

CONNECTION

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The Library and Information Technology Program at Sacramento City College:

Introducing the library profession

By Sarah Dalton
Connection Editor

The Library and Information Technology (LIT) program at Sacramento City College (SCC) is one of the few community college occupational library programs in California. Library professionals at SCC have created the LIT program to give students concrete tools for accessing and organizing information at any kind of library while they earn the "career certificate" and associate degree in LIT.

Though invaluable for any student, classes such as "Introduction to Internet and Searching Strategies" and "Library Reference Sources" are perfect for people who *already* work in libraries.

SCC's public services librarian, Pamela Posz, has coordinated the LIT program for the last 4 of the program's 33 years. Posz says that library technical assistants have many roles in over 100 libraries in Sacramento county and that many of those people must learn library science basics on the job. In fact, Posz says, in some rural areas, people are running libraries without formal training.

The LIT program not only trains library employees (a great boost for libraries), the certified library science training and accompanying degree or certificate also helps entry-level employees "move on in their careers," says Posz. The LIT certificate helps "command a better salary" and promotions.

Many community college students return to school looking for new careers. Returning student Shannon Economou, who commutes 30 miles to Sacramento City College, is in her last semester of SCC's program. Economou was working part-time in Placer County's Sierra

College library when she realized she "wanted a career in a library." "It never occurred to me," she says, "that I could work in my favorite place. It's like working in See's Candy to me. All the instructors encourage me and my fellow students to continue on for a library science degree."

Cathy Chenu-Campbell, automation and technical services librarian at SCC, teaches LIT's

technical services classes which focus on what she calls "back room functions" such as cataloging, book selection and acquisition. Although Chenu-Campbell was hired to manage technical services, she has been an instructor for 20 years. "It's my favorite part of my job," she says. "The people in the program are here because they want to be, not because the courses are prerequisites. I feel more like a consultant than a teacher because I'm here to help them learn what they want to know. Every semester I have at least one student who applies for an advanced library science program."

Chenu-Campbell says that "for many people, this level of library science education makes sense; an advanced degree wouldn't fit. It's a nice way for people to test the waters while supporting themselves working in libraries, doing what they love."

Some LIT programs throughout California's community colleges are: Cuesta College, San Bernardino Valley College, San Francisco City College, Diablo Valley College and Foothill College. For men and women who work in libraries and want to advance their careers, or for those who are curious about the library world, these programs are great places to start.

For further information about the LIT program at Sacramento City College contact Pamela Posz at 916-558-2186 or email poszp@mail.scc.losrios.cc.ca.us.



Sharon Davis brings *Capitol Kitty* to California State Library, benefits Book Fund

By Robert Daseler

Communications Office, California State Library

On December 4th, First Lady Sharon Davis held a book-signing event in the historic room 500 at the California State Library, drawing children, teachers, librarians, and government administrators to the renovated facility.

Davis is the author of a new children's book, *The Adventures of Capitol Kitty*, which she read aloud to an assembled audience of third graders. The book tells a fictional story about a real cat that lives on the grounds of the Capitol building.

Television news crews and capital reporters recorded the event for posterity, and hundreds of copies of the book were sold, benefiting the Governor's Book Fund, which is administered by the California State Library Foundation.

Gary Kurutz, executive director of the foundation, welcomed visitors and explained the connection between the book and the foundation. State Librarian Dr. Kevin Starr then introduced the First Lady after placing *The Adventures of Capitol Kitty* in the context of cats in



First Lady Sharon Davis signs a copy of her new book, *'The Adventures of Capitol Kitty,'* recently at the State Library.

mythology, literature, and popular culture.

Davis thanked the foundation for its role in administering money for the Governor's Book Fund, the sole beneficiary of sales of *The Adventures of Capitol Kitty*. The Governor's Book Fund was established by Gov. Gray Davis and his wife to raise money for the purchase of books for school libraries. Carole Talan of the California State Library's Library Development Services Bureau was instrumental in the creation of the fund, as well, working closely with the governor's office to set it up.

Free copies of *The Adventures of Capitol Kitty* were distributed to all the children present, and copies were donated to their school libraries. Adults were allowed to purchase copies from the foundation.

Sharon Davis sat at a table and signed copies of the book for almost two hours as a long line of purchasers filed by her.

Mattie Taormina, special assistant to the State Librarian, working in conjunction with the governor's office, arranged the reception and book signing. *The Adventures of Capitol Kitty* is available at most retail outlets.

