During the past 10 months as LRL chair, I’ve had the incredible opportunity to preside over an organization made up of smart, dedicated professionals, generous with sharing their expertise, assistance and humor. Serving the same client base, we face similar challenges and issues, and ‘get it,’ whether it’s in receiving requests with short or tight deadlines and doing our best to answer as fully and completely as possible, or in keeping our equilibrium as we ride the crest of adrenalin in our quest to search for and pull together our responses. We know how to work with and leverage our resources.

Yes, as a staff section, we are small in number and probably always will be. And yes, our size in no way reflects upon what we have produced, or contributed to the professional development of our members and our fellow staff section members.

While it is important to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of those who have come before us, it is fitting that we are able to build upon the strong foundation created to look toward the future. And what a bright future it is, with planning well underway for Minneapolis (Aug. 19-22) and Baton Rouge (Oct. 1-3), by dedicated and committed LRL members. More information on both events is available in articles throughout this issue.

Yes, it takes LRL members willing and able to assume leadership positions. Just as important is the need for LRL members to continue to be engaged and involved, whether that means answering a question posed to the LRL listserv or serving on a committee or working on LRL programs and events (both onsite and virtual) or attending the NCSL Summit in Minneapolis and/or LRL PDS in Baton Rouge. All contribute to the heartbeat of an organization. And ours is beating loud and strong.

Thank you for all your support and encouragement during my term. I know I leave LRL in good hands, with you as such wonderful members, when Sonia Gavin assumes the office of chair at our Business Meeting at the Summit.

Sabah
LRL Plans for the 2014 Legislative Summit

Welcome to Minneapolis!

We invite you to join your Minnesota colleagues this summer in Minneapolis on the banks of the Mississippi River at NCSL’s Legislative Summit.

The name “Minneapolis” is derived from the Dakota Sioux word “mni” for water and the Greek word “polis.” There’s water everywhere in Minnesota’s biggest city—the Mississippi runs through both Minneapolis and St. Paul and the cities and suburbs are full of lakes. Even the tap water in Minneapolis is highly acclaimed.

Two of the large NCSL social events will be held on the banks of the Mississippi in downtown Minneapolis. We’ll be on the west bank of the river at the Opening Reception at the Mill City Museum on Tuesday night.

On Thursday evening we’ll be on Nicollet Island—right in the middle of the Mississippi—for the Minnesota Proud reception. On Wednesday night the Legislative Research Librarians will be Dutch-treat-dining at Spoonriver, also located along the beautiful Mississippi River.

Some of the interesting events scheduled for the Legislative Research Librarians staff section include:

- A panel on what legislators need and value from staff, cosponsored by RACSS and LRL
- A panel on building a brand for legislative staff, also cosponsored by RACSS and LRL (Librarian Catherine Wusterhausen of Texas is one of the panelists)
- A panel on best practices on managing legislative staff
- A tour of the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library in the State Office Building in St. Paul
- Our annual business meeting will be bright and early Wednesday morning—7:45 a.m., Aug. 20. At this meeting, we will present awards and plan professional development activities for the upcoming year. Sabah Eltareb, Assistant Director, California Research Bureau, California State Library and LRL Chair 2013-2014, will be presiding.
- A presentation by Professor John Butler of the University of Minnesota Libraries to learn about two major digitization partnerships at the University of Minnesota. The first, with Google, will digitize millions of volumes in their collection; the second is between the Minnesota Digital Library and the Digital Public Library of America.

On behalf of the LRL executive committee and your Minnesota colleagues, we look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis!

By Elizabeth Lincoln, Minnesota

Want to learn more about the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library? Check out this YouTube video on the services they offer to the Minnesota Legislature.
2014 Legislative Staff Achievement Award

Eddie Weeks, Legislative Librarian
Tennessee General Assembly

Eddie Weeks is the only go-to guy for all things legislative in Tennessee. With his amazing sense of humor and professional demeanor, he has proven to be invaluable to leadership and to the Legislative Research Librarians staff section. Eddie is the Legislative Librarian to the Tennessee General Assembly, a position he has held since 1996. The Tennessee General Assembly selected Eddie as the 2006 Joint Legislative Employee.

Prior to his legislative service, Eddie was the manager of the Frayser Branch Library in Shelby County. He received his Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Master of Library Service from the University of Alabama.

Eddie speaks extensively to youth and county leadership groups, legislative intern groups, and other organizations visiting the State Capitol, on topics concerning the legislative process and the history of Tennessee and its State Capitol. He has also addressed legislators and staff at the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Legislative Summits in Chicago and Atlanta, and presented at several Professional Development Seminars across the country.

