Chair's Column
by Anne Rottmann, Missouri
LRL Chair

Hello to everyone. I hope this summer has been a good one for all. It was especially nice to see so many faces in Las Vegas in July. We even brought the monsoons (such as they are) with us. We are indeed a powerful group! I feel very privileged to serve as your chair for the next year. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions or ideas you might have for the staff section. A big thank you to Jonetta for serving as chair so ably this past year. I have big shoes to fill, so I will need your help. I would like to congratulate her on being elected to the NCSL Executive Committee. Our staff section now has two representatives on the Executive Committee, Clare and Jonetta.

We welcome Johanne Greer, Maryland Legislative Reference Library, as LRL secretary for the coming year. She participated in her first conference call and lived to tell about it. I know she will be a wonderful addition to the officers.

This issue of Newsline will highlight LRL programs at Annual Meeting. We were busy, as usual, with informative and interesting sessions. We conducted our own panel discussion on librarian duties outside the library, and Marilyn Cathcart (MN) was a panelist for a jointly sponsored session with the Research and Committee Staff Sections (RACSS). Two committees were formed at the business meeting. One will review LRL bylaws for possible revisions, and members of that committee are Clare Cholik, Debbie Tavenner and Nancy Quesada. The other committee will update the LRL Core Collection list. On that committee are Jonetta Douglas, Susan Southworth, Marilyn Guttromson and David Harrell.

By the time you get this issue of Newsline, you will have received the announcement for the Professional Development Seminar in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, October 15-17. Evelyn Andrews and Susan Zavacky have worked diligently to put together sessions that will be interesting to all of us. Please plan to attend. I look forward to seeing you in the beautiful Pennsylvania countryside.

Congratulations to LRL's 1998 Legislative Staff Achievement Award winners, Clare Cholik, South Dakota Legislative Librarian, and the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library, directed by Marilyn Cathcart. Both deserve kudos for their fine work on behalf of legislative libraries.

Finally, just a quick personal thank you to Nancy Quesada. My family vacationed in Texas this year (yes, it was hot). We visited the Legislative Reference Library, a lovely facility, and saw Dale Propp, the new director. Nancy was gracious enough to clue us in on fun things to do in Austin. Thanks, Nancy.

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LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH LIBRARIANS STAFF SECTION
National Conference of State Legislatures
1560 Broadway, Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202 303/830-2200
Chair: Anne Rottmann, Legislative Library, Missouri
NCSL Staff: Rita Thaeemert
Preliminary Agenda
Professional Development Seminar
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
October 15-17

Thursday, October 15

8:30am-9:30am  Registration & Continental Breakfast at the Capitol
9:30am-12noon  Welcome & Panel of Pennsylvania Speakers
12noon-1:30pm   Lunch
1:30pm-2:30pm   “Your Professional Image”
2:30pm-3:30pm   Capitol Preservation
3:30pm-5:00pm   Tours of the Capitol and State Library
5:30pm-6:30pm   Reception

Friday, October 16

8:30am-9:30am  Continental Breakfast at the Capitol
9:30am-1:30pm  “Legal Research on the Internet”
11:30am-1:00pm Lunch
1:00 pm-3:00pm  “Records Retention and Archives”
3:15pm-3:45pm  Capitol Security
5:30pm-8:30pm  LRL Dinner, Groff’s Farm (Bus departs from Hilton)

Saturday, October 17

8:30am          Breakfast at the Hilton
9:00am-11:00am  Business Meeting and Discussion
1:00 pm         Tour to Hershey (Bus departs from Hilton)

LRL at Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada
July 20-23

Librarians with Duties Outside the Library
Monday, July 20, 4:15-5:30pm
by Anne Rottmann

Members of this panel, moderated by Susan Sternberg (NJ), each presented a brief description of their non-traditional librarian responsibilities.

Mary Bone, States Information Center at the Council of State Governments, has responsibility for the daily question on the headlines part of CSG’s web page.

She also gathers information for the Book of the States, as well as publishing the monthly Research Checklist.

