

State Library of Iowa

FY11 Annual Report

July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

A Message from State Librarian Mary Wegner

Iowa libraries are busier than ever. More than two-thirds of all Iowans have active public library cards, and use continues to increase each year. Every day, more than 55,000 Iowans walk through the doors of public libraries in our state. Iowa libraries play key roles in workforce and economic development, lifelong learning and e-government activities. Iowans use their libraries to find jobs, do homework, apply to college, learn about medical treatments, access government information, and more.

Against this backdrop of increased library use, state funding for Iowa libraries and for the State Library has been reduced by more than 37%. As libraries take on new services and become even more central in their communities, our agency is experiencing major challenges in providing the technology, training and infrastructure support that Iowa libraries require.

While libraries provide more and more loans outside their communities through our statewide resource sharing programs – more than 4.3 MILLION items were loaned last year – state funding has dropped dramatically.

These funding cuts must stop so that Iowa libraries can continue to be equipped to deliver high quality public education for all ages.



This report represents State Library activities from July 2010 through June 2011. In July 2011, library reorganization legislation went into effect and Iowa Library Services was created through the combination of the Library Services Areas and the State Library into one new agency. The transition is going well, and next year's report will cover the development of this new agency.

State Library classes convert to blended format

Moodle, Chat, and Adobe Connect are some of the new terms students in Public Library Management I and II learned in FY11.

State Library Consultant Alysia Peich converted classes to a blended learning format which uses in person and online meetings, with some self-directed work.

The State Library is now using a learning management system called Moodle. All class materials and discussions are in one place, and assignments can be submitted online. Students only have to log on to one site to access all the materials they need for class.

Before the new format was adopted, students met over the ICN for seven sessions. Now they meet online using Adobe Connect. Students are equipped with headphones and microphones which help them participate in

other participatory methods to remain involved in the sessions.

Online learning has become increasingly popular as budgets eat away at travel expenses. The tools to deliver online learning continue to improve, and the creative State Library and Public Library Management instructors are coming up with great ways to keep students engaged.

State Library welcomes new staff, commissioner

Merri Monks was hired as the new youth services consultant on October 1, 2010. She is in charge of the Summer Library Program Workshops, Kids First and other childhood literacy programs.



Ellen Bridenstine joined the State Library law staff on December 20, 2010. She previously worked at the Des Moines Public Library as a library assistant.



Larry Marquardt, director of the Des Moines University Library, was appointed by Gov. Branstad to fill the medical professional spot on the Iowa Commission of Libraries in April 2011. His term will run through April 30, 2015.



Presentations and workshops provided by State Library staff in FY11

- SILO File Upload System
- July Reports: No More Do Overs!
- Free Government Resources
- New Standards for the Accreditation Program
- Introduction to E-rate
- Public Library Management I & II
- The Locator MARC Record Feedback System
- State Data Center Website & Services
- Trustee Essentials
- Using Statistics: The Power of Personal Stories
- WebJunction Discussion: Merchandising that Works
- Grant Writing
- E-rate Changes: What Libraries Need to Know
- E-rate: New Form 470 and 471
- Trustee Training: Internet Access @ Your Library
- E-rate: New Form Review
- Overview of EBSCOhost and EBSCO Resources
- Setting the Standard: The Accreditation Application
- Library Districts in the Code...and a County Reality
- Navigating the Workforce Development Web site

Presentations Cont.

- PLOW (Putting Libraries on the Web)
 - 5.1: Customizing Your Website
- Avoiding Headaches:
 - Hiring the Right Person for the Job
- Information Literacy in the Public Library
- Understanding the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey
- Word of Mouth Marketing
- Choosing the Best Books for Pre-Schoolers
- E-books and Libraries
- Kids First Conference
- Presentation Possibilities with Prezi
- Iowa Population Trends
- Finding Reliable Health Information on the Internet
- National Library Week Classes (see pg. 8)
- EBSCOhost for Kids
- Evaluating Library Staff
- Public Relations 101
- State Library Update - Polk County Biomedical Consortium
- EBSCOhost Power Searching
- LYRASIS Information Session

Quote from customer: "Thanks for all the classes you offer for free. The online classes have been a great experience."



