



The CONNector

CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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This newsletter is published quarterly in January, April, July, November. Your contribution and comments are welcome. The deadline for contributions is the 20th of the month prior to publication. Please send them to Editor, CSL, 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT 06106-1537 or email [Bonnie Delaney](#).

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The State Librarian's Column

Kendall F. Wiggin
Connecticut State Librarian



Librarianship is collaborative by nature, and collections and services evolve through that collaboration. This core value of librarianship is clearly reflected in the work of the State Library. Just a brief sample of current collaborative efforts demonstrates the growing interdependence among information professionals and other agencies.

The Commission on Educational Technology is an example of a collaboration that will have a great impact on collections and services. In its first year, the Commission has brought together educators, business leaders, other government agencies and the library community in an effort to build a new learning environment. Increased access to advanced telecommunications will foster even greater collaboration between libraries, schools, and academic institutions. iCONN.org, the Connecticut Digital Library, itself a collaborative effort of the Department of Higher Education and the State Library, is already benefiting libraries and schools statewide and the communities they serve.

The State Library was one of the founding libraries for the OCLC Online Computer Library Center's Cooperative Online Resource Catalog (CORC) project. This project developed into a leading edge, web-based service that helps librarians provide enhanced access to web resources using new, automated tools and library cooperation. The State Library is also one of twelve institutions that have agreed to collaborate with OCLC in a pilot project to test electronic archiving technology. The goal of the Web Document Digital Archive project is to create a sustainable service to provide long-term access to web documents. The working prototype will track and preserve web-based documents that exist solely in electronic format. Through the Digital Archive the State Library intends to capture, preserve, provide access to, and manage the usage rights of electronic Connecticut state documents.

Services to children and parents are another area where great opportunities exist for library and community collaborations. I have been participating on the Early Childhood Task Force and their Family Support and Education Subcommittee exploring ways in which local libraries and other community organizations can collaborate to provide information that supports parents. This collaboration builds on the work that the State Library has done to create the greatKidsCT.org website for parents.

Of course the most important partnership is that between the State Library and the library community. The State Library will continue to work in close collaboration with all segments of the library community because it is only through these partnerships that we can improve the collections and services to meet the evolving information needs of the people of Connecticut.

Connecticut State Library
Established 1854

State Library Board Notes

The State Library Board held their regular meeting on May 21, 2001 at the State Library. Board member Ed Sullivan thanked the Board for their contribution to Suffield's Kent Memorial Library in honor of his late wife and thanked them for their support.

Sharon Brettschneider, Director of Library Development demonstrated [iCONN](http://iCONN.org), the Connecticut Digital Library, and distributed information packets. iCONN provides online access to information resources in public

libraries, schools, colleges, universities and in homes. The State Library is administering iCONN in conjunction with the Department of Higher Education as part of the Connecticut Education Network. Individuals may use their library barcode to access iCONN from home or office.

Jack Shannahan, Chair of the Museum Advisory Committee (MAC), introduced those members of MAC who were present. Mr. Shannahan discussed several concerns of the Advisory Committee regarding the Museum. The State Library Board expressed interest in improving the dialogue with the MAC and agreed to appoint a few Board members to a joint committee to look at strategic Museum issues. In a related matter, the Board took under advisement a proposal from the MAC entitled "Towards the Museum's Centennial: Necessaries and Desirables."

Board member Fred Petersen, who also serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Heritage Foundation, reported on the History on the Move project. The Foundation is seeking funding for this educational initiative which is designed to improve student and teacher awareness of Museum of Connecticut History's rich collections. The estimated budget for the project is \$200,000 over two years. Informational packets have been developed and representatives of the Foundation have met with several potential funders.

Dean Nelson, Administrator of the Museum of Connecticut History, reported on the need for an insurance appraisal of the Museum's Gilbert Stewart portrait of George Washington. The portrait is currently on loan to the Old State House.

A request by the State Librarian to adopt an Intellectual Property Policy was tabled by the Board. Several Board members wanted the policy statement to contain more specific language. Mr. Wiggin agreed to work with the Board to resolve the questions that were raised. The policy statement resulted from work done by the Intellectual Property Task Force which Mr. Wiggin had convened to explore the various Intellectual Property issues that the State Library faces.