Clare Cholik, South Dakota Legislative Library, has for the last three years staffed the House and Senate Education committees. They meet in the morning for two hours everyday during session. Clare feels that she sees the fruits of her labor, feels more a part of the legislative process and finds it a rewarding experience.

Johanne Greer, Maryland Legislative Reference Library, is the Senate assistant journal clerk during session. She has the task of entering floor action into the computer and is responsible for the production of each day’s journal. At the start of session, Johanne returns to the library each day after adjournment, but as session continues, she spends more and more time on the Senate floor. Johanne has done this job for only one session, but has found it to be challenging and stimulating.

Linda Heatherly, California Legislative Counsel Bureau Library, has the responsibility to distribute legislative publications—bills, journals, files and histories. Linda and her staff of 12 act as an internal clearinghouse for 500 legislative employees. Needless to say, this job occupies a great deal of her time and her staff’s time.

Arthur McEnany, librarian for the Louisiana Senate Law Library, took on the responsibility of drafting legislation for the Louisiana Senate. Arthur is very interested in wildlife, hunting and fishing and so volunteered to draft what he calls the “critter bills.” He likes working at the ground level of the legislative process.

This was a versatile, talented and smart group of librarians. LRL is proud of their achievements. Thank you, Jonetta, for conceptualizing this session.

Managing Legislative Web Sites
Tuesday, July 21, 8:00-9:30 am
by David Harrell, Oregon
Panelists
  • Marilyn Cathcart, Legislative Reference Bureau, Minnesota
  • Peter Cannon, Legislative Reference Bureau, Wisconsin
  • William Montgomery, Legislative Council, Delaware
  • Luis Avila, Legislative Council Service, New Mexico
Driving along the Oregon coast this sunny Saturday I spotted a bumper sticker that describes the strategy of designing and maintaining a legislative web site: “Keep it Simple.” That was the message conveyed by the panelists at the “Managing Legislative Web Sites” presentation in Las Vegas. The knowledgeable panelists discussed the issues of legislative web site design and content, including policy issues and management approaches.

Legislative web site design and management responsibilities in the sample states have in some cases been assigned to those who expressed an interest in web sites and in other cases assigned to library or reference staff by default. In some states, web site decision making is solely the responsibility of those maintaining the site, while other states assign the responsibility to collaborative groups of as many as ten, and that can make reaching consensus difficult. An astute panel member offered that “Sometimes a dictatorial policy might be good.” For almost everyone it has been a “learn as you go” experience, and in all cases it is very time consuming.

Web site content varies from state to state but common goals exist. All states provide measure, session, and general legislative process information. Most provide access to statute or code and rules or regulations. Many provide links to member biographical and contact information. Some legislative web sites also provide links to their state agency sites as well. Minnesota, with as many as 30 contributors to their site, even links to the world. But please be advised, the more sites you link to, maintenance and oversight becomes more labor intensive.

Web site design is critical if the site is to be useful to users. Gear your site to the lowest common denominator browsers. Provide documents in a variety of formats such as ASCII, HTML, and PDF. Use tags to accommodate impaired users. Provide links to shareware sites. Use minimal graphics to speed load times. Make it as easy as possible for users to get to the information they desire. As a site evaluation tool, provide a means for feedback from users, then consider and respond to their concerns and suggestions.

There is no way around the fact that web site responsibility is very time consuming. As “e-democracy” continues to increase, web sites must be informative and responsive. So, when considering design, content, and management of a legislative web site, keep it simple.

From a President’s Perspective: Thomas Jefferson Comments on the New Millennium
Wednesday, July 22, 9:45-11:45am
by Marilyn Guttrzym, North Dakota

The Honorable Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States, graciously accepted an invitation to address citizens attending the 1998 NCSL Annual Meeting. Opening with the caveat that the “earth belongs to the living,” Mr. Jefferson interpreted the natural law principle that common sense and the human heart confirm through observation of nature. Enlightened people heard the exhortation to discover the natural law within religion, economics, architecture, agriculture; indeed in every condition common to man.

