



**National Commission
on Libraries and Information Science**

**NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
COMMISSION MEETING**

Montreal, Canada

August 24-25, 1982

Attending : William Welsh (Tuesday only); Helmut Alpers; Philip Sprague; Gordon Ambach; Frances Naftalin (Tuesday only); Carlos Cuadra; Margaret Warden; Bessie B. Moore; Paulette Holahan; Charles Benton, Presiding

Commission Members-Designate: Elinor Hashim,
Chairman-Designate: John Juergensmeyer; Jerald C. Newman (Tuesday only), Julia Li Wu

Staff Present: Toni Carbo Bearman; Mary Alice Hedge Reszetar; Sarah Bishop, Christina Carr Young; Barbara Lee Whiteleather; Carl Thompson

Guests/
Observers : Daniel Casey, former NCLIS Member; Lucille Thomas, Member WHCLIST; Patricia E. Klinck, Vermont Department of Libraries, Chairman, COSLA; M. Koenig, Columbia University; Marie Zielinska, National Library of Canada, Ottawa; C. F. Buck, Jr., Office of the Auditor General of Canada; Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Director, American Library Association; Merle Colton, College Park, Maryland; Shirley Echelman, Executive Director, Association of Research Libraries; Catherine Scott, former NCLIS Member; Donald B. Simpson, Center for Research Libraries, Chicago; Allen B. Veaner, University of California, Santa Barbara; Agota Kuperman, USICA, Washington, D.C.

At the request of the Chairman, the guests and observers introduced themselves.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. after an Executive Session held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

OPENING
REMARKS

Several items of information were mentioned by the Chairman:

- The Office of Management and Budget has requested budget information by September 1, 1982, for Fiscal Year 1984;

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- Congressional Record, August 5, 1982 (C.D. #82-30) announced the following nominations for terms expiring July 19, 1987:

John E. Juergensmeyer, of Illinois, vice Frances Healy Naftalin.

Jerald Conway Newman, of New York, vice Joan Helene Gross

Julia Li Wu, of California, vice Clara Stanton Jones

- Connecticut State Library Newsletter, Summer 1982 (ID #82-37) stated, in part:

"On May 27, 1982, Elinor Hashim submitted her resignation from the Connecticut State Library Board. Elinor was appointed to the Board in June, 1974, and served as its Chairperson from 1976 to the date of her resignation. In her letter of resignation to Governor William O'Neill, she explained that her recent appointment by President Reagan as Chairperson of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science would not allow her to devote the time and energy required to do an effective job on the State Library Board.

"Although Elinor's decision to resign from the Board was not unanticipated because of the substantial commitment required in her new role on the National Commission, there was, nevertheless, a sense of loss when she made her formal announcement."

The main thrust of this meeting will be to define NCLIS' major program objectives for fiscal years 1983 and 1984, including budget figures for each program. In its 12 year history, this is the first time the Commission has met outside of the United States.

Because the majority of the Members-Designate could not attend the orientation scheduled for Sunday, August 22, it will be held on November 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

By general agreement, the Commission set the following dates and locations for its next four meetings:

November 22-23, 1982 Washington, D.C. (Orientation to be held on November 21)

FUTURE
NCLIS
MEETING
SCHEDULE

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April 20-21, 1983	Washington, D.C. (In conjunction with National Library Week)
June 9-10, 1983	New Orleans, Louisiana (In conjunction with the Special Libraries Association Conference, June 5-10, 1983)
October 6-7, 1983	Washington, D.C. (In conjunction with the American Society for Information Science, October 2-6, 1983)

Miss Hashim stated that she will think carefully about reassignments and restructuring of the Commission Committees and that "Each Commissioner should serve on at least one Committee." Commissioners should communicate their preferences for serving and thoughts for restructuring to Miss Hashim, so that she can make assignments as soon as possible.

The following amendments/corrections to the Minutes of the Commission meeting held June 3-4, 1982, were requested.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

- Page 1 - Mr. Philip Sprague attended the meeting and should be shown as present.
- Page 16 - Fifth paragraph, correct terms expiring from 1981 to 1982.
- Page 17 - First paragraph, correct Mr. Benton's statement to read, "I vote hard for literacy beyond the traditional literacy. Libraries have got to relate to the information and technology explosion."

