

Centennial State Libraries

April 27, 2001

Bookmarks

- [“Cultural Heritage Collaboration in the Digital Age”: library and museum leaders to confer](#)
- [Scholarships available for master’s level library study](#)
- [Doctor, doctor, give me the news, at Adams County Library](#)
- [Living it up during Library Week, Pikes Peak style](#)
- [We always knew it--LRS selected as great reference](#)
- [FCC Commissioner Michael Powell meets library community, including Coloradan](#)
- [State Board of Education issues draft proposed accreditation rules and regulations. Information literacy included. Yeah!!!](#)
- [Diverse language materials increase at Denver Public Library](#)
- [New *Fast Facts* shows decline in print spending at library media centers](#)

Cultural Heritage Collaboration in the Digital Age: a Conference for Library and Museum Leaders

The Colorado Digitization Project and the Western Council of State Librarians are sponsoring a conference that will introduce key archive, historical society, museum and library leaders in 23 Western states to the issues associated with developing a statewide or regionally based collaborative digitization initiative. The conference, to be held at the University of Denver on June 28-29, 2001, will afford participants the opportunity to lay the groundwork for a state or regional plan. The conference will include plenary and small group sessions, a vendor fair and the opportunity to see demonstrations from several states. There is no cost for the conference. Among the speakers are Deanna Marcum, President, Council on Library and Information Resources; Beverley Shepherd, IMLS, Interim Director; Gladys Ann Wells, Arizona State Library Director; and Nancy Bolt, Colorado State Librarian. For more information, visit the [Cultural Heritage Collaboration in the Digital Age web site](#).

Library Services to Special Populations Scholarships

The Colorado Council for Library Development through LSTA funds is offering two annual \$5,000 scholarships for students currently enrolled or entering an ALA-accredited MLS program or a Masters in Educational Media. Applicants must be residents of Colorado, citizens or permanent residents of the United States. The scholarships are open to anyone regardless of race, age, gender, or creed. Application deadline is June 15. For information and forms, visit [Library Services to Special Populations](#) web site.

Adams County Library Wins Notice for Medical Advice

Congratulations to Adams County Library. The Brighton Branch was noted by *Westword* as "Best Free Medical Advice" for its Community Health Resource Center. Information is available in English and Spanish. Local physicians give patients a special "information prescription" that the library staff fill with the appropriate pamphlet, book, videotape or computer printout.

Pikes Peak Library District Celebrates Library Week in Style

National Library Week became the reason behind several highly successful promotions at Pikes Peak Library District. Some 500 new cardholders registered during an outreach at all Colorado Springs Wal-Mart stores. Then anyone using his "KNOWcard" (AKA library card) during the week became eligible to win a computer donated by the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District. Long-time library user Marjorie Beth Campbell won the \$900 CompUSA gift certificate. She was one of over 15,000 people who used their library cards that week. Mrs. Campbell, a 78-year-old patron of the downtown library, says she has one of the oldest library cards in the district. She loves using the computer to look up books on the library's web site. For more information, contact the [Pikes Peak Library District](#).

LRS Selected as Great Reference for Librarians

CSL's Library Research Service has been featured on [LibrarySpot.com](#), the library and reference portal of the web. The LibrarySpot editorial team scours the web for the very best sites. LRS is showcased among the very best reference resources on the web. To see the listing, follow this path: Librarian's Shelf>Library Roles>Admin/Management.

State Librarian Nancy Bolt Meets with FCC Commissioner Michael Powell

State Librarian Nancy Bolt was pleased to be invited to be one of four librarians to meet with new FCC Chairman Michael Powell. Attending the meeting were ALA President Nancy Kranich, ALA Washington Office Director, Emily Shetikoff, and ALA Office of Information and Technology Policy staff member Sandra Shirley. The main topic was, of course, the e-rate. ALA President Kranich began the discussion by emphasizing how important libraries are in bridging the digital divide. Bolt followed with many examples of Colorado's e-rate experience and the importance of e-rate in the total package of funding technology in libraries. Bolt emphasized four points:

- the e-rate does good, particularly in rural American
- the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the FCC has excellent staff who are responsive to our input
- the process still needs to be simplified and requests for additional information minimized
- the library community would like to meet regularly with FCC staff to discuss policy issues that go beyond the SLD's authority

Powell responded that he supported the e-rate and keeping it in the FCC. He did not seem particularly interested in expanding it to include teacher training or software. He agreed and welcomed regular meetings with his staff. All in all it was a pleasant and productive meeting.

State Board of Education Issues Proposed Accreditation Rules and Regulations, Including Information Literacy

The State Board of Education is issuing new school accreditation guidelines to bridge the gap between legislation passed two years ago about standards-based education and legislation passed last year about a school report card. As part of this effort, the new rules and regulations include a new initiative from the State Board of Education – Educational Technology and Information Literacy. The proposed rules require an annual written assessment review of achievement to include a report on : “A plan for technology and information literacy that is integrated into the district's standards-based educational plan.” See the full text of the proposed rules and regulations at the [Proposed Amendments/New/Permanent \(Emergency\) Rules](#).

Denver Public Library Enhances Collection in Diverse Languages

A grant from the Carnegie Foundation of New York has enabled the Denver Public

Library to purchase materials to enhance its collection in other languages. The library now has almost 9000 new books and videos to better serve customers. The materials include items in Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian and Chinese. In addition, the English-as-a-Second-Language materials expanded by approximately 2000 books, videos and CDs. For information on the items, call 720-865-2045.

"Library Media Center Collections Suffer as Print Spending Drops": New *Fast Facts*

From 1997 to 2000, library media center spending on print materials per student decreased by 10 percent, while book costs during same period increased by 12 percent. A new *Fast Facts* from the Library Research Service extrapolates from the findings of the study, "How School Librarians Help Kids Achieve Standards," and points out a decrease in spending on print collections can adversely impact students' academic achievement and as a result lower test scores.

For all school levels combined, the ratio of print volumes per student increased 14 percent from 1997 to 2000. Middle schools had the greatest increase in the ratio of volumes per student with a rise of 18 percent from 17 volumes per student to 20. To see the new publication, visit the [Library Research Service](#).

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