Believing the ideal America to be an agrarian republic, this President spoke of educated farmers living in self-sufficient isolation under a lightly taxing and lightly governing decentralized political system. Each generation must, he stressed, consent to the form of government it chooses to create for good or for ill. To that end, he advocated rewriting the constitution every 19 years. Renewing the American revolution every generation ought to guarantee the sovereignty of the people within a governing structure designed for the time by the majority. Mr. Jefferson trusted that any excesses of the majority would eventually be self-corrected by future majorities.

Be cautious revolutionaries in the new millennium, said Mr. Jefferson. He urged an examination of national institutions to determine if they were still useful, just, and promoting happiness. Education, this founding father proffered, is the answer to every American problem. Under its application, every form of tyranny should disappear and the natural law of liberty prevail.

Clay Jenkinson (who by the way happens to be a North Dakota native) spends his real life as a professor at the University of Nevada in Reno. As Mr. Jefferson, Professor Jenkinson portrays the persona of the U.S. President so convincingly that time travel takes on a certain credence. A leading interpreter of the life and achievements of Thomas Jefferson, Professor Jenkinson expects his new book, The Paradox of Thomas Jefferson, to be released this year.
Nevada Legislative Hotline: A Resource for Citizens  
Wednesday, July 22, 12noon-1:15pm  
by Jonetta Douglas

Sue Kendall, Head of the Nevada State Library and Archives in Carson City, told us that the hotline is a cooperative project made possible by the Nevada State Library and Archives and the Library Services and Construction Act. In terms of service to the public, we as librarians are working within a kind of “McDonalds mentality,” the public wanting as much service as they can get and as quickly as possible. The hotline is there to provide that service.

It provides the public with up-to-the-minute information on state legislative activities, including bill status, bill summaries, how each legislator voted, committee hearing times, how to contact each legislator, obtain copies of bills and any other questions related to legislative matters.

Sue gave us a brief history of the State Library and the time frame for Nevada’s legislative session. The hotline was established in 1975 and began with a direct phone line in each public library where members of the public could phone in questions regarding legislative matters.

In 1981 the service was moved from the State Library to the legislative building. With the move came a toll free number that allowed people to phone in questions from home. The volume of questions had averaged 1,000 per session and now averages 5,000 questions per session. The hotline is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is staffed by just two people.

Tour of the Gaming Resource Center at the Library of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas  
Thursday, July 23, 2:15-4:30pm  
by Nancy Quesada, Texas

The Gaming Resource Center is a special collection of the James R. Dickinson Library at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. The university campus is located within the city limits, and is convenient to downtown. In addition, there is full Internet access to the UNLV libraries and special collections, so you, Dear Reader, may also “tour” this library in comfort. The Internet citation is http://library.nevada.edu/neonweb. Click on the button at the bottom of the screen labeled UNLV Libraries. This has a view of the campus, with the library in the foreground. Under the heading “What’s New,” click on the “New Library Update”--with a drawing of their new library--check out the “Due Date”! The current library is located in two buildings that are connected by a walkway on the second floor level. Click on the “Services and Departments” heading for information on the Gaming Resources Library. The gaming library is closed-stack, and is considered a Special Collection (as shown in the floor plans for the new library).

The gaming collection is accessible from the regular university catalog (on the Internet), using conventional subjects and keywords. The main focus of the collection is the social and economic impact of gaming in the United States, with documents from academia, not the gaming industry itself. Ten-to-fifteen years ago, the library tried to collect anything and everything on gaming world-wide, but now the library concentrates on only the United States. Typical topics for study are profiles of gamblers, under-age gamblers, impact of casino gaming on communities, etc. Also, followed closely are wages and surveys of gaming industry employees, riverboat gaming, Indian gaming, and the mergers and acquisitions of investors.

The Librarian, Susan Jarvis, is most helpful, and she provides assistance by telephone and e-mail. No Interlibrary-loans are permitted, unless the library has two copies, but most documents are room-use only. If the item is not copyrighted, the library will copy and mail it. If the item is copyrighted, the library will copy only the title page.

Final notes of interest are the use of the word “gaming” instead of “gambling,” and that Nevada permits casinos and raffles, but not lotteries! Enjoy your tour, Dear Reader, and give my regards to Elvis!

