the Gates Foundation grants in 2001. The State Library has verified location and technical information for the many Ohio public libraries that have expressed an interest in participating in the grant program. The Gates Coalition, an advisory committee made up of representatives from the public library community, met to provide guidance to the State Library for the successful implementation of the program. The Gates Foundation has released the list of more than 500 library buildings that are eligible to apply for the Gates Foundation grants. The Gates Foundation staff is preparing to conduct three workshops in Ohio that will explain the grant program to the eligible libraries.

After libraries attended the workshops in the fall of 2000, they submitted a grant proposal to the Gates Foundation. Libraries approved for funding will be notified in early 2001 and implementation of the grants will begin in June 2001.

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LSTA 1998 FUNDS
Blind & Physically Handicapped

Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County	63,000
Cleveland Public Library	87,000
TOTAL LSTA - 1998 FUNDS	**150,000**

LSTA 1999 FUNDS
Blind & Physically Handicapped

Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County	19,940
Cleveland Public Library	25,453

Automation

St. Clairsville-Richland City Schools	65,657
Canton City Schools	40,589
Geauga County Educational Service Center	132,748
Hopewell-Loudon Schools	29,798
Educational Service Center/Cuyahoga County (LNOCA)	543,421
Educational Service Center/Lorain County(LEECA)	497,222
Pleasant Local Schools	73,736
North Central Ohio Special Education Regional Center	33,937
Norton City School District	40,593
Northern Buckeye Educ (NWOCA)	172,416
Perry-Hocking Educational Service Cons	47,455
Putnam County Educational Service Center	89,150
Ravenna City Schools	67,298
Pike County JVS/ Educational Service (SCOCA)	344,021
Southeast Local Schools	31,587
Warrensville Heights City Schools	86,679
Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools	131,841

Resource Sharing

Bowling Green City Schools	42,084
Coldwater Exempted Village School Library	20,874
OVAL	68,000

Miscellaneous

CAMLS Library Leadership	4,800
CAMLS Targeted Services	180,467
Hopewell Special Education Regional Resource Center Targeted Services	44,111
Lakeshore Northeast OH Computer Building Partnerships	3,000
Northern Buckeye Education Council INFOhio Training	24,825
Ohio Dept of Education Literacy Conference	3,000
Ohio Library Council Children's Conference	2,000
Ohio Library Council Small Library Conference	4,800
Ohio Literacy Resource Center CD-Rom Distribution	2,000
Ohio Valley Area Libraries Tech Connections	3,000
Thurber House Children's Authors	3,500
Thurber House Poetry Program	1,500
Thurber House Speaker for Conference	3,500
Thurber House Speaker for Conference	3,500

Automation Minigrants

Andrews School	9,077
Ansonia Local Schools	11,136
Buckeye Local Schools	14,647
Cory-Rawson Local Schools	14,039
Greenville City Schools	15,000
Hardin-Houston Local Schools	7,495
Hillsboro City Schools	14,422
Indian Lake Schools	10,900
John F Kennedy High School	9,334
Jonathan Alder Local Schools	13,397
Mt. Sterling Public Library	15,000
New Boston Local Schools	15,000
PILASCO-ROSS SERRC	11,630
Sandusky City Schools	15,000
Sandusky Library	9,327
Stephen T. Badin High School	15,000
Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School	10,257
Versailles Exempted Village School	15,000
Wadsworth City Schools	14,726
Warren City Schools	9,920
WCO-SERRC	9,363

Resource Sharing Minigrants

Brecksville-Broadview Heights School	12,375
Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio	13,154
Marysville Public Library	15,000
Miami University Libraries	14,515
Mt. Gilead Public Library	14,844
New Knoxville Local Schools	14,913
Pemberville Public Library	11,200
Rocky River City School District	10,425
St. Marys Community Public Library	15,000

Underserved Minigrants

Euclid Public Library	5,942
Federal Hocking Local School District	14,952
Portsmouth Public Library	15,000
Toledo-Lucas County Public Library	15,000

Training Minigrants

Geauga Public Library	15,000
SOLO	15,000

TOTAL LSTA - 1999 FUNDS	**$3,350,492**
1998 LSTA Funds	150,000
1999 LSTA Funds	3,350,492
GRAND TOTAL-SFY 2000	**$3,500,492**

	General Revenue Funds	LSTA	State Receipts from Services	Total Expended
Personal Service	$ 5,057,505	$401,878	$ 286,138	$ 5,745,521
Maintenance	1,124,871	369,016	210,929	1,704,816
Equipment	1,292,034	71,904	75,706	1,439,644
Library Materials	497,244	273,678	60,750	831,672
OPLIN	5,666,256	-0-	500,000	6,166,256
Grants & State Aid	4,513,961	3,500,492	-0-	8,014,453
Refunds	-0-	-0-	2,963	2,963
Total State Library Expenditures	18,151,871	4,616,968	1,136,486	23,905,325

Sources of funds

Services (b)	$ 1,136,486	5%
LSTA	4,616,968	19%
GRF Funds (a)	18,151,871	76%
Total Funds	23,905,325	100%

Library Grants

GRF Funds	$ 4,513,961	56%
LSTA	3,500,492	44%
Total Grants	$ 8,014,453	100%

Expenditures

Grants	$ 8,014,453	34%
Operating	15,890,872	66%
Total Expenditures	$23,905,325	100%

(a) Includes $5,666,256 for OPLIN

(b) Includes $500,000 for OPLIN
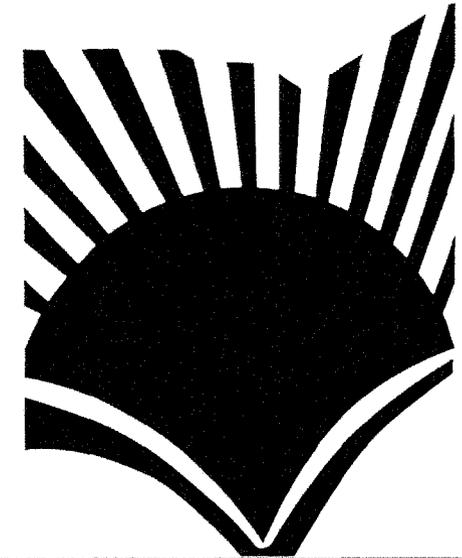
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This will do much to alleviate the overcrowded conditions that exist in the current center.

SEO EXPANSION

In FY 2001, the Southeastern Ohio Library Center (SEO) is looking forward to a capital project that will add between 7,500 and 9,900 square feet to the facility. This will do much to alleviate the overcrowded conditions that exist in the current center.

The goals for this project are threefold:

- To move the current shipping department from the bookmobile garage to an indoor, climate controlled environment,

- To open garage space for the new Mobile Computer Training Lab,

- To provide more storage space for library materials owned by SEO and by other libraries in the area.

The architectural firm of Phillip Markwood Inc. has been selected for the project and construction should begin in spring, 2001.

(left to right) Ann S. Baines, Verna Riffe-Biemel, Carl Stich, Lucille Hastings, David C. Miller

State Library OF Ohio