

STATEWIDE REPORT #1

State Project Code: 2013-ABC-202

Project Period: October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2014

State Goal: Improving community access to library resources

INSTITUTION INFORMATION

1. Submitting Library: West Dakota State Library Agency
2. D-U-N-S® Number: 11-321-9876
3. Street or P.O. Box: 201 E. Maple Bacon St. Southwest Dakota, WD 60501-4235

PROJECT DIRECTOR INFORMATION

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PROJECT INFORMATION

8. **Title:** Statewide Databases
9. **Project Abstract:** In conjunction with the East Dakota and South Dakota County Library Districts, the State Library negotiated licenses to 50 electronic databases and made them available to public schools, charter schools, tribal libraries, and public libraries in West Dakota so that all residents can access digital information resources for school, work, or personal enrichment.

10. Project Results:

The databases were used by 184 institutions including public schools and libraries. For the project period, there were 26,697,425 searches completed during 9,024,616 sessions. Users retrieved 1,409,037 documents in HTML and PDF formats, 51,882 images and videos, and 1,722,541 abstracts. Another 236,110 searches were made using OCLC's FirstSearch.

Based on the results of an online, transaction-based survey conducted by 55 (of 184) member institutions, a significant number of public users reported that they improved their skills in locating quality information by using the databases. The survey is administered for one year, in a short, random period each month at the time of user access. Of the 22,956 users that received a pop-up survey, 7,210 users opted to take this three minute survey.

Highlights include:

55% of users agreed that they found the information that met their needs.

65% of users agreed they would use this service again.

85% of users agreed they would continue to use another library service.

	Number of Libraries
Libraries by Type	No.
School	61
Public	123

We note that the percentage of users indicating that they found the information that met their needs decreased by 20 percent when compared to FY2012. Staff have scheduled brief phone interviews with staff from member libraries that reported significant decreases (less than 30 percent of users indicating they found the information that met their needs). In FY2014, we plan to host a convening for our member libraries to discuss these findings among other topics.

11. Data Collection Methods

The committee conducted a review of statistical reports provided by Gale and OCLC; led focus groups with librarians and teachers across the state; and implemented an electronic survey.

12. Significant Lessons Learned

None.

13. Other Observations

Due to decreases in state funding, the Electronic Databases program saw a drop in the number of member libraries and schools (from 82 schools last year to 61 schools this year; and 149 libraries last year to 123 libraries this year).

14. Keywords: databases, OCLC, Gale

15. Project URL: <http://gph.is/1N9t3ML>

16. Actual Expenditures:

	LSTA	SLAA	Private
<i>Salaries/Wages/Benefits</i>	35,700		
Description: Salaries (five employees @ part time)			
<i>Consultant Fees</i>	40,000		
Description: 2 consultants contracted to conduct a statewide evaluation of OCLC/Gale services and implement transactional surveys.			
<i>Travel</i>	5,000		

Description: Transport to and from public libraries and schools across the state.			
<i>Supplies/Materials</i>			
Description:			
<i>Equipment</i>			
Description:			
<i>Services</i>	1,800,000		
Description: 14 OCLC Databases and 97 Gale Databases. Subscription to webinar service.			
TOTAL	1,880,700		

17. Project Activities

The Electronic Databases Committee conducted market research and calculated pricing for each of the member libraries and schools. 111 electronic databases were acquired for FY13-14. Flyers and other publicity materials were printed and emailed to all eligible libraries and schools.

Given that this was the final year of the Gale/OCLC contract, staff initiated strategic planning discussions focused on future funding streams for statewide database licensing. The committee undertook a comprehensive needs assessment, along with in-person and online focus groups. Staff conducted 5-6 planning workshops with librarians across the state to discuss how the State Library can leverage state and private funds to improve the sustainability of this program. Approximately 60 librarians took part in these in-person strategic planning discussions. The committee expects to issue a feasibility report in November 2014.

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