



United States  
National Commission on  
Libraries and Information Science

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science**  
**Meeting**  
**19-23 July 1996**  
**San Francisco and San Diego, CA**

- Commissioners Present**      Jeanne Hurley Simon, Chairperson; Martha B. Gould, Vice Chair; Shirley Adamovich, C. E. "Abe" Abramson, Walter Anderson, James H. Billington, LeVar Burton (7/20), Joan R. Challinor, Carol K. DiPrete, Mary Furlong, Frank Lucchino, Bobby Roberts, Gary Sudduth, Joel Valdez and Robert Willard
- Staff Present**                      Peter R. Young, Mary Alice Hedge, John G. Lorenz, Jane Williams and Barbara L. Whiteleather, Recording Secretary
- Guests Present**                    Richard Akeroyd, Liaison, Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA); Beth Bingham, Liaison; White House Conference on Library and Information Services Taskforce (WHCLIST); Peyton Neal, Liaison; Information Industry Association (IIA); Steve Cisler, Apple Computer, Cupertino, CA; Kenneth Dowlin, The Librarian, San Francisco Public Library; Mary Downey, Information Access Company, Foster City, CA; Morry Goldstein, Information Access Company; Debra Kaplan, Issue Dynamics, San Francisco, CA; Judy Nadler, Mayor, City of Santa Clara, CA; Richard Lucier, University Librarian, University of California, San Francisco; Kathy Nemeyer, Information Access Company; Ron Pucir, Information Access Company; Hal Varian, School of Library and Information Science, University of California, Berkeley, CA

**San Francisco Public Library  
San Francisco, CA  
Friday, 19 July 1996**

**San Francisco Bay Area Library and Information Services Panel**

Commission Members interacted with the members of a panel composed of Bay-Area librarians, library educators, local elected officials, and information industry leaders. The purpose of the panel discussion was to examine those issues and policies which will shape the future course of libraries and information services in the next few years, at the institutional, state, national and global levels. Members of the panel were:

1. Steve Cisler, Apple Computers, Cupertino, CA;
2. Morry Goldstein, Chief Executive Officer, Information Access Company, Foster City, CA;
3. Debra Kaplan, Vice President, Issue Dynamics, Inc., San Francisco, CA;
4. Judy Nadler, Mayor, City of Santa Clara, CA;
5. Richard Lucier, University Librarian, University of California, San Francisco; and
6. Hal Varian, Dean, School of Information Management and Systems, University of California, Berkeley, CA

Each panelist was asked to talk briefly about the most exciting opportunities and the most challenging problems related to the future of library and information services, given the rapid and explosive changes in information and communication technologies. The following points summarize panelist comments:

- Libraries offer access opportunities for those citizens who are unable to afford the information technology (equipment, high-speed telephone lines, software, etc.) necessary to access the information they need. However, library funding cuts threaten librarians' ability to meet these patron expectations. There is danger that those people with the financial resources to afford access to information will end up with cutting-edge technology, while those without sufficient wealth will be unable to participate in the electronic information revolution. The information 'have-nots' problem is not just a national concern; problems of resource distribution and technology access inequity are global. Today sixty percent of U.S. jobs require the ability to use computers, but often, the disabled are simply 'out-of-luck' in having access to technology or the specialized training they require to effectively use new information services. What do libraries need in order to meet the people's expectations for information access? How can the 'have-nots' that lack the resources be provided access to information? (Debra Kaplan)

- Currently there is no satisfactory business model sufficient to sustain scholarly and scientific communication, given the tremendous technological changes affecting these research processes and scholarly interactions. There is a need to develop means to: (1) facilitate scholarship and a sustainable business model for scholarly communications; and (2) sustain both paper and digital environments. This is a situation that does not necessarily require additional money; rather, it requires the articulation of a new model for scholarly communications in the age of electronic technology. Within the dynamic field of scholarly communications, people are demanding new services; but they appear to be willing to pay for less and less. This situation creates tension and is forcing systemic change. Scientific journals are extremely important for research, but subscription prices to scholarly journals have increased at a rate of 15 percent per year for more than the last decade. The scholarly communication participants need to look at intellectual property rights and review the way that universities handle these rights. Universities and scholars have, in effect, given away their intellectual property rights to the publishing community. We need experiments to test new models, determine their implications, and take action to shorten the transition process. (Richard Lucier)
- Issues relating to intellectual property that affect authors, publishers, intermediaries, republishers, and libraries, have heightened importance in today's information technology environment. As a result the equilibrium is changing. An example of this can be seen in the letters IAC receives from authors requesting that their works be deleted from the database because someone has posted a copy of their publication on the Internet without their permission. At the other end of the spectrum, librarians express the desire to distribute information at low or no cost. Copyright issues and concern for the protection of intellectual property in an electronic world need resolution. We have to approach these issues from a fresh global perspective - not from fragmented and uncoordinated viewpoints. There has been some progress through the Conference on Fair Use, but these issues remain very complex. (Morry Goldstein)
- Libraries need to be realistic about the problems that exist in three major areas: (1) *Access*. Specifically, public libraries providing patrons with online access to library materials; (2) *Funding*. Problems in the public library funding area are critical in California. This situation in California is difficult with the State's requirement that tax increases can only be made with two-third majority vote of the people. The State ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in the US in service available hours that public libraries are open to the public. This is especially challenging for California's diverse and very demanding population; and (3) *Governance*. Forty-six percent of the users of the public libraries in Santa Clara (CA) do not reside in the city of Santa Clara. Rather, many patrons from other communities outside the Santa Clara taxing authority use the Santa Clara public library. Despite these problems, we must find ways to assure that basic library services remain free and available for use. (Judy Nadler)

Graduate library schools are concerned with the education and training of professionals for functions related to the organization, manipulation, and communication of information. Thus, Berkeley's graduate library science school is looking to equip students with a range of different skills that are required in today's changing workplace. The school recently underwent an extensive year-long review process to develop a revised mission. Berkeley's graduate library school no longer grants Master's degrees in Library Science (MLS). This is in keeping with the changes in the information-value chain which are fueled by information technologies. The rapid pace of change also presents the potential danger of making poor decisions regarding copyright. The international implications require that changes to intellectual property policies proceed slowly and cautiously. In the future, an Information Management Master's degree (as offered by Berkeley's graduate school) may better describe the skills needed for the information professional of the next century. (Hal Varian)

The need for libraries to develop capabilities and systems for handling both digital and paper present continual problems and challenges. The extremely rapid pace of technological change with the information technology industry is illustrated by the large development staffs at Netscape and MicroSoft working on World Wide Web browsing software for an extremely competitive market. For librarians who are mostly comfortable in a climate of stability and continuity, where evolutionary change occurs slowly and deliberately, the current rapid pace of change presents difficult challenges. But, even within this environment of turmoil and change, librarians have reason for optimism, especially concerning the opportunities offered by network technology for individuals and local communities to use these new avenues to organize and develop improved relationships. "Every library with a computer needs a librarian!" (Steve Cisler)

