



STLS Services: 2003 and Beyond Planning Meeting

Tuesday, August 5, 2003

STLS Service Center

9:30 am to 3:00 pm

TO: Member Library Directors & Board Presidents

FROM: Ristiina Wigg

COME to the Tuesday, August 5th meeting to discuss System services. Your participation is critical. Speak up about the services that are vital to you—some System services may not continue to be there.

STLS has been talking with you about budget issues since last Fall when we held a series of meetings to discuss Technical Services (ordering, cataloging, and processing). Funding has not gotten better since then:

--State Aid has been frozen since 1998

--Governor Pataki proposed a 15% reduction in 2003 state aid, which was only restored by Legislative action

--state legislators predict ongoing tight times in 2004 and for the next few years

In March the STLS Board adopted a contingency budget, with changes in services described in STLS 4/16/03 memo #22-03. We are still operating under that contingency budget. At the behest of the STLS Board of Trustees, we have formed a member library services committee to assist in planning for 2003-2006 by developing a consensus on (a.) priority System services, and (b.) funding for those services.

The process will include a written survey of member priorities; System-wide meeting, August 5th to discuss priorities by size of library; committee discussion, and a committee presentation at the September 9th Southern Tier Library Directors Association meeting.

Committee members include: Evelyn Smith, Andover; Lise Gilliland, Corning; Cindy Dutton, Cuba; Mary Geo Tomion, Dundee; Jim Sleeth, Elmira; Maureen Ferrell, Horseheads; Jenny Peer, Howard; Dora Minichello, Montour Falls; Lynn Overgaard, Penn Yan; Harriet Eisman, Watkins Glen and STLS trustees Sandra Van Wormer, Claudia Radin, Steve Hoover, and Don Walker.

As part of the planning process STLS is asking all member libraries to send a library representative(s) to the August 5th meeting to discuss which future services the system will provide to your library.

More information concerning the August 5th meeting will be sent to you next week.