



IDAHO COMMISSION FOR LIBRARIES

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## **STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT TO THE ILA BOARD January 2007**

### Web Presence

- ICFL's "E-Branch in a Box" is designed to help public libraries create and maintain a strong web presence. The project includes an easy-to-use Drupal template for creating a library website along with some pre-loaded content. One-half day hands-on training was held in multiple locations throughout the state in November.

### Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) Services

- The statewide LiLI Databases were re-bid this fall, and the new package will become officially available to all publicly-funded libraries on January 1, 2007. The package was selected by an advisory group to help meet the research needs of students, adults, and librarians in the areas of school K-12 resources, general interest, general academic lower division, business, and consumer health. Thomson Gale won the major portion of the bid and is offering a series of one-hour "Welcome to Gale" webinars to introduce their products to Idaho libraries in November and December. Additional training is scheduled for February and March. A complete list of the 2007 databases can be seen at: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/node/630>.
- We concluded the final implementation phase of LiLI Unlimited, the statewide catalog, cataloging, and ILL service. An online workshop on LiLI-U's interlibrary loan service was offered in December. Our focus in 2007 will be on additional training and increasing the number of small public and school libraries that use the service.

### Read-to-Me

- Public libraries throughout the state celebrated Family Reading Week in November with Curious George making multiple appearances (including one in the Governor's Office) and many libraries reporting standing-room only crowds. The Governor and First Lady offered their support for the program by signing a Family Reading Week proclamation, and contributing a quote on the importance

of reading and a photo of them reading to their grandkids for the statewide promotional brochure, “Curiosity Begins at the Library.”

#### 2007 Legislative Session

- ICFL’s budget presentation to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee is scheduled for Friday, January 26 from 8:30 – 9:00. The agency request includes funding for maintenance of current operations and \$209,000 to expand the Read-to-Me program to reach more at-risk families.

#### Professional Development Service (PDS)

- Staff continued plans to offer Idaho library staff a broader range of professional development resources, both print and electronic. Wilson’s Library Literature & Information Science Full Text and a PDS web page will be added early in 2007, followed by a campaign to increase the visibility of the service.

#### 2020 Vision

- In November, 14 Idaho library staff members completed the online class “Teens and Technologies.” Co-sponsored by ICFL and YALSA (Young Adult Library Services Association), the group met in Boise before and after the online portion of the course. Participants learned more about how teens use technology to communicate, collaborate, and create, and they became more familiar with the tools and techniques teens use. Hands-on practice included setting up IM and [MySpace](#) accounts and exploring other social software tools like [Flickr](#), [LibraryThing](#), and wikis. The group also created ICFL’s first podcast to summarize their experiences and their plans to incorporate what they learned into their work. To listen to the podcast, [click here to listen to it via your computer](#).
- A 1 ½ day event, “[Celebration & Connection: Charting Your 2020 Vision](#)” will be held in 4 locations in January and February.

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