

**U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
FY 2002 APPROPRIATIONS JUSTIFICATION**

**Submitted to the House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education
and to the
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education**

May 2001

[For necessary expenses of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, established by the Act of July 29, 1970 (Public Law 91-345, as amended by Public Law 102-95), \$1,495,000] *(Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, as enacted by section 1(a)(1) of P.L. 106-554.)*

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**U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE (NCLIS)**

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

FY 2001

Appropriation: \$1,495,060

Full-time-equivalent positions: 9

FY 2002

Budget request: \$0

Full-time-equivalent positions: 0

The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2002 proposes the elimination of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS). In the Budget Appendix it is stated, "The Administration requests no funding for this agency in 2002. Other agencies can effectively perform the necessary functions for which the Commission has been responsible."

The Budget did not identify which agencies were intended to carry on the Commission's functions. While it was acknowledged that the functions were necessary, it was not clear how they were to be funded once the successor agency or agencies were identified. Furthermore, there was no proposed legislative language to amend the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science Act of 1970 (as amended) to transfer the functions that Congress directed to be performed by NCLIS. Presumably, these determinations are left to Congress.

Consequently, this document, in the interest of good stewardship, will report on how the Commission wisely used its funds for a number of activities in FY 2000 and FY 2001. Then it will set forth the functions that the Commission intended to pursue in FY 2002 and their funding levels so that Congress might fully consider the appropriate assignment of these functions and the concomitant resources to accompany the assignment. In addition, to provide the historical context for the Commission's functions, this document contains as appendices a discussion of the need for independence in carrying out the Commission's functions and a summary of the major accomplishments during its first thirty years.

BACKGROUND

The key statutory functions of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science can be summarized as follows:

1. NCLIS *identifies the needs* of the people of the U.S. for library and information services.
2. NCLIS *translates those needs* into recommendations for national policy.
3. NCLIS *advises* the President, the Congress, state and local governments and others on implementation of national policy.

To carry out these functions, NCLIS:

1. conducts studies, surveys and analyses of the nation's library and information needs;
2. appraises the adequacies and deficiencies of current library and information resources and research and development activities;
3. conducts meetings, hearings and forums; and
4. issues reports and publications.

The Commission includes the Librarian of Congress, the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and fourteen Commissioners appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for five-year terms. Five of the appointees are librarians or other information professionals. President Clinton designated Martha B. Gould of Nevada as Chairperson, to succeed Jeanne Hurley Simon of Illinois who died in February 2000. The Commission staff includes an executive director, a deputy director, an administrative officer, and research associates, support staff and consultants in varying numbers according to the funding levels and program requirements for individual fiscal years.

Public Law 91-345 (20 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), signed July 20, 1970, established the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science as a permanent, independent agency in the Executive Branch.

NCLIS organizes its program activities in accordance with the list below:

1. Policy Planning and Advice
2. Federal Information Policy
3. National Information Policy
4. International Information Policy
5. Library Statistics & Surveys
6. Services to Special Populations
7. Intellectual Property Protection
8. Agency Administrative Requirements

For several years the Commission has recognized the need to expand its coverage of intellectual property issues, which are increasingly important in the national and international information policy arenas. Work in this area was proposed, but not funded, in FY 2001. The remaining program areas are long-standing areas of activity for the Commission. All of the program areas are vast, complex and critical to meeting the needs of the people for library and information services. They are also obviously beyond the scope and resources of NCLIS (or any other one organization, for that matter) to address completely.

On the other hand, NCLIS is uniquely mandated and uniquely qualified to undertake initiatives on these important topics, and it has done so increasingly and very deliberately in collaboration with federal and national public and private partners.

Although because of its size NCLIS is exempt from requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), this Commission has responded to the GPRA through its efforts to quantify content and products.

FY 2000 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FEDERAL INFORMATION POLICY

A major initiative for 1999-2000 was the assessment of federal government information dissemination policies and procedures in relation to a particular agency. However, this assessment was to expand in order to cover the totality of federal government information practices.

The initial effort grew out of the announcement of Secretary of Commerce, William J. Daley in August 1999 about the Department of Commerce's *intention to close the National Technical Information Service (NTIS)*. Following the announcement of this intention and the plan to transfer some of the NTIS functions to the Library of Congress, NCLIS began discussions with the Congressional oversight committees and various stakeholders to seek an appropriate resolution in the context of overall policy regarding public access to government information. Congressional hearings were held and NCLIS provided testimony.

NCLIS solicited stakeholder opinions to determine the facts and analyze the possible repercussions that might result from such a proposal. A series of public meetings were held. Unofficial, informal transcripts of the meetings were shared with each participant that spoke, and their remarks were published for internal participant review to ensure they were considered and the concepts were incorporated in the final report.

At its February 2000 meeting in Los Angeles, the Commission approved for public review and comment an "Emerging Consensus Position Paper" that embodied the key findings, conclusions, and recommendations that the Commission believed had a consensus of support among the participants. The position paper was posted to the NCLIS web site and the Commission requested comments. Comments were received and taken into account in the preparation of the final report. *Preliminary Assessment of the Proposed Closure of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS): A Report to the President and the Congress* was published on March 16, 2000.

The NTIS report recognized the need to streamline and simplify the government's overall public information dissemination policies and practices. The findings were in keeping with an earlier Commission study *Assessment of Electronic Government Information Products*, completed at the request of the Government Printing Office and published in March 1999. Additionally, the report found that the roles and responsibilities of the public and private sector needed to be refined.

The NTIS assessment, while done for the Legislative branch, had significance for the Executive branch as well. Many federal agencies depend on NTIS and the Government Printing Office to disseminate their information to the public as well as to other agencies and would be affected by any decision made at the Department of Commerce concerning NTIS. In its recommendations, NCLIS carefully considered how the proposed closure of NTIS would affect Executive agencies.

In June 2000, after reading the report on NTIS, Senator John McCain requested an additional, *comprehensive assessment of the federal government's public information dissemination policies* and practices. The new study was broader in scope to include recommendations for new or revised laws or regulations, how to strengthen the overall federal information dissemination infrastructure and the future of NTIS. In July 2000, Senator Joseph Lieberman added to the scope of the study. He asked the Commission to include a review of certain sections of the Paperwork Reduction Act and the viability of maintaining NTIS as a centralized fully electronic repository of federal scientific and technical information. Four panels of independent experts were assembled to study the four separate areas related to the issues under review. NCLIS gathered the panel reports and began to integrate the recommendations for a report requested to be delivered by the end of the calendar year.

NATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

The Commission examined the role of school libraries, public libraries, and the federal government as related to literacy and information literacy. Experts involved in literacy programs were invited to make presentations to define the issues and to showcase projects that have been successful.

The role of school libraries, public libraries, and the federal government in the areas of literacy and information literacy was the focus of the Commission meeting in Los Angeles in February. Participants in the *Los Angeles Times* literacy initiative "Reading by 9" described their program at a meeting held in the *Los Angeles Times* building. While in Los Angeles, Commissioners met with the California Library Board and held part of the meeting at the Los Angeles Public Library where experts in literacy and information literacy shared their interests and concerns.

In carrying out its mission under Section 703 of Public Law 104-208, Title II, the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), NCLIS provided *advice to the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)* on federal grant programs to libraries. The Commission held two joint meetings of the Commission and the National Museum Services Board (NMSB). Beverly Sheppard, the acting Director of IMLS, updated the Commissioners on IMLS activities and programs throughout the year.

