

Executive Director's Report

There have been many changes in the SAILS office recently and we are all very busy working on various projects. Steve Wilson left and at the same time Bob Demanche joined the office as Member Services Librarian. The office departments have been reorganized so that Bob and Jorj now report to Laurie and all work in the Electronic Services Department. We are contracting with Lantel to perform the VPN cutover project for the schools. This was originally been something we were going to handle in house. We are also accepting proposals from vendors to provide remote support for the 3 Windows 2003 servers hosted by SAILS (Webserver, Email Server, in-house file sharing Server). Laurie is taking over the management of the SirsiDynix server with some assistance from me. Bob is taking over some of the service requests that had been handled in the past by Laurie or Debby.

The Cataloging Services Department attending a Distance Learning Webinar about using the Java Client for Technical Services after which they began using that client exclusively. They are also working on updating the cataloging checklists for the libraries and dealing with the ever increasing variety of media formats. Kristin was selected to participate in the 2007 Massachusetts Library Leadership Conference and she will also be serving on the SEMLS Digital Archives advisory Committee.

Despite the departure of Steve, we are proceeding with our plans for the network telecommunications equipment upgrade. Verizon began work at the central site the week of January 15. Once all that work is done a final schedule for installing equipment will be established. We expect that libraries that are just receiving new equipment will begin to receive the new units on February 1. Orders for the new data lines have been submitted and right now the new service dates are to be the first week of March. As originally planned, the majority of the work should be completed by early March. The 2007-2008 Erate application has been filed for the bulk of the network's telecommunications costs.

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MLA Ways & Means Day

Get ready for this annual event, sponsored by the MLA Legislative Committee. Library supporters are urged to come to the State House and advocate with their Legislators, especially member of the Massachusetts House and Senate Ways & Means Committees, to improve state funding for library service in Massachusetts. All are welcome, no pre-registration required. A welcome breakfast will be held, a Legislative briefing, and visits to Legislators are encouraged.

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Congratulations to Our Future Leader Kristin!

Kristin has been selected one out of fifty in MA to participate in Library Leadership Massachusetts 2007, sponsored by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the six Massachusetts Regional Library Systems. The 3.5-day Institute drew applications from a highly-qualified pool of candidates from across the state and included professional staff and para-librarians from all types of libraries. Successful applicants had fewer than ten years in their fields. The Institute will create a structure for continuing supportive relationships among its participants. In exchange, graduates will play a role in advocacy efforts for Massachusetts libraries through professional organizations and/or contributions to publications or newsletters.

Executive Director's Report

During the month of February we will be focusing on the telecommunications cutover. Kristin and I will be attending the annual Unicorn Users Group meeting in Colorado Springs so we will be short staffed for one week. The staff in the office continue to work with the new Unicorn client and we will be looking for volunteers to begin working with it in mid-March.

Zangwill Appointed to the Board



Irving H. Zangwill of Fall River was appointed to a two-year term on the nine-member Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in late December by former Governor Mitt Romney. He replaces Commissioner John Arnold who was first appointed in 1994 and whose terms of service had expired.

"As a child, seeing my mother stay up half the night reading and going to work in the morning, as well as being read to night after night by my father, the tone for my love of reading was set. Through the years, I continued this passion and as a teacher worked to encourage it in my students," said Zangwill. "Having served as the Chairman of the Fall River Public Library Board of Trustees for many years, as well as serving on many other library organization and committees, I am absolutely delighted to have the opportunity of being a commissioner on the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioner. I look forward to representing Southeastern Massachusetts in a way that will better it's library services and improve opportunities for its citizens."

A lifelong resident of Fall River, Zangwill was a teacher in the Fall River Public Schools for more than 30 years. He has served as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fall River Public Library since 1996, as well as the President of the Fall River Public Library Foundation since 2000. Among his other library appointments have been the President and Vice-President of the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association, and on the board of the Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Library System. In addition, he has worked with the MBLC on the Massachusetts Public Library Initiative, Trustee Handbook Committee and the State Advisory Council on Libraries.

Zangwill has a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Education from Boston University, a M.Ed. in Education from Bridgewater State College, and his B.A. in Psychology from UMass/Dartmouth.

MLA Public Relations Awards

The MLA PR Committee has released the application form for the 2007 PR Awards. The application will be included in your January Bay State Libraries and is available at <http://www.masslib.org>.

The deadline for submittal is March 9, 2007.

Submitters must be MLA members. Please renew now if necessary. All Massachusetts libraries are invited. All categories of PR materials produced after February 2005 are eligible from all types of libraries. We invite academic, public, school, and special libraries to participate.