Fran Fessler, State Library, stuffs packets for a State Library workshop

Iowa census information easier to locate and use

The State Library's State Data Center launched its new interactive website in February 2011. Users can now select specific geographic locations, detailed subject categories and multiple years.

Some reports also offer maps, bar charts and pie charts, giving people another way of viewing census data.

In the past, there was not a way for people to get specific detailed data on the site. If they wanted to see poverty rates for a certain county in Iowa, the file used contained data for all 99 Iowa counties. Now people can research a specific county.

The new website provides data from the 2010 Census, as well as data from the American Community Survey (ACS). The data in the ACS is the same data the Center used to get once every 10 years. It is now available every year.



In FY11, Gary Krob became coordinator of the State Library's State Data Center. He has worked in the Data Center since 2001. Krob updated the center's website with new software to better serve Iowans' needs. (See article above.)

Law Library Update

After a seven year effort, law library staff completed an index to the Iowa Court of Appeals briefs. This specialized electronic index allows users to access bibliographic information from the law library's bound copies of Iowa Supreme Court and Court of Appeals briefs.

The briefs, numbering in excess of 10,000 volumes, contain over 70,000 appellate review cases dating back from the 1860's. Designed for easy searching, the State of Iowa courts and other in-state law libraries are able to use it as a retrieval tool for their respective collections.

The development of the A.J. Small Room for special collections continued in the law library. Restoration painters worked on the room's ceiling. Protective window and shelf coverings are in place. Staff cleaned, repaired and created protective boxes for the most valuable law materials which are on public display in the room.



Photo: State Capitol restoration painters recreated the original decorative design around a light fixture in the A.J. Small Room at the law library.

*From a customer to law library staff:
"Thanks! You answered my question and then some. Your service is priceless!"*

Town Meetings Overview September 2010

Reflecting on the report “Opportunity for All: How the American Public Benefits from Internet Access at U.S. Libraries,” 2010 Town Meetings focused on ways library patrons use library computers, why they use them and how they affect their lives.

The morning skit - “The Odyssey 2.0: Opportunity for All” - was written to remind librarians of the important roles they play in people’s lives and the need to tell the library story whenever possible.

Attendees chose two of three afternoon sessions: “Job Seekers in Libraries,” “New Iowa Public Library Standards,” and “Public Library Computing - the Librarians Role in Maintaining Opportunity for All.”



“Odyssey 2.0: Opportunity for All” featured “lost souls.” From left, ILA President Dale Vande Haar, State Librarian Mary Wegner, and Program Director for Library Development, Sandy Dixon.



Town Meeting attendees in Urbandale

September 2010 Town Meetings drew 412 people to one of the six meetings held statewide.

Iowans find more government information using IPO

As mandated by law, the State Library collects documents created by government agencies for use by Iowans.

Iowa Publications Online (IPO) began in 2002 to gather digitally created state government documents and digital versions of paper documents. In 2004, the digital repository went from an offline collection to the current searchable online digital repository, IPO.

Staff added 1,471 new documents in FY11. As of June 30, 2010, IPO included more than 10,000 online documents.

There are a variety of historical items in IPO, including seminal works on the development of Iowa's constitution and all of the governors' Executive Orders known to exist dating from 1921.

Quote from a happy IPO customer - "A customer asked if I could find a poem his mother wrote in 1932 or 1933 about the 99 counties in Iowa. I found it on IPO. Thought this might interest you."

Live Chat provides one-on-one service

People can "talk" to a reference librarian via the



web and receive instant responses to their questions using Live Chat.

Librarians in both the main library [Miller Building] and the law Library [State Capitol] answered 1,267 Live Chat questions from Iowans, and people around the nation and world in FY11. The majority were questions about state laws and access to state government services.

Quote from a grateful customer using Live Chat.

Customer: "I'm trying to get into the Iowa Dept. of Revenue's website to pay our sales tax and we're having trouble with their phones."