Bibliography 2003 useful for all Californians

By Sarah Dalton

Connection Editor

California's senators and assembly-members must have meticulous data and research as they address California's key issues. Now, particularly with the newly elected legislature settling into a new session of representing the people of California, it's crucial that elected officials have fast access to disparate policy information. Reports and research material are the backbone of the government's answers to the state's most powerful questions; they ultimately shape which bills become laws.

The California State Library's California Research Bureau (CRB), one of California's premier think-tanks, provides research and policy analysis and organizes material for the legislative and the executive branches of California government.

Library professionals, library patrons and scholars everywhere will soon be able to tap into one of the extraordinary resources that CRB has created for the new legislators, the *California Public Policy Bibliography 2003*. Everyone, from students to senators, can access, and

use, the bibliography by simply clicking on the CRB website, <http://www.library.ca.gov/html/statseg2a.cfm>.

The *Public Policy Bibliography 2003*, a CRB publication, is a comprehensive list of public policy resources for issues facing California. Designed to address policy interests of all assembly standing committees, the *Public Policy Bibliography 2003* encompasses approximately 2,500 items. The contents are organized according to Assembly committee jurisdiction, plus a section on general issues of California's economy, population, and homeland security.

In anticipation of releasing the bibliography for public access, Dean Misczynski, director of the CRB, says, "This effort draws from the expertise of policy experts and librarians within the bureau, and the rich collection of the California State Library." Misczynski adds, "It is our hope that this publication will be of value not only to legislative and executive policy makers, but also to educators, librarians, students, and those in the private sector

Please see Public policy, page 8

Putting out the electronic welcome mat:

Libraries design services to help seniors feel connected

By Valerie Reinke

Literacy Consultant,

*Library Development Services Bureau
California State Library*

Every day of the year, more than 5,500 people in the U.S. turn 65. By the year 2030 the older population will more than double to about 70 million thanks to the baby boomers - one of the largest generations in American history - who are just beginning to move into their retirement years.

Public libraries have always considered seniors a part of their target population and have worked to provide responsive services for them in a variety of ways. Large print books, homebound services, and myriad volunteer opportunities have been part of the library offering for some time. The question remains: are we doing enough? And, secondarily, are we prepared to meet the needs of the boomers, who have been described by the AARP and the media as a whole new breed of senior?

Charlene Ashendorf spends a lot of time thinking about seniors and their needs as the Senior Coordinator at Newport Beach Public Library. "My grandiose plan would be to go into every senior center and nursing home and establish Internet capabilities," she declares. "Seniors are avid readers, but in many cases they are stuck in a nursing home or stuck within themselves and can't talk about what they've read. I'm convinced the future for keeping seniors connected is computers."

Ashendorf had planned to embellish the library's very active homebound service with e-mail buddies. Her idea was that homebound seniors would communicate their reading reflections and request new titles from trained volunteers. She was dismayed to discover that only one retirement community in Newport Beach had Internet capabilities. Though she's had to modify her original concept, she is currently working with that site to develop a model for senior living that she hopes other facilities will emulate.

"Even among my volunteers, many of whom are seniors, almost a third do not have e-mail themselves," Ashendorf notes. In fact, nationwide, only 28 percent of adults age 65 and older have a computer - slightly less than half the figure for the general population - and only 12 percent of older persons use the Internet at home.

Ashendorf predicts that baby boomers are going to want computers wherever they go once they retire. "There are going to have to be a lot of changes in the next 15 years," she



states. She sees the library playing a leading role in introducing adaptive technologies and in providing training to seniors who would like to learn about computers and the Internet.

Glendale Public Library has been providing computer training tailored to seniors for some time. However, when they noticed that seniors were taking the same classes over and over

again, they decided to take the next step and videotape the classes. Kathy Sheppard, development coordinator, explains: "The videos are intended to reinforce the learning process for seniors who want to increase their computer skills. We hope the taped instruction will help reduce anxiety and reluctance about using computers independently."

With Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, a federal grant program for libraries, the library has partnered with the local cable channel to produce these videotapes. Sheppard anticipates that seniors as well as the disabled community will use them, and even those whose schedules don't permit them to attend the library classes. The videos can be borrowed from the library or seen on the local public TV channel.

The videos will feature an in-studio audience of senior students and each will be dedicated to one of the following topics: "Introduction to Computers," "Searching the Internet," and "E-mail." Sheppard plans to make copies available to all California public libraries at the end of the LSTA grant cycle.