An NCLIS committee continued to assist IMLS with development of the National Awards for Library Service, and Commissioners were on the evaluation panel that made recommendations for the first annual awards presented in April 2000. The award program was established to recognize extraordinary achievement by libraries in serving the public. The Commission continued to participate in the cycles of drafts, guidelines, plans, feedback, reports, evaluation and revision for the federal grants program for libraries and information services from IMLS.

INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

NCLIS entered its fifteenth year of cooperation with the Department of State to coordinate and monitor proposals for *International Contributions for Scientific, Educational and Cultural Activities (ICSECA)* funds and to disburse State Department funds to appropriate organizations and activities.

Activities supported with ICSECA funds include projects that traditionally would be administered by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). While the United States is not a member of UNESCO, it continues its involvement indirectly in these important programs that affect the U.S. national interest directly. Among the projects are development of Global Information Infrastructure (GII) policies, support for the International Standard Serial Number Network, the Memory of the World archiving project, and international electronic publishing standards.

After discussion at its February 2000 meeting, the Commission passed a *resolution in support of the United States rejoining UNESCO*. The resolution recognized UNESCO's increasingly proactive role in fostering initiatives that encourage and enlarge the role of libraries, museums, archives and information services and to help link member states to the global information infrastructure.

The Commission continued to be an *active participant in the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)*. Commission representatives attended the August 2000 IFLA General Conference in Jerusalem, Israel. The theme of the conference was "Information for Co-operation: Creating the Global Library of the Future." Many issues important to the Commission were addressed such as the changing patterns of library work for today and tomorrow, authenticity of digital collections, school libraries and the global network, literacy, standards, intellectual property protection, statistics, and the role of government information. NCLIS representatives established a number of beneficial relationships with counterparts in other countries.

The Commission embarked on *Sister Libraries: A White House Millennium Council Project* in 1999 in response to President Clinton's call to federal agencies and state and local governments to "Honor the Past. Imagine the Future." The White House Millennium Council was established by President and Mrs. Clinton to use the widespread interest in the millennium as a force for positive change and to celebrate the accomplishments of this American century.

The goal of the Commission was to pair public and school libraries in the United States with others worldwide, focusing initially on programs specifically planned for children and teenagers. Because of the success of the partnerships and the interest of other libraries, the program was expanded in 2000 to include all types of libraries. Also, because of the enthusiasm of the participants, the Commission began work to identify an organization that will make a permanent home for Sister Libraries when the project concludes at the end of 2001.

By the end of FY 2000, 143 U.S. libraries had been designated official Sister Libraries. An official plaque signed by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Honorary Chair, has been presented to each designated library, to each international partner library, and to local government officials in each community, such as the mayors of the cities where the libraries are located. NCLIS highlights projects and gives the participating libraries recognition and provides material to help publicize the project in their local community.

The Commission believes that libraries are local gateways to knowledge, fostering conditions for lifelong learning and cultural development for all, thus strengthening our diverse communities. *Sister Libraries: A White House Millennium Project* is an effective way for the young people of today, the leaders of tomorrow, to expand their capacity to learn about and to understand other people.

LIBRARY STATISTICS & SURVEYS

In fiscal year 2000, NCLIS was involved in several research projects either alone or as an active partner with other organizations.

The Commission's major research initiative in FY 2000 was the sixth in a series of studies on public libraries and the Internet, *Internet Connectivity in Public Libraries Study, March 2000-August 2000*.

NCLIS also participated in other short-term library statistics projects, separate from the ongoing Library Statistics Program described elsewhere. These include the Alliance to Create Community Access Points Database; the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) E-Metrics Project; preparation for the ARL 4th Northumbria International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries and Information Services; and Developing National Data Collection Models for Public Library Network Statistics and Performance Measures.

NCLIS continued to work with the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the National Institute for Postsecondary Education, Libraries and Lifelong Learning, as well as the Bureau of the Census, to structure, strengthen and shorten cycles of needed and useful data collection (including sample surveys), analysis and research pertaining to libraries and information services.

In FY 2000, NCLIS completed thirteen consecutive years of *cooperation between the Commission and the National Center for Education Statistics* in implementing the Library Statistics Program (LSP). The Commission serves as a liaison to the library community, organizes meetings and training workshops, supports in-state training and technical assistance, monitors trends, and advises NCES on policy matters.

NCLIS is committed to providing access to the work of all steering committees and task groups associated with the Library Services Program.

The *Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Survey* has been in operation since 1988 and is the largest of the federal-state library survey initiatives supported by NCES and NCLIS. Public library data are collected annually and electronically via the FSCS. At the state level and in the outlying areas, data coordinators, appointed by each state or outlying area's chief officer of the state library agency, administer FSCS. Data provided by states are available over the Internet as received at NCES.

The *Academic Libraries Survey (ALS)* was a component of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) until 1999. Web-based data collection for this now independent survey began in 2000. The ALS has established a steering committee composed of representatives of the Academic library community. A network of library professionals works closely with NCES and NCLIS to coordinate the collection of data from academic libraries in postsecondary institutions in each of their states.

The *State Library Agency Survey* is administered annually and collection occurs electronically from each of the state library agencies. These units of state government are designated by law as the state agency responsible for statewide library development and administration of federal funds under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Web-based data collection occurred in 2000 and resulted in the timeliest reporting cycle ever, eleven months.

The *School Library Media Center Survey (SLMC)* is conducted every five years. NCLIS has conducted meetings of stakeholders in this community to inform NCES of the need to increase the frequency, to improve timeliness of the survey and to consider opportunities for including SLMC questions in other school assessments conducted by NCES. Discussion continued through FY 2000. The survey remains unchanged for the current collection cycle, which began in fall 1999 and was completed in winter 2000.

The Commission has increased its participation in research and statistics committee meetings of the American Library Association (ALA) and its Divisions. The NCLIS Director of Statistics and Surveys now serves, ex-officio, on committees emphasizing statistics and their use, including the ALA Committee of Research and Statistics (CORS), Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Statistics Committee. She also was appointed to the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) Committee on Research and Statistics for a term of 2 years.

Initiatives begun in FY 2000 include development of a series of bookmarks to draw attention to statistical data relevant to the library community, most particularly data related to Internet connectivity in public libraries. Another initiative was exploration of promoting international awareness of U.S. library data through future participation with LIBECON2000, a European effort to promote participation in other statistics initiatives for the awareness and use of library data.

SERVICES TO SPECIAL POPULATIONS

In the prior year, the Commission held a hearing on *Kids and the Internet: The Promise and the Perils*. Among the initiatives of FY 2000, was ***distributing to every member of Congress the Commission hearing record***. This record emphasizes the NCLIS position that it is the responsibility of local governments to determine how best to deal with the perplexing issue of young people using public library Internet terminals to gain access to inappropriate material such as pornography or hate speech. Based on the findings from the NCLIS hearing, the Commission offered comments on the filtering legislation that was being considered during the 106th Congress.

During the fiscal year, the Commission actively gathered information about literacy and information literacy and considered the issue of access to information by all people. The November 1999 meeting of the Commission included a discussion of ***library and information services for individuals with disabilities*** and the challenges they face in accessing information. This discussion was a result of a hearing the Commission held in July 1999 at Gallaudet University on the same topic.

Another issue that continued to concern the Commission was the digital divide. At its April, 2000 meeting, experts in the technology area of the “divide” were invited to explain how technology, or the lack of it, affects those segments of society without online access. The Commission, through staff, then became actively involved in a task group to coordinate the establishment of a database of Community Access Points or Technology Access Points. The project has been carried forward as a non-profit/government/private sector initiative with limited Commission involvement.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

During FY 2000, the Commission held four official meetings (see page 37).