State Library: "One minute. I will see if I can get you an alternate phone number."

State Library: "Is this for a business or individual tax filing?"

Customer: "Business."

The State Library staffer provided the customer with several options.

Customer: "You saved my hair. I was ready to rip it out! Thanks."

PLOW training: Iowa libraries make remarkable progress

In addition to presenting 10 PLOW (Putting Libraries on the Web) training classes in December, 2010, 14 new PLOW websites were added in early 2011. There are now approximately 300 Iowa public libraries with PLOW websites.

“Customizing Your Website” was presented to 47 attendees in FY11. New software was added to the sites that gathers more data and provides more detailed information on how customers use the PLOW websites. In addition, a more powerful content editor was added which allows local website authors to create more complex page layouts and formatting options. In addition, a product that allows PLOW libraries to more easily upload large numbers of images and photos to their websites was also made available.

State Library introduces Facebook page

The State Library made its debut on Facebook in May, 2011 to keep people informed about State Library resources and activities; provide a forum for interactive communication with State Library customers; and offer information and discussion to supplement other State Library communication sources, such as its website and e-mail. Check it out at <http://tinyurl.com/49SKLnj>.

Librarians attend ALA's National Library Legislative Day

State Librarian Mary Wegner and Coralville Public Library Director Alison Galstad met with Iowa's Congressional delegation on May 9 and 10, 2011 as part of the American Library Association's National Library Legislative Day in Washington, DC.

While visiting with Congressmen and/or their staff, Wegner and Galstad highlighted the many important ways federal funds are used to support Iowa libraries and their communities.

Federal funding is used for:

- E-library resources such as EBSCOhost and OCLC FirstSearch
- Interlibrary loan through State of Iowa Libraries Online (SILO)
- The Iowa Center for the Book whose mission is to stimulate public interest in books, reading, literacy and libraries through a variety of programs
- Iowa Publications Online - An electronic resource of state documents produced by the governor's office and other state departments
- Putting Libraries on the Web (PLOW) - The State Library helps more than 300 Iowa public libraries develop and maintain websites
- The State Data Center and its interactive, easy to use website
- The Summer Library Program - Last year 110,000 Iowa children took part in their local libraries.

Libraries and Iowa Workforce Development

In February 2011, Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) announced the planned closure of more than 30 field offices, along with a plan to deliver services through Virtual Access Points in Iowa communities. Following this announcement, Iowa libraries were asked to cooperate by making IWD resources available on library computers. While most Iowa libraries already deliver services to job seekers, many librarians were concerned about whether they had enough staff, space, computers and bandwidth to take on additional responsibilities formerly provided by IWD staff.

State Librarian Mary Wegner and Program Coordinator for Library Development Sandy Dixon took the lead in communicating information about libraries' capacities and concerns to IWD leadership. Wegner and Dixon stressed that Iowa's public libraries are already very heavily used; that local board of trustees have the sole authority to decide what programs and services a local library offers; that studies show 67% of public library computer users need assistance; and that

libraries are being asked to assume additional work-force services at a time when state funding for library services has been cut by 39%.

Despite the rocky beginning, a partnership with IWD, the State Library and local libraries was slowly forged. IWD made changes in their service delivery program in response to questions raised by librarians. Well over 200 public and academic libraries are currently making the IWD Virtual Access Points available to their customers. The State Library installed Virtual Access Points in the Law Library and the Main Library. Continued development of the Virtual Access Point network is expected in the coming year.

State employees take advantage of State Library's free classes

109 State of Iowa employees improved their research skills and enhanced their job performance by attending one-hour classes during National Library Week, April 11-15, 2011, at the State Library. Classes were:

- Digital Sanborn Maps
- Get the Most from EBSCOhost
- Google Goodness: How to Get the Best Results from Your Web Searches
- Information for Everyone: Finding What You Need on Iowa State Government Websites
- Maximize Your Effectiveness: Using Webinar Software
- Open Meetings Law: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities
- Public Records Law: Keeping the Balance
- Reliable Health Information: Where Can I Find It on the Internet?
- Save Your Documents: Iowa Publications Online
- Searching FirstSearch Databases
- State Archives and Records Program
- Understanding the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey: What They Mean for Iowa Data Users
- Using the Iowa Administrative Code Online
- Using the Legislative Website

In addition, a book talk (*IOWA - Spaces, Places and Faces*) led by Iowa authors Carson and Connie Ode provided attendees with stories from the couple's extraordinary journey through all 99 counties.