- "Raise the alarm! We could be headed toward making libraries obsolete." There is a real problem with and concern for how libraries will be able to maintain dual systems for services based on both printed and digital formats. We need to be continually concerned about how the needs of users can best be addressed by libraries. (Judy Nadler)
- Regarding the need for a third White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services (WHCLIS) Judy Nadler said: "Yes, definitely. What a WHC does for this Nation around libraries is absolutely critical. It brings people across lines -- from rural to urban, from wealthy to one-person libraries barely online -- together to discuss really critical issues. I give it my strongest recommendation." In addition, there is a need for advocacy and marketing skills for librarians, especially in relation to the role of libraries in the economic development of communities. (Judy Nadler)
- Privatization and the interests of the public do not necessarily present either/or choices. Rather, for example, the SFPL presents a brilliant example of bringing

together diverse constituencies within the San Francisco area to provide support and resources (private and public) for the New Main library. Who do you regard as your main constituency? It should not be an either/or issue of resources and public support. Libraries can win the politics of public support. However, because the general public often regards the library as an abstraction, there is a real need to mobilize community interests. What is it the diverse groups need from libraries? You cannot sit back and wait for the City Council to come to its senses. (Debra Kaplan)

Dr. Billington stated that, historically, libraries and librarians have played an extremely important moral role to underpin and sustain our society and way of life. One of the most critical features of the American form of democracy was pointed out by Soros Foundation fellows from Eastern Europe who were impressed with the "choices" available to the American public. The flood of new information creates the need for an honest broker or information mediator. Knowledge mediators/navigators are necessary to sustain choice as an essential feature of our society. You need people who can make the connection between the on-rushing world of new information and the old world of knowledge, wisdom, and creativity (recorded largely in books). The challenge is to create a new group of people who are able to 'de-mystify' the new technology and mediate the flood of information to ordinary people. "This is not a subtraction process; it is added on to an already good thing - libraries!"

Vice Chair Gould added: "Access is not just technology; access also includes people interacting with people. And, this is what a librarian does best! Librarians do not have to know all the information, they only have to figure out what it is the patron is requesting." Commissioner Challinor agreed saying, "We should not lose sight of the word, libraries."

In summation of the panel discussion, Commissioner Adamovich offered a quote by Dr. Daniel Boorstin, former Librarian of Congress:

*"Each of us must acquire knowledge for himself. Knowledge comes from the mind, foraging of the rich pastures of the whole, everywhere past. It comes from finding order and meaning of the whole human experience. The autonomous reader, amusing himself and acknowledging himself, is the be all and end all of our libraries."*

#### S. 1961 - Omnibus Patent Act of 1996

Librarian of Congress Billington expressed his grave concern regarding S. 1961, the Omnibus Patent Act of 1996, which was introduced by Senate Judiciary Committee Orrin Hatch (R. Utah) on 16 July 1996. Provisions in this bill would modify the structure and responsibilities of the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO). The most clearly controversial aspect of S. 1961 is its proposal to create a new government corporation to be called the U.S. Intellectual Property Organization (USIPO). Sustained entirely by fee

revenue, the USIPO would be headed by a Commissioner of Intellectual Property (IP) appointed by the President. The Commissioner would serve as chief IP advisor to the Secretary of Commerce and would appoint the heads of three separate offices within the USIPO responsible respectively for patents, offices and copyrights. Office heads would serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner. The Copyright Office, now located within the Library of Congress and headed by the Register of Copyrights, would become a subdivision of the USIPO.

Dr. Billington commented on the proposed bill and outlined difficulties that could result from the “de-coupling” of the Copyright Office from the Library of Congress. Enactment of such a measure would present a substantial threat to the growth of the Library’s extraordinarily comprehensive collections and the research that it uniquely supports. In addition, the proposed legislation would require major increases in copyright registration fees.

*[A Senate hearing on S. 1961 was scheduled for July 23, however, on Monday, July 22, the hearing was rescheduled to a date in September 1996.]*

### Tour of the SFPL

Dr. Kenneth Dowlin, SFPL director and his staff provided Commissioners a guided tour of the “New Main” San Francisco Public Library building. This magnificent library celebrated its grand opening in April 1996. The tour and discussion of the beautiful, state-of-the-art library included:

- *The Stegner Environmental Center* which addresses all aspects of the environment, from nature to conservation, from advocacy and political awareness, to the business issues of recycling, hazardous waste and consumer awareness, with materials for the activist, the neophyte, and for children.
- *The Children’s Center* which serves as a primary resource center for thousands of children throughout the city.
- *The Newcomer’s Center* featuring citizenship materials, foreign language newspapers, magazines, and touch screen computers with multilingual capacity.
- *James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center*, a permanent research center devoted to the documentation of gay and lesbian history and culture -- the first in the world to be housed in a public institution.
- *African American Collection* and the African American Center which features an in-depth, interdisciplinary collection of books and other materials that celebrate the lives and achievements of American Africans.
- *Online Catalog* serving the entire Library system and ultimately providing terminals in San Francisco schools, and off-site access to online catalogs at other libraries.

During an evening reception at the San Francisco Public Library, graciously hosted by the Information Access Company, Chairperson Simon presented a *Resolution Honoring The San Francisco Public Library and Kenneth E. Dowlin*. A copy of the Resolution is attached (Attachment I).

**San Francisco Public Library  
San Francisco, CA  
Saturday, 20 July 1996**

Chairperson Simon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Commissioners, NCLIS liaisons, guests, and observers. She extended the Commission's appreciation and gratitude to Kenneth Dowlin, The Librarian, San Francisco Public Library (SFPL), for hosting the Commission meeting at SFPL and for the Library staff's warm hospitality. She also thanked Commissioner Furlong for suggesting that the Commissioner meet at SFPL newly-opened New Main.

Review of Draft Agenda

At Commissioner Billington's request, discussion of the proposed Omnibus Patent Act of 1996 (S. 1961) was added to the meeting agenda. With this one addition, the agenda was approved.

Senate Confirms Nomination of LeVar Burton

Chairperson Simon announced that LeVar Burton's nomination to the Commission was confirmed by the Senate on July 16, for a term ending July 19, 2000. Mr. Burton replaces Kay Riddle. Last minute arrangements were made by Commissioner Willard for a swearing-in ceremony for Commissioner Burton in San Diego, with the Chairperson administering the Oath of Office, the Vice Chair holding the Bible, and all Commissioners in attendance.

Chairperson Simon expressed her pleasure that Commissioners Abramson, Anderson, and Burton are now official Members of the Commission, stating, "The Commission is not a static group. We keep changing, moving, and growing, and I think this is great!"