In 2012 Eddie was elected and served as Chair of the Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section of the National Conference of State Legislatures. He stressed the need for a fearless leader and fulfilled that need. He is highly respected by his colleagues nationwide and will forever be revered as “Still Fearless” by the members of the Legislative Research Librarians staff section. (The name “Still Fearless” comes from his signature in his last Chair’s Column.)

As the author of “The Recording of the Tennessee General Assembly by the Tennessee State Library and Archives: One State’s History of Legislative History,” and “Data Rot and Rotten Data: The Twin Demons of Electronic Information Storage,” Eddie is a strong proponent of using authoritative informational resources and places an emphasis on educating others in how to recognize them.

This quote from Eddie reveals his true nature, “My mom thinks I’m a nice kid.” Eddie lives in Nashville, Tennessee, with his wife of twenty years, Darla Brock.

This tribute to Eddie and his nomination were submitted by Mary Camp, Texas Legislative Reference Library.

Legislative Staff Achievement Award Honorees from LRL, 1997-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honorees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Eddie Weeks, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Mary Camp, Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Shelley Day, Utah Kristin Ford, Idaho</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Robbie LaFleur, Minnesota</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Anne Rottmann, Missouri</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Cathy Martin, North Carolina Susan Southworth, Connecticut</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Susan Gilley, Oklahoma</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Tracey Kimball, New Mexico</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Senate Law Library, Louisiana House Legislative Research Library, Louisiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>David Harrell, Oregon</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Nan Bowers, Nevada Marian Rogers, Wisconsin</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Irene Stone, California</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Deborah S. Priest, New York Rupert Theobald Legislative Library, Wisconsin</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Elizabeth Furbush, Montana House Legislative Research Library, Louisiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Lynda C. Davis, Maryland Marilyn Johnson, North Dakota</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Marilyn Cathcart, Minnesota Clare Cholik, South Dakota</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Debbie Tavenner, Ohio Sally Reynolds, Texas</td>
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2014 Notable Documents Awards

The Notable Documents Awards are presented annually by the Legislative Research Librarians (LRL) staff section. The awards formally recognize excellence in state or legislative documents and publications that explore topics of interest to legislators and staff, and present substantive material in an outstanding format.

The Notable Documents Awards Committee evaluates each submission according to specific criteria as outlined on the LRL web page and selects the top rated documents each year.

This year, 31 documents were submitted from 11 states. Winners were selected in nine categories.

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<tr>
<th>Guide—Education</th>
<th>Innovative Presentation</th>
<th>Statistical Analysis</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recess Moves! A Toolkit for Quality Recess</strong>&lt;br&gt;Minnesota Dept. of Education</td>
<td><strong>Medicaid Expansion: The Debate Continues (Video)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Utah Legislature Health Reform Task Force</td>
<td><strong>An Annual Report on Classified Employee Turnover</strong>&lt;br&gt;Texas State Auditor’s Office</td>
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State Comparison

| Dog Bites in Maryland and Other States: Data, Insurance Coverage, and Liability<br>Maryland Dept. of Legislative Services, Office of Policy Analysis | Laws on Assault of a Sports Official<br>Connecticut General Assembly, Office of Legislative Research |

Special thanks to the 2014 Notable Documents Awards Committee:

- Elizabeth Lincoln, chair<br>Minnesota Legislative Reference Library
- Carol Blackburn<br>Minnesota Legislative Reference Library
- Shelley Day<br>Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
- Ingrid Hernquist<br>New Jersey Office of Legislative Services Library

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical and Cultural Resources</th>
<th>Public Policy—Education</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Points of Personal Privilege: A Collection of Essays by Virginia Senators and Presiding Officers</strong>&lt;br&gt;Virginia Senate Clerk’s Office</td>
<td><strong>Tennessee State Capitol: Grounded in Tradition</strong> (Video)&lt;br&gt;Tennessee Secretary of State</td>
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<td><strong>Kentucky School District Superintendent Employment and Contracts</strong>&lt;br&gt;Kentucky Legislative Research Commission, Office of Educational Accountability</td>
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<th>Public Policy—Health</th>
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<td><strong>Implementation of the Affordable Care Act: Medicaid Expansion Options and Their Impacts</strong>&lt;br&gt;Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel</td>
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<td><strong>Implementation of the Affordable Care Act: The Utah Model for Implementing Exchanges</strong>&lt;br&gt;Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel</td>
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<td><strong>Advancing Health Equity in Minnesota: Report to the Legislature</strong>&lt;br&gt;Minnesota Dept. of Health</td>
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<th>Public Policy—Natural Resources</th>
<th>Performance Evaluation</th>
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<td><strong>Managing False River Watershed Resources: An Interim Report to the Louisiana Legislature</strong>&lt;br&gt;Louisiana False River Watershed Council, Louisiana Dept. of Natural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Confinement of Juvenile Offenders</strong>&lt;br&gt;Idaho Office of Performance Evaluations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>North Carolina Needs to Strengthen Its System for Monitoring and Preventing the Abuse of Prescribed Controlled Substances</strong>&lt;br&gt;North Carolina General Assembly, Program Evaluation Division</td>
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LRL 2014 Professional Development Seminar

Oct. 1-3, 2014
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Louisiana will host this year’s LRL professional development seminar. After the strong program and attendance at Boise, we welcome everyone to join us for another opportunity to learn more in our field and share our experiences as legislative librarians.