LRL Business Meeting  
Thursday, July 23, 4:30-5:00pm  
by Susan Southworth, Connecticut

Election of Officers. The slate of officers presented by the nominating committee was as follows: Anne Rothmann (MO), Chair; Susan Southworth (CT), Chair-Elect; Johanne Greer (MD), Secretary. It was moved by Clare Cholik and seconded by Nancy Quesada and unanimously approved.

Bylaws Committee. Jonetta asked for volunteers to look over the current bylaws for possible revision. Debbie Tavenner, Nancy Quesada, Clare Cholik and Susan Southworth agreed to serve.
Webmaster for Homepage. Rona Mertink who has so ably brought the LRL homepage together can no longer continue as she is leaving her position in Texas. Jennifer Bernier (CT) has an interest in pursuing web technology and would be delighted to follow in Rona’s footsteps.


Core Collection. This document needs revision and should also be put on the web page. Nancy Quesada suggested that it encompass acquisition policies as well. Marilyn Guttromson would like to see links to good URLs included. Donna Scheeder, Congressional Research Service, offered information she has already gathered. Marilyn G., Susan Southworth and Jonetta Douglas are willing to work on the project. We are hoping David Harrell will chair; Jonetta will ask him.

Notable Documents. Congratulations to the 1998 winners and thanks to the committee for a super job. With all their experience, perhaps they’ll serve again next year.

Professional Development Seminar Update. Jonetta noted that a postcard has been sent giving dates and location and encouraging attendance. Susan Zavacky and Evelyn Andrews are providing information for *Newslne*. Hope to see lots of members there.

Other Business. At the request of NCSL’s External and Staff Communications task force, each staff section was to prepare a staff brochure to provide information on and encourage interest in participation with NCSL staff activities. The LRL brochure distributed at Annual Meeting was the result of hard work, dedication and creativity on the part of Joyce Grimes (SC), for which she deserves our thanks. Good job, Joyce. Thanks also to Jonetta Douglas for her leadership this past year. Anne R. presented Jonetta a certificate of appreciation from LRL.

**Awards**

**Notable Document Awards**

LRL presented the second annual Notable Documents Awards at Annual Meeting. The selection committee was Deb Priest (NY), Cathy Griffin (AZ), Anne Craig (IL), Beth Furbush (MT) and Nancy Hays (TX).

Documents submitted by legislative librarians were evaluated on subject matter, graphics, bibliographies, presentation and balance. The award recognizes excellence in documents that explore contemporary topics of interest to legislators and staff by presenting substantive material in an outstanding format. Look for an article about the awards in the October-November issue of *State Legislatures*.

The winners are:

- *Arizona Legislative Manual*, Arizona Legislative Council
- *Clean and Green*, Joint State Government Commission, Pennsylvania General Assembly
- *Minnesota Data Book for Legislators*, Research Department, Minnesota House of Representatives

Notable URL awards went to:

- Florida Monitor, Florida Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability
  - [http://www.oppaga.state.fl.us](http://www.oppaga.state.fl.us)

- Minnesota Legislative Reference Library: Feedlots and Links to the World
  - [http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/issues/feedlots.html](http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/issues/feedlots.html)
  - [http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/links.html](http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/links.html)

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to Deb Priest and the selection committee for a fine job.

**Legislative Staff Achievement Awards**

As mentioned in the Chair’s Column, Clare Cholik and the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library, Marilyn Cathcart, Director, received LRL’s 1998 awards.

Clare, South Dakota Legislative Research Council, was recognized for her many contributions to the South Dakota Legislature and to LRL. Clare also oversees a public information service and staffs the Education Committee. She is a highly valued member of the Research Council and currently serves on NCSL’s Executive Committee, having been elected to the committee in 1997 after three years as an LRL officer, representing LRL to the Legislative Staff Coordinating Committee and as an at-large appointment to the LSCC. Clare has worked diligently to improve NCSL information technology services and continues to be active in LRL and serve as a regional coordinator.

