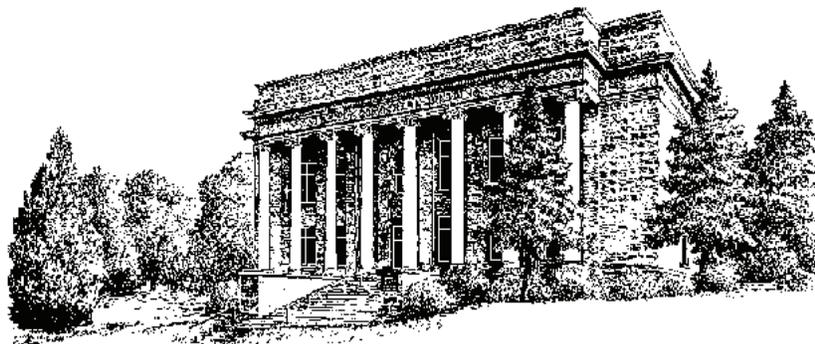


Library Vision 2010

North Dakota Library Coordinating Council

*Through the statewide community of libraries
all citizens of North Dakota will have convenient
and timely access to information for education,
work and recreation.*



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North Dakota Library Coordinating Council Members Contributing to Library Vision 2010

Quincee Baker - disabled, economically disadvantaged, minority populations

Phyllis Bratton - private higher education institution libraries

Thomas Bremer - public higher education institution libraries (Chair)

Michelle "Mickey" Butz - school libraries

Jerry Kaup - public libraries (Vice Chair)

Phyllis Kuno - private higher education institution libraries

Ilene Larson - citizen-at-large

LaDean Moen - Past President North Dakota Library Association

Doris Ott - State Librarian

Dennis Page - public libraries

Lila Pedersen - special libraries

Kaaren Pupino - President North Dakota Library Association

Iris Swedlund - school libraries

Cheryl Tollefson - public libraries

Rita Traynor - citizen-at-large

Introduction

In October of 1995, in consultation with the State Library staff and the officers of North Dakota Library Association, Eric Sakariassen, Chair of the ND Governor's Advisory Council on Libraries, formed a Library Study Steering Committee to discuss concerns and issues within the state's library community. The goal was to present a clear picture of where North Dakota library services stood at that time and how they might look in the future. From the beginning, committee participants took it upon themselves to go beyond these initial directives and defined a set of priorities in a planning document for statewide library services entitled *Library Vision 2004*. The committee met six times, sponsored four statewide open forums, two in Bismarck, one each in Minot and Carrington, and created as many as five working subcommittees in preparing recommendations. The resulting *Library Vision 2004* document became a recognized and accepted framework for local, regional, and statewide library planning efforts.

Library Vision 2004 stated objectives and recommendations to meet those objectives, for six interdependent priorities necessary in providing what was identified as essential library services in North Dakota in the year 2004 and beyond. The plan was designed to fit an eight-year time frame, spreading implementation across four legislative bienniums. *Library Vision 2004* recommendations improved North Dakota libraries and enhanced citizen access to information services in support of education, economic vitality, and life-long learning. The purpose of *Library Vision 2004* was to provide people with improved access to information in a welcoming environment where they could obtain the guidance of trained librarians. The proposal addressed problems which were serious and growing: the knowledge explosion, the increasing costs of information, declining financial resources for libraries, providing all citizens with access to networked information, advancing North Dakota's competitiveness in the global society, and preparing North Dakota for its future.

In tackling the difficult business of planning for the implementation of a statewide comprehensive database, recommendations were divided into three contributing elements. Each of these elements was necessary to building a complete library computer information network and each was dependent upon the others in making the plan function.

First, and by far the most expensive element, was Internet connectivity. Connectivity served as the foundation for accessing the statewide comprehensive database and allowed for access to the whole extent of information and services available on the Internet. The plan built on the North Dakota Information Network infrastructure already in place by connecting public and school libraries to the system. This effort was well under way with the receipt of the Educational Telecommunications Council (ETC) grant for a network assessment and planning project.

The second element in the plan was to connect existing databases through telecommunications software and hardware that would allow concurrent searching of multiple databases but would appear to the user as if all records accessed resided locally.

The third element in the plan was to create or convert and load electronic records into existing library online catalogs. This was perhaps the second most costly part of implementing the statewide comprehensive database and also one whose cost was difficult to estimate until the total number of library holdings was known.

Early in the committee discussions, the need to create a structure for the governance and administration of the shared responsibilities and efforts outside current structures operating in the state was identified. It was recognized that, in statewide coordination of a comprehensive database, Internet connectivity, statewide interlibrary loan, and document delivery, among other things, a way was needed to ensure participation without interfering in local governance of libraries. The consensus reached in how to achieve this goal took the form of a North Dakota Library Coordinating Council. The committee worked hard to avoid a top-down governance structure and opted instead for one with a participatory representation.