Awards will be presented on Thursday May 3rd, 2007 at the MLA Annual Conference in Sturbridge, MA. For photos and award winners in 2005, please visit: <http://www.masslib.org/PRAwards05/>



Please let me know if you have any questions.—Laurie (llessner@sailsinc.org)

2007 Award Categories

Advertisements,
Annual Reports,
Booklists,
Bookmarks,
Brochures,
Community Reading Programs,
Coordinated Advocacy Campaigns,
Events,

Library Cards,
Logos,
Media Presentations,
Merchandise,
News Coverage,
Newsletter,
Posters/Fliers,
Summer Reading Program,
Web sites

Board to Restore Budget Cuts

“We are delighted that Governor Deval Patrick has restored the more than \$1 million in 9C cuts made by former Governor Mitt Romney in November,” said Dr. Em Claire Knowles, Chair. “With our state funding now restored to its original budget for FY2007, it is anticipated that the full Board will be reversing its recent action that authorized the use of approximately \$280,000 from its Special Priorities and Projects Budget to make up the shortfall for online resources that had already been committed,” she continued.

In addition, cuts to the nine automated networks that tie libraries together and support their catalogues and interlibrary loan efforts, and the subsidy to statewide delivery and funds intended to help small libraries join automated networks can be restored, said Robert C. Maier, Director. Also, by restoring the funding cut from the Talking Book Programs at the Perkins School for the Blind and the Worcester Public Library they will be able to continue their outreach and library service to the visually-impaired citizens of the Commonwealth. Members of the Board, along with the Massachusetts Library Association, will now be working with the new Legislature and Administration to continue providing funding for adequate library service in the upcoming FY2008 Budget. ~ David Gray, MBLC

Ordering PCs Through SAILS

SAILS has just posted an order form for directors to fill out. This is located off the standard order form. Don't be sticker-shocked by the price. We've put together a system that will allow you to upgrade to Vista as a future plan, and not have to worry about upgrading the hardware. The standard pc we will order has the following specs:

Dell Optiplex GX520
NBD onsite w/ Gold Tech Support
Intel® Pentium® 4 3GHz Processor
2 GB RAM
Windows Vista™ capable

There is no shipping and handling. This would be purchased through the Statewide contract. We are updating the process for ordering through us. We are asking you to tell us what the intention of the pc will be. For example, if it's going to be designated as a circ pc, we'll know to load Workflows and other appropriate software, assuming you're on PC Support. If you're not on PC Support, you may still purchase through us. Either way, if you request installation, there is a \$30 fee.

<http://sailsinc.org/directors/pcorder.asp>

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Upcoming Training & Meetings

Upcoming Training

Detailed descriptions and registration information, are available on the [SAILS website](http://www.sailsinc.org).

Beginning Cataloging Training—Full

02/27/2007

9 am to noon, SAILS Meeting Room

Cataloging Non-print Materials Seminar

03/08/2007

9 am to noon, SAILS Meeting Room

Upcoming Meetings & Events

MLA Ways & Means Day

02/14/2007

Statehouse, Boston

SAILS Board Meeting

02/15/2007

10 am, SAILS Meeting Room

PubPac Committee Meeting

03/05/2007

10 am to noon, SAILS Meeting Room

SAILS Network Statistics

FY06-07 Overview	Dec '06	Nov '07	Oct '07	Sept '07	Aug '07	July '07	Total FY07
Total Intranetwork Loans	50,005	54,182	55,892	56,840	63,481	58,666	339,066
Total Items Circulated	297,103	353,902	373,614	356,456	419,288	412,360	2,212,723
OverDrive Circulation	560	502	537	557	576	589	3,321
VirtCat Items Borrowed	957	1,101	1,199	1,199	1,270	1,129	6,855
VirtCat Items Loaned	474	516	635	561	518	515	3,219
Cataloging Requests	2,389	3,008	2,857	2,857	2,948	2,518	16,577
WebDewey Sessions	93	108	92	95	102	86	576
MARC Records Added	4,959	4,190	3,497	3,497	4,256	3,576	23,975
Patrons Added	1,734	2,688	4,125	7,243	4,235	3,024	23,049
Holds	36,317	41,263	43,138	41,864	45,261	43,938	251,781
Total MARC	969,654	967,774	964,634	962,085	959,615	957,002	967,774
Total Holdings	3,446,198	3,453,375	3,448,264	3,441,363	3,434,261	3,420,815	3,446,198
Total Patron	544,461	544,181	543,654	540,731	535,599	537,501	544,461
Total Uptime	99.9	85.09	99.49	99.9	98.2	99.11	