

**Meeting of the  
U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science  
November 3-5, 1999  
Ronald Reagan Building  
14<sup>th</sup> and Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC**

*[These minutes report actions and summarize discussions occurring at the Commission meeting. A verbatim transcript of the meeting is maintained at the Commission office.]*

- NCLIS Members: Chairperson Jeanne Simon (via telephone for a short period of time); Martha B. Gould, Acting Chairperson; C. E. "Abe" Abramson; Walter Anderson; Rebecca Bingham; Joan Challinor; José-Marie Griffiths; Jack Hightower; Beverly Sheppard; Winston Tabb
- NCLIS Staff and Consultants: Robert Willard, Executive Director; Judith Russell, Deputy Director; Elizabeth Bingham; Denise Davis; F. Woody Horton; Barbara Whiteleather
- NCLIS Liaisons and Guests: Nancy Bolt, representing COSLA; Mary Costabile, representing ALA; Nancy Davis; Ann Molod; Trish Skaptason, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS); Carmine Trotta, representing White House Conference on Library and Information Services Taskforce (WHCLIST); Nancy Wise, Counsel to IMLS

American Society for Information Science Annual Conference

During the American Society for Information Science (ASIS) 1999 Annual Conference (October 1-November 4, 1999), Commissioners and staff participated in the following events and sessions:

- November 3 – ASIS/Association for Library and Information Science Education: *Information Professionals for the Twenty-first Century; annual awards banquet* (Commissioner Griffiths awarded ASIS Award of Merit); and
- November 4 – Breakfast with ASIS Board of Directors; ASIS Capstone Plenary Session: *Intellectual Property Rights and the Emerging Information Infrastructure, chaired by Alan Inouye of the National Research Council.*

**November 4, 12:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Welcome from Jeanne Simon**

Via telephone from her home in Illinois, Chairperson Simon expressed her appreciation for everyone's concern for her health and briefly discussed the Commission's meeting agenda. Mrs. Gould was praised for her work as Acting Chairperson in Mrs. Simon's absence.

[On September 9, 1999, Jeanne Hurley Simon underwent surgery and a malignant tumor was removed from her brain.]

**Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Willard highlighted recent NCLIS meetings, activities and programs, including:

- Meeting with the representatives of the Library and Information Commission in London; attending the IFLA 1999 Conference, including the Sister Libraries Booth; meeting in Paris with UNESCO and State Department officials; and meetings with staff members at IFLA and FID Headquarters and also at The Hague;
- The NCLIS *Hearing on Library and Information Services for Individuals with Disabilities*, July 8, 1999, and publication plans for the NCLIS Hearing on "Kids and the Internet," held November 10, 1998;
- The letters to all Member of Congress (mid-September 1999), enclosing the "Kids and the Internet" brochure with practical guidelines for librarians and library trustees;
- The Department of Commerce's proposed closing/transfer of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). NCLIS is undertaking a three to six month study before making its recommendation(s) to the Congress on this issue.
- The Senate passed an amount for the Commission of \$1.3 million, the amount requested by the President. The House favors \$1 million. Mr. Willard is fairly confident, however, that NCLIS will receive \$1.3 for FY 2000. As long as NCLIS operates under a Continuing Resolution, amount remains the same as last year, i.e., \$1 million.

**Guidelines for Commissioner Travel**

The *NCLIS Guidelines for Commissioner Travel, Expenses, and Compensation* (revised 10/99) were approved with the understanding that a statement will be included specifying that Commissioners who are also federal employees may not receive per diem allowances when attending local meetings. Commissioners were reminded that trip reports must be provided and that travel expense reports are due within three days after completing travel.

### NCLIS Meeting Calendar

The NCLIS meeting calendar was reviewed. Commissioners are to submit requests to attend conferences and/or meetings in advance, as outlined in the approved *Guidelines*. At Commissioner Griffiths' request, the proposed hearing on scholarly publishing will be postponed and not held in April 2000 as planned.

### NCLIS Committees

The NCLIS committee list was reviewed, and the following changes made: (1) Disband the Audit Committee and Personnel Committee; audit and personnel now fall within the responsibility of the Executive Committee; (2) Include responsibility for the NCLIS Millennium Project and IFLA (particularly as it applies to IFLA 2001 in Boston, MA) within the International Committee; (3) Combine the LSTA and the National Award for Libraries; (4) Designate the Working Group on the Issues of Journal Pricing, Publishing and Copyright as ad hoc; and (5) Establish a Legislative Committee composed of Jack Hightower, chair; Martha Gould; and IMLS support liaison. The Legislative Committee will monitor legislation, including the proposed closing of NTIS, and work closely with the ALA Washington Office, legislative committees, and other major national library and information associations.