NCLIS Minutes and Conference Call Notes

**MOTIONS**

It was moved by Martha Gould, seconded by Walter Anderson, that the Minutes of the December 14-15, 1996, be approved as submitted.

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Martha Gould, seconded by Frank Lucchino, that the Conference Call Notes from March 21 and June 24, 1996, be approved as submitted:

The motion carried unanimously.

## Chairperson Simon's Report

- Chairperson Jeanne H. Simon introduced her report by stating her relief and delight that the Commission has survived the Federal budget wars of 1996. She indicated how good it felt that the threat of staff furloughs and office shutdowns were behind us. She also expressed pleasure at the energy and enthusiasm of the Commission members, and hope that public awareness of NCLIS will increase with the recent appointments.
- The House Appropriations Committee has proposed \$812,000 for FY 1997, a decrease from the President's budget figure of \$897,000 and a decrease from the current FY 1996 appropriation level of \$829,000. However, the Senate has not yet acted on the NCLIS FY 1997 appropriation.
- On behalf of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) legislation, meetings and contacts continue with Congress and staff, as well as with representatives from both the American Library Association and the Institute for Museum Services, regarding LSTA status. On July 17 the Conference Committee issued its report on the Careers Act, but without Democratic support and threats of a Presidential veto.
- Meetings continue with the Government Printing Office representatives on the Transition to Electronic Dissemination for Federal Depository Library Program. GPO participants at these meetings discuss the possible role of NCLIS in determining what technical implementation assistance is required for federal agencies and depository libraries to successfully manage a transition to a more electronic system for public access to government information over the next five to seven years. [This item is on the NCLIS meeting agenda for discussion and resolution action.]
- The Commission has provided comments, held meetings, and initiated discussions related to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) ruling regarding the provision of universal service discounts for schools and libraries. This universal service proceeding is required by the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 which was signed into law on 8 February 1996.
- The Commission continues to meet with representatives from the American Library Association (ALA), and a mutually-respected working relationship exists. NCLIS was exceptionally well represented at the American Library Association Conference in New York, July 5-8, and the ALA/NCLIS Open Forum on Affordable Telecommunications Rates for Libraries was very successful. In addition, 10 recipients were presented their NCLIS Silver Awards during the Opening General Session of the ALA Conference.

Chairperson Simon noted that this is the first NCLIS meeting held since December 14-15, 1996. "December was a long, long time ago, but the fact that we are still here, working, and meeting proves that we are survivors! We have survived the worst and emerged even stronger," she stated.

Recent and upcoming Commissioner liaison activities include:

- Joel Valdez will attend the first REFORMA National Conference (for Hispanic and Spanish-speaking librarians), Austin, TX, August 22-25.
- Gary Sudduth will participate in The Blacks in Government (BIG) Conference, Atlanta, GA., August 26-30.
- Martha Gould spoke at the Public Library Association (PLA) Conference in Portland, OR, March 27.
- Abe Abramson will speak at the Alaska Library Association/Pacific Northwest Library Association joint conference in Fairbanks, August 14-17.
- Joan Challinor will represent NCLIS at the WHCLIST Annual Conference in Greenville, SC, July 25-29.
- Mary Furlong appeared, again, on *Good Morning America* in early July.
- Joan Challinor and Jeanne Simon will present a 25th Anniversary Silver Award to Eva Mosley, Head of Manuscripts, Schlessinger Library of Women's History, August 1. Commissioners who will be in the Washington area are also invited to attend.
- Martha Gould will present a Silver Award to Joan Kirschner, Nevada State Librarian, during the Nevada Library Association meeting in Laughlin, NV.
- Martha Gould will keynote the Regional Intellectual Freedom Conference, Reno, NV in September.

At Commissioner Furlong's request, scheduled presentations of Silver Awards will be posted on NCLIS' Website.

### Library of Congress

Dr. Billington reported on the findings of a 956-page consultant report on library security, which shows that the problem is far more extensive than realized. The main problem is not the theft of books but the excising of material from books in library collections for commercial purposes. This is a matter of grave concern, especially when the availability of online catalogs provides open access to the general public about unique library holdings.

Dr. Billington suggested the Commission's involvement in a general conference on library security to be held this winter. The big philosophical question: How do you balance concern for access with security concerns? LC's National Digital Library (NDL) has more than 1 million 'hits' a day. One of the great advantages of the NDL is the digitization of one-of-a-kind material that allows more people access with less vulnerability of the original material. In this way, this process increases the security of libraries' collections.

The Library of Congress provides a digital outreach capability through the NDL that responds to the needs of the national educational system. Dr. Billington stated, "Digital information does not replace books. Rather, digitization enhances the value of books and the culture of libraries. Digitization should only be seen in that light; it is not a magic bullet to cure everything."

### Discussion, Digital Information Mediation

Commissioner Furlong asked Dr. Billington, "Who will serve as intermediaries for this new digital information? Is there a role the Commission can play in describing the human support, in itemizing the required knowledge-navigation skills, and in identifying segments of the population to assume these new roles, either as volunteers and/or professionals? And, if the Commission took this study on, how could we go beyond 'just another report'?" Dr. Billington responded that this is new territory, requiring imaginative thinking. He mentioned the Library's work with the Kellogg Foundation in exploring the human resource and training needs for the future. In his opinion, the Commission would be the natural body to work with the Library of Congress on a human-infrastructure program.

Referring to Commissioner Furlong's question, Commissioner Anderson stated that there are many children with a desire to learn, and the library is the place for them to find information. "One thing, for sure, the devices and resources needed for those children to learn must be available because, if they are not, we discourage them from learning," he said. Commissioner Anderson emphasized that the hardware devices constitute only a part of the tools needed to use information technology effectively for learning. He stated that if the Commission is to make a lasting contribution in this particular area, the focus must be on what is available at the 'other end' -- at the human end of the "infrastructure".

Commissioner Furlong indicated that there is a forest of noise in the field that cries out for clarity in identifying what is needed. Commissioner Gould relayed the results of a discussion with Lori Hancock, the California regional representative for the Department of Education, about how NCLIS could work cooperatively with the Department to bring schools and public libraries together through technology training for teachers and librarians. Commissioner Lucchino expressed the need to support a more visible presence and force for NCLIS at the national level. Commissioner Anderson compared the Commission's challenge to the great lesson of Vietnam: to find our

mission. He indicated that he was not satisfied to serve on a Commission that just made reports. Rather, NCLIS needs to reduce the use of government jargon, communicate clearly, prioritize, and cause action. Commissioner Adamovich suggested the use of broadsides in conveying the Commission's policy recommendations, using simple, clear, and focused language.