More than 500 attend Summer Library Program Workshops

During the last week in October and the first week in November, more than 500 Iowa librarians who serve children and teens gathered at eight locations throughout the state for Summer Library Program workshops.

Missy Mayfield-Cook, director of the Winthrop Public Library, and Cathy Shaw, director of the Edgewood Public Library, presented the workshops to help Iowa's librarians learn about next summer's Collaborative Summer Library Program themes—"One World, Many Stories" for kids, "You Are Here" for teens, and "Novel Destinations" for adults. Mayfield-Cook and Shaw shared programming, reading, display and craft ideas with the participants. Many came to the workshops wondering how they could use their collections and programs to help children and teens become involved and interested

in this year's themes, which focus on the stories and customs of many cultures. Librarians in small and large communities came away with many ideas on how they can actively engage their communities in these programs.

Iowa participates on a state-wide basis in the Collaborative Summer Library Program, a consortium comprised of libraries in 49 of the 50 states, who develop a national summer



Left, Shaw and Mayfield-Cook

reading program and activities, and tailor them to their individual communities. Participating libraries do not have to develop their own programs and they can take advantage of low group purchase prices on incentives—items used as prizes throughout the summer to help children, teens and adults mark their progress in the numbers of books they complete, or the minutes they spend reading each day.

Children and teens who participate in summer reading programs and who read a minimum of six books over the summer retain the reading and language skills they acquired in the previous school year. The summer reading programs serve an important recreational purpose and give families activities they can share, while providing a vital educational component for children in Iowa communities.

SILO Update

The State Library's SILO program offers resource sharing services, including the Iowa Locator (which shows books owned by Iowa libraries) and SILO Interlibrary Loan (ILL) to all types of libraries in Iowa. SILO also offers hosted services including DNS, e-mail, e-mail lists, and web hosting to any public library with a high-speed Internet connection.

During the past year, the SILO Help Desk provided assistance to libraries on uploading files to the Iowa Locator and worked with several larger OCLC libraries on exporting their bibliographic records from their local automation system and uploading them to the Locator.

To make the State Library website easier to navigate, the "Library Development" tab was renamed "For Libraries" and subject folders within the tab were arranged alphabetically

by topic. The "Library Services" tab was renamed "For Iowans." The SILO section of the website was reorganized to focus on support and how-to guides for SILO services: PLOW websites, PLOW mail, SILO Locator and SILO ILL.

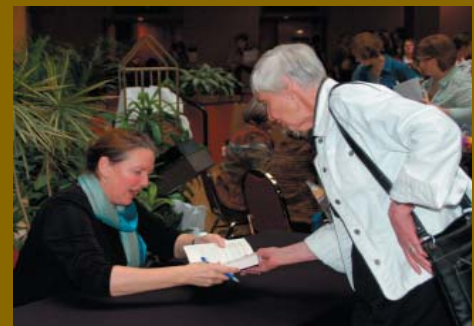
SILO Locator and ILL improvements include features to report a record; receive Locator feedback; enhance searching by media type; add links from the ILL transaction to the full OCLC bibliographic record; and improve the ILL work flow for libraries.

Let's hear it for the kids!

Kids First conference draws more than 200 people.

There was something for everyone at the Kids First Conference in April 2011. The biennial event draws big crowds of library directors and children's librarians who take in two days of keynote speakers and classes.

Authors Dr. Gail Bush, Linda Urban, Dr. Jacqueline Kelly and Carolyn Meyer were keynote speakers. There were 24 breakout sessions on a variety of topics, from "Do-It-Yourself Teen Craft Kids for Libraries" to "Sign Language Basics." The next Kids First Conference will be in 2013. State Library Youth Services Consultant Merri Monks received many positive responses for providing a great conference.