The library has learned to adapt to the pace and interests of the seniors, according to Sheppard, though it's been difficult to generalize about this population. "They come to our classes with varying skill levels and different levels of motivation. We had a gentleman who was going through chemotherapy and was still dedicated to learning the Internet." It's her hope that videotaped instruction will make it that much easier for seniors, mobile or homebound, to access the services the library provides.

This project will use Outcomes Measures for evaluation, in an effort led by the CSL to introduce those concepts into LSTA project management.

Kristie Coons, head of Community & Support Services at Kern County Library, is also in the process of implementing an LSTA grant to give seniors the computer

Please see Electronic welcome mat, page 5

California Public Libraries hanging on

By Liz Gibson

Planning Consultant, Library Development Services Bureau
California State Library

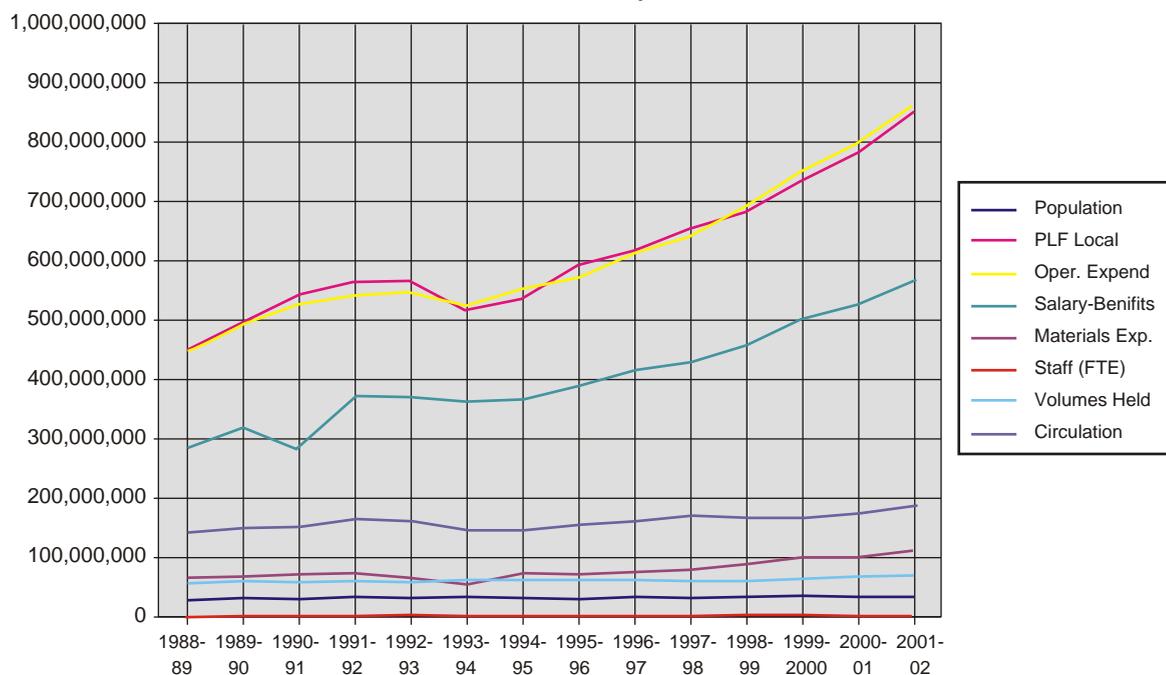
Preliminary data is in from California public libraries for the 2001/02 fiscal year, and statewide averages show a continued, albeit slow, rise in funding and a commensurate increase in service levels. The table below shows the increases in basic fiscal and service indicators from 1988/89 (the first year in which we have reliable data in electronic format) through 2001/02. The table shows a general upward trend, but the increases are neither dramatic nor have they kept up with the rate of inflation in most cases.

