

Spring 2002

21st Century School Library at SchoolNet

• INFOhio Central

274 East First Ave., Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43201
Tel: 614/752-2941 Fax: 614/752-2940

• **Theresa M. Fredericka**, Executive Director
Internet: fredericka@infohio.org

• **Kathleen A. Martin**,
Cataloger/Bibliographic Control Specialist
Internet: martin@infohio.org

• **Cynthia L. Husted**, Project Coordinator
Tel: 614/995-1774
Internet: husted@infohio.org

• **Cathy L. Kerner**, Office Manager
Tel: 614/752-2941
Internet: kerner@infohio.org

• **David W. Ambrose**, INFOhio Consultant
Tel: 330/372-4873
Internet: ambrose@infohio.org

• **Lois Lequyea**, INFOhio Consultant
Tel: 440/543-9215
Internet: lequyea@infohio.org

• **Spencer White**, INFOhio Consultant
Internet: spence@swoca.net

INFOhio Support Sites

Technical Services - NOACSC

645 South Main St., Lima, OH 45804
Tel: 419/228-7417 Fax: 419/222-5635

• **Michael Wildermuth**, Director
Internet: michael@noacsc.org

• **Jean Banks**, Technical Support
Internet: jean@noacsc.org

• **Juanita Markham**, Technical Support
Internet: juanita@noacsc.org

• **Charles Schmiesing**, Technical Support
Internet: charles@noacsc.org

• **Terri Shutt**, Technical Support
Internet: terri@noacsc.org

Medianet Support - H/CCA

• **John Whyde**, Medianet Support
Tel: 800/291-9404 (access code 04)
Internet: whyde@infohio.org

Instructional Development - NEO-IMC

347 N. Park Ave., Rm 307, Warren, OH 44481
Tel: 330/392-8444, Fax: 330/392-8429

• **Tony Marshalek**, Director
Internet: marshalek@infohio.org



First Lady Hope Taft joined the SchoolNet conference in the 21st Century School Library to read from "B is for Buckeye" to a group of Wilson Hill Elementary students.



Cassie Rogers, Tecumseh Local, demonstrates INFOhio Electronic Resources at the Integration Station.

School librarians were transformed into cyberlibrarians in the 21st Century School Library exhibit as they demonstrated to educators from around the state how to use the powerful tools of the information age to enhance academic achievement.

As part of the 21st Century School House presented at the SchoolNet Conference, February 3-6, 2002, the exhibit allowed librarians to showcase:

- the benefits of library automation
- the ease and universal accessibility to curriculum-related, age-specific electronic databases
- the impact of teaching with multimedia educational resources, and
- the necessity of integrating information literacy into the curriculum by linking the library, Internet, and electronic resources to classroom instruction.

We'd like to express a special thanks to those who gave their time and energy to make this exhibit a success. As individuals

and as a statewide community, we must all promote school libraries and continue to make them a vital part of schools in the 21st century and beyond.

As one volunteer put it: "I continue to be amazed by those who don't know about the [INFOhio] electronic resources. There were two teachers from an independent school who were just so excited by the resources--they couldn't believe that these riches were there for anyone. They also didn't have a librarian and walked away realizing what a librarian could bring to them."

The 21st Century School Library Exhibit was sponsored by Leadership for School Libraries (L4SL). L4SL is a collaborative effort of the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Educational Library Media Association (OELMA), INFOhio, and the State Library of Ohio with a mission to provide leadership to Ohio's School Library Community through the integrated efforts of state-level entities.

Recruitment Notice

Nominees for the INFOhio Governing Advisory Board

INFOhio is seeking nominations for its Governing Advisory Board. The INFOhio Board consists of 11 members appointed by the Management Council of the Ohio Education Computer Network. INFOhio Board members are staff members of participating Ohio school districts, educational resource agencies, and Data Acquisition Sites (DASites). The INFOhio Board anticipates vacancies in June 2002 and is aggressively seeking nominations for new members. The term of service for Board Members is 3 years, commencing on July 1.

We urge members of the school library community to reflect on the qualifications of their members and nominate candidates. Any individual who believes he or she has a contribution to make should feel free to submit a self-nomination. In order to reflect the diverse interests of Ohio's school libraries and to serve the best interests of Ohio's many elementary and secondary students and classroom teachers, it is vital that we have a strong pool of nominees from which to select Board members.

Nominations should be mailed to the INFOhio Office or sent to <kerner@infohio.org> by May 3, 2002. Questions can be addressed to Cathy Kerner at 614.752.2941 or the listed email address.

