

CONNECTION

LIBRARY OF CALIFORNIA

 CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY
FOUNDED 1850

 ISSUE NUMBER 33
March 2003

 TABLE OF
CONTENTS

Library Profile:
Folsom Prison Library
Pg. 1

 The California
Campaign for Libraries
enters its final phase...
or has it?
Pg. 3

Library of California News
New LoC board forges
ahead despite
state budget challenges
Pg. 4

 Irish Ambassador visits
the State Library...
Erin go braugh!
Pg. 5

 Training Corner
Pg. 6

 Calendar of events
Pg. 8

Library Profile:

Folsom Prison Library

 By Sarah Dalton
Connection Editor

Libraries and prisons have opposing missions. A library represents freeing, intellectual movement - the unimpeded search for knowledge. A prison embodies closure - the radical restriction of the human impulse. Blending the two complex organizations has been the prison librarian's tricky task since the early 19th century when social reformists pushed for libraries in prisons.

Brenda Vogel, in *Down for the Count: A Prison Library Handbook*, discusses the "dilemmas" the prison librarian faces. Censorship, of course, is one. Censoring texts that would be innocuous in the traditional library (inmates can't, for example, have books about gunsmithing or locksmithing), serving without search engines (inmates can't have access to the Internet, to online searches, or to shared databases) can, according to Vogel, grate against a librarian's "training and instincts." Censorship "denies" a librarian's "professional judgment" and "excludes collection development as a librarian's responsibility."

Another "dilemma" the prison librarian faces is how to safely and judiciously integrate inmates into the day-to-day life of the prison library, many times the most unsupervised, and therefore most desirable, spot in prison. Experts concur that though a "well-selected,

well-trained inmate staff work well" in the prison library, they also warn that "a devious and divisive inmate staff can undermine program procedures and wrest control of the program away from the librarian."



A view from the Folsom Prison Library window.

The librarians at the Folsom State Prison library have accepted their profession's "dilemmas" and built a program that works for the institution, the inmates and the staff. Folsom's librarians use their "training and instincts" (and a big dose of humor) to customize a

collection, circulation system and vocational-intern program that make the world of reading and research appealing and valuable to their patrons.

The Department of Corrections (DOC), a California state agency of 49,052 employees, oversees the libraries in California's state prisons, including Folsom. Janice Stuter, principal librarian for the DOC's Education and Inmate Programs Unit, says that today's state prison library has two roles: to provide inmates with a law library, and to support the prison's educational program. These primary services, Stuter says, "support the self-help needs of the inmates, most of whom have dropped out of high school and read below a sixth grade level and have never been in a library." As the DOC sees it, the prison library can "open up the

Please see Library Profile, page 2

from page 1 **Library Profile**

library world" to inmates.

In Norfolk, Virginia's Prison Colony library, Malcolm X's world "opened up" as he learned to read by copying the entire dictionary, writing "a million words." In his *Autobiography*, Malcolm X recalls that while in Norfolk's library "months passed" without his "even thinking of being imprisoned." In the prison library Malcolm X had "never been so truly free."

Malcolm X's story should inspire anyone whose life's work embraces literacy and the written word, but when one visits a state prison such as Folsom, the Utopian idealism of Malcolm X's story blurs when the first iron gate slams at your back. One quickly sees how the physical proximity of inmates and barred windows test prison library theory, analysis, and legend.

Connection Visits Folsom

When *Connection* staff visited the Folsom State Prison library in January, the day was as gray and clammy as Folsom's 107 year-old stone walls. While Janice Stuter escorted us past the inmates' yard to the modern bungalow housing the library, she laid out the traits today's prison library staff should have. Staff, according to the DOC's Stuter, should be in a state of "relaxed awareness," of alert fearlessness and control; staff shouldn't be "too nice" or talk about their "personal life"; they must be consistent and fair. And (one of the hardest things for prison librarians) staff must let go of the claustrophobic fear of being locked-in. Finally, the successful prison library staff member is not "pulled into" inmates' "games."

Robert Morris, Folsom's senior librarian for 15 years, is not a man to get "pulled into" much of anything. Though down to earth, full of stories and one-liners, Morris has eyes in the back of his head. During the *Connection* interview in his locked, glassed-in office, Morris talked about his library's "Privilege Card" which enables inmates to checkout books. He explained that he sends overdue notices to inmates' cells and charges inmates ten-cent daily fines (any book sent back makes him happy).

