

State Library of Iowa Strategic Plan 2008-2011
Approved October 24, 2008 by Commission of Libraries

Mission: The State Library advocates for Iowa libraries & promotes excellence & innovation in library services in order to provide statewide access to information for all Iowans.

Strategic Priorities	1) Promote high quality lib services for all Iowans through the use of technology.	2) Strengthen the capacity of Iowa libs of all types and sizes to provide the best possible lib service to Iowans.	3) Build the capacity of Iowa libs of all types and sizes to prepare Iowans for a bright future & enhance Iowa's quality of life.	4) Ensure access to unique Iowa collections.	5) Tell the Iowa lib story – that libs of all types and sizes enrich Iowa & make Iowa a desirable place to live, work, & play.
Objectives	Develop a statewide shared lib automation system. (LD, LS)	Offer new learning opportunities, in a variety of formats, for librarians, lib staff & trustees. (All SL staff)	Position Iowa libs as essential civic institutions & centers for community gatherings, lifelong learning, workforce & economic development. (All SL staff)	Improve access to statistics about Iowa's population & economy. (SDC)	Help libs publicize their programs & services. (LD)
	Increase statewide availability of subscription databases & other digital resources. (LD, LS)	Improve public lib funding. (LD)	Prepare lib directors to be community builders & leaders who are responsive to changing community needs. (All SL staff)	Expand and publicize Iowa Publications Online. (LS)	Communicate the essential roles Iowa libs play in their communities. (All SL staff)
	Encourage public libs to upgrade the speed of their Internet service. (LD, SILO)	Update public lib standards. (LD)	Help libs improve services to immigrants & older adults. (LD)	Develop the Iowa Heritage Digital Collection. (All SL staff)	Improve the quality of statistical information about Iowa's public libraries. (LD)
	Enhance the Putting Libs on the Web program by developing new features & adding new libs. (LD, SILO)	Improve public lib district legislation. (LD)	Help libs improve services to teens, to ensure that they are prepared for success. (LD)	Promote the State Lib's special collections in law & materials about Iowa. (LS, LD)	Share State Lib successes. (All SL staff)
	Help libs use technology to provide services and solve problems. (LD, SILO)	Enhance knowledge & skills of State Lib staff to provide leadership and consulting services to our constituents. (All SL staff)	Provide statewide training to librarians on the fundamentals of early childhood literacy to ensure that all children are ready to learn upon entry to school. (LD)	Improve access to Iowa's state documents. (LS)	
		Continue to work closely with the LSAs, ILA, IA DE & AEAs to best equip Iowa libs to provide high quality services. (All SL staff)			
Strategies July 08-June 09	1a) Create a State Lib shared automation team. Begin development & fundraising. Meet with statewide advisory group.	2a) Develop & offer Introduction to Youth Services course; publish new editions of the trustee & public lib director handbooks.	3a) Address "The Engaged Lib" in 2008 Town Meetings; provide an abbreviated program for public library trustees.	4a) Redesign the State Data Center Web site.	5a) Inform libs about changes & additions to Telling the Lib Story in at least two different ways.
	1b) Seek funding for LearningExpressLib, a test preparation database.	2b) Use 2008 Town Meetings to inform public libs about the special lib levy & community foundations. Add a question to the 2009 public lib annual survey about lib foundations. Continue to advocate for adequate funding for Open Access & Access Plus.	3b) Address community building & leadership in 2008 Town Meetings; provide a program for public library trustees.	4b) Add 1300 new documents to Iowa Publications Online; promote IPO at least four different ways.	5b) Issue press releases & write at least one op-ed piece to tell the lib story; State Lib staff model being "at the table" by participating in activities such as Rebuild Iowa committees.
	1c) Update the State Lib's info about Iowa public lib internet access; identify partners within state government who promote high speed internet in Iowa communities.	2c) Review number & percent of public libs meeting each standard.	3c) Hire a lib consultant to work with public libs on developing services for older adults; begin development of an Adult Services section on State Library Web site.	4c) Transfer the CONTENTdm license & responsibility for the Iowa Heritage Digital Collection to the State Lib; create the State Lib's Digital Projects Team.	5c) Streamline public library annual survey and train librarians in its use.
	1d) Convert PLOW libs to Plone 3.0; begin training PLOW round 3 libs in Feb 09.	2d) Revise public lib district legislation & have it introduced in the 2009 legislative session.	3d) Increase the number of teen summer lib program workshops offered from three to four; offer sessions on serving teens at 2009 KidsFirst.	4d) Promote the Law Library to the public at least three different ways; promote the Iowa collection at least three different ways. Establish baseline use measures in FY09.	5d) Make at least one national presentation about the PLOW project; write an article about the PLOW project for a national publication; recognize staff achievements.
	1e) Convert State Lib computers to Office 2007; train more State Lib staff to use Wimba; introduce SL staff to new technology at regular staff meetings & special events.	2e) Initiate a State Lib staff inservice day in FY09.	3e) Offer at least one statewide workshop on the fundamentals of early childhood literacy.	4e) Reduce state documents cataloging backlog & reclassify state documents from SWANK to LC.	
	2f) Maintain communications through monthly meetings or other regular channels of information sharing.				

LD = Library Development
 LS = Library Services
 SDC = State Data Center
 SILO = State of Iowa Libraries Online/Technology Office