The program will cover a variety of topics – library management, legal history, constitutional revision, database construction, economic development – and more! We will visit Louisiana’s emergency operations center, the historic Old State Capitol, and go to New Orleans to see the Louisiana Supreme Court and its library. Details of the seminar will be posted on the LRL web page and emailed to all members in an e-brochure.

In addition to the three-day PDS, there will be a pre-conference program Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 30, on Inmagic software, for those who arrive early. It is oriented to librarians who currently use Inmagic and would like to learn more, but it would also be valuable to those who are evaluating library software for their libraries. The program will show the technical details of how the program works, as well as viewing the databases.

Join us as we share Louisiana’s joie de vivre – food, history, culture, and attitude towards life – and expand our knowledge as librarians, while building stronger relationships with each other.

By Frances Thomas, Louisiana

Visit the LRL PDS page for more information on Registration, Hotel, Faculty and Program Descriptions.

Getting There
Baton Rouge is approximately 80 miles northwest of New Orleans and is served by the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport. For those flying into New Orleans, shuttle buses and car rentals are available.

Sunset over the Mississippi River in Baton Rouge.
LRL 2014 Professional Development Seminar
Oct. 1-3, 2014
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Agenda

Tuesday, September 30
1:00-5:30 p.m. Registration (at hotel)
2:00-5:00 p.m. Pre-Conference – Making Magic with Inmagic: DB/Textworks Basics and Moving Forward with the Presto Web Application

Wednesday, October 1
8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration (at Capitol)
9:00-9:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
9:15-10:00 a.m. What’s New in Your Library Roundtable
10:15-11:45 a.m. Tour of the Old Louisiana State Capitol
11:45-1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00-3:00 p.m. When the Levee Breaks: Preparing for and Responding to Catastrophic Disasters (and Little Bitty Ones, Too)
3:00-4:00 p.m. Vive La Difference! Introduction to Louisiana Civil Law
4:00-5:00 p.m. Tours of the House and Senate Libraries, New Louisiana State Capitol

evening Dinner On Your Own

Thursday, October 2
9:00-9:45 a.m. Time for a New Constitution! Louisiana’s Constitutional Convention of 1973
9:45-10:00 a.m. Epilogue: Researching the Constitutional Convention of 1973
10:00-10:45 a.m. Design a Database to Revise these Laws: The Louisiana Population Database
10:45-11:00 a.m. Break
11:00-11:30 a.m. Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler: Louisiana Tourism and Economic Development
11:30-12:15 p.m. Lunch at the Capitol
12:15 p.m. Leave for New Orleans
2:00-4:00 p.m. Tour of the Louisiana Supreme Court and the Law Library of Louisiana
4:30-6:00 p.m. French Quarter
6:00 p.m. Dinner in New Orleans
7:30/8:00 p.m. Leave for Baton Rouge

Friday, October 3
9:00-9:30 a.m. Indexing Legislation
9:45-10:45 a.m. Millennials, Gen X, Boomers and Whatnot: Bridging Generational Divides in the Workplace
11:00 a.m. Wrap-up
1:30 p.m. Optional Community Service Project (donations of books, magazines and subscriptions to homeless center)
State News: Your Favorite Mottos

In this issue’s State News, we asked librarians to share their personal mottos or inspiring quotes.

Julia Covington, Atlantic Central Region
“Don’t forget to breathe!” Cathy Martin, North Carolina
“Let there be cake!” Jane Basnight, North Carolina
“Live and let live.” Julia Covington, North Carolina
“This too shall pass.” Russell Miles, North Carolina
“Courage, and shuffle the cards.” Brian Peck, North Carolina
“If you want something to happen in your life, work for it. If something happens you don’t like, deal with it, grow from it and move on. Don’t just wish, complain and blame.” Johanne Greer, Maryland