As he talked though, Morris' eyes flicked through the glass, noting the sudden flood of inmate patrons into the library's central reading area: the news of visitors had



Folsom Prison library and inmate garden

traveled fast. Morris popped up, walked into the middle of the clustered men, greeted them by name, and made it clear he was in control while he was cracking jokes. In this impromptu act, Morris had illustrated, more than his circulation statistics (16,522 fiction; 4,176 non-fiction; 1,449 law texts for 3,875 inmates for the 3rd quarter of 2003) or his 6 percent theft/loss ratio (the same as Sacramento City College's where he was principal librarian), how the successful prison library works. He had made real Vogel's idea that "the librarian who chooses to manage his or her own shop... will succeed in prison librarianship."

Folsom Law Library

Folsom State Prison library's busiest spot is its law library. Federal law (*Bounds vs.*

Smith 430 U.S. 817 [1977]) requires that prisoners have "access to the courts," and many prisons, Folsom among them, have chosen to provide inmates with law libraries for that "access." Folsom's Morris concurs with Vogel's assertion that law libraries reinforce "the librarian's goal to provide information and an opportunity to read." As part of the DOC's dictate to "support the self-help needs" of the inmates, Morris has designed a *Paralegal Studies Program* in which inmates learn to locate texts and forms in the law library. The law texts are in a glassed-in locked section of the library. As inmates research their cases,



Folsom Prison's library hours are posted outside the building

Please see Library Profile, page 5

The California Campaign for Libraries enters its final phase...or has it?

By Joe Burroughs

Specialized Media Marketing & Promotions LLC and
Campaign Contractor of the California Campaign for Libraries

After three pilot campaigns, two research surveys, eight regional campaigns, over 40 media partners, over 5,000 television and radio Public Service Announcements (PSA), numerous events and promotions, and 112 celebrity spokespeople, the California Campaign for Libraries--perhaps better known as "The Library. Check it Out" Campaign--has entered its final phase. The PSA's began airing in the Central Valley media markets of Bakersfield, Fresno, and Sacramento on January 6, 2003 and will continue until the end of March.

Maybe the biggest challenge facing the library community in the aftermath of the statewide media campaign will be how to utilize the momentum created by an increase in library awareness and building on the development of partnerships between media companies and celebrity spokespeople. So how do individual libraries across the state of California tap into this momentum? The answer is found in three words - *PUBLIC-PRIVATE-PARTNERSHIP*.

Many businesses and organizations in the private sector are eager to partner with libraries. One such company is Mervyn's®. Their new "Big Blue Book Reading Club," with free gift incentives and discounts for kids who read books, "is Mervyn's® way of showing support for and appreciation of California's Public Libraries," to borrow a phrase from one of their flyers. My seven years of experience calling on businesses and asking them to underwrite a portion of a Library Awareness Campaign tells me that these companies know that their customers value corporate citizenship nearly as much as they value price and country.

Public-Private Partnerships promises to be the legacy left by the California Campaign for Libraries. Across the state, libraries now have the opportunity to test the claim, "if you build it, they will come." Much of the work has been done. Many, many well-known Californians are now on videotape raising awareness for your libraries. The messages are simple: READ, BE CURIOUS, USE YOUR

IMAGINATION, GET A LIBRARY CARD. Perhaps in the future more businesses such as the Mervyn's® in California will create programs to reward one's usage of the library. But isn't it also conceivable that more businesses will partner with libraries to create and support library programs?

One such public library is putting these words to the test. The San Luis Obispo City-County Library is developing a public-private community-wide partnership model from which libraries across the state can learn and emulate. Large corporations, professional organizations, public utilities, small businesses, and individuals are joining celebrities from the entertainment, sports, and literary world to further the message and raise awareness of the San Luis Obispo Public Library. The San Luis Obispo campaign will air from July through September of this year. You will have to "Check It Out."

The California Campaign for Libraries has been wildly successful. Nearly half of the thousands of library PSA's that have aired between January 2000 and today were *donated* by many of the media companies that library patrons watch every day. And these PSA's did not run in the middle of the night. Many of them aired in programs such as "Oprah," evidence that the library community should have the confidence that *many* in the private sector do support libraries and their missions in full measure.

Walt Disney once said, "There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island." If that's true, the library is the greatest treasure chest of all.

The California Campaign for Libraries project is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), administered in California by the State Librarian.

Connection has published other articles about the Library Awareness program in the July 2000 and February, May, and August 2001 issues. For additional information, contact Kathy Low, human resource development consultant, California State Library, at (916) 653-6822 (phone), or send an email to klow@library.ca.gov.