Commissioner Sudduth agreed, adding, "NCLIS needs to say, in a universal way, that information and technology is on the verge of exploding. Access is key. We can never forget about access or those people that will be left behind. We cannot be comfortable with this, and we need to be more aggressive!" Commissioners Abramson, Challinor, and Gould agreed and stressed the need for continuing educating and re-training for those people who will be the 'human interface' and who will be using the technology to provide information to children, businesses, retirees, etc., in the library/school. Vice Chair Gould called for the Commission to be the agency to develop the policy on how this could be accomplished.

Dr. Billington stated that the discussion and dialogue was very exciting: it has a real 'crackle'. But NCLIS needs a clear statement of what is involved -- we need a 'wedge' issue project -- one with a simple message and a good starting point -- something that will dramatize, in concrete, understandable, human terms, what the issue is. "The more you push it, the more it widens the opening for the generally good things these kinds of institutions can do," he explained. He suggested that one 'wedge' issue could focus on *the human link at the local level to the explosion of information*. This kind of message would get Congress' attention and capture a whole new audience not now being reached. The Commission is vital enough with the leadership needed to define the wedge issue related to identifying those human information skills needed for the future. But the Commission needs to do this by breaking through the anesthesiology of acronyms.

Commissioner Furlong agreed and urged the Commission to define the 'wedge'. She suggested the Commission hone-in on an *Technology Information Corps*, using the Job Corps as a model because of its many roles in human-infrastructure issues: teachers, guidance, etc. Such a project could be broadened and would gain support from constituencies, i.e., governors and local-level people.

Commissioner Challinor expressed concern about the message from some of the panelists Friday afternoon. They seemed to reflect a technological arrogance that was threatening to the future involvement of libraries. Commissioner Anderson added, "Technology is not an enemy any more than ink or paper is an enemy. We need to express that fact and understand that technology is just another valuable tool to help the human being at the other end." Commissioner Roberts reminded that projects need to be kept within the capabilities of the staff and available funds. He indicated that "The devil is in the details."

## NCLIS Template

Ms. Hedge suggested and the Commission agreed to add two new criteria to the NCLIS Template adopted at the NCLIS Meeting, December 1996:

1. What do we wish to accomplish?
2. How do we wish to achieve this accomplishment?
3. Is anyone else undertaking the task at present?
4. That which we generate, how do we make it effective?
5. To whom, and how do we make it effective?
6. What resources/funds are required?
7. *Is this a 'Wedge' issue?*
8. *If so, a 2-page, double spaced Broadside should be drafted defining the issue, what is at stake, and what is to be accomplished*

Commissioner Adamovich offered to keep track of possible action items for the Commission for review at the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Lucchino noted that many good ideas are articulated during NCLIS meetings and asked, "What ultimately happens to these good ideas? Can we be radical and advise the President and all 535 Congressional representatives at once? How can NCLIS become a visible force for library issues? We need to get our point across to very busy people in a way that makes them pay attention," he urged. Chairperson Simon reminded the Commissioners that advising the President and Congress is NCLIS' #1 job, and suggested that the World-Wide Web may be one avenue of making this task easier.

The Chairperson alluded to the need for a NCLIS Public Awareness Campaign. Commissioner Furlong reminded the Members that they are meeting with the Interactive Services Association (ISA) because they have a sense of how the online world is developing within the private sector. She further suggested that the Commission may be able to learn from ISA what skills are needed. She also suggested the Commission consider hiring Commissioner Burton's publicist to assist in giving visibility to the Commission.

Commissioner Anderson suggested that government jargon, acronyms, and language are meant to obfuscate and not communicate, and urged caution when writing to the President and Congress. He also urged NCLIS to: "Define the Mission!"

## Literacy and Reading

Vice Chair Gould suggested that the Commission work with the Department of Education to bring together, at the local level, more cooperation between schools and public libraries to achieve the sharing of both people and resources to benefit communities. There needs to be leadership in breaking-down barriers and opening-up

resources, with focus on bringing information technology to children. And, she pointed out, this cannot be accomplished if teachers cannot use the new technology.

The possibility of another Department of Education Summit was mentioned and, if one is held, Commissioner Willard urged that the agenda include time for discussion of: (1) the library component; and (2) state/local resources.

### Executive Director's Report

Mr. Young highlighted items included in the 19 July 1996 Executive Director's Report. He noted that in assembling the Bay Area Panelists, a personal challenge was to select those persons who could be informative and define edges -- which can be both extremely motivating and disturbing. He also stated, "Devoting the energy, resources, and focus to completing a Commission project is one of the hardest things imaginable. My feeling is that this Commission has its richness from the flow of ideas, people, and backgrounds. The ability to communicate, and communicate clearly about the mission, is exactly what this Commission is all about."

Mr. Young stated that the overall objectives for this NCLIS meeting were to: (1) Present status reviews on current Commission activities and programs; and (2) To renew, recommit, and regroup. "And, already, we are renewing, recommitting, and regrouping about many of the Commission's current priorities," he said. He also expressed his hope that the Commission's budget will allow for at least three, and perhaps even four, meetings in FY 1997, depending, of course, on the length and location of the meetings.

Mr. Young recapped NCLIS staff activities since the NCLIS meeting in December 1995. In particular, he noted that work continues on the NCLIS WWW home page, thanks to Issue Dynamics, Inc. (IDI). It was pointed out that although NCLIS is linked to the White House, the White House is not linked to NCLIS. Commissioner Furlong encouraged a "hot link" from the White House to NCLIS and offered her assistance by meeting with Mike Nelson at the White House. Commissioner Furlong urged that once the Commission decides its 'wedge' of issues and public awareness strategy, that NCLIS consider its strategic plan for interactive communications. "The White House will only link to NCLIS if there are important issues posted on the site," she stated. As a group, it was decided to use the phrase, 'people matter issues' rather than 'human-infrastructure issues.' In addition, Commissioner Furlong suggested that NCLIS and the Benton Foundation be linked to keep up to date with work on the National Information Infrastructure (NII) and telecommunications policy and regulations. At Commissioner Furlong's request, staff will send a letter of thanks to IDI for their generosity and invaluable assistance.

Mr. Young called attention to the draft *Interagency Agreement Between the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) and NCLIS* to conduct an Assessment of Standards for Creation and Dissemination of Electronic Government Information Products made available to federal depository libraries through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Time for a detailed discussion on this topic was requested by Commissioner Willard and approved by the Chairperson.

Staff Appreciation

**MOTION**

It was moved by Martha Gould, and seconded by the entire Commission, that the Commission commend and thank the staff for their dedication and perseverance in very difficult times during the past year. Further, the staff is praised for keeping their sense of humor, even during the possibility of furloughs and severe budget cuts.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Sheraton San Diego Hotel**  
**San Diego, CA**  
**Sunday, 21 July 1996**

NCLIS Members held an informal breakfast meeting with the members of the Interactive Services Association (ISA) Board from 8:15 to 9:30 a.m. The Chairperson also presented a *Resolution Recognizing the Interactive Services Association* to Mark Goldstein, Conference Chairman. A copy of the Resolution is attached to these minutes (Attachment II).