It was MOVED by Gordon Ambach, seconded by Carlos Cuadra, that the minutes of the June 3-4, 1982, NCLIS Commission meeting be approved as amended. Passed unanimously.

MOTION
JUNE 1982
MINUTES

At the request of the Chairman, Mrs. Warden, Chair, Legislative/Public Awareness Committee presented an abbreviated version of the report of the Legislative/Public Awareness Committee. However, to update Commissioners a full report, prepared by Mrs. Warden, is attached. (See Attachment I.)

LEGISLATIVE/
PUBLIC
AWARENESS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Mrs. Warden reported very briefly on:

- (1) Ad Hoc Committee on Library and Postal Committee;
- (2) WHCLIST;

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- (3) ALA July Conference;
- (4) LSCA Update; and
- (5) World Future Society Meeting and Congressional Hearing, July 18-22, and follow-up activities.

After Mrs. Warden summarized Dr. Bishop's LSCA update, Mrs. Naftalin suggested, "Perhaps it might be a good idea for the Legislative/Public Awareness Committee to make specific suggestions and recommendations with respect to the revisions of LSCA." Mr. Ambach agreed with Mrs. Naftalin's suggestion adding, "We should take an assertive role." These next few months on the reauthorization of LSCA are extremely important. The recommendations of the Public/Private Sector Task Force to encourage government information distribution by public libraries should be considered for inclusion in LSCA.

After considerable discussion it was suggested that Dr. Bishop, working closely with Mrs. Warden, Mr. Ambach and Legislative/Public Awareness Committee, prepare an analysis of WHCLIST Resolutions and NCLIS guidelines for specifications versus current proposed changes to LSCA.

A brief report on the NCLIS Ad Hoc Committee on International Activities Meeting held July 7, 1982 was presented. (Members of the Ad Hoc group are: Jerald Newman, Chair, Carlos Cuadra, William Welsh, Andrew Aines, Toni Carbo Bearman, and Charles Benton, NCLIS Chairman. The Committee's charge was to consider whether NCLIS should be involved in the international area at all and; if so, how? Two prominent issues with international implications were identified.

NCLIS AD
HOC COMMIT-
TEE ON IN-
TERNATIONAL
ACTIVITIES

- (1) Protection of sensitive information, and (2) Encouraging other nations to share their information resources (reciprocity). Both areas of concern would be in line with current Administration and Congressional objectives.

The Committee agreed on three steps to be taken:

- (1) Robert Wedgeworth will be invited to present the UNESCO General Information Program proposal and its rationale to the Commission at its meeting in Montreal. The Commission will then have a better basis to discuss and decide on this proposal.

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- (2) Dr. Bearman is to find out more information on the proposal made to the Commission by Sam Wolpert (ASIS International Task Force presented at its June meeting in the International Issue Paper) to work with U.S. library/information associations to convene a council -- perhaps under CLR -- to discuss U.S. participation in international programs. She will talk to Warren J. Haas at Council on Library Resources and present more details at the August meeting.
- (3) Dr. Bearman is to identify an expert in the field of reciprocity, perhaps from the State Department or the Congressional Research Service, to speak to the Commission on this topic at its November meeting. She will also obtain a summary of the legislation in this area.

As recommended by the Ad Hoc Group, Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Director, American Library Association (ALA), presented the U.S. UNESCO General Information Program (PGI) proposal to the Commission. The proposal requested that the National Commission consider assuming responsibility for the U.S. National Committee as the focal point for the UNESCO/PGI program in the United States. Specific activities to be performed can be grouped into three broad categories:

ROBERT
WEDGEWORTH
UNESCO/PGI

- (1) Advise the State Department on U.S. policy with regard to the PGI and on selection of U.S. delegates to various meetings sponsored by the PGI;
- (2) Disseminate information from UNESCO to U.S. National Committee members and vice-versa; and
- (3) Act as a clearinghouse for requests received from UNESCO.

Mr. Wedgeworth explained that ALA assumed the secretariat role by default in March 1978 and agreed to continue in that capacity until an appropriate sponsor was named. Although other organizations were considered (Archives, Library of Congress, State Department, etc.), NCLIS is a more neutral site.