Over 220 billboards like this have been mounted around California.

New LoC board forges ahead despite state budget challenges

By Chris Berger
Library Development Services
California State Library

Five new board members, appointed by Governor Gray Davis last month, attended their first Library of California board meeting on February 18-19, 2003, in Sacramento. During a general orientation for the new members, the board listened intently as Deputy State Librarian Cameron Robertson explained what he called the "quite grave" current status of the California state budget, which included drastic reductions to California State Library-funded local assistance programs for the 2003/2004 fiscal year. For local assistance programs, the proposed reduction is 66 percent overall to the Public Library Foundation (PLF) program, the California Library Services Act (CLSA), and the Library of California (LoC). He said, however, that these reductions were not final because they still had to be approved by the State Legislature. Dr. Diana Paque, Library Development Services bureau chief and former director of the LoC, also pointed out that funding for the Library of California program, overall, had been eliminated in the 2003/2004 State Budget.

Despite the grim news about the LoC's future, the board bravely forged ahead and considered numerous recommended motions from both the Legislative and Budget and Planning Committees, including opposition to legislation that would repeal the LoC Act; opposition to the elimination of current funding of around \$12 million for the interlibrary loan, equal access, and universal borrowing reimbursement programs under CLSA; and support for the reauthorization of the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant funding program for museums and libraries.

LoC Board President John Kallenberg also announced, during his report to the board, that Dr. Michael Keller, university librarian/director of academic information resources at Stanford University, is resigning from the board.

Here are some highlights from the LoC board meeting:

1. 2003/04 Budget Issues

Through recommendations by its Budget and Planning Committee, the board voted unanimously to support continued funding of the Library of California Act at the



CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY
FOUNDED 1850

2002/2003 level of \$1 million and to oppose repeal of the Act itself. It also unanimously recommended continuing the interlibrary loan, equal access, and universal borrowing reimbursement programs of CLSA at its current funding level of \$12 million and retaining the core resource sharing functions of CLSA.

2. Regional Library Network Development

The LoC board unanimously approved the following member and participating libraries in the LoC regional library networks:

Cascade Pacific Library Network Members

Hamilton Union High School District

Participating Library

Hamilton Union High School Library

Arroyo Seco Library Network Members

Los Angeles Harbor College

Salvation Army-Crestmont College

The Webb Schools

Participating Libraries

Library (Los Angeles Harbor College)

Crestmont College Library/

Elftman Memorial Library

Fawcett Memorial Library (The Webb Schools)

Heartland Regional Library Network Members

Kern Medical Center

Participating Library

Kern Health Sciences Library

3. Other Actions

The LoC board voted unanimously to approve the following motions:

- The Dixon Unified School District Library District can change from being affiliated with the Mountain Valley Library System (MVLS) of CLSA to being affiliated with the North Bay Cooperative Library System (NBC) of CLSA beginning July 1, 2003.
- Through the recommendations of its Legislative Committee, the board supported SB 40 (Alpert) and AB 222 (Corbett) that propose a public library construction bond measure for California voter approval in 2004 to finance the construction and/or renovation of public library buildings.
- Support for continuing the budget line item in the California Public School Library Act to fund library materials for school libraries.

Irish Ambassador visits the State Library...

 *Erin go braugh!*



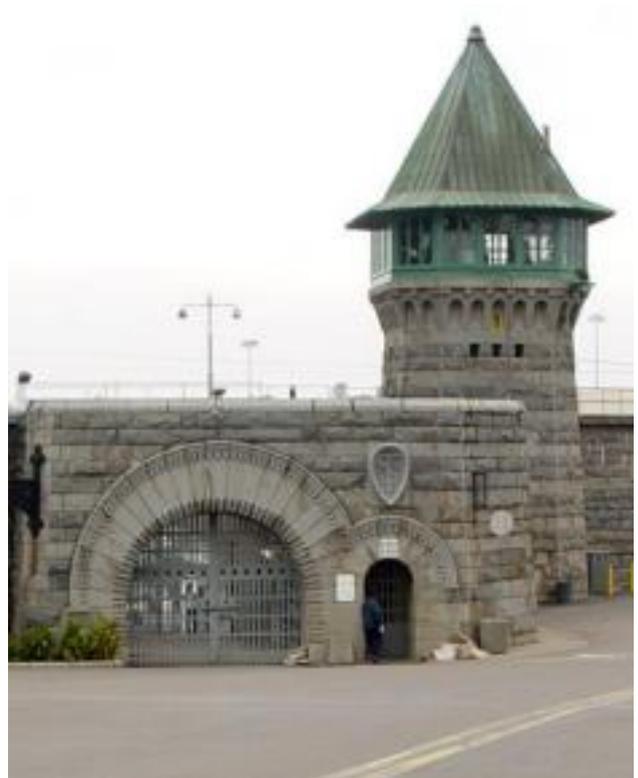
**Pictured (L-R):
Rich Callaghan,
Director, University of
Southern California
Sacramento Center;
Noel Fahey, Ireland's
Ambassador to the
United States;
Dr. Kevin Starr, State
Librarian of California;
and Donal Denham,
Consul General of
Ireland in San
Francisco.**