Anne Rottmann, Great Lakes Region
“Live and Learn.” She also has a quote in her office: “Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter don’t mind.” (Theodore Seuss Geisel) Pat Reichart, Wisconsin
“Be kind, for everyone is carrying a pretty heavy load.” Debbie Taverner, Ohio
“We don’t make mistakes, we just have happy accidents.” (painter Bob Ross) Kelly Pickett, Ohio
“Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude.” (Thomas Jefferson) Anne Rottmann, Missouri

Jonetta Douglas, Central Northern Region
“No problem, it’s doable.” Jonetta Douglas, Iowa
“Wag more, bark less.” Sonia Gavin, Montana
“Live well, laugh often, love much.” Wendy Madsen, Wyoming

Maeve Roche, West Coast Region
“Good luck or bad luck? Who knows?!” Sabah Eltareb, California
“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one.” (Neil Gaiman) Jaemin Lee, California
“Emphasize what you can do, not what you can’t do.” Maeve Roche, California

Elisa Naquin, Gulf Coast Region
“Make it happen.” (Based upon and in the sassy-tone of Tim Gunn.) Robyn Cockerham, Louisiana
“Cause and effect.” (I like it because it rules everything in the universe.) Juan Carlos Ortega, Puerto Rico
“Breathe in, breathe out, move on.” (Jimmy Buffett) Helen Hanby, Alabama
“You can do anything you set your mind to when you have vision, determination, and an endless supply of expendable labor.” Also, “What I really need are minions.” Eddie Weeks, Tennessee

Molly Otto, Central Southern Region
“One doesn’t know how many hot potatoes will appear over the horizon.” (David Madden, British diplomat) Tracey Kimball, New Mexico (Tracey is willing to share this with our colleagues from Idaho.)
“What do we live for, if not to make life less difficult for each other?” (George Eliot) Shelley Day, Utah
“Learning Never Stops. Don’t say, ‘I don’t know.’ Say, ‘I don’t know yet.’” Also, “If deadlines weren’t important, they wouldn’t begin with ‘dead.’” Christine Chen, Oklahoma
Member News

In Memoriam: Kate Lemon, Louisiana

It is with great sorrow that we note the passing of David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library Senior Librarian Kate Lemon. She passed away on June 8, 2014, at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, where she had been treated for leukemia.

Kate worked for the Louisiana House of Representatives for 33 years. She was dedicated to her profession and a superior researcher. She was always eager to help a colleague with a research request, especially a fellow legislative librarian. Her energy and spirit pushed us all to excel in service to the legislature.

We miss Kate's wit and wisdom, but some of her energy and spirit will always remain a part of the Poynter Library.

Submitted by Frances Thomas, Louisiana

LRL Election Update

The LRL Nominating Committee for 2014 is pleased to announce that Catherine Wusterhausen, Deputy Director of the Texas Legislative Reference Library, was elected as LRL secretary for 2014-2015. Catherine’s term of office will commence at the conclusion of the 2014 NCSL Legislative Summit in Minneapolis.

This is the first year that the election was held electronically, through the LRL listserv. Electronic elections were authorized through amendments to the LRL bylaws, approved at the 2013 Legislative Summit in Atlanta.

NCSL Publications

All NCSL publications are available for free download for legislators and legislative staff. You will need your NCSL password to download the documents. If you don’t have a password, you can create one on NCSL’s website.

LegisBriefs

April 2014

- Transforming Health in Tribal Communities | Vol. 22, No. 13
- Does Punishment Fit the Crime? State Penalties and Prosecution for Ethics Violations | Vol. 22, No. 14
- Providing Health Care Coverage for Former Inmates | Vol. 22, No. 15
- Social Media Privacy Laws | Vol. 22, No. 16

May 2014

- Online Casino Gambling | Vol. 22, No. 17
- Obesity: Progress and Challenges | Vol. 22, No. 18
- The Growing Use of Transportation Public-Private Partnerships | Vol. 22, No. 19
- Citizen Engagement and Legislators: Four Methods for Connecting with Constituents | Vol. 22, No. 20

June 2014

- Gifts of Hospitality | Vol. 22, No. 21
- Will Small Modular Reactors Transform the Nuclear Industry? | Vol. 22, No. 22
- Arts in Education | Vol. 22, No. 23
- Helping Smokers Quit Improves Health and Budgets | Vol. 22, No. 24

Webinars

- 2014 Calendar
- 2013 Archive
- 2012 Archive
- 2011 Archive

LRL Newsline is the periodic newsletter of the Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section, a staff organization of the National Conference of State Legislatures. www.ncsl.org • Denver: 303-364-7700 • DC: 202-624-5400

LRL Officers 2013-2014

Chair: Sabah Eltareb, California  Vice-Chair: Sonia Gavin, Montana
Secretary: Jennifer Bernier, Connecticut  Immediate Past Chair: Eddie Weeks, Tennessee