The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC) was established July 1, 1997 (NDCC 54-24.4-01).

The factors that affect library services in North Dakota are in a state of constant change and although *Library Vision 2004* has served its purpose well, NDLCC felt it was time to once again visit the topic and determine what revisions needed to be made to keep the document a viable and useful tool for the library community of North Dakota.

NDLCC held a meeting in Carrington, ND, on March 7, 2002. At that meeting, NDLCC decided to continue a process of examination and revision that actually had been happening since *Library Vision 2004* first came into existence, and to create a new document to be called *Library Vision 2010*.

North Dakota's library community was invited to participate in "think tanks" held in Minot and Valley City. Approximately fifty people attended each session and both sessions demonstrated how interested and concerned the library community is about the future of the state's libraries and librarians. Using creative ideas generated from these sessions and from the documents referenced at the end of this introduction, NDLCC created a rough draft of *Library Vision 2010*.

This draft was widely distributed to the library community. NDLCC sought additional feedback via e-mail, the 2002 NDLA meeting in Fargo, and an additional meeting in Dickinson. NDLCC considered, evaluated, and incorporated this feedback into the final document.

The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council accepted and adopted *Library Vision 2010* on November 15, 2002.

References

The following documents were used to develop *Library Vision 2010*:

Library Vision 2004

North Dakota Century Code

North Dakota Library Coordinating Council Minutes

Think Tank Session I, April 26, 2002; Minot

Think Tank Session II, May 3, 2002; Valley City

Priority #1

Create a statewide community of libraries working together to provide quality library services in North Dakota.

Libraries must rely on cooperation and networking of all material, staff, and electronic resources to meet the information needs of North Dakota citizens. Twenty-first century libraries working together will enable North Dakotans to face the growing challenges of global interdependence and global competition; the ever-increasing information explosion; the continuing evolution in technology; and the increased need for lifelong learning, job retraining, and recreation.

Objectives:

Develop a comprehensive statewide online library catalog.

Promote statewide resource sharing.

Develop a statewide collection development policy.

Promote networking among all types of libraries.

Provide training to library staff and citizens in using information resources.

Provide shared electronic resources accessible to all citizens in all locations.

Promote the preservation of materials created by North Dakotans and about North Dakota.

Recommendations:

1. Provide direct access to a comprehensive statewide online library catalog of standardized bibliographic records from all North Dakota libraries. A comprehensive statewide online library catalog is a single database or group of databases configured so that all North Dakota citizens can access the holdings of the state's libraries with one seamless, unmediated search.
2. Maintain and enhance the hardware and software allowing concurrent searching of multiple online library catalogs.
3. Develop partnerships to realize economies of scale.
4. Support protocols for connectivity, communication, bibliographic format (MARC 21), document delivery, interlibrary loan equity, and Internet access.
5. Build on existing structures and networks to achieve *Library Vision 2010*.
6. Create and maintain an accessible North Dakota digital archive of historical and government documents, photographs, maps, newspapers, etc.
7. Foster collection development activities.
8. Promote training and education for library personnel and library users.

Priority #2

Strengthen the North Dakota State Library in its role of coordinating and enriching library service in the state.

The State Library proactively extends library services to meet the goals of Library Vision 2010 and makes all information resources accessible to North Dakota residents.

Objectives:

Assess the needs of constituents and adapt services and training to meet those needs.

Lead in encouraging and assisting the development of library cooperative ventures (consortia, regional associations, partnerships, etc.) for resource sharing, upgrading of library services, and fiscal efficiency.

Lead in the establishment of basic levels of North Dakota library service and develop standards and guidelines defining the libraries' and citizens' basic obligations.

Foster communication and cooperation among all types of libraries in North Dakota.

Recommendations:

1. Coordinate and lead library advocacy efforts within the state.
2. Facilitate the development of library services.
3. Strengthen the State Library's role in training and educating library personnel and libraries' governing entities statewide.
4. Assist local libraries in determining priorities for collection development and encourage collection specialization to reduce unnecessary duplication.
5. Request state funding for retrospective conversion of library bibliographic records for the statewide online library catalog.
6. Establish requirements for city, county, and school district support for participation in the statewide system.
7. Develop and implement a long-range strategic State Library plan based on constituent needs assessment.
8. Coordinate resource sharing.
9. Create and enhance web and other resources available specifically for ND libraries.
10. Secure optimum funding to support State Library programs.

Priority #3

Support and strengthen library cooperative ventures (consortia, regional associations, partnerships, etc.) in their role of extending and improving library service in the state.

Library cooperative ventures will facilitate resource sharing, promote educational opportunities, and work together to achieve networking on a local, regional, and statewide level to meet the goals of Library Vision 2010.

Objectives:

Assess the needs of member libraries and patrons and adapt services and training to meet those needs.

Facilitate communication among libraries statewide.