from page 2 **Library Profile**

they give the paralegals request forms through a sliding drawer and the paralegals retrieve the texts, all of which must remain on-site.

The inmate paralegals *Connection* staff met, loved their jobs and showed great respect for Morris. They told us the law library was the best place to work in Folsom prison. Afterward, Morris and Stuter reminded us that "relaxed awareness" is crucial in the elite law library too.

In the January 23, 2003 *New Yorker*, David Grann writes the tale of 79 year-old prison inmate Forrest Tucker, a lifelong bank robber who escaped from both Alcatraz and San Quentin. What fueled Tucker's fantasy of himself as the "outlaw" were "dime novels" and "pulp fiction," the most popular books in prison collections. Inmates love Louis L'Amour, for example; they also love Joe McGinnis' fictionalized true crime such as *Fatal Vision* (which fills a one-foot shelf at Folsom). "Escapist" fiction, prison librarians know, is fine as a metaphor. Their *dilemma* is when to censor the collection so that Folsom's Forrest Tuckers don't use escapist books as training manuals.



Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *MARC21 Holdings Format/Serials Format*
 Dates and locations:
 Thursday-Friday, March 6-7, 2003,
 Pleasant Hill, Contra Costa County Library
http://www.oclc.org/western/training/marc_holdings.htm

Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *CatME for Original Catalogers*
 Dates and locations:
 Tuesday, March 11, 2003,
 San Francisco, City College of San Francisco
 Thursday, March 13, 2003,
 Ontario, OCLC Western Service Center
http://www.oclc.org/western/training/catme_origcatalog.htm

Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *CatME for Copy Catalogers*
 Dates and locations:
 Wednesday, March 12, 2003,
 Ontario, OCLC Western Service Center
http://www.oclc.org/western/training/catme_copycatalog.htm

Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *Connexion Demo*
 Dates and locations:
 Friday, March 14, 2003,
 Aptos, Cabrillo College Library
<http://www.oclc.org/western/training/connexion.htm>

Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *What is QuestionPoint?*
 Dates and locations:
 Tuesday, March 18, 2003,
 Ontario, OCLC Western Service Center
 Thursday, March 27, 2003,
 Long Beach, Long Beach Public Library
<http://www.oclc.org/western/training/qpoint.htm>

Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *ILL Web Basics*
 Dates and locations:
 Thursday, March 20, 2003,
 Berkeley, Graduate Theological Union
 Friday, March 28, 2003,
 Long Beach, Long Beach Public Library
http://www.oclc.org/western/training/ill_web.htm

Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *ILL Web Beyond the Basics*
 Dates and locations:
 Friday, March 21, 2003,
 Berkeley, Graduate Theological Union
http://www.oclc.org/western/training/ill_webbeyond.htm