Table 1: Statewide Totals By Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Oper. Exp.	Salary-Ben.	Materials Exp.	Staff (FTE)	Volumes Held	Circulation
1988-89	\$452,215,000	\$281,675,000	\$61,562,000	9,798.56	54,073,000	140,223,000
1989-90	\$498,451,000	\$320,176,000	\$65,655,000	10,296.21	56,656,000	144,398,000
1990-91	\$532,179,000	\$281,648,000	\$69,148,000	10,583.87	56,845,000	150,547,000
1991-92	\$546,382,000	\$372,348,000	\$72,038,000	10,507.70	58,136,000	160,760,000
1992-93	\$550,269,000	\$372,759,000	\$62,635,000	10,116.49	58,359,000	158,802,000
1993-94	\$529,021,000	\$364,171,000	\$53,483,000	9,321.54	58,516,000	145,657,000
1994-95	\$556,486,000	\$365,561,000	\$71,062,000	9,868.17	59,395,000	146,722,000
1995-96	\$577,728,000	\$389,114,000	\$69,262,000	10,010.83	59,955,000	151,034,000
1996-97	\$617,402,000	\$415,265,000	\$72,095,000	10,371.79	61,252,000	159,670,000
1997-98	\$647,094,000	\$430,460,000	\$78,452,000	10,556.00	61,107,000	164,429,000
1998-99	\$695,091,000	\$458,448,000	\$86,863,000	10,937.14	61,254,000	162,965,000
1999-2000	\$754,028,000	\$497,138,000	\$96,456,000	11,441.76	63,791,000	165,687,000
2000-01	\$800,036,000	\$528,293,000	\$103,637,000	11,664.50	64,559,000	171,822,000

Chart 1, below, graphs these values over the same time period. The downturn during the last recession, from 1992 through 1994, is certainly evident in all of the indicators. Such a downturn statewide has not been seen through 2001/02 figures. However, there is a clear leveling off, or decrease, in the values from many of the individual libraries, and there is little doubt that there will be an impact on the statewide figures for this 2002/03 fiscal year when they are aggregated next fall.

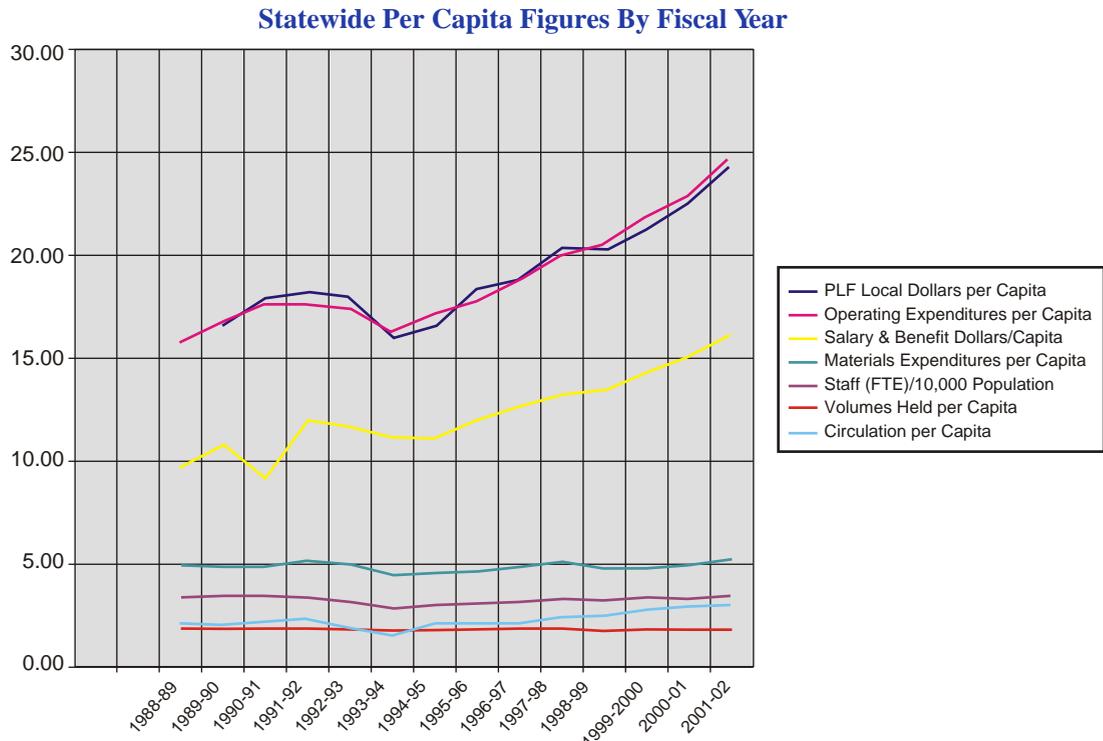
Chart 1: Statewide Totals By Fiscal Year



from page 5

Hanging On

The final chart in this article displays the same financial and service indicators for this time period, on a per capita basis. The trends are very similar to those in the first chart, showing raw dollars. Library budgets seem to have been keeping pace with population growth, though not with inflation.