Following the NCLIS/ISA Board breakfast, Chairperson Simon called the Commission meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The first order of business was to express sincere thanks and deep appreciation to Commissioner Frank Lucchino for suggesting and making possible the Commission's attendance at the San Diego Padres baseball game the previous evening. Chairperson Simon also expressed thanks to Commissioner Furlong for suggesting that NCLIS meet in conjunction with the ISA Conference. Members of the ISA Board joined NCLIS members at the Padres game on Saturday evening as an informal opportunity to get acquainted. Chairperson Simon threw out the ceremonial 'first pitch' of the Padres/Rockies game. She asked all Commissioners to sign the baseball as a souvenir of a delightful and fun evening. The Chairperson expressed her desire to have the ball encased and displayed at the NCLIS office "as a marvelous reminder of the fun shared."

In discussing the comments made during the NCLIS/ISA Board breakfast meeting, Commissioners referred to ISA Conference Chairman Mark Goldstein's characterization of libraries as the 'ultimate distribution channel.' Commissioner Anderson expressed concern that participants at the breakfast 'talked right past each other.' He asked Dr. Billington to describe and clarify the difference between an 'ultimate distribution channel' and the function of a library. Dr. Billington stated the following: "Historically, the fundamental function of libraries has been the accumulation of works of knowledge, books, etc., and the provision of access to this knowledge. One of the fundamental principles of librarianship is the provision of basic access for everyone. This represents a basic difference from the functioning of the marketplace. While we are all anxious for additional private sector support for our libraries, we should distinguish between commercial activities and access to knowledge -- between commercial distribution and access to knowledge through libraries. To confuse these activities is to confuse two fundamentally different values. The concept of access is not well understood by commercial people."

Commissioner Furlong noted the need to develop common terminology, i.e., 'access to learning' rather than to use the characterization of a 'learning addiction,' as presented by an ISA member-company representative. Commissioner Furlong also noted that NCLIS is meeting in conjunction with ISA to find common ground and to create an opportunity to learn from one another. Commissioner Willard reminded the Commission

that for any one thing there may be multiple motivations, and cautioned that too often we find ourselves setting up conflict between the people and commercial interests. Commissioner Roberts added, "It is in our interest to see that people gain access to the information they need, regardless of whether it is from the public or private sector. Libraries do not compete with each other but they may be in competition with commercial offerings."

Commissioner Gould reported that ISA has partnered with the National Consumers League in developing *Project Open*, which is designed to inform those using online interactive information services how to avoid problems with inappropriate materials. Further, Mark Goldstein, President of NetAngels and Chair of the ISA Conference, asked her to facilitate a meeting between Ken Dowlin, Librarian of the San Francisco Public Library, and himself to discuss areas of possible mutual interest, building on the *Project Open* model. "This is the type of cooperative program that can benefit all. So, there are things we can do together. We shouldn't get stuck on semantic differences. We have to figure out how we can meld with the commercial sector. Otherwise, for all the good libraries do, they will be left by the wayside." Commissioner Anderson cautioned the Commissioners to proceed cautiously in developing any partnerships with ISA, as it is a lobbying group.

Dr. Billington stated, "From a moral and historical point of view, there is a real distinction between libraries and the commercial interactive services industry. The public library system of America cannot be seen as being in competition with the information industry. Distributors seek to market specific products to specific audiences; while access in our library system is 'as much as possible to as many as possible'. Industry would be much better off if they were to help develop free access into the electronic era; such an approach would lay a much firmer basis for their own further development. In this way, they would be able to apply educational packages and concentrate on the value-added materials." He further suggested the Commission's responsibility is to help industry understand that libraries are the base on which the whole industry will have to rise. Such an educational role presents opportunities for NCLIS to work further with ISA.

### Omnibus Patent Act of 1996

At the Chairperson's request, Commissioners Lucchino and Roberts were charged with drafting language for Commission consideration on a resolution conveying NCLIS' grave concern regarding the consequences of the proposed Omnibus Patent Act of 1996. For information, the draft statements before the Senate Judiciary Committee for both Dr. Billington and Marybeth Peters, the Register of Copyright, were distributed to NCLIS members. Dr. Billington noted that Bruce Layman, the Commissioner of Patent and Trademark is also scheduled to testify.

Dr. Billington stated that much more needs to be done related to this issue than just to slow the legislation in Congress. "This legislation is not cutting off a branch of the

Library of Congress, it is cutting off the root," he stated. Dr. Billington explained the fundamental dangers that would result from removal of the Copyright Office function from the Library of Congress.

Commissioner Furlong reiterated the need for the Commission to have an interactive communications strategy that can address the need to rapidly and effectively relay and communicate NCLIS's concerns related to policy proposals such as this.

### Telecommunications Act of 1996

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Docket No. 96-45 calls for comments on specified universal service questions related to the matter of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. These responses would supplement NCLIS' comments and reply comments filed with the Board on April 8 and May 7, 1996.

After a brief discussion, the Commission adopted a resolution regarding responding to FCC No. 96-45 by August 2, 1996.

### **MOTION**

It was moved by Martha Gould, seconded by Shirley Adamovich, that the Commission provide further comment and highlight the need for universal service mechanisms that allow public libraries to provide public access to advanced information and telecommunication services in the most defensible and straightforward fashion. In addition, the Commission will respond to questions 6-25 (deadline 2 August 1996) posed by the Federal State Joint Board on the proceeding relating to Universal Services to Schools, Libraries, and Health Care Providers.

The motion carried unanimously.

### Library Statistics Program

John Lorenz, Coordinator, Library Statistics Program (LSP), reported on LSP activities. The new Commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate is Pascal (Pat) Forgione, former Delaware Chief School Officer and executive director of the National Education Goals Panel. Highlights of the report included:

- The fourth annual NCES/NCLIS Library and Information Services Policy Forum was held on May 20-21, 1996;
- The FY 1996 agreement between NCLIS and the NCES has been expanded during the year, both in program activities and in funding level (from \$259,386 to \$359.642);

- For the first time, a national statistical survey of State Library Agencies has been completed;
- For the first time, a universe file of library cooperatives has been compiled and a survey instrument drafted; and
- A pamphlet on the products of the LSP developed over the last eight years is being drafted. Copies of this brochure will be widely distributed.

Mr. Lorenz noted that this year's Forum was devoted primarily to the use of information technology and special programming to improve the quality of, and equity of access to, library services for special populations. A Forum report is being prepared for wide distribution.

Commissioners Challinor and Sudduth attended the 1996 Forum and stated that the Forum was very rewarding, informative, energizing, and engaged very intelligent and knowledgeable experts working in fields related to special population services. "For me, the Forum was a learning experience, from beginning to end. The warning bell is clanging, and those people who can't hear it are deaf," Commissioner Challinor stated. In addition, she recalled two resounding questions discussed during the Forum:

- What is the library good for?
- What is good for the library?