Under the direction of Marilyn Cathcart, the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library is a leader in library technology. It was among the first legislative reference libraries to have a presence on
the Internet, to be active in web site design and to use CD-ROM and online resources. A helpful staff provides quick, accurate, timely information, not just to the Minnesota Legislature but also to other states. They have supported LRL by encouraging their staff to contribute. They attend meetings; serve on committees and as officers; hosted a professional development seminar; and share their expertise, resources and referral skills with their colleagues.

Coordinators’ Corner

With a tight schedule for this issue of Newsline, the questions were posted on the LRL listserv rather than through regional coordinators. We will resume the usual coordinators’ routine in the fall issue. Thanks to all who responded.

The questions for this issue were:
1. Have there been any changes in security around your capitol since the Washington, D.C. shooting?
2. Does your library have any security systems currently in place or are there plans to implement security?

Irene Stone, California Research Bureau
According to the Sergeants-as-Arms of the Senate and Assembly, there has been no overt change, just an increase in the level of alertness. Prior to the D.C. incident, a proposal for a security fence around the perimeter of the capitol grounds had been deleted from the budget. The State Library does not have a security system. However, the capitol branch of the State Library Research Center has the security system provided for the Legislature, which includes video surveillance cameras at building entrances and state police stationed in appropriate locations.

Emily Quinn, Idaho Legislative Reference Library
According to the Facilities Services Manager, Mike Despot, there have been no changes in Idaho capitol security in response to the D.C. shootings. He stated that there were ongoing changes, including installation of surveillance cameras, planned before the shooting. The last impetus for change was in April 1994, the Oklahoma City bombing. The library has no special security system. Although we are open to the public, we do not get patrons from off the street, in part because we’re located in the basement of the capitol, sometimes described as the lower level. Vacationers to the capitol rarely come down unless they are lost.

Anne Craig, Illinois State Library
To my knowledge, there have been no changes to security in the capitol building, although there was some talk of beefing up security initially after the D.C. incident. We have security guards on duty on the State Library premises. That is our sole security system.

Jonetta Douglas, Iowa Legislative Service Bureau
As far as I can tell, there have been no changes in security. An article in the local newspaper explained that the governor said he feels secure and thinks capitol security is more than adequate. I’m not sure you would get that same response from all the offices in the capitol. There are many places in the building that are open to the public, and there is no screening or observing people as they pass in and out. The public is allowed to enter parts of the governor’s offices, but they do so only with a tour guide. My position in the library is not as bad as some others in the building. The public does not generally use the library, and when someone needs something, they usually ask in the front office to be directed to the library, making their presence known. My biggest concern may be that the library is located in a third floor corner and there are limited ways to exit.

Arthur McEnany, Louisiana Senate Law Library
When Governor Mike Foster took office in 1996, there were tremendous changes in security implemented in and around the capitol. We had rent-a-cops, if you can believe that. Now security is provided by fully armed and equipped state troopers from the Dept. of Public Safety. We even have a couple of troopers on roaming bike patrol around the capitol complex. Also, there is new lighting in and around the capitol, making it a thousand times brighter at night than it used to be. Just about everything is lit up. They are also, for the first time, installing a security fence around the governor’s mansion. We have no specific security systems in the law library. Even though the capitol is a public building, tourists are not encouraged to roam around up in the tower and on other floors. They are restricted to the more public floors, i.e., the legislative chambers, the committee room halls and the visitor tower on the 27th floor.
Lynda Davis, Maryland Library and Information Services
Since the shooting in the U.S. Capitol, the Maryland State House security force is more visible. Security for the State House and other state office buildings is under review. A report and recommendations will be forwarded to the Governor, the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House within the next six to eight weeks.

Lynn Randall, Maine Law and Legislative Reference Library
Our State House is undergoing extensive renovations now. I understand that additional security features will be added as part of the renovations, but I don’t have any of the details. Plans for the renovations were made well before the events in D.C. Our State House has traditionally been very open, there is no visible security presence.

We have no special security system in the library. We have discussed among library staff, steps to take when a patron becomes disruptive. There is no security system for library materials. Occasionally, we notice items missing from the shelves, but I wouldn’t describe this as a major problem. After hours privileges are extended to a small group of people within state government, but we first meet with each person individually.

