CHAIR'S COLUMN
By Debbie Tavenner, OH
LRL Chairperson

"EXHAUSTED" reads the cover of Newsweek for March 6. That really hit home a few weeks ago. I am sure the feeling is mutual as most states are in the midst of heavy legislative sessions. Recently Barbara Laughon, after taking a deep breath, said to me that more changes have occurred at the LSC Library in the last year than in the prior 15 years she's worked here. Two veteran staff members moved on, a computerized book catalog is being introduced on an office-wide network, and we are teaching and supporting end-user searching, learning the Internet, microfilming reams of unorganized papers, and dealing with more and more lengthy research assignments. Thus, I credit Barbara with the theme for the Coordinators' questions about change. We may have different timelines, but sooner or later all of these types of things hit our libraries. That is one of the most important benefits of participation in the Staff Section -- we know we can go to each other for help.

Plans are underway for the Annual Meeting in Milwaukee and the Professional Development Seminar in Albany. The officers are planning an excursion to Madison and a session similar to last year's Roundtable with presentations by Staff Section members. If anyone is interested in making a presentation, please let me know. Several of the staff sections will be hearing from Ted Gaebler, author of Reinventing Government. In Albany, Pat Innicki, Ellen Breslin, and Deborah Priest are planning an exciting and varied lineup, including programs by the state and legislative libraries and an historic tour of Albany.

Sadly, I must report that Ann Bancroft, Chair-Elect, is no longer with the New Mexico Legislative Council Service. I want to thank Ann for her service to the Staff Section. She could always be counted on to give the Staff Section high priority. She will be missed.

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ANNUAL MEETING PRELIMINARY AGENDA

**MONDAY, JULY 17**

8:00 - 9:00 am
Networking Breakfast
Law/Legislative Librarian Maria Otero,
U. of Puerto Rico (invited)

1:15 - 2:45 pm
The Legislative Library: Variations on a
Theme (round table)

3:00 - 5:00 pm
Speaker Ted Gaebler, author of
Reinventing Government

**TUESDAY, JULY 18**

3:45 - 5:00 pm
Business Meeting

7:00 pm
Staff Section Dinner

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 19**

9:30 am - 4:30 pm
Madison Tour: Legislative Reference
Bureau and State Capitol

12:30 - 2:00 pm
Staff Section Luncheon
Speaker: Jane Perlmutter, U. of Wisconsin
(invited)

Note: There will also be a "Cyber Room" set up on
the second floor of the Convention Center where
legislators and staff can see demonstrations and
participate in learning about use of NCSLnet and the
Internet. The Cyber Room will be open all week, and
is available both to individuals and for group classes.

LRL PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR
SCHEDULED FOR ALBANY

The fall Professional Development Seminar is hosted
in New York this year by Ellen Breslin, Legislative
Library, Deborah Priest, Information Center, and Pat
Ilneck, Senate Research Service. Working together,
these three make a dynamic team; they've laid the
groundwork for an exciting and informative seminar.
We'll hear how these three network to serve their
constituents, and we'll get a look at Legislative
Library operations, the State Library, and Archives.
This seminar is guaranteed to be inspiring.

If you've never seen the Empire State Plaza or the
architecturally magnificent State Capitol Building, or
if you've been waiting for a seminar with really rich
resources, this is it! Plan to meet with your
colleagues and see Albany at its best in autumn.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR
PRELIMINARY AGENDA

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12**

8:00 - 8:30 am
Registration

8:30 - 9:30 am
Breakfast and Welcome by New York
Legislators and Staff

9:30 - 10:30 am
New York Librarians Panel
Speakers: Ellen Breslin, Pat Ilneck,
Deborah Priest

10:30 am- 12:30 pm
Think Tank Panel: Center for the
Study of the States
Fiscal Policy Institute
Public Policy Institute

1:00 - 2:30 pm
Luncheon at the Steuben Club
Luncheon Speaker: Assemblyman
Jack McEneny
"Albany, the Capitol City"

2:45 - 4:45 pm
Trolley tour of Empire State Plaza and
historic downtown Albany with
Assemblyman Jack McEneny

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13**

8:00 - 8:30 am
Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 10:30 am
New Technology Panel
Bitwise
Legislative Retrieval System
State Technologies, Inc.