The Commission supports ***Commissioner and staff participation in conferences*** in the library and information communities to help ensure that NCLIS has the information it needs about the concerns and activities of these organizations and that their members have the information they need about NCLIS programs and other relevant federal activities. FY 2000 was an active period for meetings and representation at major associations and conferences to formulate, exchange, or convey policy, plans and advice. Commissioners also attended a number of regional and state library association conferences.

NCLIS continued to work closely and to ***meet with officials in a variety of federal agencies***. The purpose of the work was to obtain information and provide timely input on national and international policies affecting library and information services. During FY 2000, Commissioners and staff met with officials from the Departments of Education, Labor, Commerce and State, as well as the Government Printing Office (GPO) Library of Congress, National Agricultural Library (NAL) National Institute for Literacy (NIFL), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget

(OMB/OIRA), Small Agency Council, and White House Millennium Council office, among others. NCLIS met with individuals and attended meetings of the Association of Federal Information Resources Management (AFFIRM), Federal Depository Library Council, Federal Publishers Committee (FPC), Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC), the Interagency Council for Printing and Publication Services (ICPPS), among others.

FY 2001 ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FEDERAL INFORMATION POLICY

A major initiative for FY 2001 is the *Comprehensive Assessment of Public Information Dissemination*. This effort continues the activities in response to the August, 1999 announcement of the Department of Commerce regarding its intention to discontinue operations of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) and transfer its holdings to the Library of Congress. NCLIS initiated a study of the implications of this proposal in FY 1999. Preliminary findings, published in March 2000, suggested the need for greater study and the examination of this proposal in a much broader framework of government information dissemination policy in general.

Senator John McCain (on behalf of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee) and Senator Joseph Lieberman (on behalf of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee) requested that NCLIS perform this broader study. Marshalling the resources of more than 100 individuals, in government, academia, and the private sector, the Commission produced its *Comprehensive Assessment of Public Information Dissemination*.

This report, which was widely shared with members of the House and Senate, proposed a number of recommendations, key of which was a clearly articulated statement of the strategic importance of public information. The report also proposed a consolidation of existing information dissemination programs, e.g., Superintendent of Documents, NTIS, GSA's FirstGov web portal, etc., into a newly-designated, streamlined organization called the Public Information Resources Administration. Accompanying the Commission's report was a legislative concept proposal to implement many of its recommendations.

This effort is not without controversy, inasmuch as it proposes organizational changes that greatly affect the status quo. It is the willingness of the Commission to propose innovative change that is evidence of the value of the independent voice that Congress intended for the Commission when it was created three decades ago.

NATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

NCLIS initiated *efforts to understand and improve school libraries*. Recent surveys in Colorado, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Alaska have demonstrated strong correlation between student performance and good school libraries (those with up-to-date collections, managed by a professional librarian). The Commission held an all-day hearing in Cincinnati, Ohio to explore the issues regarding school libraries. The hearing confirmed the earlier statistical findings, and identified a number of problems, including some that can be addressed by federal action. For example, site-based management leads to decision-making in some schools that completely eliminates library service. Moreover, the implications of such moves cannot be easily assessed on a national basis because of

the lag time that has afflicted the collection of school library statistics. The Commission is examining current legislative proposals to fund school library collections and staffing.

NCLIS works closely with IMLS to *support the Nation's libraries through federal funding and national recognition*. The 1996 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) created a new institutional mechanism for administering federal aid to libraries: library programs were moved out of the Department of Education and into the former Institute of Museum Services, renamed the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This law assigned explicit responsibility to NCLIS regarding the operation of federal assistance programs, and the Director of IMLS has sought additional involvement.

The law requires NCLIS to meet at least annually with the National Museum Services Board (NMSB) to provide advice on grant programs that encourage library/museum collaboration. Additionally, the Commission provides advice to the Director of IMLS on library programs in general. To facilitate this process, NCLIS has sent observers to grant review meetings.

With the guidance of the Commission, the IMLS Director established a National Award for Library Services in 2000 and asked NCLIS to perform the essential role of evaluating nominations for this award. The awards, which recognize excellence in providing service to communities, are presented in a ceremony in Washington, DC, but local presentation ceremonies are also arranged. These awards and the local events to acknowledge them are of great importance to each recipient and its community, and the award recipients play a significant role as models to libraries around the Nation.

INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

NCLIS represents the U.S. in *international library and information activities*. Congress explicitly amended the NCLIS statute in 1991 to assign it the responsibility dealing with library and information policy in a global context.

The Commission continues to implement the program to support International Contributions to Scientific, Educational and Cultural Activities (ICSECA) under an interagency agreement with the Department of State. NCLIS administers a small grant program (\$75,000 in FY 2001) that supports a handful of activities in the international library, archives and information areas. In conjunction with this funding effort and at the request of the State Department, NCLIS maintains liaison with the Information Society program at UNESCO. Recently, NCLIS representatives visited UNESCO headquarters to discuss a number of projects including the Alexandrian Library reopening, an international program on information literacy, and the possible transfer of the *Sister Libraries* program to the UNESCO Network of Associated Libraries (UNAL). UNESCO representatives were appreciative of the Commission's April 2000 resolution encouraging that U.S. membership in UNESCO be restored.

NCLIS also participates regularly in the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Annual meeting. During the current year, delegates from nations around the world will convene in Boston, Massachusetts to share their successes and discuss common problems. NCLIS has contributed to the planning of this event and will hold one of its periodic meetings in conjunction with it.

NCLIS continues the ***“Sister Libraries” millennium project, matching U.S. libraries with partners around the world.*** Normally, NCLIS is not an operational agency, that is, its work principally comprises research followed by policy recommendations. However, at the call of the previous President and First Lady, who asked every agency to become involved in the White House Millennium Project, the Commission began an effort that brought together libraries throughout the world. The theme of the Millennium Project was “Honor the Past. Imagine the Future.” In the minds of members of the Commission, no institution has a mission closer to this theme than do libraries. Therefore, it was most important to take part in the Millennium activities.

The project that the Commission developed was called *Sister Libraries*, an effort to pair libraries in this country with libraries around the world. The objective was greater communication and understanding between different nations and the focus initially was on programs involving children. More than 340 libraries in 45 countries and the United States are currently participating in this project.

As the Millennium period concludes and in recognition that NCLIS does not routinely maintain operational project, the Commission is considering other organizations to carry on the Sister Libraries project in the future. As a final step in this project, however, the Commission is performing an extensive evaluation to understand what worked well and what did not so that other entities might successfully replicate the project in the future and engage even greater numbers of participants.

LIBRARY STATISTICS & SURVEYS

NCLIS continues to coordinate the ***comprehensive program to collect library statistics.*** NCLIS maintains its work in close cooperation with the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) in the Department of Education to coordinate a broad program of statistical collection concerning many different types of libraries. The flagship operation is the Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS), an effort to collect statistics annually about the operation of the Nation’s public libraries. Other programs collect statistics about school libraries, state library agencies, academic libraries, and others. NCES provides statistical expertise while NCLIS brings to the process its knowledge of and connection with libraries.

Additionally, the Commission carried out its own research project with the help of academic consultants to measure the penetration of public access to the Internet in the public libraries of this Nation and identify future research needs. This project continues research first started in 1994 when only one library in ten provided public Internet

availability. In the 2000 study, 95% of public libraries made the Internet available to their customers and little difference was seen among geographic types of libraries (urban, suburban, rural).