The maximum annual budget required would be \$12,000 which would include postage, copying, and telephone charges estimated at commercial rates. (ALA operated effectively on \$3,000 per year.) Approximately 20% of one person's time would be needed, Mr. Wedgeworth explained.

A letter from Jean A. Louis, Program Officer, Office of Communication and UNESCO Affairs, dated August 18, 1982, states, in part:

"I believe the change would be both appropriate and beneficial. The Washington, D.C. location of the

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Commission in and of itself would greatly streamline communication between the State Department, the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, and the PGI National Committee."

Because of time constraints, it was MOVED by Philip Sprague, seconded by Helmut Alpers, that the Commission would further consider the matter of serving as the Washington-based focal point for UNESCO/PGI.

The matter was discussed again the following day. See page 11.

At the June 1982 meeting the Commission directed the Executive Director to:

- (1) Solicit additional comments on the P/PS TF Report; and
- (2) Develop a plan to test the principles and recommendations in the Report.

A detailed written report on this assignment was prepared and distributed (CD #82-25). Attachments to the paper included:

- A. Developing the NCLIS Role re Public/Private Sector Task Force Report: A Plan of Action;
- B. Summary of Comments on the Public/Private Sector Task Force Report, received as of August 1, 1982;
- C. A Proposed Inventory of Federal Government Information Services with Public/Private Activities; and
- D. Public/Private Sector Task Force Report: A Brief Summary Prepared by NCLIS Staff.

This has been a major task, and, as such, has consumed many hours of staff time since the last Commission meeting.

In carrying out the tasks assigned to the Executive Director during the July 7, 1982 meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Activities, see p. 4, Dr. Bearman reported:

- (1) UNESCO/PGI. Currently being discussed.

MOTION
UNESCO/PGI

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Public/Private
Sector
Task Force
Report

Ad Hoc Com-
mittee on
Interna-
tional
Activities

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- (2) Plans are underway with the Council on Library Resources (CLR) to convene a Council to discuss responsibilities and interests of the United States in international library, archive, and information service activities on October 5, 1982; and CLR has agreed to provide space for the meeting of interested individuals able and willing to attend and take part in the open discussion. A list of invitees is Attachment II.
- (3) The Executive Director has identified one expert in the field of reciprocity, Ms. Jane Bortnick, Congressional Research Service. Initial contact has been made for possible presentation on the topic at the November Commission meeting.

During the time since the last Commission meeting, the Executive Director and staff have also been heavily involved in:

Other NCLIS
Activities

- Preparing for the current Commission meeting, including budget material and summary of program areas;
- World Future Society meeting held in July, including coordinating Congressional Hearing;
- Assisting in planning for the upcoming WHCLIST Conference in September;
- Department of Agriculture's Blue Ribbon Panel set up to study and address the mission and proper role of NAL, policy and planning issues, user needs, service performance including timeliness of responses, management, organization, technology utilization, and participation in international activities;
- Continuing our work with Congress on revisions to LSCA;
- Internal technology improvements, (e.g., information retrieval, teleconferencing, and expanded use of word processing terminals);
- Personnel matters: As of now, Christina Carr Young is full-time as a Research Associate; Dorothy Pollett Gray, will become a part-time Research Associate when she returns from maternity leave. Plans are underway to bring Sarah G. Bishop on as Program Analyst, and to hire Jane Thomas to replace Dorothy Burgess, Secretary;

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- Numerous meetings with individuals to discuss implementation of the Public/Private Sector Task Force Report -- to name a few: Robert Hayes, Chair of the Task Force, Joseph Clark, Danforth Sawyer (the Public Printer), and Senator Danforth's staff. There are currently two to three telephone inquiries daily about the report, and frequent mailed requests for the report; and
- Attendance at major organizational conferences, i.e., Special Libraries Association, American Society for Information Science, and American Library Association. Reports on each of the meetings are being prepared and will be forwarded as requested.

