

WYLD GOVERNING BOARD
2015 Annual Report
June 5, 2015

Welcome and thanks you all of for being here today. I am grateful to all of you who have dedicated your time to serve on committees, provide and attend trainings and workshops, and attend our Annual Business Meetings. I am deeply appreciative of the Wyoming State Library for its unwavering support of our efforts, from State Librarian Lesley Boughton down to the WYLD office. And, finally, I am particularly pleased to see so many librarians here who have never attended an Annual meeting before – you “newbies” are warmly welcomed! You are the face of our library network as we move into the future.

We are a Library Consortium unlike any other in the country, with an astounding level of cooperation – partly due to the small size of our library community, partly due to the support of our Wyoming State Library and State Librarian, but mainly due to the commitment of our member libraries and librarians – each of us dedicated to providing the best possible library services to every citizen of Wyoming.

Our mandate for this past year was to examine our current governance structure to make it more agile in order to more quickly meet the needs of our library patrons. How could we change it to ensure a strong, independent organization and more effectively adapt to changes in technology and in the state political structure?

With that in mind a Leadership Summit was held last fall, with attendees from the Governing Board, Regional Council, and ILS committees. Areas of concern which emerged during the discussions included not only the WYLD structure and its agility, but also continuity into the future, increasing network membership (especially among school libraries), marketing (to the public, legislators and other libraries), and building partnerships (with local and state entities and our legislators). Immediate results of the Summit included:

- A name change to the ILS User’s Group, with this mission statement -- “The purpose of the WYLD ILS Users Group is to assist the WYLD office in making decisions regarding the ILS and ensure all users have timely access to training, information relating to current usage and are made aware of trends and opportunities for visioning the ILS into the future.”
- Suggested revisions to the bylaws which included changing our name to the ILS User’s Group, disbanding the Regional Council, creating the ILS Products committee to evaluate options for spending our Blue Cloud Rewards, eliminating the Fees/Budget Committee with its duties being assumed by the Governing Board itself.

Discussions continued at a Regional Council meeting in Cheyenne in January and culminated in a Leadership Breakfast here yesterday morning, where we reviewed the items discussed at the Leadership Summit, what we have gotten done, and where we need to go next.

Other accomplishments for the year by the Governing Board included:

- Monthly conference calls for the Governing Board, as well as the Training Committee and the Online Quality Committee.
- All standing committees under the newly-revised bylaws (Training, Online Quality, and ILS Products) have been filled, with the exception of a Region 2 rep for the Online Quality Committee. Each committee has been appointed a chair – thanks to Deb Sturman for Training, Cara Nett for Online Quality, and Adam Van Sickle for ILS Products for your willingness to take on these chairmanships. We have several people who volunteered for a position that had already been filled – please know that we appreciate

the offer of your time and are keeping your name on a list as being willing to serve in the future. You cannot get away from us now!

- The appointment of an Ad Hoc ILS Security Committee, chaired by Brad Matthies, following the security breach by Chinese hackers last fall. This committee was tasked with examining the personal information being used in our library patron records and make recommendations regarding which information should, or should not, be used in the future.

It has been a busy year, with a lot accomplished towards achieving that strong, independent, and nimble organization we desire. Our work, however, has just begun. Some goals for this next year include:

- A concerted effort to examine our continuity into the future. Through the past several years, we have seen the value of and need to continue monthly meetings of the Governing Board and its committees, as well as face-to-face Annual Meetings. With the retirement of State Librarian Lesley Boughton and five long-time Public Library Director's this year, we need to develop new director orientations and mentoring programs.
- The development of an "Expectations Document," so everyone in our library network knows who is responsible for what. What does the Governing Board expect of the WYLD office, and vice versa? What do the ILS Users group members expect of the WYLD office, and vice versa? What do the ILS Users group members expect of the Governing Board, and vice versa?
- The development of a "Return on Investment" document, showing the value of ILS membership for each library, which they in turn can share with their communities and legislators and with new library directors.
- The continuing revision of other network documents, now that the bylaws are completed. The Voting Delegate's Handbook was last revised in 2004 and the Strategic Plan in 2009 – both are in need of review and updating.
- Closer communication between governing board representatives and their constituent libraries – with the dismantling of the Regional Council they are the primary voice for each of our member libraries.
- The development of a formal budgeting process by the Governing Board, to include an Annual Budget, monthly reports from the State Library Business Office (showing network balances, income and expenditures), and an annual discussion of ILS User Fees every January (with final figures out to each library by March 1st).

This is a bittersweet time. It is a time of sadness, with the loss of State Librarian Lesley Boughton, Laramie County Director Lucie Osborne, Goshen County Director Isabel Hoy, Lincoln County Director Brenda McGinnis, Natrona County Director Bill Nelson, Teton County Director Deb Adams, and UW Dean of Libraries Maggie Farrell. All are long-time Wyoming librarians, who have worked hard to build this network and who take an incredible amount of "corporate knowledge" away with them. They will be deeply missed. But it is also a time of great anticipation and hope. With new blood comes new ideas, reinvigorating enthusiasm, and a wonderful energy!

I say goodbye to you today as Chair of your Governing Board – it has been an honor to serve and I humbly hope that I have been of some benefit. I am so pleased to present Marci Mock as your incoming Chair – she brings with her a great knowledge of the network, great anticipation of the changes coming down the road, and a great desire to serve all of you and all of our citizens. It's been great to work with her...she's just plain great!

Thank you all and see you next year!

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Mackey
Governing Board chair