10:45 - 11:45 am
Legislative Library Operations

12:00 - 1:00 pm
Luncheon in the Speakers
Conference Room
POSITION FILLED IN NEBRASKA

Jeanne Burke has assumed the position of Librarian for the Legislative Research Division Reference Library. Jeanne came to Nebraska from Missouri, where she served in the Government Documents Section of the University of Missouri at Columbia Law Library. She will supervise the operation of the LRD Reference Library in addition to doing cataloging, collection development and reference requests.

IDAHO LOSES LIBRARIAN

Gayle Wray, of Idaho's Legislative Services Office library, died unexpectedly on Monday, March 27th. She is survived by one son and two brothers. Cards may be sent to the Legislative Services Office, East Wing, Lower Level, State Capitol, Boise, ID 83720-0054; they will be forwarded to her son. Gayle managed the one-person library for nine years and, previous to that, had worked as a proofreader for the legislature for two years.

NEW LIBRARIAN IN ARIZONA

The Office of Auditor General has recently hired Carla Smith as Research Librarian for the Office of the Auditor General. Carla received her masters degree in Library Science from the University of Arizona in May of 1994.

This is a newly created position, and Carla's primary responsibilities will be to assist the auditors in their research efforts and to maintain the library. The collection is small and consists of state statutes, administrative code, auditing texts, accounting manuals, government documents, audit reports and general reference materials. Currently, the library has no formal acquisitions or cataloging procedures but Carla has visions of a fully automated library some day. By way of on-line resources the Office does have both a DIALOG and CompuServe account, and LEGISNET is used quite frequently. A new computer with a CD-ROM is being purchased for the library and options for Internet access are being discussed.

Carla is very excited to have this opportunity to "start from scratch" and would love to hear from anyone who has advice or suggestions. Her number is (602) 553-0333, extension 137.
SYMPATHY
The Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section wishes to extend our deepest sympathies to Susan Gilley, Oklahoma, in the recent loss of her mother.

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Coordinators asked the following questions for this issue of NEWSLINE: 1) What is the most significant change your library is facing and how are you managing it? And/or 2) What is one change you would like to make in the operation of your library that you feel would improve service, and how are you planning to bring that about?

COORDINATOR JENNIFER BERNIER, CONNECTICUT, REPORTS:

Barbara Karp, Connecticut Legislative Library, says the most significant change they are facing is "all facets of technology—from terminal to printer marriages, to Internet capability. The world of information supply and demand advances in quantum leaps while equipment issues stick a foot in the path. We are pursuing some very basic issues, e.g., good affordable software for periodical management and some advanced topics such as CD towers and sophisticated terminal capabilities."

Regarding the one change they would like to make, Barbara said, "Space is a constant issue and we'd love to be able to add square footage. Since we have this constraint, we seek alternatives to provide information via electronic mediums. The need for additional terminals nixes the realization of actual space since patrons require a location where they can pursue information. We anticipate converting archive data to CD-ROM and will acquire commercial CD's and on-line services when/where feasible.

From the Maine Law and Legislative Reference Library, Lynn Randall says the significant change for them is Internet access. "The Librarians try to share good cites on Internet and keep a record of the information in a binder, or if necessary, put on a demonstration for others in the office."

Pam Schofield, Legislative Reference Librarian at the Massachusetts State Library reports: "We are in the process of automating and the process goes slowly. Our Automation Committee meets frequently and we take it step by step. We in reference are now starting to plan for how to approach the 'orientation' of our patrons. Before long, we hope to be up and also to be on the Internet." Pam is taking a one-day course at Simmons on the Internet and hopes it will be useful.

Henry Ilnicki, Sr. Librarian in Reference Services at the New York State Library, reports that their library is facing deep cuts and has made no new book purchases since November 1994. They anticipate many changes due to state budget impact. Hank says their new commercial catalog went on-line a month ago and is accessible through the Internet.

Michael Chernick, Vermont Legislative Council, says their challenge is "adjusting to a new computer system!"