Ensure member libraries' participation in collection development, resource sharing, information technology, and the statewide online library catalog.

Recommendations:

1. Participate in the statewide interlibrary loan and document delivery system.
2. Assist the State Library in implementing statewide networking and the development of the statewide online library catalog.
3. Provide, in cooperation with the State Library, training and education to member libraries.
4. Encourage cooperative purchasing and collection development.
5. Secure funding to support library cooperative ventures in meeting the goals of *Library Vision 2010*.
6. Ensure libraries retain local control on all policies and practices, such as setting their own circulation loan periods, collection development decisions, and interlibrary loan policies.

Priority #4

Assure equitable access to information resources and library services to individuals throughout the state.

Access to information and library services is of paramount importance to the individual and to society for survival in an information age.

Objectives:

Provide library and information access and services for all citizens regardless of age, economic status, location, literacy level, ethnicity, or disability.

Collaborate with local literacy educators and volunteer providers to develop and deliver services.

Recommendations:

1. Maintain and enhance responsible Internet access to all libraries.
2. Provide ongoing training in Internet and other searching procedures to assure information competency and literacy.
3. Promote library collections and services available to special populations.
4. Encourage libraries to provide space for literacy tutoring and collections for adult readers and English as a second language.
5. Promote library-sponsored family literacy programs.

Priority #5

Promote the services of libraries and librarians.

Inform citizens of the important role that libraries and librarians play in the world of changing information needs. Funding programs and services for the common good must become a priority to maintain an informed citizenry.

Objectives:

Involve the people and governing bodies of North Dakota in advocating for the priorities, objectives, and recommendations outlined in *Library Vision 2010*.

Create public awareness of the changing role of libraries and librarians in the information age.

Emphasize the role of libraries as an integral part of the economic development of a viable community.

Highlight the necessity of libraries for learning and recreation for all ages.

Secure continuation funding from the state necessary to achieve *Library Vision 2010* priorities.

Recommendations:

1. Establish local public awareness campaigns to promote North Dakota libraries.
2. Promote competitive library staff salaries.
3. Promote the use of current standards and technologies.
4. Promote libraries, librarians, and library services and their important role in economic development.
5. Communicate the needs of libraries to governing bodies.
6. Seek full funding for the existing state aid formula to public libraries.
7. Provide necessary funding for *Library Vision 2010*.
8. Promote librarianship as a career.

Priority #6

Coordinate statewide library services.

The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council was established by the 1997 ND Legislature (NDCC 54-24.3-03 and NDCC 54-24.4) and represents all types of libraries and all areas of the state.

Objective:

The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council assists in planning, coordinating, evaluating, promoting, and implementing local, regional, and statewide library services (NDCC 54-24.4-05).

Recommendations:

1. Assure representation from all regions of the state: public, academic, school, special libraries, State Library, and citizens-at-large.
2. Provide a mechanism for presenting a unified voice for state funding.
3. Provide a forum to enable the library community to plan for new issues affecting library and information services as they emerge.
4. Direct the distribution of funding for coordinated statewide library services administered by the State Library in accordance with legislative intents and the priorities of *Library Vision 2010*.
5. Facilitate the implementation of the statewide online library catalog.

North Dakota Library Coordinating Council Members

Quincee Baker (2001-present) - disabled, economically disadvantaged, minority populations

Mary Bianco (1997-2000) - disabled, economically disadvantaged, minority populations

Phyllis Bratton (1997-2002) - private higher education institution libraries

Thomas Bremer (1998-present) - public higher education institution libraries (Chair)

Michelle "Mickey" Butz (2000-2002) - school libraries

Sally Dockter (2000-2001) - President North Dakota Library Association

Celeste Ertelt (1997-2000) - special libraries

Mike Jaugstetter (1997-2000) - State Librarian

Marilyn Johnson (1999-2000) - President North Dakota Library Association

Jerry Kaup (1997-2002) - public libraries

Phyllis Kuno (2002-present) - private higher education institution libraries

Barbara Knight (1998-1999) - President North Dakota Library Association

Ellen Kotrba (1997-1998) - President North Dakota Library Association

Ilene Larson (2002-present) - citizen-at-large

Joe Linnertz (2000-2001) - Acting State Librarian

La Dean Moen (1997-2000) - school libraries

La Dean Moen (2001-2002) - President North Dakota Library Association

Doris Ott (2001-present) - State Librarian

Dennis Page (1997-present) - public libraries

Lila Pedersen (2000-present) - special libraries

Kaaren Pupino (2002-present) - President North Dakota Library Association

Bernnett Reinke (1997-1998) - public higher education institution libraries

Iris Swedlund (2002-present) - school libraries

Cheryl Tollefson- (2002-present) - public libraries

Rita Traynor (1997-present) - citizen-at-large

Notes

Notes



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A division of the Department of
Public Instruction,
Dr. Wayne Sanstead, Superintendent

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