Commissioner Furlong suggested the above questions be framed on the Web page, setting the stage for a summary of the Forum in an interesting way. "As we try to educate others about this issue, we can tell them to check out our Website. In this way, it is in the voice of the personalities of the people at the Forum who touched minds and hearts. We need to capture the images and, at the same time, make it easy to read," she said.

Chairperson Simon expressed her desire to have the following Members attend the 1997 NCES/NCLIS Forum: Abe Abramson, Walter Anderson, and LeVar Burton.

Mr. Abramson stated, "I am not sure that I understand, or agree, that the role of the Commission is to have on-going, internal programs, such as the Library Statistics Program. Rather, perhaps, we should recommend to the President and the Congress what research needs to be done and who should carry on this work. The NCES funding is confusing, and I know it must be confusing to the Congress at budget time. It bothers me that we are doing work that another agency does not want to do; that doesn't sit well with me. They have the budget, and they can hire the expertise. If we can hire the expertise, then they can hire them." Commissioner Anderson agreed, and stated that Public Law 91-345, NCLIS' enabling law, does not clearly define its mission. As an example, he cited from the *1994-95 NCLIS Annual Report*, page 52: "The goals of NCLIS are: . . . to assure optimal provision of library and information services through federal cooperation with state and local governments." "What exactly does this mean? We cannot

understand our own mission and, as a result, questions such as Commissioner Abramson's naturally arise," he stated.

Commissioner DiPrete voiced support for LSP-related Commission activities, and stated that once the NCLIS became involved, library statistics became important. As a result of the Commission's involvement, we have more reliable data about libraries at the national level. "If NCLIS were not involved, there would not be the kind of quality, and we would not have the kind of library statistics that we now have available," she stated. Commissioner Furlong agreed and stated her opinion that the work of the LSP is incredibly important given that there is a need for strong research. "On a quantitative and quality level, we are doing wonderful work and that should be supported and viewed as one of the cornerstones of the work of the Commission. Keep that as one of the things we know how to do best," she urged.

Commissioner Furlong urged that the Commission discuss for clarity the following questions:

- What is NCLIS' mission?
- What is the role of the Commissioners in supporting that mission?
- How does the budget support NCLIS' mission and the Commissioner's role?
- How can Commissioners better support the efforts of staff and be more effective in the Commission's total agenda?
- How can Commissioners be better utilized?

#### NCLIS Silver Awards

The Chairperson expressed her gratitude to both former Commissioner Barbara Taylor, Chair, NCLIS 25th Anniversary Silver Awards, and NCLIS staff member Jane Williams for their hard work and balanced selection of the 25th Anniversary Silver Awards. Additional Silver Awards are yet to be presented, and, as suggested, the schedule will be profiled on the Website. It was suggested that Commissioner Burton be asked to present the award to Ray Bradbury of California.

On display was the *NCLIS 25th Anniversary Silver Awards Scrapbook* (containing photos, publicity, nomination forms, correspondence, press releases, etc.) prepared by Jane Williams. In addition, Ms. Williams is preparing a *Special 25th Anniversary Report* which should be ready for Commission review by early September. The Center for the Book at the Library of Congress has offered to pay half of the costs for printing this report. NCLIS' portion of the costs will be covered by donated funds currently in the NCLIS gift account.

Ms. Hedge asked the status of the awards to be presented to the Congressional and NCLIS-related nominees. Ms. Williams noted that the 25 recipients are regarded as the "official" Silver Awardees. The Congressional and NCLIS-related nominees will be

presented 'Anniversary Awards'. Ms. Hedge stated that that this is a 'politically sensitive' matter, and, further, there could be negative feedback if NCLIS does not follow through with the presenting additional awards.

Commissioner Willard proposed that the issue be referred to the 25th Anniversary Silver Awards Committee. Members of the Committee are: Joan Challinor, Chair (succeeding Barbara Taylor), Bobby Roberts, Gary Sudduth, and Robert Willard.

### Resolutions Honoring NCLIS Members

Chairperson Simon presented a *Resolution Honoring Carol K. DiPrete*, whose term as an NCLIS Member expired on July 20, 1996. A copy of the Resolution is attached (Attachment III). Chairperson Simon noted that Commissioner DiPrete will continue to serve as a Member of the Commission until her successor has been named by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

In response, Commissioner DiPrete stated, "The last six years has been a wonderful experience. I have learned a lot, and I will miss all of you. I am excited about the future of this Commission, especially under the leadership of Jeanne Simon."

Chairperson Simon presented a *Resolution Honoring Shirley Gray Adamovich*, whose term as an NCLIS Member expired on July 20, 1996. A copy of the Resolution is attached (Attachment IV). Chairperson Simon noted that Commissioner Adamovich will continue to serve as a Member of the Commission until her successor has been named by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

Commissioner Adamovich responded, "It has been wonderful experience, and one which I have enjoyed tremendously. I am sorry to be leaving. I shall miss all of you very much. I am sure our paths will cross again."

### *The 1996 National Survey of Public Libraries and the Internet*

The draft of *The 1996 National Survey of Public Libraries and the Internet* was included under Tab E of the NCLIS meeting notebook. Mr. Young noted that grammatical and typographical errors will be corrected before publication. He also reported that a transmittal letter, signed by the Chairperson, succinctly identifying the major findings from the study will accompany the report and provide a summary of the report's points.

The Chairperson requested that the authors of the report be advised of the following comments, corrections, and changes suggested by the Commission:

- Page 3, "One message from the federal government, however, is clear: there will be less entitlements and less resources directly available from the government for

libraries in the future.” Commissioner Challinors and Abramson questioned this statement and, in particular, the use of the word, “entitlements.”

- Commissioner Willard suggested producing a small summary pamphlet and pie-chart graphics for the Website.
- Commissioner Willard expressed concern that pages 1-5, *Introduction*, reflects an NCLIS position or statement, e.g., page 4, 3rd paragraph: “Most analysts from the education and library community found the final report to be an extremely dense, legalistic document that went too far in protecting publishers and producers of information.” [Mr. Young pointed out that all consultant reports include the NCLIS disclaimer: *The views, opinions, and recommendations expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official position or policy of NCLIS.*]
- Pages 2-3, The Telecommunications Act of 1966 and the Joint Board on Universal Service. Commissioner Willard noted that no mention is made of Snowe/Rockefeller/Kerry Amendment.
- Page 1, Introduction. Commissioner Abramson questioned the accuracy of the statement, “Transition underway by the GPO to enhance its electronic government document services due to an increasing amount of agency electronic publications.”
- Could a shorter version (approximately two pages) of the report be prepared for the NCLIS Website? Could the highlight of this report be a ‘wedge’ issue? (Commissioner Furlong)
- Shorter version needed, supported by substantial research, to provide librarians and library advocates with the information they need. (Commissioner Anderson)
- Tables should appear on or near the same page as the text associated with a particular table. (Commissioner Abramson)
- The report does not define, “legal service area.” (Commissioner Abramson)
- Could the staff ‘tailor’ presentations for individual Commissioners to introduce the Report, e.g., Power-Point, Overlays, etc.? (Commissioner Sudduth)

## MOTION

It was moved by Joan Challinor, seconded by Abe Abramson, that a ‘popular’ summary brochure be prepared which would be more useful to librarians and library trustees and designed to be clearly understood by the widest number of people.