Kate Craf, Missouri State Library
Missouri officials said the capitol won’t have major changes in its security following the D.C. shootings. That’s because more than $1 million has been spent to enhance statehouse security since 1995, and because officials don’t want to restrict public access to the most familiar symbol of state government.

The state library is on the second floor of the new Secretary of State Information Center building. I’m not aware of any extraordinary security measures. We have a security system in place, and areas of the building are locked at night if the conference room or the archives are open to the public. Capitol Security, our state policing unit, patrols the area during the day and checks the building each evening and on weekends.

Beth Furbush, Montana Legislative Library
There have been no changes to security in Montana since the D.C. shooting. We even had an editorial in the local paper stating that there is no need for extra measures here. Perhaps they think that all the dangerous people go out of state! Staff here and in other state offices do not feel safe and would appreciate some security measures.

We have a guard’s desk in the capitol, but it is staffed only from 4:00pm to 8:00am. During session each chamber has a security officer who tries to cover contentious hearings. If the capitol renovation is carried out (planned for 1999-2000), there will be a card access system to provide security for offices.

Cathy Martin, North Carolina Legislative Library
There have not been any physical changes, although there has certainly been heightened awareness. Ironically enough, we had several bomb threats the week of August 9th in state buildings surrounding the Legislative Office Building (with evacuations and investigations).

We have a speed dial set to Security, but otherwise no special protections. We are open to the public, as are the legislative grounds. The General Assembly has a full time police force that is supplemented by extra staff during session, and security cameras are installed at all building entrances, but not specifically at or near the libraries. No plans to alter library access policies at this time.

Debbie Tavenner, Ohio Legislative Service Commission Library
There has been no significant noticeable difference in security procedures at the Statehouse since the shootings in D.C. The renovation of the Statehouse brought with it increased security. More State Highway Patrol are visible and security video cameras are in place.

Two incidents of violence in Ohio government buildings (a hostage situation at the Workers’s Compensation Building and domestic-related murder-suicide at the Bureau of Employment Services Building) caused the LSC management to discuss ways to make the physical environment in the Riffe Building safer for employees. On the two floors occupied by the LSC, a system will soon be activated that will require a card to be swiped over a reader to enter most doors. The library doors will be timed to open from 8:00am to 5:00pm, but will be locked and require the card for entry at all other times.

Building-wide new photo identification cards were issued, but are not required. After 6:00pm and on weekends, security guards take information from the identification card and record it in a log book. The guard controls the elevator with a key to be sure it stops only at the floor requested. On the down ride, the elevators only stop at the guard floor where you are required to sign out.
Many LSC staff must work late hours during legislative sessions. To provide more security going to and from cars, many staff have access parking cards for the underground garages connected to the building. The Ohio Supreme Court instituted major security changes this past year. It is housed on four floors of the Rhodes Office Building. To get to any part of the court, including the library, you must present a photo identification card to a uniformed State Highway Patrol guard who logs your comings and goings in a book. You must wear a visitor’s badge while at the court. Only one elevator is used to transport people to the court.

Susan Gilley, Oklahoma Legislative Reference Division Library
Except by possibly having security a bit more visible, Oklahoma has not had any noticeable changes in capitol security since the D.C. shooting. Changes were made after the Oklahoma City federal building bombing to limit how close to the building vehicles are allowed. Officers now have more training in emergency preparedness. Our capitol patrol, a division of the state troopers, control security for all state buildings. Each building has assigned officers 24 hours a day. Throughout the capitol complex, armed officers patrol on foot, by bicycle and in marked cars. Camera monitors are also used extensively inside the capitol. Visitors may enter at any of seven entrances, none of which contain metal detectors nor security desks. During non-business hours, only one entrance is unlocked and everyone entering the building is required to sign in and out, but enforcement is lax to nonexistent.