### Resolutions Honoring Commissioners Lucchino, Roberts and Valdez

The draft Resolutions honoring the services of former Commissioners Frank Lucchino, Bobby Roberts and Joel Valdez were approved as submitted. (Copy attached.)

### NCLIS Minutes

The draft Minutes of the NCLIS meeting, April 7-8, 1999 were approved with an editorial change on page 17 to correct a statement by Commissioner Griffiths.

### Library Statistics Program

Denise Davis reported on the project developments within the Library Statistics Program:

- Publication and distribution of the *Library Statistics Cooperative Program* brochure (1999). It has now been distributed to over 1,400 national and international libraries.
- A *Pocket Guide to Library Statistics* is being developed to better inform legislators and the library and information service communities. Suggestions from Commissioners for data categories should be received within two weeks.
- Paul Planchon, Assistant Commission, National Center for Education Statistics, is retiring, and, unfortunately, some projects may be stalled indefinitely.
- A background paper on *Federal Assistance to Public Libraries* was prepared and distributed in the NCLIS notebook.
- Work continues on The Digest of Libraries, and a draft expected by January 2000. This new publication is similar to The Digest of Education compiled by the Department of Education.

### Sister Libraries

Elizabeth (Beth) Bingham, NCLIS Consultant, reported that the White House approved the logo for *Sister Libraries; a White House Millennium Council Project*. The official colors will be red, white and blue.

In the first round of applications, 53 libraries in 25 states were selected and designated in June. Ms. Bingham displayed a sample plaque presented to the libraries. The second round of applications concluded with 41 libraries in eight states, which included two consortia, a special library, two academic libraries and five school libraries.

After discussion, it was determined that the future of the Sister Libraries project will depend upon fund-raising efforts.

### GPO Study

F. Woody Horton, NCLIS Consultant, reported that no formal official comments have been received from the Government Printing Office (GPO) or the Federal Depository Library Council on the findings and conclusions of the March 1999 WESTAT report on the Assessment of Electronic Government Information Products, prepared under contract for NCLIS and commissioned by the GPO.

Extensive rewriting continues on the draft *Federal Publishing Guidelines*, the main interagency guidelines in the publishing area. Mr. Horton requested NCLIS Members to review the draft included in the NCLIS notebook to make sure they incorporate all relevant areas on permanent public access, permanent records retention, preservation, authentication, etc. NCLIS will officially provide the draft to the Federal Publishers Committee next week.

### International Survey

Mr. Horton reported that Jeff Shaw, a consultant, has been approached to develop a simple database for the Survey of International Library and Information Science Policy Activities.

### National Forum on Library and Information Services

Commissioner Challinor reported that the White House Conference on Library and Information Services Taskforce (WHCLIST) is proposing a two-day National Forum on Library and Information Services with approximately 250-300 participants. By unanimous consent, NCLIS will strategize with WHCLIST to move forward with plans for a national forum in December 2000. Further, planning for this forum will be a line item within the NCLIS program submission to the Office of Management and Budget for FY 2001.

## IMLS Activities

Beverly Sheppard, Acting Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services, announced that:

- Planning continues for the LSTA State Programs Division conference, November 15-17, 1999;
- A reviewer handbook has been developed for Native American programs;
- Under the 1999 National Leadership Grant program, fifty libraries, institutions of higher education, museum and related organizations across the nation will share \$10,405,993 in awards for exemplary leadership in library and information science and model programs of library and museum collaboration;
- November 20, 1999 is the deadline for the 2000 competition for the National Award for Library Service, which honors outstanding American libraries that have made significant and exceptional contributions to their communities.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

### November 5, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

The Joint NCLIS/National Museum Services Board Meeting was held on November 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Minutes of that meeting will be available from IMLS.

The luncheon speaker, Tom Kalil, Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy spoke on the topic, "Digital Library for Education." Mr. Kalil attributed the following quotation to the President: "It is time to build, to build the America within reach... An America where every child can stretch a hand across a keyboard and reach every book ever written, every painting ever painted, every symphony ever composed."

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Attachment

08/24/00