COORDINATOR JANET LANIGAN, FLORIDA, REPORTS:

From Alabama, Helen Hanby reports that there are no significant changes facing the Legislative Reference Service; however, they have identified the need to implement a check-out plan for their library. As a small library there has never been a pressing need for a way to manage circulation, but they have experienced some growth and research materials are ending up in various staff offices. They are investigating several ways of handling this and will probably choose some type of bar coding system.

Janet Lanigan of the Florida Legislative Library in states that their office is currently working in conjunction with the Legislative Data Center to network legal resources on CD-ROM to individual committee offices. Several optical server software systems were looked at, and they are testing the network on several workstations in the library. Remote access to other offices will most likely be postponed until after adjournment of the Legislature.

COORDINATOR JONETTA DOUGLAS, IOWA, REPORTS:

Jonetta Douglas, Iowa Legislative Service Bureau Library, writes: "The most significant change we are seeing is the amount of material that we are having to store in an electronic format if we wish to continue to keep it. A new historical building was built here about 89 years ago, and that is where State Archives is located and where we send our old bill files, but unfortunately they tell me that they are running out of space already. Consequently, we have started to scan our bill books (which for us are the built up records containing amendments, fiscal notes, etc.) onto compact disk. As some of you have heard me
mention, we purchased a Canofile which is a scanner and reader combined. So far, the project with the bill books has gone so well that we have started to scan our interim committee reports and summaries of legislation.

"The one thing I would like to have us look at is getting a juke box so that all of the things we are scanning onto CD will be accessible to the drafters from their desks. We haven't had any complaints about the material not being available in paper format, but the test will be when more than one person wants to use something and we only have the one reader for them to use."

To the question on the library's most significant change, Beth Furbush, Librarian for Montana Legislative Council, responded that "changing technology, both internal and external, is a constant challenge. We continually respond to pressure toward more reliance on electronic resources for ordering and processing information while maintaining accessibility and efficient, focused response. We're trying to keep on top of changes in electronic communication systems and electronic storage of documents and are moving cautiously. We're also trying to find time to improve our communication lines with technology planners in the office."

What Beth would like to do is upgrade the library support staff, allowing them to take on more complex assignments, thereby allowing the Librarian to do more management planning. The Legislative Branch in Montana is being "reorganized," possibly presenting opportunities to reassign staff within the new framework.

Jeanne M. Burke, Nebraska Legislative Reference Library, spoke of converting from a mainframe-based library system to a PC-based system. Currently, the bulk library functions—cataloging, circulation, acquisitions lists, staff rosters, routing slips, etc.—are done electronically via the state's mainframe computer. Legislative offices have mainframe access to the library catalog.

"The Legislative Research Division (LRD) Reference Library recently purchased a PC-based program that will enable us to serve our Legislative patrons in a more user-friendly and cost-efficient environment. In anticipation of this change, members of the library staff have been familiarizing themselves with the new system in order to assist the legislature's Computer Services Group in accomplishing the conversion of data. The LRD Reference Library has approximately 12,600 records that will need to be converted. Once it's up and running, the library catalog will be available to legislative users in their offices via the legislature's LAN."

The other change Jeanne would like to see is an increase in their ability to respond to patron's requests for access to on-line databases. "Ongoing education for library staff and the installation of a second public access machine will enable us to meet the increased demand for access to on-line information services by senators and legislative staff."

Clare Cholik, South Dakota Legislative Research Council Library, writes, "the most significant change in our library is probably the recent conversion of a lot of our legislative documents (bills, journals, committee minutes) from hard copy to microfilm. Legislative staffers who previously just grabbed a book off the shelf must now rely on microfilm for the information they need. Most of them reacted negatively to the changes at first, but they have come to realize that the information is relatively easy to access on microfilm. In addition, the space freed up in the library by this change will benefit them in the future as our research collection is able to grow." The change she is trying to implement to improve services is "to further foster our relationship with the State Library. Although we already assist each other a great deal, I hope to improve upon the relationship by making a conscious effort to visit the State Library more frequently, rather than just always making requests over the telephone. Hopefully, this will allow me to keep apprised of the people who work there, the materials they acquire, and the services they provide. In addition, I will use the opportunity to inform them of any new developments taking place in our library."