SERVICES TO SPECIAL POPULATIONS

NCLIS is promoting *Information Literacy as an essential skill to bridge the digital divide*. In its initial consideration of the digital divide, NCLIS focused on Department of Commerce reports describing the disparity of ownership of home computers among different economic groups. Lower income groups are less likely to have home computers and Internet connectivity. This gap has been defined as the digital divide. The Commission, however, has come to take a different approach to this concept and considers the most important aspect of the digital divide to be the disparity between those who know how to use information resources and those who do not. With Internet connectivity provided in 95% of the Nation's public libraries, an economically disadvantaged person can access the Internet whether or not there is a networked computer in his or her residence or worksite. However, without the information literacy skills to use the Internet, as well as traditional, non-electronic information resources, a person remains disadvantaged even if there is a wired computer available.

The term "information literacy" may well have appeared for the first time in an Information Industry Association paper submitted to the Commission in the early 1970's. The concept describes the function of recognizing that information can be useful to solve a problem, understanding how to obtain the relevant information, evaluating the quality of retrieved information, and putting that information to use.

The Commission recently devoted a half-day to a discussion of the digital divide and ways to emphasize information literacy. It pledged continued involvement with the National Forum for Information Literacy as well as library organizations that emphasize information literacy in their programs, such as the Association of College and Research Libraries and the American Association of School Libraries. The Commission, as mentioned earlier, is also supporting planning efforts with UNESCO for an international conference on information literacy in the next year or two.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

The Commission is scheduled to hold four full meetings in the current fiscal year (see page 37).

As in prior years, the Commission continues to support *Commissioner and staff participation in conferences* in the library and information communities to help ensure that NCLIS has the information it needs about the concerns and activities of these organizations. Such participation also helps assure that members of these communities have the information they need about NCLIS programs and other relevant federal activities. Also NCLIS continues to work closely and to *meet with officials in a variety*

of federal agencies to obtain information and provide timely input on national and international policies affecting library and information services.

In FY 2001, the Commission made modest *improvements to the NCLIS office space*, resulting in a more welcoming entrance, a conference room adequate for holding meetings of the Commission, and an efficient floor plan that facilitates better movement and communication among the staff. At the same time, an *upgrade in information technology* was installed, providing a true client-server environment to the staff. Eventually, Commissioners, who are part-time employees and live throughout the United States, will be able to connect to the NCLIS office network in a secure and seamless manner.

FY 2002 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

[Note: The following is a description of the activities NCLIS would pursue if it were funded. In light of President Bush's proposal to not fund the Commission, the Congress may wish to consider how these functions are to be achieved and funded.]

The Commission's anticipated programs and projects for FY 2002 are long-standing areas of activity for the Commission, with the addition of a special focus on intellectual property, which was proposed, but not funded, in FY 2001; NCLIS played a significant role in earlier copyright initiatives, but has not had the staff expertise to pursue this subject in recent years.

The following description includes routine internal and administrative requirements that apply to NCLIS directly. It is uncertain how much these administrative costs would be if the functions of NCLIS were transferred to other agencies.

The program areas presented in this budget submission are as follows:

• Policy Planning and Advice:	\$634,387
• Federal Information Policy:	\$306,289
• National Information Policy:	\$426,158
• International Information Policy:	\$270,808
• Library Statistics and Surveys:	\$667,313
• Services to Special Populations:	\$101,979
• Intellectual Property Protection:	\$205,142
• Agency Administrative Requirements	\$387,924

Priorities may shift, depending on plans made as part of a continuing strategic planning process, requests from the Administration and the Congress, or in response to unexpected technological and policy developments elsewhere. Each program area is critical to the mission and responsibilities of the Commission as initially conceived; moreover, each area will be at critical points in its development in 2002. There is a need to increase resources significantly so the government can address each area at its critical points and thereby maximize the timeliness and utility of the advice to the President, the Congress and others with responsibility for programs that affect the library and information services of available to the American people.

FY 2002 should be a major year for the Commission to take the leadership position envisioned in the NCLIS statute and called for by the unprecedented rate of change in the library and information arenas. The internal re-building and planning of recent years would equip the Commission well to assume this role. Wider and more substantial collaboration with other organizations would be a feature of FY 2002 as well.

Specific objectives and tasks in all of the Commission's generic program areas are detailed below.

POLICY, PLANNING AND ADVICE

Answer all inquiries from Congress on legislation related to library and information services and take the initiative to offer information and comments on matters that are within the purview and expertise of the Commission, when appropriate. Answer all memoranda from the Legislative Reference Division of OMB within the required time frames and take the initiative to offer information and comments to OMB and the White House on all items that are within the purview and expertise of the Commission.

- Advise on necessary changes in Federal information dissemination laws, policies and practices.
- Advise on major policy and legislative initiatives effecting library and information services.

Carry out responsibilities to advise the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) on federal grant programs to libraries.

- Advise on the state-administered grants under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).
- Advise on National Leadership Grants and Contracts under the Library Services and Technology Act, based on results of the prior grants.
- Meet with the National Museum Services Board to advise on library-museum cooperative projects.
- Emphasize coordination of policies and activities of the Institute of Museum and Library Services with other activities of the federal government.
- Evaluate the implementation of the LSTA in anticipation of the reauthorization efforts that must be concluded before September 2002.
- Advise on the selection of the FY 2002 recipients for the National Library Service Awards

Maintain and strengthen working relationships with officials in the Departments of Education, Labor, State, and Commerce, in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) and in other agencies so that timely input on national and international policies affecting library and information services can be developed. Continue to provide data and findings from the studies on public library-Internet access to the Federal Communications Commission and the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Corporation (USAC) to support and improve the universal service discount program, incorporating data on other types of libraries and library cooperatives as available and appropriate.

Maintain and strengthen working relationships with officials in national library associations, such as the American Library Association and its affiliates, the American Association of Law Libraries, the Association for Research Libraries, the Medical Library Association, and the Special Libraries Association, as well as state and regional library organizations.

Develop new avenues for formulating, exchanging or conveying policy, plans and advice, such as:

- Expanded contact and substantive cooperation with organizations such as
 - Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE),
 - Center for Research Libraries (CRL),
 - Coalition for Networked Information (CNI),
 - Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR),
 - National Information Standards Organization (NISO),
 - British Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (Resource),
 - International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), and
 - UNESCO.
- Exploration of ways to emphasize the information science part of NCLIS responsibility, in cooperation with organizations such as
 - American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIST),
 - International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID), and
 - Software and Information Industry Association (SIIA).

Increase printing and distribution of NCLIS (or successor agencies) publications, reports and brochures, and enhance the related websites to expand electronic communication with federal, state and local governments and other organizations and individuals with an interest in improving national library and information services.

Continue to expand the relationships necessary to provide information to and receive information from state and local governments.

Prepare for and conduct a joint meeting with the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, the British counterpart of NCLIS, to be held in conjunction with the IFLA 2002 conference in Scotland.