Author Dr. Jacqueline Kelly signs her book for author Carolyn Meyer.

Discover fascinating web pages on Iowa Heritage Digital Collections

Photos, postcards, letters, newspaper articles and more help Iowa's history and culture stay alive on the web pages of the State Library's Iowa Heritage Digital Collections (IHDC).

Collections added in FY11 included:

- "A Story of Iowa - a Children's History" written in 1832 by William Cullen Bryant. (Contributed by the University of Northern Iowa)
- "Cedar Falls Civil War Exhibit Catalog" (Contributed by University of Northern Iowa)
- Class photos from 1896 to 1919 of the "folkschool," where Grand View College (Des Moines) provided U.S. students in the Danish community with a training center for church leadership and a school where Danish spiritual and cultural heritage could be conserved and transmitted to future generations. (Contributed by Grand View University Danish Immigrant Archives)

- Governors of Iowa (Contributed by the State Library)
- State Librarians of Iowa (Contributed by the State Library)

IHDC brings together digital resources of Iowa libraries, museums, historical societies and other cultural institutions to enhance access and to preserve long-term accessibility of these priceless materials.

State Library helps fund Iowa Library Leadership Institute

Nationally known library organizational development consultant and American Library Association President-elect, Maureen Sullivan, led a four-day program for 22 librarians chosen to participate in the August 2010 Iowa Library Leadership Institute.



From left, State Librarian Mary Wegner, instructor Maureen Sullivan and Chair of the Leadership Development Committee, Nancy Medema

The event is coordinated by the Iowa Library Association. The State Library helps cover the costs of the event with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Attendees studied leadership in libraries today, understanding work and leadership styles, fostering experimentation and risk taking, creativity and innovation, leading change and transforming libraries.

Iowa artists contribute to beauty of Main Library

Adding to the attractiveness of the first floor Main Library is the work of Iowans who display their art throughout the year. The following are examples from FY11.

Anya Starr



Vicki Adams



Dana Barrer

Paul Lewsey



Georgiann Fischer
State Library of Iowa



MaryEllen Knowles

Iowans become intelligent investors

State Library staff administered a Smart Investing Grant designed to build the capacity of rural Iowa libraries to provide effective, unbiased investor education.

The State Library of Iowa was awarded the \$98,251 grant funded by the American Library Association and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation. Iowa was the only state library to receive the grant.

Armed with \$469 worth of new books and DVDs, website resources and trainers from Iowa State University Extension, 25 rural Iowa public libraries hosted 446 Iowans for “Smart Investing @ Your Library” classes in fall 2010 and spring 2011.

The program helped rural Iowans strengthen their knowledge of and confidence in investing.



Smart Investing instructor Mary Weinand teaching at the Keokuk Public Library

Enrich Iowa enhances library services for Iowans

The Enrich Iowa Program, administered by the State Library, includes state funding for Direct State Aid, Open Access and Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement.

- Direct State Aid for public libraries is intended to improve library services and reduce inequities among communities. Libraries use these funds to provide more books, programs, computers and services than they could otherwise afford.

Direct State Aid funding in FY11 was \$817,900 from the state general fund. 474 of Iowa’s 543 public libraries received Direct State Aid in FY11.

- Open Access lets Iowans from participating libraries check out materials at other participating libraries, thereby providing them with direct access to more materials and information resources. Open Access reimburses the loaning library a small amount of the expense involved. State funds supported Open Access with \$1,073,232 in FY11. Over 600 Iowa libraries participated.

- Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement provides Iowans with equal access to library resources by encouraging and supporting loans among all types of libraries. State funding helps offset the costs involved. Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement was funded at \$354,940 in FY11. 538 libraries participated.

Iowans checked out 4,336,660 library materials through Open Access and Interlibrary Loan Reimbursement in FY11.

Iowa Center for the Book

In celebration of its 100th anniversary, The Rotary Club of Des Moines, in partnership with the Iowa Center for the Book (State Library), Des Moines Public Library and Beaverdale Books held a day-long “Hands on Book Festival for Kids” in fifth grade on May 4, 2011.

