

**STATEWIDE LIBRARY RESOURCES (SLR/LD)  
ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE APRIL 9, 2014  
STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**

**Activity Period: January 22-March 18, 2014**

**Goal One – Content** - *Montana State Library (MSL) acquires and manages relevant quality content that meets the needs of Montana library partners and patrons.*

- Compiled results from an online multi-type library survey on database usage and the DiscoverIT search tool. These results will be used to direct more in-depth discussions in April, with focus groups representing different library types on how their various end user needs are currently being met, and how the statewide content and discovery options can help meet those needs.
- New Montana Memory Project collections include the Archival Photographs from the University of Montana, and the Danvers, Montana Oral History Collection. The photographs from the UM will comprise a collection of over 6,000 photographs depicting scenes from Missoula and from across the state. The oral history collection marks the first full oral history collection for the MMP.
- The 2014 MMP digitization grants funded by FY2013 LSTA monies will be announced soon. The selection process went well and nine projects have been chosen for funding. Memorandums of Agreement for this funding have been sent to each contributing institution and as the paperwork is finalized the library is put in touch with The Advantage Companies to begin planning the process of digitization. A formal announcement will be sent out on Wired when the necessary paperwork is complete. Eleven applications were received. Two applicants were not able to send their items to a vendor for digitization due to their internal policies and therefore could not accept the funding. The following nine libraries have been selected for funding and all nine have accepted the awards. These projects total \$6900.00 of the \$12,000 of available funding.
  - Big Timber Pioneer Newspaper Collection, Carnegie Public Library - \$1000.00
  - Photographs of Gallatin County Collection and Documents of Gallatin County, Bozeman Public Library - \$450.00
  - Helena, Montana City Council Minutes, 1881-1970, City of Helena - \$1100.00
  - A Memorial to Louis Piche: The Barber of Drummond Collection, Drummond School and Community Library - \$350.00
  - Missoula County High School The Bitterroot Yearbooks Collection, Missoula County Public Schools - \$1200.00
  - Northern Montana College (Montana State University - Northern) Yearbooks, Vande Bogart Library - \$1000.00

- Original ABSTRACTS of land deeds in Jefferson County, North Jefferson County Public Library District - \$700.00
- John J. Powers Safety Poster Collection, World Museum of Mining - \$600.00
- Justice Under the Big Sky, State Law Library - \$500.00

**Goal Two – Access** - *MSL provides libraries, agencies, and its partners and patrons with convenient, high quality, and cost-effective access to library content and services.*

- George McCone Memorial County Library in Circle went live in the MSC.
- Twenty-seven MSC libraries began using Shoutbomb text messaging service for sending courtesy notices to patrons and students that opt-in to the service.
- MSC began its first trial phase of the new Enterprise search interface with 18 member libraries involved in evaluating configuration, testing functionality and providing feedback to MSC support staff. This will help inform MSC staff on the successful full launch and implementation of the new MSC catalog user interface.
- The MSC's Symphony ILS was upgraded to version 3.4.1.4
- The first collections have been added to the Mountain West Digital Library and are live on their webpage. Our contributing institutions are listed on their partner's page: <http://www.mwdl.org/aboutPartners.php>. Each institution name links to a landing page describing the institution and includes links to their digital collections. The third week of each month the MWDL site content is harvested by the [Digital Public Library of America](#) (DPLA). Our collections will begin surfacing on the DPLA site at the end of March.
- 59 Montana public libraries began the E-rate application process this year including all but 2 of the BTOP libraries who had previously received E-rate application support. This will provide discounts on telecommunications and Internet services to these libraries.

**Goal Three – Training**- *MSL provides libraries, agencies, its partners and Montanans with appropriate trainings and training resources so that they can make the best use of the resources offered.*

- A committee of SLR-LD staff evaluated 8 applications for an LSTA-funded scholarship to attend the 2014 American Library Association's annual conference. Daniel Bell of Lewistown Public Library was selected as the scholarship recipient. Mr. Bell will be a first-time ALA attendee and is particularly interested in bringing back ideas on resource sharing and technical services to share with his Montana

colleagues at a post-conference event that will be organized by the Statewide Trainer.