FEDERAL INFORMATION POLICY

Continue a multi-year initiative on the transition of federal government information from print to electronic form:

- Assist or advise the Government Printing Office as appropriate in further transition of the federal depository library system to incorporate electronic information.
- Continue work with the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board of the National Academy of Sciences and/or other experts to evaluate federal information policy in a networked, electronic environment.
- Follow up the efforts undertaken in FY 1999, FY 2000 and FY 2001 to collect and understand the implications of data about agency publications transitioning from ink-on-paper to various electronic formats and mediums.
- Act on the results of FY 1999, FY 2000 and FY 2001 consultations with Congress and the Administration on the goals and approach for additional work in this area, including advice on public printing, the Federal Depository Library Program, and other programs for the sale or dissemination of, and permanent public access to, government information.
- Cooperate with the Office of Management and Budget and others studying or planning changes in Federal information dissemination policy and practices for production and distribution of public federal information.
- Continue to participate in other initiatives of the library and information science communities seeking to re-define federal information access and dissemination responsibilities.
- Monitor the implementation of relevant Federal legislation, policies and practices and prepare any necessary recommendations for Congress and the Administration.

NATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

Initiate a formal review of the implementation of the recommendations of the National Information Infrastructure Advisory Council and prepare a report assessing the state of the National Information Infrastructure.

Support appropriate participation in conferences in the library and information communities to help ensure that the government has the information it needs about the

concerns and activities of these customers and that these customers have the information they need about relevant federal activities and initiatives.

Conclude participation in millennial initiatives such as “A Nation Connected” (a cooperative effort of library groups), and projects growing out of the bicentennial celebration of the Library of Congress in the year 2000.

INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

Continue investigations of the international and global aspects of networking and the Global Information Infrastructure (GII) as these affect the U.S. library and information services communities and their ability to meet the information needs of the people of the U.S.

Continue to implement plans to carry out the roles agreed for NCLIS or successor agencies in international affairs, including these areas:

- Aiding the State Department in supporting library and archival activities in the global information infrastructure, in coordination with UNESCO.
- Attending a joint meeting with the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, the British equivalent of NCLIS, in conjunction with IFLA 2002.
- Supporting governmental participation in international library and information conferences.
- Supporting other international activities or initiatives, including closer ties with organizations in other nations with functions analogous to those of the Commission or successor agencies.
- Actively responding to global or international issues and concerns.

Continue to expand the relationships necessary to exchange relevant policy and legislative information with foreign governments and international organizations.

Complete *Sister Libraries: A White House Millennium Council Project*, the Commission's official millennium project, by December 31, 2001; prepare and disseminate a final report on the project; and develop and implement transition plans for continuation of the project by another organization in the post-millennium period.

LIBRARY STATISTICS AND SURVEYS

Negotiate an agreement with the National Center for Education Statistics to continue the Library Statistics Program in FY 2002, and fulfill the terms of the agreement negotiated with the National Center for Education Statistics to continue the cooperative Library Statistics Program.

Plan, develop, and/or sponsor or co-sponsor national sample survey(s) on academic, school or special libraries and the Internet to help determine the needs of customers of each type of library for electronic services and their use of these services, and to help plan a coordinated federal role for libraries and the National Information Infrastructure.

Fulfill research, innovation and future-oriented roles for NCLIS or successor agencies in work with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Center for Education Statistics, the National Institute for Postsecondary Education, Libraries and Lifelong Learning and others in the federal government to structure, strengthen and shorten cycles of needed and useful data collection (including sample surveys), analysis and research pertaining to libraries and information services. Also emphasize products, outputs and outcomes in measurement and research generally.

Plan and begin implementation of a major data gathering effort to measure the effectiveness of Internet access in libraries and schools throughout the nation, building on the findings of the Commission's earlier studies of public libraries and the Internet.

SERVICES FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Gather data on the library and information needs of special populations through one or more hearings or other means.

Take appropriate policy development steps based on the record of the NCLIS hearings focusing on individuals with disabilities and on school libraries.

Plan, develop, and/or sponsor or co-sponsor national initiatives to encourage greater awareness of the need for information literacy as well as basic literacy in the population of the United States.

Continue to develop programs to assist the Commission in the development of policy with respect to services for special constituencies, such as the aging, children and individuals with disabilities.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Maintain and strengthen working relationships with the intellectual property community, both within government (Copyright Office, Patent and Trademark Office) and the private sector in order that NCLIS may provide timely and informed policy recommendations affecting intellectual property.

Undertake studies to evaluate the role of intellectual property in the national economy with special attention to how pricing mechanisms encourage or discourage the creation and use of works of authorship, in particular its impact on the costs of and access to scholarly publishing.

Establish links to the international intellectual property community, both within other nations and at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) within the United Nations.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Continue to develop for the Commission or successor agencies a professional staff of program officers, augmented by consultants, visiting scholars and/or other appointees to support the content of necessary work.

Plan, conduct and follow up on four full NCLIS or successor agencies meetings, with at least one including a session with the National Museum Services Board and at least one including a hearing or forum to gather information on the library and information needs of the nation.

With the director, the deputy director for library services and other key staff at IMLS, refine and implement policies and procedures for keeping NCLIS Commissioners or similar individuals advised and up to date, so they can in turn provide timely and useful advice on both the implementation and effectiveness of the federal grant programs for libraries under LSTA.

Plan, carry out and follow up on other meetings with allied groups and individuals as appropriate.

Hold orientation sessions for new Commissioners or similar individuals after their confirmation by the Senate as NCLIS Members or similar personnel action.

Continue to carry out recommendations of the previous year's evaluation of the need for and uses of information resources management and information systems and procedures for Commissioners and staff or similar individuals, including:

- Improving local area networks, servers, desktop and/or laptop computers and peripherals;
- Developing the web site, including greater interactive capability;
- Increasing desktop publishing and publishing on the Web;
- Expanding the use of electronic manuals and other administrative tools, and of electronic communications generally;
- Collecting and organizing files, books and serial resources to support the work of the Commissioners and staff or similar individuals;
- Improving records management, including evaluation of the Commission and successor organizations archives and preparing historical material for transfer to the

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) as well as assuring ongoing mechanisms to identify, preserve and schedule for transfer appropriate materials; and

- Providing periodic training for Commissioners and staff or similar individuals.

Maintain appropriate administrative services for the management of the Commission or successor agencies office and staff, including use of services from other agencies to support legal, payroll, personnel and financial services requirements as needed.

SUMMARY BY PROGRAM AREA

The following table breaks out the component costs for each of the project areas enumerated above.

POLICY, PLANNING AND ADVICE

<u>Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)</u>	<u>\$ 634</u>
Salaries and benefits	397
Travel and meetings	82
Printing	12
Consultant services	50
Other	93

FEDERAL INFORMATION POLICY

<u>Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)</u>	<u>\$ 306</u>
Salaries and benefits	192
Travel and meetings	32
Printing	6
Consultant services	32
Other	44

NATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

<u>Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)</u>	<u>\$ 426</u>
Salaries and benefits	\$193
Travel and meetings	33
Printing	6
Consultant services	150
Other	44

INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY

<u>Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)</u>	<u>\$ 271</u>
Salaries and benefits	142
Travel and meetings	38
Printing	4
Consultant services	50
Other	37

LIBRARY STATISTICS AND SURVEYS

<u>Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)</u>	<u>\$ 667</u>
Salaries and benefits	320
Travel and meetings	62
Printing	10
Consultant services	200
Other	75

SERVICES FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS	
Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)	\$ 102
Salaries and benefits	60
Travel and meetings	17
Printing	2
Consultant services	10
Other	13
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	
Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)	\$ 205
Salaries and benefits	151
Travel and meetings	22
Printing	5
Consultant services	0
Other.	27
AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS	
Resources for FY 2002 (in thousands)	\$ 388
Salaries and benefits	192
Travel and meetings	33
Printing	6
Consultant services	40
Other	117
TOTAL	\$3,000

NOTE: The category "Other" includes a share of rent, telecommunications, utilities, supplies and materials, and miscellaneous expenditures.

AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION

(in thousands)

APPROPRIATION	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Request	FY 2002 Request
<hr/>			
Annual	\$1,295	\$1,495	\$0
REAL TRANSFERS FROM			
<hr/>			
National Center for Education Statistics	225	325	0
Department of State	100	75	0
NCLIS GIFT ACCOUNT			
<hr/>			
	19	60	0
TOTAL ADJUSTED BUDGET AUTHORITY			
<hr/>			
	\$1,639	\$1,955	\$0

BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS

(in thousands)

BUDGET AUTHORITY	Actual	Estimated	Requested	Change
	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2000 to FY 2001
<hr/>				
Appropriations only	\$1,295	\$1,495	\$0	(\$1,495)
 OUTLAYS				
<hr/>				
Appropriations only	1,287	1,493	0	(1,493)
Interagency transfers	325	400	0	(400)
NCLIS Gift Account	10	60	0	(60)
 OUTLAYS, GROSS				
<hr/>				
Including Transfers and NCLIS Gift Account	\$1,622	\$1,953	\$0	(\$1,953)
 FTE PERSONNEL				
<hr/>				
	7	7	0	(7)

BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(in thousands)

OBJECT CLASS	Actual Expenditures FY 2000 ¹	Estimated Expenditures FY 2001	Requested FY 2002	Change FY 2000 to FY 2001
Staff	\$512	\$620	\$0	(\$620)
Commissioners	62	87	0	(87)
Other	0	0	0	0
Benefits	133	136	0	(136)
SUBTOTAL, PAY	707	843	0	(843)
Travel	78	93	0	(93)
Rent	128	160	0	(160)
Communications, utilities, postage	28	25	0	(25)
Printing, reproduction	23	22	0	(22)
Consulting services	183	190	0	(190)
Other services	44	61	0	(61)
Government/interagency services	33	36	0	(36)
Supplies and materials	25	39	0	(39)
Equipment, non-capital	38	26	0	(26)
SUBTOTAL, NON-PAY	580	652	0	(652)
DIRECT OBLIGATIONS	1,287	1,495	0	(1,495)
NCLIS GIFT ACCOUNT	10	60	0	(60)
REIMBURSABLE OBLIGATIONS	325	400	0	(400)
TOTAL OBLIGATIONS	\$1,622	\$1,955	\$0	(\$1,955)

¹ As reported to OMB in November 2000; subsequent adjustments and corrections increased the direct obligations of appropriated funds to \$1,294 and the total obligations to \$1,629.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM FY 2001 TO FY 2002

[For the benefit of Congress, the following discussion addresses the year to year change that would be expected to occur if NCLIS were not eliminated as the President's Budget proposes, but instead were funded at the \$3 million level summarized on pages 24-25.]

Full-Time Permanent Salaries - During FY 2002 the Commission will fill three vacancies for senior staff to support Commission initiatives in intellectual property, telecommunications and the Internet, and information policy (including access to government information). Several positions that have been filled by consultants will convert to staff positions during FY 2001, but will be fully funded for the first time in FY 2002. The increase also covers the pay raises effective January 2002. [\$368,000]

Other than Full-Time Permanent Salaries - Commissioners FY 2002 salary is budgeted at 2 full-time-equivalent positions, up from 0.8 in FY 2001. This projection assumes that all current vacancies will be filled. Commissioners are classified as intermittent government employees and are paid only when on official business for NCLIS. In FY 2002 the rate of pay for Commissioners will continue to be equivalent to the daily rate of pay for a Senior Executive Service Level 2 position (SES-2). The rate will be adjusted for the pay raise effective January 2002. An average of 30 working days per Commissioners is projected for FY 2002, up from 20 days in FY 2001. This includes 90 days allocated for "resident Commissioners," so that several Commissioners can dedicate additional time to Commission program activities. [\$153,000]

Civilian Personnel Benefits - The increase in staff benefits is largely due to the addition of new positions, but also includes matching anticipated employee Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) contributions and anticipated increases in costs for health care and other benefits. Commissioners require only OASDI and Medicare matching funds as benefits, and these are estimated at 7.65% as in prior years. [\$147,000]

Travel and Transportation of Persons - Travel for NCLIS is different from many agencies because travel is required for Commissioners to meet to conduct the basic business of the agency and to otherwise represent the Commission. Experience from FY 1996 and FY 1997, years in which the Commission met only twice, has shown that meeting more often is necessary for adequate management of programs, planning, development and communication of policy recommendations, and establishing consensus or directions on issues. Frequent sessions are even more important with the responsibility of advising on federal financial support for libraries under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). FY 2002 travel also includes two hearings to be held in conjunction with Commission meetings. Additional professional staff will require additional travel for participating in relevant professional meetings and in Commission meetings that are held outside of Washington, DC. [\$218,000]

Rental Payments to GSA - During FY 2001 the Commission changed the configuration of its office, adding some adjacent space in the current location and giving up some other space that was poorly configured for the activities of the Commission. This action resulted in a slightly larger, and more efficiently arranged, office suite which will accommodate the additional staff and resident Commissioners, as well as providing, for the first time, an adequate conference room for Commission meetings held in Washington, DC. The impact of the increased space did not affect the full year in FY 2001. The increase also covers the anticipated GSA rent increase. [\$30,000]

Communications, Utilities - Charges for communications services are expected to increase due to the expanded utilization of facsimile for timely dissemination of documents to and among Commissioners and regular use of conference calls during periods without scheduled Commission meetings. Additional factors are requirements for higher speed and more reliable access to the Internet for research and electronic mail and the projected increases in the number of professional staff and consultants. Postage is expected to increase substantially as the Commission increases its outreach to federal, state and local government and others concerned with the library and information service needs of the American people. Additional staff and new projects will generate additional reports, publications and brochures for distribution. The Commission website will continue to expand and to be used for data collection and dissemination of Commission publications and other time sensitive materials. All Commission reports and publications will be available in electronic forms to increase public access. [\$25,000]

Printing - This object class covers minimal and required expenses for notices in the *Federal Register* and annual publication of Commission regulations in the *Code of Federal Regulations*. It includes print publication through GPO of the NCLIS annual report, research and survey results, and forum and hearing reports, as well as stationery. Printing is expected to increase substantially as the Commission increases its outreach to federal, state and local government, foreign government and international organizations, and others concerned with the library and information service needs of the American people. Additional staff and new projects will generate additional reports, publications and brochures for printing. [\$37,000]

Consulting Services - This object class includes policy analysts and researchers with the skills and availability to work intensively on short term projects in support of NCLIS programs, applied research using data generated by the Library Statistics Program, and Commission-sponsored surveys. The requested budget of \$532,000 will provide:

- \$200,000 for surveys and analysis in support of Commission policy initiatives;
- \$150,000 for a report on the state of the National Information Infrastructure;
- \$50,000 for evaluation of the implementation of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and related Federal support for the nation's museums and libraries;

- \$50,000 for support of Commission international activities, including the completion of the Sister Libraries Millennium Project;
- \$32,000 to support Commission activities on access to government information;
- \$10,000 to support a Commission initiative on information literacy; and
- \$40,000 for evaluating the Commission archives and preparing material for transfer to the National Archives and Records Administration. [\$442,000]

Other Contractual Services - This object class covers items such as lease, repair and maintenance of equipment, maintenance of computers and the local area network, meeting space, booth fees for Commission exhibits at national and international meetings, transcription services, and memberships in organizations such as the National Information Standards Organization (NISO), International Federation of Library Associations and Organizations (IFLA) and American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIST). [\$25,000]