Three tents were placed outside the Des Moines library for hands-on activities. The Center for the Book examined the history of books from sacred text images, a Tibetan prayer wheel, a replica of the Rosetta Stone, a Chinese woodblock with tracing paper and China markers for the kids, as well as lots of Braille activities and information. Oversized to miniature books were also on display, along with a Nook.



Children enjoy the many displays at the “Hands on Book Festival for Kids.”

National Book Festival celebrates a decade of words and wonder



Robin Martin chats with some of the record-setting attendees.

The Iowa Center for the Book (ICB), represented by State Librarian Mary Wegner, ICB Coordinator Robin Martin and Annette Wetteland, State Library, participated in the 10th annual National Book Festival on Sept. 25 on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

An estimated crowd of 150,000 celebrated their love of reading by visiting authors, illustrators and poets, as well as the Pavilion of the States where Iowa’s display was located.

The ICB featured information about the state’s literary programs, Iowa authors, and the Herbert Hoover Library, and gave children colorful maps and puzzles.

One of America’s best-loved coming of age novels, “Flamingo Rising” by Iowa writer Larry Baker was designated for the national recommended reading list “Discover Great Places Through Reading.”

Iowa has record breaking number of entries in the national Letters About Literature Contest

Seventeen students were named Iowa winners in the FY11 national reading and writing contest, Letters About Literature (LAL), sponsored by the Iowa Center for the Book (ICB) and the Library of Congress in partnership with Target Stores.

“Out of 2,253 Iowa entries - a record for Iowa - 148 were returned from the National LAL office for a third round of judging,” said Robin Martin, ICB Coordinator.

LAL cultivates independent readers by inviting children in grades 4-12 to write a personal letter to an author explaining how that person’s work changed their way of thinking about the world or themselves.

Eighty-five Iowa teachers and teacher librarians coached their students. A half-dozen children entered individually.

Only 10 states had more entries than Iowa. In the seven years Iowa has par-

ticipated, the state has had five national winners.

A ceremony for the winners and honorable mentions was held at the State Library on May 6, 2011. The guest speaker was Stephen Lovely (*Irreplaceable*), director of the Iowa Young Writers’ Studio.

The following are first place winners in each level.

Level I - (Grades 4-6)



*Robin Martin, Osgood,
and Stephen Lovely*

First Place
Juliana Osgood
Book: *Edward’s
Eyes* by Patricia
MacLachlan
School: Lenihan
Intermediate (Mar-
shalltown)
Grade: 6

Level II - (Grades 7-8)



*Martin, Eide, and
Lovely*

First Place
Claire Eide
Book: *Courage is
Not Given* by Dray-
ton Mayrant
School: St. Augus-
tin Catholic School
(Des Moines)
Grade: 8

Level III - (Grades 9-12)



*Martin, Dew, and
Lovely*

First Place
Amy Dew
Book: *A Long Way
Gone* by Ishmael
Beah
School: Muscatine
High School
Grade: 12

Sing Them Home is All Iowa Reads selection for 2011

Sing Them Home by Stephanie Kallos is a deeply moving portrait of three grown siblings who have lived in the shadow of unresolved grief since their mother's mysterious disappearance when they were children. The book was the 2011 All Iowa Reads selection.

All Iowa Reads is a program of the Iowa Center for the Book. Its purpose is to foster a sense of unity through reading. Iowans statewide are encouraged to come together in their communities to read and discuss a single title in the same year.

Past titles are:

- 2010. *Driftless* by David Rhodes
- 2009. *The Rope Walk* by Carrie Brown
- 2008. *Digging to America* by Anne Tyler
- 2007. *Splendid Solution: Jonas Salk and the Conquest of Polio* by Jeffrey Kluger
- 2006. *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson
- 2005. *The Master Butchers Singing Club* by Louise Erdrich
- 2004. *Niagara Falls All Over Again* by Elizabeth McCracken
- 2003. *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger

Check out the Iowa Center for the Book Website

The Iowa Center for the Book (ICB) is a program of the State Library of Iowa and an affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

Founded in 2002, ICB's mission is to stimulate public interest in books, reading, literacy and libraries. To fulfill this mission the ICB offers a variety of programs and resources, including the Iowa Author List which was established in 2007. Its purpose is:

For readers – a source of information about authors living in Iowa and what they have written.