- Online training webinars were presented to MSC libraries participating in the initial roll out of the "Shoutbomb" texting service and for those participating in the "Enterprise" new catalog interface trial phase.
- Montana Memory Project Client ongoing training is offered on an as-needed basis, allowing contributors to receive training at the point of need and on demand. Eighteen collections are in various stages of creation and addition to the MMP.
- During the February Webside Chat the State Librarian shared an update from the February meeting of the Commission and answered questions about the work of the Library District Task Force. The March chat will focus on the MSL Network Advisory Council's recommendations for the FY 14 LSTA statewide projects budget.
- Fifteen Montana Librarians attended a webinar that was presented by SLR-LD staff in partnership with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Montana Wilderness Association. The librarians learned about the history and importance of wilderness, about events taking place around the state to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilderness Act, and how to help their patrons learn about and access the wilderness. Librarians across Montana also contributed to a statewide wilderness anniversary reading list compiled by SLR-LD staff.
- Fifty librarians, staff and trustees received training from SLR-LD staff on funding, budgeting, accounting, strategic planning, workplace apps and MSL online library development resources at the Broad Valleys Federation retreat in Butte, March 7-8. SLR-LD staff has developed a slate of training topics available to the Federations this spring. The South Central Federation meeting March 15 included the training on workplace apps, from the trainings available from SLR-LD staff.
- Popular online training events for the reporting period included two sessions introducing cataloging using RDA, an overview of the resources available from the Montana Historical Society to support programs celebrating the centennial of women's suffrage in Montana, another on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilderness Act, and a tutorial on how to complete E-rate form 471.
- According to 2010 census data, 46.1% of professional librarians in Montana are over the age of 55. To address this pressing need facing Montana's libraries, MSL is sponsoring trustee training for calendar year 2014 laser-focused on this critical issue. In January-February, a 4-part Monday evening series in the form of four 90-minute webinars on how to provide and nurture positive leadership at the library was presented by Catherine Hakala-Ausperk, a library consultant from Ohio. The archived recordings of this series, entitled "Happily Ever After" is consistently receiving at least two plays from the MSL Vimeo channel every week. Later in May-

June, the MSL will sponsor onsite training at three locations followed by another webinar series with Jim Nys from Personnel Plus! on how to prepare for leadership transitions and the legal and ethical issues related to hiring a new director. Sessions at the September Fall Workshop will also be dedicated to managing succession.

- MSL staff continues to make incremental changes to the procedures involved with the MSL Certification program to both gain efficiencies and to better manage the data in the certification program. Certified librarians can now view the official date of expiration for their current certification when they visit the CE Tracking section of the online Montana Library Directory. Over the next few months, staff hopes to streamline the application process further and capture important data regarding the frequency with which libraries are receiving training, where they are receiving the training and the types of training they are utilizing.
- SLR-LD staff devoted their time and expertise to making the Offline 2014 conference an outstanding success. Staff facilitated panel discussions or presented sessions on broadband in Montana, maker spaces, tech training at the local library, Google tools for libraries and new technologies on the horizon at this year's conference.
- The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) conference will be held in Helena at the Great Northern Hotel August 13-15. Several MSL trainers are scheduled to present at the conference. Jo Flick and Pam Henley are serving on the planning committee.
- SAVE THE DATE: Fall Workshops will take place at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel on September 28-29 (Sunday-Monday). MSL staff will meet soon to begin to plan the program for the 2014 Fall Workshops.

**Goal Four – Consultation and Leadership** - *MSL provides consultation and leadership to enable its patrons and partners to reach their goals.*

- Offline 2014 was held February 7-8 at Carroll College in Helena. 85 people attended the conference which was hosted this year by MSL. A statewide planning committee assisted SLR-LD staff with arranging for sessions offered in two tracks. Track one focused on innovative technologies that scale for collaborative resource sharing statewide. Track two focused on library's engagement with its local community. Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President of OCLC Research & Chief Strategist, offered an inspirational keynote outlining three areas librarians should be thinking about in the short and long term: engagement, innovation and infrastructure. A final plenary session brought attendees back together to share ideas generated during the conference and to come up with new ideas for future collaborative pilots and projects.

- Organized meetings and materials for meetings of the MontanaLibrary2Go Executive and Selection Committees. The membership will vote on recommendations from the Executive Committee at its annual meeting, which will take place on April 9, before the MLA conference, in Billings. Recommendations emerging from these meetings included splitting the bottom tier of the cost formula into thirds to make the cost per patron more equitable and affordable for the very smallest libraries that wish to be part of the consortium; increasing the cost to each tier by 5%; adding and amending language within the consortium by-laws; and setting a new selection procedure that includes evaluation of locally created content. These recommendations are intended to allow the MontanaLibrary2Go consortium to continue meeting increased demand for content at an affordable cost, and also to clarify the rights and responsibilities of the membership and the volunteer committees.
- Collected annual statistics for the Critelli courier group and arranged a March 21<sup>st</sup> informational conference call with the interstate multi-type library resource sharing and courier consortium Minitex, which is based in Minnesota and also serves the Dakotas. This conversation will help MSL and the Courier Advisory Board understand whether involvement in a regional consortium would be beneficial to the Montana courier participants, as both parties work toward finding a sustainable solution for participating libraries facing cost increases in the new fiscal year.
- Continued negotiations with OCLC for the FY2015-17 Group Services contract under the new cost share formula as recommended by the OCLC Cost Share Task Force and approved by the Network Advisory Council.
- The MSC reorganization of circulation policies and operations began in January. The initial round of trimming item types and home locations was completed in February. The second round is currently in progress. As part of this overall effort, conducted 4 meetings with the various MSC sharing groups (Partners, 4-Rivers and BridgerNet) which has led to near unanimous approval of all groups sharing the same circulation policies. Twelve online webinars have been presented to members that explain the reorganization project and how it is being accomplished.
- The MMP director has met with the directors of the Great Falls Public Library, the Chouteau County Library, Fort Benton and the Thompson-Hickman Memorial Library to discuss the possible creation of new collections representing these communities. Also discussed were possible local community partners that could support the library in contributing collections. A meeting is scheduled with the director of the Sheridan Public Library in April.
- Registered 8 of 9 national sample libraries for the national Library EDGE digital literacy assessment. This will provide Montana data on various benchmarks having to do with digital literacy and library outreach in this area.