First MORE Book Arrives At School

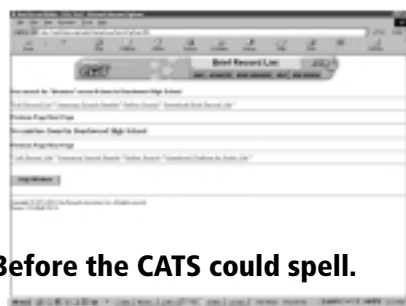
Liberty Union, one of the four MultiLIS MORE pilot sites, recently reported that they have received their first books via the MORE system from the Newark Public Library. The librarian is very excited and so are their students and faculty! "It is such an exciting time for us--truly feeling connected to statewide resources!" Congratulations Liberty Union and our other pilot schools, Antwerp, Newark City and Jackson Local, for bringing MORE to your school and getting students and faculty excited about their school library!



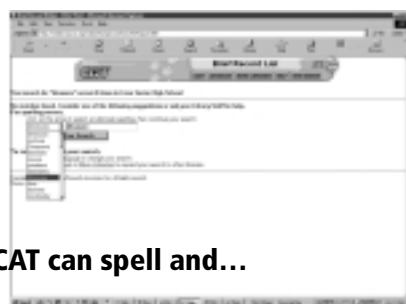
Additional MutliLIS libraries can join MORE this fall. Continue to watch the INFOhio Web site and e-list to learn how your school can start bringing your students MORE.

General information is available from the MORE website

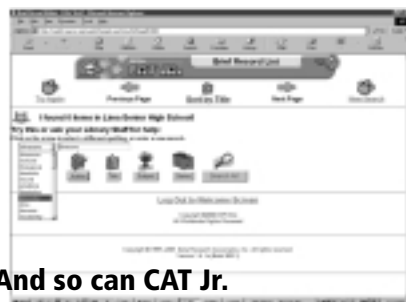
<<http://www.moreforohio.org>>.



Before the CATS could spell.



CAT can spell and...



And so can CAT Jr.

— **What fast learners!**

INFOhio CATs Can Spell!

We would like to introduce you to the new, improved INFOhio CAT and CAT Jr., coming this Spring. The new CATS include a spell checker to help students improve their spelling and the accuracy of their searches.

Here's how it works. If an attempted search returns "no hits," the search query is spell checked. If a spelling error is detected, alternate spellings are suggested. (This is similar to the spell-check feature in Encyclopaedia Britannica Online.)

In addition to spell check, an author-name-syntax check will be available. The feature is activated when a user enters an author's name, such as "Mark Twain," and chooses an author search. As library staff, you know that author searches must be conducted by entering the last name first, e.g., "Twain, Mark." So now, when CAT or CAT Jr. detects an author search that returns "zero hits," the system reverses the names and suggests an alternate search.

For example, if a user enters "John Grisham" and hits the "author" button, CAT and CAT Jr. suggest the search be attempted again, but this time by entering "Grisham, John."

Our research shows that nearly 50% of all searches return zero hits. We hope that these improvements will significantly increase the number of successful searches!

Alternatives to OCLC Requests

Last school year, INFOhio received an average of 2,000 OCLC requests per month. And, we filled an average of 1,000 requests a month. This resulted in a backlog.

This school year, requests are down. Only about 1,000 requests per month. As a result, we've started to reduce the backlog.

What's made this turnaround possible? Well, we've made some changes to the internal Union Catalog as well as to our external cataloging ventures.

For example:

- New records are now extracted from the DASites and loaded into the Union Catalog weekly. So now new records created at the 1,500+ MultiLIS schools are added to the Union Catalog regularly. As a result, more than 100,000 records have been extracted from DASites, deduped and loaded to the Union Catalog since September. Increasing the number of new and unique records increases your odds of finding the record needed without submitting an OCLC Request.
- MultiLIS schools can submit OCLC requests for records not found in the Union. You may have searched for a title on Wednesday, not found it and submitted an OCLC request. In the past your request would have waited in the OCLC queue for processing. But now with the regular loading of new records to the Union Catalog this record may arrive in the Union Catalog from another source only days after making the request. So a new procedure was created that automatically checks existing OCLC requests against the Union and actually fills the request if the record has been added to the catalog since the initial request was made.

These process improvements plus using the Library of Congress as a source for

free MARC records have greatly reduced the number of OCLC requests.