This article provides just some quick preliminary summaries of the data for 2001/02 and comparisons back in time. There are still seven public libraries from which data has not yet been received, and all public libraries are currently reviewing the preliminary data for 2001/02 for possible errors in input or additional data to provide. After the file is finalized in late January 2003, additional analyses will be prepared for subsequent issues of *Connection*.

For additional information about the California library statistics collection program, contact Liz Gibson, planning consultant, at 916-653-6752 or lgibson@library.ca.gov.

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Electronic welcome mat

training they need, but she's also looking to provide a framework for socializing and connecting.

The library is gearing up to offer "Senior Wednesdays" where the computer lab will play host to a guest speaker - say from the field of healthcare - whose presentation will have an application to technology. After hearing the speaker, the seniors will be encouraged to visit related websites and to do further research and investigation on the topic.

This, in tandem with weekly computer training classes, should help Kern County seniors achieve a certain comfort level with computers, Coons hopes. And her goal is to reach the oldest of seniors. "I'm not too worried about the baby boomers or the current sixty year olds, I'm more concerned with the oldest seniors among us who are healthy and who are just trying to cope in an increasingly automated society."

To get a true sense of the needs of the county's seniors,

the library regularly convenes a senior advisory group. This group has enthusiastically endorsed the upcoming programming with what Coons describes as a sense of urgency. "They see the world becoming more computerized - even everyday language has changed - and they know that if they don't learn it now they will truly be left on the outside looking in."

The Library Services to Seniors (Newport Beach Public Library), The Senior Internet Training Video Project (Glendale Public Library), and the Seniors Information Highway (Kern County Library) are supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the LSTA, administered in California by the State Librarian.

For more information about these three projects, contact Valerie Reinke at (909) 786-0455 or at vreinke@library.ca.gov.

Final five 1st cycle grant awards approved

By **Richard Hall**
Library Bond Act Manager
Office of Library Construction

At its December 19, 2002, meeting the California Public Library Construction and Renovation Board unanimously voted to approve grant awards for the following 1st cycle Library Bond Act applications:

Project Name	Applicant	State Grant
Julian Branch Library	San Diego, County of	\$ 2,490,634
Lemon Grove Library	Lemon Grove, City of	\$ 3,830,882
Logan Heights Library	San Diego, City of	\$ 5,359,724
Manor Branch Library	San Leandro, City of	\$ 3,800,856
Visalia Library	Tulare, County of	<u>\$ 3,426,131</u>
TOTAL:		\$18,908,227

This amount added to the \$130,318,102 previously awarded at the December 2, 2002, meeting brings the 1st cycle total grant award amount to \$149,226,329. The remaining \$773,671 in 1st cycle funding will now be allocated during the 3rd and final cycle.

The Office of Library Construction will accept applications for the 2nd cycle until 5 pm. on March 28, 2003. After staff review of the applications submitted, the Board will meet to allocate the \$110 million set-aside for that cycle probably some time in the fall of 2003.

December 13th marks the first Library Bond Act application assistance videoconference

On December 13, 2002, the Office of Library Construction held its first videoconference for the workshop entitled "How to Apply for a Library Bond Act Grant." As part of the California State Library's initiative to reach out to rural areas, the workshop was teleconferenced from the Sacramento Public Library to three remote locations: Chico, Grass Valley and Ukiah. The daylong workshop was captured on videotape and will be available via the Office of Library Construction's web site in the form of a web cast with an index, which will allow viewers to go directly to the section of the workshop that they need to learn about at any time in the future.

Because of this electronic access, it is not anticipated at this time that the introductory workshop will be offered again in a live setting. OLC staff is always available for telephone consultation and may be contacted using the *Staff Contacts by Activity* list available on the OLC website at: <http://www.olc.library.ca.gov/staffcontact.asp>.

Cindy Costales leaves CSL to become Paloma Valley Library branch head

Cindy Costales, literacy consultant for the California State Library (CSL), left the CSL December 13 to become the new branch manager for the Paloma Valley Library in the city of Menifee of the Riverside County Public Library System. The library opened in July 2002 and is located on the Paloma Valley High School campus. Hired by the CSL in May 2001, Ms. Costales was in charge of the California Library Literacy Services Families For Literacy (FFL) program that breaks the cycle of illiteracy by engaging the children of functionally illiterate adults in family-oriented activities designed to promote reading readiness and the joy of reading. She has been a champion for the use of Equipped for the Future (EFF), the National Institute for Literacy's standards-based reform initiative aimed at improving literacy service outcomes. She also developed the Parent Survey used in FFL and Library Literacy and Books Services (LLABS) programs around the state to measure outcomes of these programs for parents and their pre-school children. Ms. Costales also participated as an advisory group member of a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)-funded training program for public libraries to develop library services programs for Californians with disabilities.

Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Desktop Publishing on a Shoestring*

Dates and locations:

Tuesday, January 7, 2003, Cerritos Public Library
 Wednesday, January 22, 2003, California State Library
 Wednesday, February 5, 2003, Bakersfield-Beale Memorial Library
 Thursday, February 20, 2003, San Bernardino Public Library
 Thursday, February 27, 2003, San Francisco Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/105>Provider: **Infopeople**

Course: Library Construction 101

Date and location:

Tuesday, January 14, 2003, San Jose Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/76>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *When Being Nice Isn't Working: Service, Safety, and Security at the Moment of Truth*

Dates and locations:

Wednesday, January 8, 2003, Fresno County Public Library
 Thursday, January 23, 2003, San Bernardino Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/110>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Raising Private Dollars for Public Libraries*

Dates and locations:

Friday, January 24, 2003, San Francisco Public Library
 Thursday, February 13, 2003, Cerritos Public Library
 Tuesday, March 4, 2003, San Jose Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/122>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Science & Technology Resources on the Internet*

Dates and locations:

Monday, January 27, 2003, San Francisco Public Library
 Thursday, February 20, 2003, Cerritos Public Library
 Tuesday, March 11, 2003, San Jose Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/121>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Library Laws for the Web Environment*

(distance learning course)

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/86>:Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Evaluating Internet Resources*

(distance learning course)

Tuesday, December 3, 2002 -- Tuesday, January 14, 2003

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/108>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Teaching Spanish-Speaking Patrons How To Use The Internet*

Dates and locations:

Friday, January 17, San Diego Public Library
 Monday, February 10, Ventura County Library-E.P.Foster
 Monday, March 3, Cerritos Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/100>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Staffing for Results: Working Smarter*

Dates and locations:

Tuesday, January 21, 2003, Cerritos Public Library
 Wednesday, January 22, 2003, San Diego Public Library
 Friday, February 28, 2003, San Francisco Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/111>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Library Laws for the Web Environment*

(distance learning course)

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/86>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Survival Spanish for Library Staff*

Dates and locations:

Tuesday, January 7, 2003, San Jose Public Library
 Wednesday, January 22, 2003, Ventura County Library, EP Foster Branch

Tuesday, February 11, 2003, Cerritos Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/112>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Cataloging Electronic Resources*

Dates and locations:

Thursday, January 23, 2003, San Francisco Public Library
 Thursday, February 6, 2003, Los Angeles Public Library
 Tuesday, February 25, 2003, Rancho Cordova Community Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/106>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Science & Technology Resources on the Internet*

Dates and locations:

Monday, January 27, 2003, San Francisco Public Library
 Thursday, February 20, 2003, Cerritos Public Library
 Tuesday, March 11, 2003, San Jose Public Library

<http://www.infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/121>Provider: **Infopeople**Course: *Building a Dynamic Web Site with Dreamweaver MX*

Dates and locations:

Friday, January 10, 2003, San Francisco Public Library
 Friday, January 31, 2003, Cerritos Public Library
 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, February 11, San Francisco Public Library
 Tuesday, March 4, Cerritos Public Library
 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://infopeople.org/WS/workshop/Workshop/107>

2003

February

February 18-19, 2003

Library of California board meeting, Sacramento

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

CONNECTION

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

from page 2 **Public policy**

concerned about public policy issues."

The *Public Policy Bibliography* 2003 includes hundreds of links to documents on the world wide web. The bibliography's users have immediate access to publications of government agencies, private organizations, and think tanks, as well as to numerous articles in journals and other periodicals. Users who access the bibliography via <http://www.library.ca.gov/html/statseg2a.cfm> can simply click on links in order to view or download many documents. Detailed source citations enable users to find other listed resources through their local libraries.

Charlene Simmons, CRB's assistant director, general law and government, says "This year we added links on 40-50% of the citations. It's a wonderful reference tool that directs the user to good sources on public policy issues."

For further information, contact Charlene Simmons at 916-653-1252 or email csimmons@library.ca.gov.



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