Dr. Bearman informed the Members that IBM has offered to form a partnership with NCLIS in a public/private sector program. Specifically, this pioneer project would include:

IBM
PROJECT

Highly trained personnel from International Business Machines's (IBM) T.J. Watson Research Center to assist NCLIS in examining both the anticipated information environment of 1985 and the impact of information technology on various segments of the population. They could also help identify those qualities that make technology more useful and acceptable and would participate in the development of better and more effective mechanisms of communication with major libraries and information centers as well as with key library and information associations.

A matrix based on the eight staff position papers was prepared and distributed to help bring everyone up to speed in each area. The matrix outlined each program area, cited the perceived problem, the recommended tasks to solve the problem, and identified possible action agencies in addition to NCLIS.

REVIEW OF
CURRENT
PROGRAMS

Several changes/additions to the matrix were suggested and adopted. They are:

- Page 3 - Incorporate "Impact of Technology Transfer" and "Information and Productivity." The new title will be "Impact of Information Technology on Productivity."
- Page 5 - Include "The Changing Role of Urban Libraries" (from page 1) under the category "Changing Role of Public Libraries."
- Page 6 - Under "Follow Up on 1979 WHCLIS and Plan for 1989 Reconvening," add: (7) Legislative Specifications-- Congress.

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Page 7 - Delete the "Research" program area.

Page 7 - The Commissioners determined the need for three additional program areas. They are:

Internal Operations

Work with Congress, Administration, and
Associations

Special Libraries Task Force Follow Through

At the suggestion of Dr. Cuadra, Commissioners were asked to rank each 1983 NCLIS project. As a result of this exercise, the following percentages of time, ranges, and dollar amounts were determined:

	<u>MEAN %</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>\$ (IN THOUSANDS)</u>
*INTERNATIONAL	6.4%	1-14	\$45
*LITERACY	3.0%	0-10	\$21
AGING	6.1%	1-10	\$43
PRODUCTIVITY & IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY	17.5%	10-30	\$123
CHANGING ROLES OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES	13.7%	1-20	\$96
RURAL	2.8%	1-15	\$20
CULTURAL MINORITIES	2.7%	5-10	\$19
*WHCLIS	7.3%	1-10	\$51
PUBLIC/PRIVATE REPORT	7.9%	3-15	\$55
*INTERNAL OPERATION	15%	15-15	\$105
*WORK WITH CONGRESS, ADMINISTRATION AND ASSOCIATIONS	16.1%	10-25	\$113

*On-going Programs

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Dr. Cuadra suggested that as a routine first step for all new projects/programs, an assessment of 'the status of the world in that area' be conducted. If necessary, go beyond staff studies and hire experts. The Members could then discuss the proposed project/program and decide whether or not to implement it.

Dr. Bearman asked the Commissioners for their help, specifically in the following four areas: aging, impact of technology, role of public libraries, and international activities. Specific recommendations in each of these areas are to be presented by the Executive Director at the next meeting of the Commission, if possible.

At the suggestion of the Chairman, Miss Elinor Hashim, Chairman-Designate, will attend the meetings of the Executive Committee.

The Task Force on Library and Information Services to Cultural Minorities met in Washington, D.C., August 5-6, 1982, for the purpose of a final review of the Task Force report.

Two days of intensive work resulted in consensus. Majority approval was necessary in that there will not be another opportunity for revision. The edited copy is due in the NCLIS office not later than 19 September where it will be typed and a copy sent to each Commissioner as a Commission Document for formal action at the fall meeting.

The Task Force has requested travel funds to permit selected members of the Task Force to attend the fall meeting of the Commission when the report will be given. The estimated cost to bring in six people is \$2,470 minimum.

The Task Force has requested NCLIS to develop a three-part market survey or study on the purchasing habits and interests of cultural minority groups. They recommend the project be supported by outside funding and that the survey be conducted by an independent agent--a person with no publishing or library interests. The current Task Force would serve as an advisory committee to the project.

The Cultural Minorities hearings testimony is at the Government Printing Office and a run of 2,000 copies has been requested. A late September delivery date has been promised so it is feasible that distribution can begin in early October.

After discussion of inviting Task Force members to the next NCLIS meeting, the following decision was made:

By majority vote, the Commission approved the travel of four members (plus Chair) of the Cultural Minorities Task

CULTURAL
MINORITIES
STATUS
REPORT

FORMAL
MOTION

Cultural
Minorities

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Force to the November 1982 meeting of the Commission to present and discuss their report.