The motion carried unanimously.

## NCLIS Communications Strategy

Commissioner Furlong reiterated the need to develop a long-term communications strategy relative to the research agenda and to identify whether resources need to be allocated to the electronic dissemination of information. “We have to be careful about how we use Issue Dynamics, Inc. in that regard,” she cautioned.

In developing all Commission programs and reports, Commissioner Challinor urged the Commission to consider:

- Is it useful?
- To whom is it useful?
- In what form should it be so that it is useful?

## Omnibus Patent Act of 1996

After discussion, the Commission approved the following language for a Resolution regarding the *Omnibus Patent Act of 1996*, prepared by Commissioners Lucchino and Roberts:

WHEREAS, Title I of S.1961, as introduced, if enacted into law, will cause the Copyright Office to be removed from the Library of Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Library of Congress is the greatest repository of knowledge in the history of the world because more than any other single factor, copyright built the Library of Congress and copyright now sustains it; and

WHEREAS, if Title I of S.1961 is enacted the Library of Congress collections will suffer immediate loss and unalterable long-term damage; and

WHEREAS, if Title I of S.1961 is enacted, it will hurt libraries, educational institutions, and industry, and will profoundly impact American research, scholarship, and creativity as well as have a serious global impact; and therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science urges the Congress of the United States to delete the copyright provision of Title I from any legislation that may be enacted.

The Resolution carried. Commissioner Willard abstained.

## GPO/FDLP

The Commission resumed discussion of the GPO *Study to Identify Measures Necessary for A Successful Transition to a More Electronic Federal Depository Library Program*. The Members were asked to review the **draft** Interagency Agreement Between GPO and NCLIS, which was included: in the NCLIS meeting folder.

Following Mr. Young's presentation of the historical events leading to the draft interagency agreement, the Commissioners held an in-depth around-the-table discussion. Commissioner Gould offered brief comments about the need to involve NCLIS in a series of focus groups and hearings related to public use of and access to government information in all forms and formats. Commissioners Challinor and Furlong expressed concern that the issues involved with public access to government information were broad and complex. Commissioner Willard indicated that the policy issues involved with these government information concerns present NCLIS with great opportunities. He stated, "The issue is not how to make a more electronic depository library system; rather, it is how to enable people to access public information that they have a right to have available to them. It would be a mistake for NCLIS not to be involved in this!"

Commissioner Gould indicated that the Commissioners need to lay out what studies the Commission should perform, not what GPO wants NCLIS to study. Commissioner Valdez suggested that NCLIS contact the Academy of Public Administration to solicit possible cooperation in conducting the research into these public information issues.

The Chairperson asked those Commissioners interested in serving on an ad hoc committee to further discuss this proposal. Committee members are: Joan Challinor, Robert Willard, Martha Gould, Abe Abramson, and James Billington (or Winston Tabb).

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. An Executive Session was held from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**SAN DIEGO SHERATON HOTEL**  
**MONDAY, JULY 22, 1996**

An Executive Session was held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The NCLIS hearing, "*Libraries and Interactive Services on the Information Highway*," was held from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

A separate report on the hearing will be prepared and distributed.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**GPO/FDLP**

Discussion of the GPO/FDLP draft proposal resumed. The ad hoc committee presented the following Resolution to proceed with a study which will facilitate improved public access to government information.

WHEREAS, over the past three years the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) has consistently identified among its highest priorities public access to government information, libraries and the Internet, and the economics of information; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has recently focused on public access to government information in light of the transition from a paper based printed model to a more electronic based method of distribution; and

WHEREAS, although the Government Printing Office (GPO), in response to the Congressional mandate, has undertaken a study of the issues, it could benefit from an independent evaluation of certain factors including the costs associated with this transition; and

WHEREAS, the GPO has indicated to the NCLIS Chairperson its willingness to fund such a study. Therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science offer its assistance to the GPO to undertake a study which will focus on end users and will address 1) future publishing plans of agencies, 2) cost-effectiveness of various formats that may be utilized, 3) the usefulness of government information to the people, 4) public and private format standards that might best be used, and 5) training requirements for those who use government information. Be it further

RESOLVED, that it is the direction of NCLIS that funds transferred to NCLIS cover the costs of any outside contracting required and also the Commission's costs associated with performing the study. Be it further

RESOLVED, that NCLIS authorize the Chairperson and the Executive Director to explore the involvement and possible participation of various Congressional oversight committees, the Library of Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, and members of the private sector. Be it further

RESOLVED that the Chairperson and Executive Director may enter into an interagency agreement to accomplish this effort.

The Resolution carried with two votes to abstain. (Abe Abramson; Joel Valdez)

### Interactive Services Association

Commissioners Gould and Furlong expressed their concern for follow-up with the Interactive Services Association (ISA) to explore issues of common/mutual concern. Commissioner Furlong stated, "ISA has a number of education projects addressing the human infrastructure to help teachers, children, and the general public learn about accessing the Internet for information. NCLIS should be moving in this direction." Commissioner Challinor cautioned that the Commission should never become involved with private for-profit associations.

### NCLIS Future Meetings

The Commissioners decided to hold a September conference call to determine the next meeting of the Commission. It was suggested that the Commission may want to consider meeting in conjunction with the following groups:

- Society of American Archivists;
- Information Industry Association (next meeting: October 6-9, 1996);
- Library Information and Technology Association (LITA/ALA); and
- American Society for Information Science.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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### Attachments

- I *Resolution Honoring The San Francisco Public Library and Kenneth E. Dowlin*
- II *Resolution Recognizing the Interactive Services Association*
- III. *Resolution Honoring Carol K. DiPrete*
- IV. *Resolution Honoring Shirley Gray Adamovich*



U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES  
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

**RESOLUTION**

HONORING

**The San Francisco Public Library**

and

**KENNETH E. DOWLIN**

**WHEREAS** The San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) was founded in 1878 and provides a community resource for entertainment, for enrichment, for inspiration, and for learning; and

**WHEREAS**, The San Francisco Public Library's magnificent 'New Main' library reflects the richness of this City's diverse cultures, offers a center for community celebration and involvement, and provides the flexibility to evolve in response to changing interests of this dynamic community; and

**WHEREAS**, Kenneth Everett Dowlin, SFPL Librarian since 1987, has provided the vision, leadership, and practical good sense needed to, as Walter Gretzky - Wayne Gretzky's father said: *"Skate to where the puck's going to be, not to where it has been. Anticipate. Anticipate"*; and

**WHEREAS** Ken Dowlin has devoted his distinguished career to realizing the potential of new information technology tools for dramatically expanding public access to a range of new media and communications services through collaborative relationships; and

**WHEREAS**, Ken has provided SFPL's 'New Main' as a symbol of the renaissance of major urban public libraries and is well along toward creating the Global Village 'Neographic Institution' Library of the 21st Century. Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Members and staff of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science recognize Kenneth Everett Dowlin's exceptional achievements, his innovative leadership, and his practical vision. Further, NCLIS congratulates the SFPL Board, the Friends of the Library of San Francisco, the Library Foundation of San Francisco, and the entire SFPL staff and wish them continued success as well as best wishes, sincere appreciation, and unqualified thanks.