Provider: **OCLC Western Service Center**
 Course: *Cataloging With Connexion*
 Dates and locations:
 Friday, March 7, 2003,
 Ontario, CA OCLC Western Service Center
 Wednesday, March 19, 2003,
 Ontario, OCLC Western Service Center
 Tuesday, March 25, 2003,
 Irvine, University of California-Irvine
<http://www.oclc.org/western/training/CatalogConnexion.htm>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Getting Started with XML*
(with Eric Lease Morgan, Head of the Digital Access and Information Architecture Department at the University Libraries of Notre Dame)
 Dates and locations:
 Tuesday, March 11, San Francisco Public Library
 Wednesday, March 12, California State Library
 Friday, March 14, Cerritos Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/116>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Developing Spanish and Latino Interest Collections Using the Web and Online Sources*
 Dates and locations:
 Thursday, March 6, San Francisco Public Library
 Thursday, April 3, Fresno County Public Library
 Wednesday, April 16, San Jose Public Library
 Thursday, May 1, Ventura County Library
 Thursday, May 15, California State Library
 Friday, May 23, Cerritos Public Library
 Thursday, June 12, San Diego Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/109>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Scanning for Preservation and Access*
 Dates and locations:
 Monday, March 17, California State Library
 Tuesday, April 1, Cerritos Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/workshops/index.html>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Training the Tech Trainer*
 Date and Location:
 Tuesday, April 22,
 Contra Costa County Library - Pleasant Hill
 Wednesday, May 7,
 San Diego Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.dreamhost.com/WS/workshop/Workshop/115>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *When Being Nice Isn't Working: Service, Safety, and Security at the Moment of Truth*
 Dates and Locations:
 Tuesday, March 11, 2003,
 Contra Costa County Library - Pleasant Hill
 Tuesday, March 25, 2003
 Chico Branch Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/110>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Raising Private Dollars for Public Libraries*
 Dates and locations:
 Wednesday, April 2, San Diego Public Library
 Monday, April 28, Sutter County Library
<http://infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/122>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Science & Technology Resources on the Internet*
 Date and location:
 Tuesday, March 11, 2003, San Jose Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/121>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Distance Learning Course:
Library Laws for the Web Environment
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/86>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Delivering Effective Library Presentations!*
 Dates and locations:
 Monday, March 17, 2003,
 Contra Costa County Library - Pleasant Hill
 Friday, March 28, 2003,
 Cerritos Public Library
 Friday, April 11, 2003,
 Mountain View Public Library
 Thursday, April 24, 2003,
 Fresno County Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/126>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *What in the World is GIS? An Introduction to Geographic Information Systems for Librarians*
 Dates and locations:
 Monday, March 10, 2003,
 San Francisco Public Library
 Thursday, April 3, Cerritos Public Library
 Friday, April 4, San Diego Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/124>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Building a Dynamic Web Site with Dreamweaver MX*
 Dates and locations:
 Friday, March 7, 2003, California State Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/114>

Provider: **Infopeople**
 Course: *Genealogy Resources on the Internet*
 Dates and locations:
 Tuesday, March 18, San Jose Public Library
 Thursday, April 3, Ventura County-EP Foster Branch
 Monday, April 21, San Diego Public Library
 Thursday, May 8, Fresno County Public Library
 Thursday, May 22, Los Angeles Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/107>

Provider: **Infopeople**
presents Gary Price teaching ...
 Course: *There's More to Web Research than Google!*
 Dates and locations:
 Thursday, April 10, Fresno County Public Library
 Friday, April 11, Los Angeles Public Library
<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/102>



If you would like your library-related training event included in *Connection*, please send event information to Sarah Dalton, *Connection* editor at sdalton@library.ca.gov

2003

March

March 6-8, 2003

Public Library Association (PLA) Spring Symposium, Chicago

April

April 6-12, 2003

National Library Week

April 10-13, 2003

Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL),
11th National Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina

May

May 2-7, 2003

Medical Library Association (MLA) Annual Conference, San Diego

May 28-29, 2003

Library of California board meeting, Sacramento

June

June 7-12, 2003

Special Libraries Association (SLA) Annual Conference, New York City

June 19-25, 2003

American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada

July

July 12-16, 2003

American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), Annual Conference, Seattle

August

August 20-21, 2003

Library of California board meeting, Sacramento

October

October 22-26, 2003

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
National Conference, Kansas City, Missouri

November

November 15-17, 2003

California Library Association (CLA) Annual Conference, Ontario

November 18-19, 2003

Library of California board meeting, Ontario

CONNECTION

is the website newsletter of the
California State Library
and the Library of California.

Dr. Kevin Starr

State Librarian

(916) 654-0174

kstarr@library.ca.gov

Sarah Dalton

Communications

Editor

(916) 654-1483

sdalton@library.ca.gov

Christopher Berger

Library Development Services

Assistant Editor

(916) 653-8313

cberger@library.ca.gov

Library of California Board

John Kallenberg

President

Articles for inclusion in a
future issue of the
Connection are welcomed.
Please submit articles or
suggestions to the *Connection*
editor, Sarah Dalton.



CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY
FOUNDED 1850

California State Library
914 Capitol Mall
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

Library of California Board
<http://www.library.ca.gov/loc/board/index.cfm>

California Public Library Construction
and Renovation Board
<http://www.olc.library.ca.gov/board.asp>