- Assisted the Madison County Library board of trustees with job descriptions and position advertising following the retirement of the long-time director to ensure a successful candidate search and continuing quality library service.
- In partnership with Montana Library Association members, including members of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, SLR-LD staff drafted a resolution on privacy to be presented to the MLA membership at the upcoming conference. The resolution is modeled on ALA and other state library association resolutions that address concerns about confidentiality of patron records in the wake of revelations about NSA surveillance earlier this year.
- Continued to share updates on Affordable Care Act statistics and activities statewide with Montana librarians, including information about assistance from the office of the Montana Commissioner of Insurance and Securities. These communications are part of the overall effort to assist libraries with building community partnerships in a variety of areas.
- New MSL Professional Library Materials collection items were acquired, promoted to, and checked out by Montana librarians for their professional development.
- Public librarians in Fairfield, Ronan, Polson, Kalispell, Whitefish, Libby, Thompson Falls, Plains and Hot Springs received on-site visits from traveling consultants who provided assistance and information about funding and budgeting, district issues, facilities planning, Montana Memory Project and Federation meeting planning.

**Goal Five – Collaboration** - *MSL promotes partnerships and encourages collaboration among its partners and patrons so that their information needs can be met.*

- Based on recommendations from Montana maker space coordinators, young adult librarians, and school librarians, and from library development staff at the Idaho Commission for Libraries, ordered tools and materials for 3 kits that will circulate to Montana libraries beginning spring 2014. Based on this order list, started organizing online training for library staff at the 3 initial hosting libraries. This training will provide an orientation to maker philosophy and expected pilot outcomes, as well as an overview on how to use the tools provided and develop public programming around them. Maker spaces are collaborative learning and creative spaces that provide tools and materials for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) based programming and experimentation.

- Working with a team of three other MSL staff, continued work on the “Share Your Story” lifelong learning and outreach project that will circulate interview and programming kits to Montana libraries beginning Spring 2014, modeled after StoryCorps project and based around the themes of Wilderness, Work, and Women in Montana. Staff has cultivated partnership possibilities with the Montana State University film department and Montana PBS for training library staff and volunteers in video recording and editing as well as conducting quality interviews. Marketing materials are being developed to lend a consistent brand to this new LSTA funded statewide pilot. The main focus of the pilot is the library’s outreach to its local communities and building on partnerships to expand public programming and lifelong learning opportunities in libraries across the state. Relevant content gleaned from this pilot may also be considered for inclusion in the Montana Memory Project.
- MSL Trainer, Jo Flick, is coordinating a tour of a panel exhibit created by the Mansfield Library of the University of Montana: *Leading the Way - Montana Woman Suffrage and the Struggle for Equal Citizenship*. This panel exhibit will travel to libraries for display for several weeks at each site, beginning next month. The Mansfield Library is creating the display and providing it to Montana libraries at no charge. Libraries are encouraged to host public programs to mark the Centennial when they are hosting the exhibit. A short webinar to introduce librarians to this opportunity will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Goal Six – Sustainable Success** - *MSL is a well-run organization and a sought-after employer; it is efficient and effective (measured against partner and patron outcomes), and successfully engaged in its ongoing mission.*

- SLR-LD staff reviewed the FY 2014 SLR-LD work plan when all staff gathered in Helena March 12-13, evaluating accomplishments and discussing work yet to be done over the remainder of the current fiscal year. The MSC reorganization effort, the MontanaLibrary2Go Local pilot, the Montana Memory Project/Mountain West Digital Library partnership, the Offline Conference and the new specialty areas for the traveling consultants were all highlights of this work plan and staff hope to find time to celebrate together these and other accomplishments.

Maps and Detail Reports of Statewide Library Resources activity for this report time period can be viewed at [http://msl.mt.gov/For Librarians/Activity Tracking/](http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Activity_Tracking/)  
SLR activity is organized by six general categories:

- Continuing Education
- Federations
- Library Development
- Statewide Databases and Online Resources
- Statewide Downloadable E-Content
- Statewide Resource Sharing