The Members, again, took up the discussion of whether the Commission should assume responsibility for the U.S. National Committee for UNESCO/General Information Program (PGI). After considerable discussion of the pros and cons for assuming this responsibility, it was MOVED by Gordon Ambach, and seconded by Margaret Warden to adopt the following resolution:

UNESCO/PGI

Resolved: That the Commission authorizes assumption of responsibility for the U.S. National Committee for UNESCO General Information Program, as requested by Robert Wedgeworth on behalf of the Committee and endorsed by Jean A. Louis of the Department of State, Office of Communication and UNESCO Affairs, and directs the Executive Director to negotiate an agreement with the Committee to be presented for action by the Commission not later than the November 1982 meeting. The negotiations and agreement are to include both provisions for Commission responsibility/sponsorship of the Committee and the role of the Committee as advisory to the Commission on international issues of library and information services.

MOTION
UNESCO/PGI

Motion adopted 6-2. Two (2) proxy votes--Paulette Holahan, Helmut Alpers. Two (2) No votes--Carlos Cuadra, Philip Sprague.

The final report was received in the NCLIS office on August 10, 1982. The delay was due to the unfortunate illness of the Chair of the Task Force.

TASK FORCE
ON COMMUNI-
TY INFORMA-
TION AND
REFERRAL

Copies of the report will be made and mailed to the Commissioners as a Commission Document for formal action at the fall meeting.

The report of the Task Force on the Role of the Special Library in Nationwide Networks and Cooperative Programs is substantially complete except for final typing and editing of two chapters. It will be published by SLA in two volumes. The two chapters requiring editing are Chapter 1 (to shorten it) and Chapter 5 (to improve the focus). The report will be available for the November Commission meeting. It is anticipated that NCLIS will have a limited number of copies printed by the Government Printing Office to ensure availability in the depository libraries.

SLA STATUS
REPORT

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Commission Document #82-35 was distributed. The paper entitled, "Follow Up on the 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services and Plan for 1989 Reconvening" was briefly reviewed.

WHCLIS
1989

By unanimous agreement, the Members will address the White House Conference Resolution F3 to reconvene a WHCLIS in 1989 at a future Commission meeting.

MOTION
WHCLIS
1989

By unanimous agreement, the Commission will decline the invitation from the Office of Libraries and Learning Technology (OLLT) to convene a meeting on its study entitled, "A Library and Information Science Research Agenda for the 1980s."

RESEARCH
(OLLT)

On behalf of the NCLIS Personnel Committee:

It was MOVED by Bessie Moore, seconded by Philip Sprague, that the Executive Director be promoted from SES I to SES III, as recommended by the Personnel Committee, effective immediately. Passed unanimously.

MOTION
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
PROMOTION

Guidelines for Commissioners' Travel (CD #81-27 Revised) were discussed and changes will be made as suggested. The final guidelines will be available by the November meeting.

GUIDELINES
FOR COMIS-
SIONERS'
TRAVEL

Dr. Cuadra briefly outlined his first thoughts for orientation topics for new Commissioners (to be held in November):

NCLIS
ORIENTA-
TION

- (1) General Orientation
 - Role of NCLIS
 - Legislation
 - O & A
- (2) Types of Information
- (3) Funding of Library and Information Institutions
- (4) Library and Information Networks
- (5) Document Representation
- (6) Computers and Database Technology
- (7) Document Delivery
- (8) Recent Planning Exercises

For each topic discussions will include:

- (A) Definitions
- (B) Types of Networks (exposition)
- (C) Trends and Issues
- (D) Special Relevance to NCLIS

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By unanimous agreement the following resolution was prepared recognizing the Institute for Research on Public Policy for their contribution to NCLIS:

Be it Resolved: That the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) extend its sincere appreciation to Louis Vagianos and the Institute for Research on Public Policy for their generosity in hosting the Commission's reception in Montreal for the Board of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) during the first meeting of the NCLIS held outside the United States.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