Governor's Service Awards - July 2000 - July, 2001

Please join us in congratulating the following CSL employees:

Kevin Johnson locates and retrieves archival, manuscript, newspaper and other special collections from the library's vaults. He is tireless, thorough and takes great pride and pleasure in his ability to satisfy a patron's needs.

Nancy Shader had the primary responsibility for organizing the 1944 Hartford Circus Fire commemoration ceremony, an event attended by over 350 people including more than 150 survivors.

Mel Smith has the unique ability to convey his excellent knowledge of the State Library's books, manuscripts, archival materials and newspapers to patrons.

Joanne Turschman has enthusiasm, interest, dedication and patience in responding to library patrons' requests, despite ever increasing volumes of work.



CSL Affirmative Action Plan 2001

On June 14, 2001, the State Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) approved the State Library's Affirmative Action Plan. This marked 13 years of consecutive approval. In his letter to CHRO Director Cynthia Watts Elder, Kendall Wiggin stated: "Notwithstanding the fiscal and operational difficulties which face all agencies, the Library will as documented in the past, continue to demonstrate every possible good-faith effort to achieve the goals established by our Affirmative Action Plan. Attainment of our goals will make us a stronger organization, better able to serve an increasingly diverse population."

A copy of the State Library's Affirmative Action Policy Statement is available upon request.

Employee Recognition Awards for Years of State Service

Presented on June 11, 2001 in Memorial Hall, Museum of Connecticut History

10 Years

Timothy Boland
Sharon Brettschneider
Jennifer Miller
Donald Pallanck
Bradley Tenan
Vernalyn Thomas-Green
Jennifer Cotter

15 Years

Jane Beaudoin
Judith Borre
Sylvia Gaber
Fabiola Proulx
Albert Deyorio
Ellen Morrison
Charles Yaeger

20 Years

Joan Connelly
Kristina Golden

25 Years

Richard Kingston
Cheryl Schutt

30 Years

Claire Young

Over 30 Years

Beverly Naylor (33 years)

Eagle Scout Candidate Creates "Sensory Garden"

Carol Taylor, Director, Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

James Dossot belongs to the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 170, Unionville, Connecticut. When he was looking for ideas for a project for his Eagle Scout candidacy he approached the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. He wanted something that would be meaningful and would benefit others. Of all the ideas the library suggested, a "Sensory Garden" was the most appealing. The idea was to design a garden which would come alive for people with different disabilities by containing plantings with color, texture and smell along with wind chimes and a water feature (future addition to be provided by the library) to bring sound and relaxation to the garden. Jim worked with landscape architecture students from UConn for the garden design. He contacted individuals and companies to donate the required materials: plants, stonedust for the pathway, soil and mulch. He recruited individuals to create the flower beds and the pathway, including persons who could provide the needed construction equipment.

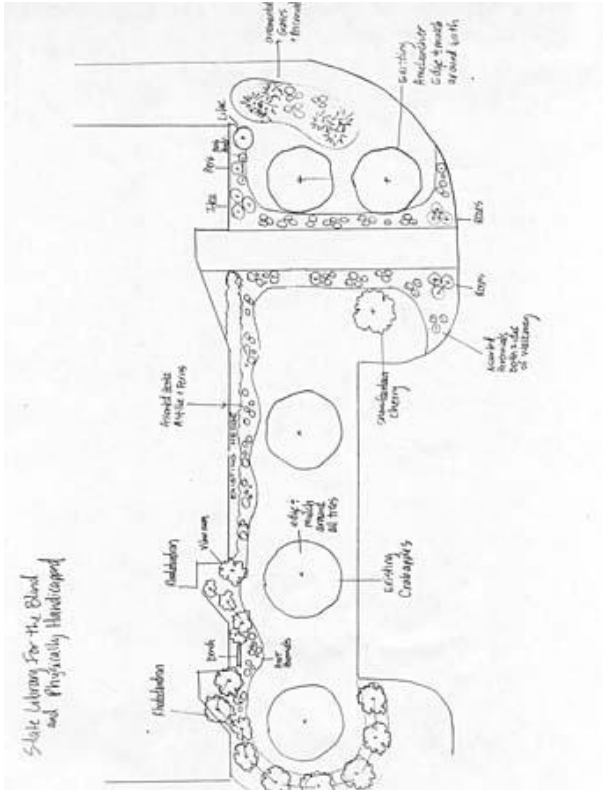
The end result was much more than the library could ever have imagined. The garden design spans the entire front of the library on both sides of the walkway. Visitors pass by a weeping cherry tree, roses, bee balm, rosemary, lilac, hosta, coreopsis, ornamental grasses, daisies and rhododendron, to name a few of the plantings. A stonedust pathway leads off to the left across the front of the building past a bench to a turnaround for wheelchairs. The water fountain will be located in an area close to the bench with the wind chimes hanging under the eaves.