*Unanimously adopted by the Members of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science on 19 July 1996.*



**U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES  
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING THE  
INTERACTIVE SERVICES ASSOCIATION**

**WHEREAS** the Interactive Services Association (ISA) has, since 1981, met the business needs of the consumer interactive services market to promote and develop consumer interactive services worldwide; and

**WHEREAS** the ISA provides a valuable networking forum for 350 member companies involved in commercial online services, the Internet, interactive television, computers, entertainment, transactions, telephone and screen telephone services, communications, information exchange, publishing, advertising, and banking; and

**WHEREAS** the ISA in partnership with the National Consumers League launched Project OPEN (The Online Public Education Network) to promote safe and responsible use of the online and Internet medium; and

**WHEREAS** ISA is holding its 11th Annual Conference and Alliance Exposition in San Diego, California, from July 21-24, 1996 to give members from different segments of the interactive services industry the chance to meet, develop relationships, and to profit in the burgeoning market for consumer interactive services; and

**WHEREAS** the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) is meeting with the ISA Conference to give NCLIS and ISA Members the opportunity to share ideas about public policies affecting libraries and interactive services. Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That NCLIS Members recognize ISA's valuable contributions and express appreciation for the opportunity to interact with ISA member representatives, and extend thanks to the ISA Board and Members for the hospitality and cooperative spirit extended to NCLIS. And,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Members and staff of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science recognize and congratulate Mark Goldstein, Chairman of the Interactive Services Association, Executive Director Robert Smith, and ISA Board Members on ISA's success and achievements in promoting and enhancing the value of information services.

*Unanimously adopted by the Members of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science on 19 July 1996.*



U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES  
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE  
**RESOLUTION**  
HONORING  
**CAROL K. DiPRETE**

**WHEREAS** the Honorable Carol K. DiPrete has served with distinction as a Member of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) from 1990 to 1996; and

**WHEREAS** Commissioner DiPrete has served as an informed, thoughtful, effective, and dedicated NCLIS Member, and has served as the Commission's link to the professional library community through the American Library Association's Chapter Relations Committee and as President of the New England Library Association; and

**WHEREAS** Carol K. DiPrete has generously contributed her wise counsel, creative approach, and professional perspective through her service on the Commission's Executive Committee, Legislation and Library Statistics Committee, as Chair of the Information Policies Committee, as a member of the Conference Credentials Committee for the 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Services, and as an active participant in NCLIS regional hearings and forums; and

**WHEREAS** she has served as a strong advocate for the value and critical importance of timely, accurate, and reliable statistics related to libraries and information services and has served as a member of the Advisory Board for the Commission's studies of public libraries and the Internet. Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Members and staff of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science extend their best wishes, sincere appreciation, and unqualified thanks to Commissioner Carol K. DiPrete for her devoted service, her enthusiasm, and her dedicated contributions to fulfilling the Commission's mission. NCLIS Members further extend their best wishes for Carol's continued professional success and good health in the future.

*Unanimously adopted by the Members of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science on 19 July 1996.*



U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES  
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

**RESOLUTION**  
**HONORING**  
**SHIRLEY GRAY ADAMOVICH**

WHEREAS the Honorable Shirley Gray Adamovich has served with distinction as a Member of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) from 1992 to 1996; and

WHEREAS Commissioner Adamovich has served NCLIS with grace, enthusiasm, dedication, good humor, and knowledge; and

WHEREAS Shirley Adamovich has demonstrated her experienced leadership and strong advocacy for library services for children and youth through her NCLIS work that reflects the interests, concerns, and goals of children's services and school library media specialists; and

WHEREAS she has generously contributed her skills, energy, and insight through service on the Commission's AMERICA 2000 Library Partnership Ad Hoc Committee, the Education Committee, the Public Affairs Committee, as a Delegate-At-Large to the 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Services, and as an active participant in NCLIS regional hearings and forums; and

WHEREAS she has provided valuable counsel and assistance in the formulation of NCLIS' response to the Vice President's National Performance Review, Phase II agency review. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Members and staff of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science extend their best wishes, sincere appreciation, and unqualified thanks to Commissioner Shirley Gray Adamovich for her devoted service, significant contributions, and sincere dedication to the work of the Commission in pursuit of NCLIS' mission and, further, extend their best wishes for continued prosperity, success, and good health in the future.

*Unanimously adopted by the Members of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science on 19 July 1996.*



U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES  
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

**RESOLUTION**

to

**PROCEED WITH A STUDY WHICH WILL FACILITATE IMPROVED  
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION**

**WHEREAS, over the past three years the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) has consistently identified among its highest priorities public access to government information, libraries and the Internet, and the economics of information; and**

**WHEREAS, the United States Congress has recently focused on public access to government information in light of the transition from a paper based printing model to a more electronic based method of distribution; and**

**WHEREAS, although the Government Printing Office (GPO), in response to the Congressional mandate, has undertaken a study of the issues, it could benefit from an independent evaluation of certain factors including the costs associated with this transition; and**

**WHEREAS, the GPO has indicated to the NCLIS chairperson its willingness to fund such a study. Therefore be it**

**RESOLVED, that the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science offer its assistance to the GPO to undertake a study which will focus on end users and will address 1) future publishing plans of agencies, 2) cost-effectiveness of various formats that may be utilized, 3) the usefulness of government information to the people, 4) public and private format standards that might best be used, and 5) training requirements for those who use government information. Be it further**

**RESOLVED, that it is the direction of NCLIS that funds transferred to NCLIS cover the costs of any outside contracting required and also the Commission's costs associated with performing the study. Be it further**

**RESOLVED, that NCLIS authorize the chairperson and the executive director to explore the involvement and possible participation of various congressional oversight committees, the Library of Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, and members of the private sector. Be it further**

**RESOLVED that the chairperson and executive director may enter into an interagency agreement to accomplish this effort.**

*Adopted by the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science on July 22, 1996.*