Our library is more concerned with the security of its information resources than with the safety of humans. Our security gate for catching items not properly checked out is often mistaken for a metal detector. Our policy that forbids briefcases, backpacks, etc. inside the library was an attempt to reduce the theft of books and reports, not out of fear of bombs or weapons. A member of the capitol patrol walks through the library once or twice a day (a few of them also use our collection and our public Internet terminal). Officers are always on-call. Over the years, we have had them escort a few users out of the library. Occasionally we have discussed carrying personal alarms, but few employees have felt that uncomfortable, even working in the most isolated and remote areas. We try to be alert on both floors to any potentially aggressive situations. Our response is to call the patrol for a walk through if we feel even slightly uncomfortable. The patrols have discouraged and defused potentially explosive situations.

Eddie Weeks, Tennessee Office of Legal Services Library
No permanent security changes have been announced. For 48 hours after the D.C. shooting security patrols increased and officers were on alert. No library security in place and none planned.

Cheryl Jackson, Virginia Legislative Reference Library
No, there have been no changes in security in our capitol since the D.C. shooting. Our capitol police squad has a pretty strong presence already, and I don’t think there are plans to change. Our library has no security system. However, we are located on the second floor of a building that the capitol police patrol regularly, and visitors must be cleared with, and often announced by, the capitol police.

Marian Rogers, Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau Library
No changes in security around the Wisconsin capitol. We have security alarms on the No Exit doors in the library. Also, we have Panic Buttons that will summon capitol police if needed.

News from the States

Arizona
By overwhelming votes in the Arizona House and Senate, appropriations were significantly increased to the Department of Library, Archives and Public Records, providing an additional $100,000 in FY1999 and $200,000 in FY2000 for electronic information resources for legislative researchers and to acquire, preserve and catalog print materials. It was noted that the bill will allow the Department to improve services to the legislature, to Arizona researchers and to the library community.

Lynda Davis, Maryland
A library group, led by Marilyn McManus, is working on a collection development policy. The realities of space constraints and technology are motivating factors for this project. The library is also involved in a department workgroup examining access to legislative materials and retention schedules and policies. This is election year for all members of the General Assembly. We’ve had a number of campaign workers here compiling voting records. We learned that in the last 12 years there were more than 18,000 recorded votes in the Maryland House of Delegates. If quorums are included, add another 2000+ votes.
Kate Craf, Missouri
Frank Pascoe, Director of the Reference Services Division of the State Library, retired last month, and we are currently searching for a new head of reference.

Nancy Quesada, Texas
We welcome two new reference librarians, Kate Krause and Laura Tyner. Paula Contreras left our staff for the University of Chicago. Rona Mertink left our staff as of Friday, August 14, to await the arrival of twin girls in October. She would enjoy corresponding by e-mail: mertink@swbell.net

Marian Rogers, Wisconsin
Staff changes. Stephen Miller has been appointed the new chief of the Legislative Reference Bureau and assumed his new duties on June 16. He was formerly general counsel and controller of the Mississippi Joint Legislative Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review. Teresa Pelitteri has resigned as the Legislative Reference Bureau’s State Documents and Automation Librarian. On August 3, she began working for the Wisconsin Legislative Technology Services Bureau. In her new position she will be involved in Internet and GIS applications. Changes in the LRL directory for Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau. Change home page address: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb/index.html
Add e-mail: Larry.Barish@legis.state.wi.us

What’s New?

Cheryl Jackson, Virginia
Is pleased to introduce David Andrew Jackson, called “Andy,” born May 29, 1998 at 8:27 a.m., 8 lbs. 7 ozs., 21 ½ inches. He is absolutely an angel! Now he is a little over 12 lbs., smiles and talks all the time and is trying to roll over. His big sister, Maggie (who is 4), adores him—in fact, I have to compete for mothering him. And he and Maggie, or else very good pictures of both, will be coming with me to Harrisburg.

Marilyn Gut tromson, South Dakota
From the National Center for Assisted Living we’ve looked at a great resource titled, Facts and Trends: the Assisted Living Sourcebook, 1997. The document includes a state-by-state summary of recent assisted living legislation. Price is rather prohibitive, however, at $69.95 from the American Health Care Association. Still, the 54-page publication provided information we did not find elsewhere.


NCSL Publications

Copies of all NCSL publications listed here are available from the Marketing Department at 303/830-2200, unless otherwise noted.

BOOKS

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Children, Youth and Family Issues: 1997 State Legislative Summary
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