THE INSTI-
TUTE FOR
RESEARCH ON
PUBLIC
POLICY

RESOLUTION

ATTACHMENT I

REPORT

LEGISLATIVE/PUBLIC AWARENESS
COMMITTEE REPORT

Margaret Warden
Chair

In March of 1980, the Ad Hoc Committee on Library and Postal Services met with Postmaster Bolger and several of his leading staff people, including Jane Kennedy, General Manager of the Library Division of the U.S. Postal Service, at the Post Office Building. Bessie Moore, Eileen Cooke, Charles Benton, Mary Alice Hedge Reszetar, and Margaret Warden also attended the meeting. Numerous things were discussed including the need for a postal stamp for libraries. Mary Alice and Margaret Warden met with Jane Kennedy for lunch about six months later and reminded her of the stamp. She promised to check on this.

When Jane Kennedy signed the first day cover for Margaret Warden for the stamp at ALA in Philadelphia, she said NCLIS should be thrilled with the stamp because nothing had been done until the NCLIS committee met with Postmaster Bolger about the stamp and this was reinforced at the luncheon with Ms. Kennedy.

Betty Stone, past ALA President, called Margaret Warden to ask her to promote use of the ABC library stamp issued in Philadelphia. Each NCLIS Commissioner should urge that people keep requesting it from their Postmaster and the post office will then continue to print it.

The Legislative/Public Awareness Committee has continued to work with WHCLIST, Frances Naftalin, Margaret Warden, Commissioner Liaison and Mary Alice Reszetar, staff liaison, in following through on some of the WHC resolutions. One of these having a national symbol for libraries, was presented at ALA in Betty Stone's President's program. Mrs. Reszetar is on the national committee to implement the logo. WHCLIST will meet from September 14-26 in Atlanta and NCLIS liaisons will be with WHCLIST.

Mrs. Warden received a letter from Ed Doherty, Executive Assistant to Senator Mark Andrews (R, ND), saying that Senator Andrews strongly supports the rural information program we presented. Mr. Doherty also stated, "You people have the vision and dedication to see it to fruition--and as always, those who enjoy the results of your untiring efforts won't even know who did it for them."

AT ALA the President's Program was keyed to "Responsiveness: Key to Developing Library Awareness: Key to Meeting Fiscal Challenges." Mrs. Warden felt this was the most stunning and stimulating program ever presented and feels it is appropriate that the Commission feels Public Awareness is so important. Dorothy Pollet Gray was to chair the "Where's the Library (How a Logo Can Help)," but was unable to attend because of pending child. Chris Young participated in a game quiz panel based on the colorful history of American libraries.

During the annual American Library Association meeting, the legislative committees of the Public Library Association (PLA) and the Association of State and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) met together to discuss the latest developments in the reauthorization process of the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA).

- 2 -

Dr. Sarah Bishop was asked to prepare a detailed report on this topic, which was distributed. In brief review, Dr. Bishop stated:

"The new bill will have more of a future looking orientation than the current one has. It will focus on access to and adequacy of materials and services to special populations. Special populations will be more broadly defined as those needing service in a given state. Two major changes will be the addition of the concept of libraries as information centers, and the expansion of the technological aspects of the bill. Because there is no expected increase in the funding level for LSCA, the states will have more discretion in allocating their allotments."

In her report, Dr. Bishop observed that Bill Asp, State Librarian from Minnesota, summarized five points he thought were important about the drafts of these LSCA amendments:

- (1) It is an integrated program of national, state, and local levels that is well balanced;
- (2) It includes statewide planning, not just Federal level planning;
- (3) Maintenance of effort levels should be retained. Money from one level of government should not supplant money from another level. However, if the Federal funding level drops drastically, state and local levels ought to be able to make an adjustment in their mandated support;
- (4) Each title is for a clearly different purpose which is good; and
- (5) There is flexibility in the eligible uses of the funds.

Mr. Asp cautioned that it should be emphasized that the proposed changes to LSCA are really only technical in nature, and do not create an entirely new program. The current tight fiscal period is discouraging "new starts."

Mrs. Warden reported that it was an exciting time during the World Future Society Meeting from July 18 to 22, 1982, in Washington, D.C. In the opening statement of Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. (D-CA), he commended NCLIS and the World Future Society for facilitating the Joint Congressional Hearing on "The Changing Information Needs of Rural America--the Roles of Libraries and Information Technology."