COORDINATOR JOHANNE GREER, MARYLAND, REPORTS:

Ruth Ann Melson, Delaware Legislative Library, sends word that her library will be moving to temporary quarters as soon as the session is over. The new library will be three times as large as it is currently, with all new furnishings and will have new telephone and computer systems.

Evelyn Andrews, Pennsylvania Senate Library, reports that the library's renovations are completed and new computers have been installed. They are
looking at software to develop an online card catalog. All of the librarians have personal computers and are learning Word Perfect and Windows. The computers have faxes which enable them to FAX bills all over the country. They will be getting CD ROM products and have access to LEGISNET.

Susan Zavacky, Pennsylvania Legislative Reference Bureau, said she initiated some changes in her library last year and is not expecting significant change in the near future.

Johanne Greer says Maryland's legislative library has converted some reference materials to CD ROM and is looking at the conversion of other materials. Use of the CDs is limited because there is only one reader available presently. The librarians like the CDs, but the patrons are not as enthusiastic about them.

From New Jersey's legislative library, Peter Mazzei reports two major changes. First, they have moved back to their permanent quarters which are now three times larger than before. They have compact shelving and have the U.S. Code, Educational Statistics, government data, etc., on CD ROM. The second change is that they will be hooked up to the Internet and plan to use it to answer reference questions extensively. Their goal is to provide better service to their clients through information technology.

From North Carolina's Legislative Library, Cathy Martin reports that they have just hired a new automation director and plan to make major equipment additions, including access to Internet, Lexis/Nexis and CD ROMS.

Videau Simons, South Carolina Legislative Council library, reports that her library is moving to temporary quarters as soon as the session is over in June. The entire State House is undergoing renovations that are anticipated to take three years. At this time, Videau is not sure where the library will be moved during or after the renovation.

Grace Holmes, Virginia Legislative Reference Library, said they have ordered new computers for legislative and public access. She hopes to have some of the Court Reporters on CD ROM with dedicated printers so the librarian's printer won't be tied up. Grace has created an inhouse database that has study documents on it.

From West Virginia's Legislative Reference Library, Mary Del Cont reports that her library is now wired for the Internet, and she hopes to be trained on it soon. As with most libraries money is a problem, so they are just trying to maintain what they already have. They are looking for a new staff person.

COORDINATOR ANNE ROTTMAN, MISSOURI, REPORTS:

Anne Bautista, Michigan Legislative Service Bureau, announced a major change in the offing. The library is currently going through restructuring, and the library will be placed under the Library of Michigan (the state library) as of October 1. She is not sure what the future will hold for her or her library.

Another library about to get "a well-needed facelift" is the Missouri Legislative Library. Anne Rottmann says, "After session we are having compact, moveable storage installed as well as new carpet and drapes, and the furniture will be refinished. What I would like to see happen is an online catalog and optical storage capability, but, unfortunately, that's not in the cards right now."

In the Ohio legislative library, Debbie Tavenner says the biggest change they would like to implement is to convert the microfilm of documents to an optical format. The biggest change they are going through right now is the conversion of the card catalog to a computerized catalog on an office-wide network. They named the catalog OLGA, the Library CATALOG: OLGA is from the OCLC symbol for books. They found it to be simpler than was first anticipated.

In the Wisconsin legislative library, Marian Rogers and two of her coworkers named two significant changes their library is anticipating: the automation systems and the TEXT 2000, which is a legislative information system. The changes they would like to make include: 1) providing customized information profiles of legislators in order to quickly identify/locate new materials of interest to individual legislators through the purchase of an automation system that is capable of providing this service, and 2) other changes tied to automation, such as improved serials management, efficiency in circulation, speeding up the acquisitions process and allowing for easier, more efficient access to their collection via an OPAC. They also report that they are looking forward to welcoming delegates and their guests to the annual meeting in Milwaukee this summer!
COORDINATOR NANN BOWER, NEVADA, REPORTS:

Sharon Akey, California Law Library says, "One of our main goals for the next year or so is choosing an on-line catalog and circulation system, hopefully with bar codes, and cataloging the entire collection. I would appreciate any input from other legislative libraries as to what they use—including the pluses and minuses."