What a thrill it has been to see this young man in action, planning and organizing this tremendous undertaking! Jim has continued to monitor the plantings and has discussed with us the garden's maintenance needs so we will have a wonderful garden that our library patrons can enjoy for many years to come. He has the thanks of all library staff, patrons and volunteers and their best wishes as he proceeds through the final stages of his Eagle Scout candidacy. He has truly made a dream come true!



Volunteers creating the "Sensory Garden"

Plans for the Sensory Garden



History Day Students and the Connecticut State Library

Nancy Lieffort, Librarian II



What do these questions have in common?

- When did the frontier end in the United States?
- What did the Apollo 11 astronauts do in space?
- Are there any magazine accounts of the Wright Brothers first flight?
- What was the Klondike like during the Gold Rush?
- Do you have any newspaper articles on Isabella Beecher Hooker?

The common thread that ties these questions together is their origin. They all come from Connecticut students who participated in the 2001 National History Day competition. Many students use our collections and resources in researching History Day topics for this national competition. One of CSL's experiences with this competition comes through a middle school social studies teacher and his students.

For several years Sam Lewbel from Rochambeau Middle School of Southbury has brought his students to the Connecticut State Library to introduce them to using a large research library. By teaming up with Mr. Lewbel we insure that his students' daylong visit will be a positive and productive one. CSL's Web catalog lets the students start their search before they arrive. Mr. Lewbel sends us a list of chosen materials and topics so, upon arrival, those materials are waiting for the students. From this starting point we work together to refine their searches and discover more resources.

Coming to the State Library is a new experience for the students. As beginning researchers they explore our collections; follow archival procedures; understand the basics of copyright; learn the correct way to handle old books; and figure out the intricacies of microfilm reader printers. They also experience the disappointments and frustrations of research by learning that the book or database that had held so much promise online didn't help at all, or that the magazine article didn't have any pictures.

History Day topics quite often involve resources from all six library stack levels as well as the state Archives and the Museum of Connecticut History. This allows the archivists, librarians and curators to work together and share their expertise with the students. We have all found it very rewarding to hear, "Thanks, that's just what I was looking for!" and, "I can't believe they have that here!" as the students share their excitement. They have been persistent, flexible in approaching topics from new angles and adept in the use of a portable scanner and laptop to take notes and incorporate images into their projects.

This year several of the students went from the regional level to the statewide competition held at the Connecticut Historical Society, Connecticut's coordinating agency for the National History Day competition. One of Mr. Lewbel's students received national recognition this June in Washington DC. This kind of competition has not captured the imagination of the general public or a front-page headline or ESPN coverage (yet). However, many of us now scan the local papers and the Web looking for competition results. Enthusiasm can be contagious!

Learn more about history day at the [National History Day Web site](#). Learn more about Connecticut's involvement in history day by checking the [Connecticut Historical Society's Web site](#).

Connecticut State Library New Hours

Beginning July 28th, 2001, our hours will include Saturdays and Thursday evenings. The new public hours will be:

Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri.: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p. m.

Thurs.: 9:00 a. m. - 7:00 p.m., and

Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Biographies of Judges and Attorneys

Cheryl Schutt, Law Librarian

Have you ever heard of Noah Webster? Of course you have. No, he is not the father of Daniel Webster; he is a cousin. He is the author of *Webster's Dictionary* and an esteemed legal scholar . He died in New Haven on May 28, 1843. Following is the memorial that was included in the original edition of Vol. 14 of *Connecticut Reports*, published by Thomas Day [Court Reporter] in 1843 and printed on Pearl Street in Hartford by Case, Tiffany & Co.