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The hearing, co-chaired by Senator Mark Andrews (R-ND), Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Rural Development, Oversight and Investigations, and Representative George Brown (D-CA), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Department Operations, Research and Foreign Agriculture, the Rural Caucus and the House Science and Technology Committee, drew 350 people.

Twelve witnesses gave testimony on the state of rural libraries, the desperate need for information in rural communities and the technological innovations that these communities could use to bring knowledge to them.

When Senator Andrews and Representative Brown had to leave the hearing because of votes on the Budget and the MX, they designated Charles Benton, and Margaret Warden to continue the hearing for them. It is noteworthy that Members of Congress feel comfortable with the Commission as its agent for hearings. The hearing focused on the future of rural American small enterprise, communication technologies and libraries and how to disseminate information swiftly. One of the most interesting reports came from Jason Hardman of Elsinore, Utah, a 12-year-old who started his own town library. He was covered by press, TV, radio and even appeared on the Johnny Carson show and mentioned NCLIS coast-to-coast! One of the WHC resolutions called for participation of youth.

Mrs. Warden wrote personal letters to the Senator and Congressman, World Future Society, their aides, our staff, and those who helped put up the exhibit; she helped organize the hearing; was the tone-setting first witness; helped co-chair the hearing; and acted as barker for the exhibit.

NCLIS coordinated with the Congress, the Rural Community Learning and Information Center and the private sector; with the National Agriculture Library; USDA; Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, COSLA, ALA and the private sector - Library Resources Corporation of America.

Mrs. Warden's testimony was circulated in Montana by Dr. John Jutila, Director of Research and Development of Montana State University, to the President, Vice President and Department Heads of M.S.U. who are well pleased with and have continued interest in NCLIS.

Since NCLIS' law specifically deals with rural America this was a great target of opportunity. Mrs. Warden stated that she was impressed with testimony at the hearing and with the dedication, the feeling of excitement, and the knowledge of the people who held continuous demonstrations at the exhibits. The response from attendees was exhilarating and positive. There was wide exposure to the public and from 1,500 to 2,000 people went through the exhibits.

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Members of the Rural Community Learning and Information Center group brought members in from the four states to demonstrate various electronic programs, including one electronic blackboard and a satellite broadcast. The entryway facade was a small town general store, library, and building.

The theme for the project came from an idea that Dr. Glenn Wilde and Dr. Richard Haycock of Utah State proposed to the Commission at an earlier meeting on the needs of rural America. This program was developed further and emerged as the Rural Community Learning and Information Center. NCLIS gave this group national exposure by giving them an opportunity to make a presentation at a NCLIS meeting. Later they appeared before the Rural Caucus of Congress. Now the project is leading to demonstration in four states--Utah, Montana, Colorado and Wyoming. Initial funding has come from a grant from Western Rural Development Center; Extension personnel at four Land Grant Universities; cooperation from state libraries and local extension personnel. Presently the group is expecting that a Kellogg grant of \$3-1/2 to \$5 million will be available for a long-range program. A working coalition of rural libraries and community extension services at the local level and state library agencies; state extension offices and USDA Extension is already being forged as a direct result of the hearing and exhibit. NCLIS has been a catalyst, leader and arbiter as the coalition moves into the development, testing and implementation phases of the program.

Dr. Wilde is sending a proposal to USDA for an "InfoFair" project for special funding for "Training for Improving Rural Information Resources and Rural Outreach 'InfoFair' Demonstrations." The purpose of this is to assist Extension in cooperation with the rural community library, in demonstrating new information technologies and problem-solving resources (databases) in targeted rural communities in the four Intermountain States of Colorado, Montana, Utah and Wyoming. This will also demonstrate for broad-based rural clients the information technologies and problem-solving capabilities found in Federal, state and private information resources.

Mrs. Warden commended Gerald Sophar and Mary Alice Reszetar for the excellent job done on the exhibit and the hearing. This job involved a great deal of work and planning. The work on assisting witnesses was vital and because we had excellent staff work on this; it made the hearing one which will have far reaching effects on the Rural American program.

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