For libraries, schools, and other organizations - information about Iowa authors accepting speaking engagements.

For authors - another way to reach Iowa readers.

There are 275 Iowa authors on the list.

Also on the website are upcoming literary events around the state, information on All Iowa Reads, Letters About Literature, how to lead a book discussion, and lists of Iowa book stores and Iowa library book discussion and writers groups.

State Library provides great discounts to libraries

Partnering with others, the State Library negotiates with companies for terrific discounts for Iowa libraries.

EBSCOhost, for instance, is a comprehensive reference database with thousands of publications not available for free. 414 public libraries are paying only \$25 plus four cents per capita a year for access to this information. Searches using EBSCOhost increased to 38,834,383 in FY11 from 20,176,798 in FY10.

Other discounts the State Library negotiates for include Movie Licensing USA, Britannica Digital Learning, and Tech Soup which offers nonprofits a one-stop resource for technology needs by providing reduced cost software.

In FY11, state libraries nationwide partnered to get a discount on Advanced Workstations in Education Early Literacy Stations. Iowa currently has 28 units in public libraries.

FY11 Service Statistics

- Reference contacts (Main Library, Law Library and State Data Center): 8,633
- Library Development consulting contacts: 11,162
- EBSCOhost searches by Iowans: 38,834,383
- Courses and presentations by State Library staff: 76
- Total course attendance: 1,560
- SILO interlibrary loan transactions: 105,292

Libraries strive to become accredited, librarians certified

The State Library documents the condition of public library service in Iowa - Code of Iowa (256.51(j)) - by requiring public libraries to submit accreditation reports.

In FY11, 344 Iowa public libraries were accredited, including five new ones.

Iowa's public library accreditation program has been in place since 1986 based on *In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measure of Quality, 1985*. The Iowa library community revised *In Service to Iowa* in 1989, 1997, 2004 and 2010.

From a librarian who attended a class on the accreditation process:

"Thank you (in advance) for sending the letter telling us the date we are going to have to reapply for accreditation. The staff at the State Library sure help me excel at my job!"

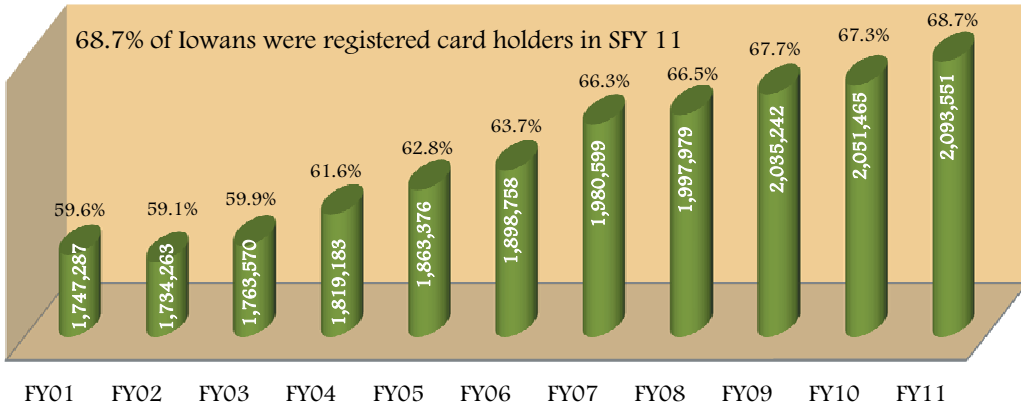
The Iowa Certification Program for Public Librarians is intended to:

- improve library service in Iowa by developing the skills of public library directors and staff
- encourage public librarians to acquire, maintain, and develop their skills through basic and continuing education
- provide recognition for public librarians
- enhance the public image of librarians and libraries
- provide guidelines that public library boards may use in developing staff hiring policies