"Noah Webster was born in Hartford (West Hartford society) October 16th 1758; educated at Yale-College, and graduated there, in 1778; read law chiefly in his private apartments, but passed one summer in the family of the late Chief Justice Ellsworth, and another summer in the family of the late Judge Trumbull; was admitted to the bar in Hartford, April, 1781, being examined in company with the late Lt. Gov. Goodrich; began the practice of law in Hartford, in 1789; was admitted to practice in the courts of the United States, October, 1790, Chief Justice Jay presiding. At the close of 1793, he left the practice of the law, and removed to New-York, where he established a newspaper, with a view to support the administration of General Washington. In 1798, he removed to New-Haven; and was a representative of that town in the General Assembly of this State, May and October sessions, 1802, May 1803, May 1804, October 1805, May and October 1806, and October 1807. He was a justice of the quorum for New-Haven County, from June 1806 until June 1811. In 1812, he removed to Amherst, Mass., where he continued ten years. During this period he was twice a representative from that town in the legislature of Massachusetts, viz. in 1814, 15 and in 1819. While he resided there, Amherst College was established, and he was president of the board of trustees; and in that capacity, it fell to his lot to induct into office the Rev. Doct. Moore, who was the first president of the institution. In 1822, he returned to New-Haven, where he has since resided. Much of the greater part of his life has been devoted to philological pursuits. The honorary degree of L.L.D has been conferred upon him, by Yale and Middlebury Colleges." (14 *Connecticut Reports*: Appendix "Statistics of the Connecticut Bar" 20)" *Bouvier's Law Dictionary, 8th ed., 1883 (1914-3d rev.), vol. 3, p.2791.*

Other sources indicate that Mr. Webster was able to retire in 1803 due to his income from the publication of school books. He published his greatest work, *An American Dictionary of the English Language*, which recorded words on the basis of their popular usage, in 1828. The reference in his memorial to his devotion to philological pursuits may have been a rather 'tongue in cheek' reference to his dictionary.

The documentation found in the *Connecticut Reports* is a wonderful source of information for genealogists as well as the legal researcher. **Everyone** wants his/ her ancestor to have been a renowned and august Supreme Court Justice or an esteemed member of the Bar!

Selected biographies, obituaries and remarks of notable judges and attorneys can be found in the original early volumes of the *Connecticut Reports*. Librarians of the Law & Legislative Reference Unit are creating a database by scanning the original memorials to make full text facsimiles available on its web site.

Some of the memorials are rare because reprint editions of the early volumes of *Connecticut Reports* do not include these biographical gems. Fortunately, CSL has a set of early original volumes of *Connecticut Reports* which are part of the restricted Special Collections. The appropriate volumes have been scanned so that the memorials could be included in a database suitable for mounting on the web. The index includes references to annotated Connecticut jurists who served from the beginning of Nationhood to the beginning of the Post-War Era.

The Law & Legislative Reference Unit has most Judiciary confirmation hearings from 1903 to the present. They are part of the legislative proceedings available in the department. Call (860) 757-6590 for more information.

From the Connecticut State Archives: Voices From the Past

Mark Jones, State Archivist

The State Archives is the official repository for records of Connecticut's governors. Files contain letters from public officials and constituents, speeches and press releases, and letters from persons living outside the state. Often these materials express opinions on issues that continue to be discussed in our own day. A few examples follow:



Vivian Kellems

Equal Rights for Women

"I'm speaking of a new time. I'm talking about what is going to happen after the [Second World] War is over . . . what are you going to do with all these women in industry? If we're good enough to go into these factories and turn out munitions in order to win this war, we're good enough to hold those jobs after the war and to sit at a table to determine the kind of peace that shall be made, and the kind of world we and our children are going to have in the future."

Vivian Kellems, Westport Industrialist and Advocate for an Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Address before the Susan B. Anthony Dinner, National Women's Party, February 16, 1943.

Brotherhood and the Consent of the Governed

"Wide areas of human rights and human welfare have been protected by our [Connecticut's] legislation; but the active vigilance of each citizen is the bedrock upon which our laws are founded. And laws can never accomplish the purposes for which they were drafted without the thoughtful and deliberate assent of our people, freely given."

Governor Abraham Ribicoff, Frank Jacoby Lecture, University of Bridgeport, February 19, 1957.