Even with these improvements, maintaining the OCLC Requests is still a time consuming and costly service to manage with limited budget and personnel. So, INFOhio recommends the following alternative cataloging solutions. Your participation in these alternatives will help free dollars and resources to find additional alternatives to reduce existing backlogs and explore new cataloging ventures.

1. Free MARC from the Library of Congress. If you don't succeed at the Union Catalog, try the Library of Congress. It's best to do your Library of Congress searches first thing in the morning; it gets very busy later in the day. INFOhio has developed a simple, easy-to-use, menu-driven procedure to enable MultiLIS users to load Library of Congress Records. The procedure combines all the records you download into a single file so you don't have to. Detailed instructions for accessing the Library of Congress, copying records and loading them are available from the INFOhio Web site. Just scroll to the "Support Materials and Documentation" section and select the "Union Catalog" link. The link to all Library of Congress instructions is listed under "Obtaining MARC Records".

2. Stand-alone systems that do not have access to the INFOhio OCLC Request Service can utilize step-by-step directions prepared by the MITINET/marc Software Company to copy Library of Congress records.

Directions are available from the INFOhio Web site for copying Library of Congress records and creating a "microlif.001" file that can be loaded into your local database. The instructions include how to create a "bookmark" or "favorite" to streamline record copying.

Don't forget about the UCAP procedure that allows stand-alone systems to select and export MARC records from the Union Catalog. <http://www.infohio.org/about/uc_header.htm >

3. Get your records overnight using CatExpress, which accesses the largest database of MARC records in the world. This OCLC service allows schools and/or DASites to purchase blocks of 100 records for \$1 per record.

This school year alone, 54 CatExpress school districts including two DASites have purchased 15,000 records. You can purchase a CatExpress subscription at anytime. However the subscription expires on June 30th every year and unused records do NOT carry over from one subscription term to another.

Smaller schools may need, want or only be able to afford purchasing fewer than one hundred records. If that's the case, DASites can collaborate to purchase blocks of records on behalf of two or more schools in their regions. The result: smaller schools can access CatExpress, download and pay for only the records they need. DASites are encouraged to consider this option for those districts and schools for whom 100 records is far too many to purchase.

To learn more about CatExpress visit the INFOhio Web site: scroll to the Support Materials section; select the "Union Catalog" link; then the link to "CatExpress".

The more you use CatExpress the better our Union Catalog will be. Since CatExpress records are loaded to the Union Catalog nightly, greater participation in this program increases the variety of records loaded to the Union Catalog. This increases the number of records found at the Union Catalog and potentially increases the number of OCLC requests filled each week by the automated procedure.

Annual Retreat June 19-21, 2002

Exciting things are happening and we need the participation of all INFOhio supporters as we "Power Up" for the transitions! We look forward to having Task Force members, providers and users with us at this year's retreat, to be held at Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark.

INFOhio's 2002 Retreat will focus on current Task Force projects as well as planning for the 2002-2003 program year. Task Force members and interested INFOhio users are encouraged to attend. It is hoped each DASite will send at least one provider and one user. There is a \$25 registration fee for the event. Guests also are responsible for mileage and rooming expenses. For more information and online registration visit the "Special Announcement" section on the INFOhio home page. Deadline for registration and room reservations is Monday, May 17, 2002.

The INFOhio RECORD is published by the State INFOhio Project, Theresa M. Fredericka, Executive Director. The newsletter is edited by Cynthia Husted, Project Coordinator. Design services have been provided by Insty-Prints, Columbus. Making copies of this newsletter, in whole or in part, is encouraged. Please acknowledge or cite the INFOhio Project.

Electronic Resource Update

THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU. AND, THANK YOU AGAIN! Because of your dedication, perseverance and support, INFOhio secured funding to provide Electronic Resources through June 2003.

Please continue to keep in touch with your legislators. Thank them for their support and encourage them to be advocates for future funding. The best way to do this is to provide examples of how electronic resources make a difference to your local school, teachers and students. And, be sure to highlight the cost savings of INFOhio. As you know, if each school were to buy these resources individually the cost would exceed \$21 per student or approximately \$43 million. Through INFOhio, the state pays only \$.40 per pupil, less than \$790,000 to provide unlimited access from every student's school and home anywhere in the state.



THE INFORMATION NETWORK FOR OHIO SCHOOLS

INFOhio Central
c/o State Library of Ohio
274 East First Avenue
Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43201
Phone 614/752-2941
Fax 614/752-2940
central@infohio.org

visit Our Web Site!
www.infohio.org

Thanks to the State Library for offering INFOhio a wonderful new home. And our sincere thanks to OhioLINK for providing our office space over the past three years.