

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Information Databases**GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:****CURRENT STATUS:**Librarians' Index to the Internet (lii.org)

lii.org has undergone a major redesign (Exhibit A) and now includes a spell checker and relevance ranking to assist users with searching. Initial response has been positive, and users seem pleased with the structure, the color, and the larger fonts.

With 9.7 million accesses for 2002 so far, lii.org has 26% higher usage than for the first six months of last year. At this rate of growth it might just break 20 million accesses this year (last year ended at 12.8 million).

The size of the lii.org database continues to grow and now stands at 10,098 records (up from 7,999 in June 2001). Staff and volunteers have focused on growth in content as the single most important factor in increasing successful searches by users. There are now 131 volunteer indexers. The weekly newsletter, *liiweek*, now has a readership of over 13,645 subscribers.

Library of California Periodicals/Serials Database (LoC P/SD)

Rosalie Lack of the University of California, California Digital Library (CDL) has forwarded a summary of the Periodicals Database user survey (Exhibit B). Two items were of particular note:

- Public Library librarians comprise 11% of Library Staff Users, and
- When items are located, users report less than 4% are from public libraries

An additional survey is under consideration for distribution to those libraries that contribute to the LoC P/SD to evaluate the need for continued access, options for access (OCLC, CDL, regional or statewide gateway, or combination), and the need for off-line products (microfiche, paper reports). Staff will continue discussions with vendors to evaluate products and services that could be used to meet the need for a union list

Current plans are to utilize OCLC as a source for future serial records and holdings to contribute to the University of California, California Digital Library (CDL) hosted periodicals database. The Serials Service Bureau, AT&T Corporation, will assist in a transition to OCLC and may act as a service agent for non-OCLC members. OCLC



can now use batchload updates of records and holdings information for serials; and staff are exploring the cost parameters of that service.

Cooperative Licensing Services

Amigos-Library Services continues to offer discounts on database subscriptions as well as products and library services. Recent announcements from the *Amigos Now* email list highlighted special promotions for Wilson databases and discounts for the Internet Librarian 2002 Conference.

All Libraries of California members may avail themselves of Amigos Library Services discounts for fiscal year 2002 – 2003, no additional fees or renewals are required.

Staff from Amigos Library Services are planning a series of meetings this fall within each of the seven regions to better acquaint libraries with the cooperative licensing services and other discounts offered by Amigos to Library of California members.

Relevant Committee: Support Services
Staff Liaison: Ira Bray