Government (Interagency) Services - This object class includes the memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Department of Education for administrative and fiscal services, payments to the General Services Administration for use of the federal government's telephone network, and payments to the FBI for its background investigations on Commission nominees. [\$7,000]

Supplies and Materials - This object class covers all office supplies, subscriptions to professional journals and periodicals, and the purchase of books for the NCLIS reference library. [\$15,000]

Equipment - This object class covers replacing and upgrading NCLIS office and computer equipment. This includes upgrading computer hardware and software as well as expansion of the Commission's network to support faster and more reliable Intranet and Internet services for Commissioners and staff and to improve communication with NCLIS customers through the Commission website. Obsolete equipment will be donated to organizations that refurbish the equipment and donate to schools and libraries. New staff members and the obsolescence of currently owned equipment and software account for the majority of the increase. [\$38,000]

Due to the fact that the Administration requested no funding for NCLIS in FY 2002, the Commission may cease ongoing operations at the end of FY 2001. If the Commission is to close in FY 2002, it is estimated that \$375,000 will be required for salaries and expenses to close outstanding obligations, prepare records for transfer to the National Archives and Records Administration, arrange for the disposition of furniture and equipment, and severance pay. It is estimated that these activities could be concluded not later than December 31, 2001.

APPROPRIATIONS HISTORY

(in thousands)

Fiscal Year	President's Request	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
Supplemental 1972	200	Not considered	200	200
1973	406	406	406	406
1974	406	406	406	406
1975	502	409	409	409
1976	502	409	468	468
1977	517	517	493	493
Supplemental 1977				15
1978	607	598	598	598
1979	683	660	683	660
1980	668	668	668	668
Pay Supplement 1980				18
1981	691	691	691	691
1982	750	702	702	674
1983		674	674	674
1984	553	553	674	674
1985	690	690	720	720
1986		690	690	660
Sequester 1986				-30
1987	690	660	690	660
Pay Supplement 1987				23
1988	791	750	791	718
1989	755	750	750	741
1990	770	750	770	750
1991	777	750	750	732
1992	911	750	911	831
1993	1,000	590	982	889
1994	904	904	904	904
1995	904	901	901	901
1996	962	450/829	829	829
1997	897	812	897	897
1998	1,123	1,000	1,000	1,000
1999	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2000	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,295
2001	1,495	1,495	1,495	1,495

Note: Until the enactment of PL 102-95 in FY 1992, the statutory ceiling on the annual appropriation for NCLIS was \$750,000.

NCLIS STAFFING HISTORY

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Full-Time Equivalent Positions</u>
1984	9.5
1985	11.0
1986	11.0
1987	9.0
1988	9.0
1989	10.0
1990	9.5
1991	6.5
1992	6.0
1993	6.0
1994	6.0
1995	9.0
1996	9.0
1997	9.0
1998	9.0
1999	9.0
2000	9.0
2001	9.0*

Note:

In FY 2001, one FTE position is reserved for Commissioners' salaries and one FTE is currently filled by a consultant.

NCLIS MEMBERS, FY 2001

Commissioner	Term Expiration ²	Profession	FY 2000 Salary
Martha B. Gould NCLIS Chairperson Reno, NV	2002	retired public library director	\$30,492
Joan R. Challinor, Ph.D. NCLIS Vice Chairperson Washington, DC	2004	historian	\$0
C. E. Abramson Missoula, MT	2000	real estate broker	\$11,382
Walter Anderson New York, NY	2000	author, editor, publisher	\$0
Rebecca Bingham Louisville, KY	2001	retired school system library director	\$8,841
LeVar Burton Los Angeles, CA	2000	actor, film and TV director	\$0
Jose-Marie Griffiths, Ph.D. Ann Arbor, MI	2001	university CIO	\$4,215
Jack E. Hightower, Esq. Austin, TX	2004	attorney; former state supreme court justice	\$6,756
Paulette H. Holahan New Orleans, LA	2004 ³	retired state supreme court administrator	N/A
Marilyn Gell Mason Tallahassee, FL	2003 ⁴	library consultant; retired public library director	N/A

² Terms of the appointed Commissioners expire on July 19th of the years listed above. However, 20 U.S.C. 1505 states "...the term of office of any member of the Commission shall continue until the earlier of (A) the date on which the member's successor has been appointed by the President; or (B) July 19 of the year succeeding the year in which the member's appointed term of office shall expire."

³ Ms. Holahan received a recess appointment and will serve through the first session of the 107th Congress.

Commissioner	Term Expiration²	Profession	FY 2000 Salary
Bobby L. Roberts, Ph.D. Little Rock, AR	2003	public library director	\$0
Donald L. Robinson, Ph.D. Washington, DC	2002 ⁵	university professor	N/A
James H. Billington, Ph.D. Washington, D.C.	ex officio	Librarian of Congress	N/A (Federal Employee)
Beverly Sheppard Washington, DC	ex officio	Acting Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services	N/A (Federal Employee)
TOTAL			\$61,686

Note:

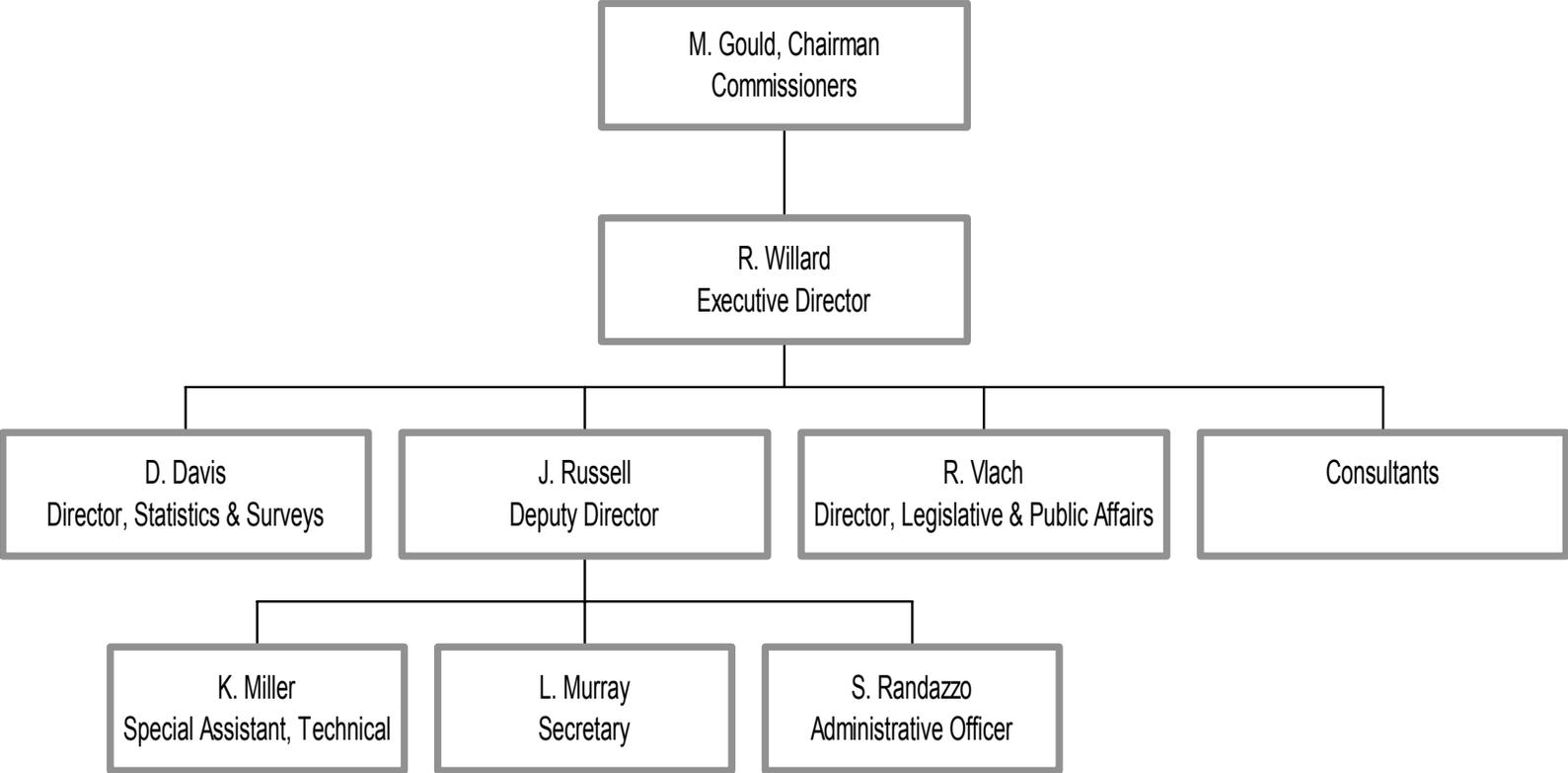
Historically, a few Commissioners have chosen not to earn salary when working for NCLIS. However, budget projections assume that each Commissioner may choose to be paid salary for the days served.