Loyalty and Liberty

"We will, I believe, be infinitely stronger (and happier) maintaining our trust in our fellow - man than in mistrusting our neighbors, keeping a man's civil rights and liberties inviolate rather than curtailing it by loyalty oaths and investigations which breed suspicions and distrust."

Charles Wyle, Wilson, CT, Letter to Governor John Davis Lodge, May 7, 1951, objecting to Lodge's public statement that he was considering a loyalty oath for state employees.

Racial Hatred

"Cross burnings and other acts of racial violence are condemned by all responsible persons who believe that our society must be based upon racial justice and harmony. An attack against the dignity of any one person is an affront to us all. We in New England and in the entire country must react quickly and strongly against any insidious attempts to pit one racial or ethnic group against another."

Governor Ella T. Grasso, before the State Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, December 14, 1979.

The Promise of Freedom

"As the spirit of progression is being felt among us as a people, and as the day star of gladness rises higher and higher in our horizon and we feel its enlivening rays, it creates among us a desire to show to the World, to the people that not only in times of war can we occupy places of men, but also in times of peace."

Lloyd G. Seymour, Hartford, veteran of the 29th Connecticut Volunteers [Colored] Infantry, to Governor William A. Buckingham, August 14, 1865, requesting formation of a Black company in the Connecticut Militia.



Lloyd G. Seymour

iCONN- Connecticut Digital Library

William Sullivan, Administrator, Connecticut Digital Library

iCONN provides online access to essential information resources to every citizen in Connecticut through public libraries, schools, colleges, universities and homes. Since Lt. Governor M. Jodi Rell held a press conference at the State Library officially announcing iCONN on April 9, 2001, the following activities have occurred:

- Press releases and other materials were mailed to all public, school and academic libraries, to all legislators, to all newspapers and all education-related organizations in Connecticut.
- 5,000 iCONN-specific brochures and 1,700 mouse pads were distributed to libraries.
- Locally printable promotional materials were added to the iCONN website.
- Gale distributed 100 bookmarks to every public, academic and hospital library (distribution of bookmarks to all school libraries will be made in September)
- Thirty new databases were added, including:

For K-12 and Public Libraries:

- *The Hartford Courant* (Full-Text from 1992 - Present) includes obituaries/death notices, all staff written news features, special interest stories, daily columns, letters to the editor and sports reports
- Wilson Biographies Plus Illustrated - over 100,000 in-depth profiles and 28,000 images including Junior Authors & Illustrators, World Authors and Current Biography Illustrated
- InfoTrac Custom Newspapers - *The New York Times* Full Text - 12 month rolling archive.
- DISCovering Collection Authors, Biography, Science, U.S. History, World History, Multicultural America
- EXPLORING Novels, Short Stories, Poetry, Shakespeare

- U.X.L. Biographies, Multicultural, Science
- U.X.L. Jr. Worldmark Discovering Authors, Encyclopedia of Canadian Provinces, Encyclopedia of Nations, Encyclopedia of States, Encyclopedia of World Cultures
- Worldmark Encyclopedia of Nations, Encyclopedia of States, Encyclopedia of Cultures

For Academic Libraries:

- Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe, Statistical Universe Basic Power Tables
- ATLA (American Theological Library Association) Religion Database
- CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature)
- PsycINFO
- ABI Inform Global full-text with Images

The selection of databases was based on ballots cast at the iCONN March 26, 2001 kickoff conference, input from subsequent trials, and recommendations from The Council of Connecticut Academic Library Directors (CCALD) and the Department of Higher Education. We also recently created a linkage between over 2,000 titles listed in the Connecticut Union List of Serials (CULS), which is part of the reQuest statewide library catalog, and full-text titles in InfoTrac OneFile, the largest Gale periodical database. Access to all iCONN databases requires authentication for onsite access by IP address.

All train-the-trainer training of public, academic and public school trainers has been completed. Training of public school library media specialists, teachers and administrators begins in July.