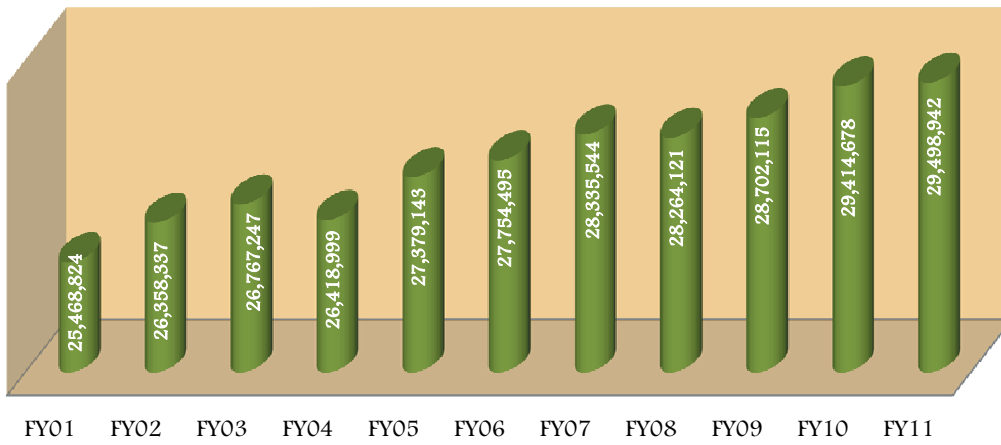
There are 1,537 certified Iowa librarians, including 70 who became certified in FY11.

Use of Iowa Public Libraries

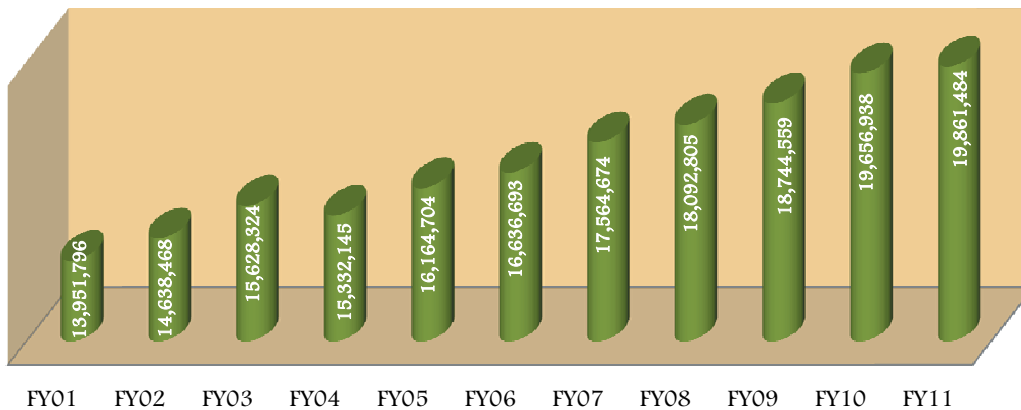
Iowa Public Library Card Holders
20% increase since FY 01



Iowa Public Library Checkouts
16% increase since FY 01



Iowa Public Library Visits
42% increase since FY 01



State Library of Iowa

Mary Wegner
State Librarian

Barbara Corson
Program Director, Library Services

Sandy Dixon
Program Director, Library Development

Gary Krob
State Data Center Coordinator

Alan Schmitz
SILO Coordinator

Annette Wetteland
Communications Coordinator and
Annual Report editor

<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org>



Main Library
1112 E. Grand Avenue
515-281-4102

Law Library
1007 E. Grand Avenue
515-281-5124

1-800-248-4483

FY11

Iowa Commission of Libraries



The Iowa Commission of Libraries is the governing board of the State Library.

Pictured from top, left row, Monica Gohlinghorst (chair), David Boyd, Jann Freed, Dan Boice, and Pat Laas. From top, right row, Tom Martin, Kevin Fangman and Larry Marquardt.