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE LRL DIRECTORY

Tembi Mtine, Parliamentary Librarian in Lusaka, Zambia, would like to hear from colleagues in the states. Her E-mail address is TC mitochond@F1.n761.Z5.fidonet.org

Under CONNECTICUT, please reverse the order of Barbara Karp and Susan Southworth, at Barbara's request, AND delete the Jbernier E-mail address.

Under NEW YORK, add Deborah S. Priest, Director, Information Center, Agency Bldg. 4, 14th Floor, Albany 12248. Phone: (518) 455-4780 and FAX (518) 455-5396

NEWS FROM THE STATES. . .

DELAWARE — The Delaware Division of Libraries/State Library has announced availability of the Library Home Page to assist in easily finding information on the Internet's World Wide Web (WWW). It is free to anyone with access to the Internet and connects users to state and federal government information, online reference sources, and much more. Point your favorite WWW browser to http://www.kentnet.dtcc.edu/

MARYLAND — Pam Schofield, Maryland State Library Legislative Reference Librarian, mentioned that the Library played an important role in this year's Orientation Program for new legislators. "We in reference put together a packet of materials and the State Librarian and the Head of Reference spoke. One of the items included in the packet was a letter from the Special Collections Librarian asking legislators to consider donating their papers when they leave office. We have made an effort to receive the move valuable collections and have had quite a lot of success over the recent years."

NEW YORK — Ellen Breslin, Reference Librarian at NY's Legislative Library is reportedly "very excited" about hosting the Professional Development Seminar there in October. She and the other NY librarians have plans for a warm welcome, a tour of the library, and many information-packed meetings.

1995 IFLA MEETING

Information is now available regarding the International Association of Library Associations' eleventh annual conference. It will be held in Turkey, August 17-18. The pre-conference seminar, "Parliamentary Libraries of the Eastern Mediterranean - Black Sea Crescent," will be held in Ankara. The Conference open meeting in Istanbul is focusing on "Parliamentary Libraries of the Future." Papers will be presented on a number of topics including the role of automation in shaping the parliamentary library of the future, the future of research services, and the role of assessment of services in planning the parliamentary library of the future. For more information, call Chris Pattarozzi at NCSL or Bill Robinson at CRS.

NCSL PUBLICATIONS

Books

Adult Workers: Retraining the American Workforce (Item 3124)
Reorganizing Firms: Learning to Compete (Item 3126)
Is Your State Working? Diagnostic Guides for Workforce Development (Item 3129)
Rural Growth in Western States: Economic and Environmental Issues (Item 4341)
Wetland Mitigation and Mitigation Banking (Item 4342)
State Tax Policy & Senior Citizens (Item 5323)
1994 Summary of Children, Youth and Family Legislation (Item 6131)
Early Childhood Care and Education: An Investment that Works (Item 6133)
Directory of Legislative Leaders 1995 (Item 7141)
Election Results Directory 1995 (Item 9367)

Legislative Finance Papers

Amending the Federal Constitution to Require a Balanced Budget (Item 5101-0096)
State Fiscal Outlook for 1995 (Item 5101-0097)
State Legislative Reports
Risk Assessment: A Glance at the Non-Technical Aspects (Item 73021918)
Equity and Funding of School Facilities: Are States at Risk? (Item 7302 2001)
Environmental Audits: Incentive to Comply with or Avoid Regulation? (Item 7302-2002)

State Federal Issue Briefs
State and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Item 8500-0701)

Legisbriefs
Regulating Health Professions (Item 9000-0309)
Electronic Benefits Transfer (Item 9000-0310)
Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants (Item 9000-0311)

Electric Vehicles: Promise and Reality (Item 9000-0312).
Class Size Reduction (Item 9000-0313)
Limited Liability Companies (Item 9000-0314)
Equity and State Funding of School Facilities (Item 9000-0315)
Public Access to Drivers' Records (Item 9000-0316)
Three Strikes Legislation Update (Item 9000-0231)

NEXT ISSUE OF NEWSLINE
The deadline for the Summer edition of Newsline is June 15, 1995. Send news about your library or significant legislative events in your state to your regional coordinator or Chris Patarozzi at NCSL, Denver.

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