- Twenty training sessions were coordinated by the Western Connecticut Library Council for public and academic librarians
- Three training sessions were held for Regional Education Service Center technology coordinators
- Seven hands-on training sessions were provided for library media specialists, teachers and administrators, with an additional 40 sessions planned during the school year. Training for public schools is being coordinated by the six Regional Education Service Centers.

iCONN Home Page includes a "[Request For Comments](#)" (RFC) (320kb) (This file is provided in Portable Document Format (PDF) and requires Adobe Acrobat Reader for viewing.) that describes our current thinking about the future directions of the reQuest Statewide Library Catalog and associated services. The RFC is also intended to provide a framework and a catalyst for discussions with potential suppliers and the library community about next-generation reQuest services. This document will change over time as it reflects these discussions about both what is desirable as well as what can realistically be achieved. By publishing and maintaining this RFC, the State Library hopes vendors will be better prepared to respond in a timely fashion when the procurement process is designed and implemented. We invite comments, suggestions and questions.

New State Library Facility

Rich Kingston, Director, Administrative Services

The Connecticut State Library has just completed negotiations to lease a building at 75 Van Block Avenue in Hartford. This facility will address a number of pressing State Library needs. It will be used primarily to store archival and library materials. In addition, the Raymond E. Baldwin Museum of Connecticut History will be able to retrieve valuable items it has stored throughout the state and maintain them in this new facility. The agency plans to install a computer training lab at this location. Meetings, seminars and training sessions will also be conducted at this 45,000 square foot facility in south Hartford. The Department of Public Health will be using a small portion of the building for processing of Vital Records. The building has the capability to be used for other types of State Library related services.



An exterior view

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for lease negotiations for all state property, and the State Library has been working with DPW for over two years to obtain archival and collection storage space. Prior to choosing the Van Block site, Georgianne Killeen of DPW and I personally toured nineteen different locations (I have the photographs to prove it). All of us at the State Library are delighted that this building is available as it has a history of serving as a storage facility for both a daily newspaper and an insurance company. Renovations to this space will be fairly minimal as the building was originally designed to suit storage needs, a perfect fit for us.



Soon to be developed space

Current plans are to occupy the building by Labor Day. State Library staff are excited by the possibilities that exist to alleviate some of the more severe storage problems we are currently experiencing. We look at the acquisition of this leased building as a short-term solution to some of our space needs. The construction of new, permanent buildings is the long-term solution for all of these needs.

Legislative Update - July, 2001 CSL Budget



The regular 2001 session of the General Assembly ended without a budget being enacted. However, a series of appropriation bills and enabling legislation were finally passed by the legislature meeting in a Special Session before the end of the fiscal year. After all was said and done the State Library budget more closely resembled the Governor's proposed budget than the budget that came out of the Appropriations Committee.

While the State Library was able to hold on to many of the gains made in the last session, the Budget for the biennium ending June 30, 2003 does present the Library and the library community with some significant challenges.

An \$80,000 reduction in the State Library materials budget combined with minimal adjustments for inflation over the past several years means that the Library will have to reduce the number of serials it receives or stop buying new books or both. This will affect all aspects of the State Library including the law collection and the service center collections.

In a surprise turn of events, iCONN, the Connecticut Digital Library, was only funded for the first year of the biennium. Both the Governor's budget and the Appropriation Committee's budget had recommended two years of funding. Since the majority of funding for iCONN pays for subscriptions to the various database offerings, no funding would result in the cancellation of these valuable resources.

The budget does allow the State Library the opportunity to address the growing demands on the Connecticut (CCAR) delivery system. The State Library will issue a request for proposals this summer seeking a private delivery/courier firm to take over the CCAR operation. However, it could take six months or more before a company can be found and a contract negotiated. In the meantime, the Division of Library Development will continue to operate C-CAR.

The most severe hit in the budget was the elimination of funding for the Connecticut Humanities Council's *A Time for Ideas in Libraries* program and their support for the Emmy-winning "Connecticut Experience" programming in cooperation with Connecticut Public Television.

Despite efforts to increase funding for the Cooperative Library Service Units (CLSU's), their funding fell to \$778,971, which is \$20,295 below FY01's funded level of \$799,266.

Funding for the public library construction grant program will continue at the \$2.5 million level each year of the biennium.

In other legislative action the partnership program between schools in need of improvement and public libraries will continue. This will continue the program that began last year, however the funding levels look to be significantly lower.

The Connecticut General Statutes governing the State Library were amended removing the section relating to the Connecticut Library Network. The language establishing the Connecticut Library Network was redundant to last year's enactment of the Connecticut Education Network. The services previously referred to as the Connecticut Library Network will be carried on under the Division of Library Development as part of iCONN.