There are currently two vacancies on the Commission, one for a term ending in 2002 and one for a term ending in 2003. On July 19, three more vacancies occur for terms ending in 2005 (and two additional positions with terms ending in 2006 may be filled to replace the Commissioners who are beginning their one-year extension). At the end of the first session of Congress, three additional vacancies occur, with terms ending 2002, 2003 and 2004, on the conclusion of service of those who received recess appointments.

⁴ Ms. Mason received a recess appointment and will serve through the first session of the 107th Congress.

⁵ Dr. Robinson received a recess appointment and will serve through the first session of the 107th Congress.

NCLIS ORGANIZATION CHART, APRIL 2001



NCLIS MEETINGS

FY 2000

November 1999 Washington, DC	Joint Meeting with the National Museum Services Board; Business sessions in conjunction with American Society for Information Science (ASIS) meeting
February 2000 Los Angeles, CA	Business sessions in conjunction with <i>Los Angeles Times</i> and Los Angeles Public Library
April 2000 Washington, DC	Business sessions in conjunction with First National Library Award for Library Services and National Library Week
September 2000	Business sessions in conjunction with the joint meeting with the National Museum Services Board

FY 2001

November 2000 Washington, DC	Business sessions in conjunction with discussion with panel members from <i>Comprehensive Assessment of Public Information Dissemination</i>
April 2001 Cincinnati, OH	Business sessions in conjunction with a hearing on School Librarians: Knowledge Navigators Through Troubled Times
August 2001 Boston, MA	Business sessions in conjunction with the annual conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
September 2001 Sturbridge, MA	Business sessions in conjunction with the joint meeting with the National Museum Services Board (NMSB)
Ongoing Washington, DC	Meetings with legislative and executive officials, library and information associations and other groups to discuss mutual concerns, especially federal information dissemination policy, libraries and the National Information Infrastructure, and federal grant programs for libraries.

The objective is for the full Commission to meet quarterly, with at least one meeting that includes a joint session with the National Museum Services Board. Between meetings the Commissioners stay informed and involved through telephone conference calls, electronic mail, NCLIS' web site, executive director's reports and other means.

NCLIS committees and working groups meet — separately and/or in conjunction with meetings of the full Commission — to proceed with their activities, as agreed to by the full Commission. The Executive Committee meets as needed.

The NCLIS Chairperson, other Commissioners and staff meet with officials in Congress and the Administration, state and local government officials, library and information associations and other groups to discuss mutual concerns, especially federal information dissemination policy, libraries and the National Information Infrastructure, and federal grant programs for libraries.

Hearings and forums are held to appraise the adequacies and deficiencies of current library and information resources and services and evaluate the effectiveness of current library and information science programs.

APPENDIX 1

INDEPENDENCE OF THE COMMISSION

In creating the Commission, Congress called for a body that would be independent of any extraneous influence. During the legislative consideration of the Commission's organic statute, serious consideration was given to placing the Commission within the (then) Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (DHEW). Despite such a proposed location, legislators made it clear that the Commission was to be an independent voice, as for example in this quotation from Senate Report 91-196:

Although the Commission has been placed within the Office of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, the committee wishes to stress the fact that the Commission has independent status and that the Secretary does not have authority to direct the activities of the Commission or to edit any of the reports or material published by the Commission.... The committee wishes to make clear that the National Commission established in the bill is not responsible to any department or agency with respect to the content of its reports. Of course, any department may comment on the activities of the Commission but no department has the authority to change or withhold reports the Commission wishes to make to the President and to the Congress.

The issue of independence was of such import that the final version of the legislation abandoned placement of the Commission within DHEW and instead established it as an independent agency. House Report 91-240 presented the issue as follows:

[Y]our committee has sought to assure that the Commission will enjoy the high level and independent status which it needs to avoid becoming either a rubber stamp for existing agencies, or merely a forum for an exchange of views. To assure the Commission's total independence, it is made a separate agency within the executive branch, free of any control by any other Federal executive agency....

Not set forth in the bill, but inherent in the independence accorded the Commission, is the right to make its recommendations to the President without seeking "clearance" from any other Federal agency. Your committee cannot too strongly emphasize the concept that if the Commission is to perform its assigned function of providing leadership, innovative advice, and coordination for our Nation's libraries and information science establishments, it must be able to state the problems as it sees them, to evaluate existing programs without grinding anyone's ax, and to make such recommendations as seem wise to the Commission and its members.

That the Congress intended this exemption to apply to clearance by the Office of Management and Budget was made explicitly clear in a colloquy between Representative Brademas and the first Chairman of the Commission, Frederick Burkhardt. At a hearing on November 29, 1978, Mr. Brademas offered the following observation:

For the record, I would like to state that as myself a principal sponsor in the House of Representatives of the law establishing the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science that I am not unfamiliar with that statute, and that I am aware of what the House report on the bill establishing the Commission says. I would here quote from page three of that report: 'To assure the Commission's total independence, it is made a separate agency within the executive branch, free of any control by any other Federal executive agency.' The Congress did not exclude the Office of Management and Budget from that directive. I make that observation for the edification of the personnel at OMB.

Independence was required for one other reason. The enumerated functions of the Commission would call for it to "appraise the adequacies and deficiencies of current library resources and services and evaluate the effectiveness of current library and information science programs." Clearly, the object of these appraisals would include programs administered by the federal government itself. Librarian of Congress L. Quincy Mumford, in correspondence with Representative Brademas, who chaired the House subcommittee that first considered the NCLIS legislation, discussed this situation. (Dr. Mumford had been a member of President Johnson's National Advisory Committee on Libraries, a group of distinguished Americans who first proposed creating the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.) He wrote as follows:

I was pleased to note that your bill makes provision for the Commission to be an independent body, with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare providing administrative services only. I believe that it is both desirable and necessary for this Commission, which will certainly study problems relating to the library programs administered by the Office of Education, to be independent of HEW jurisdiction and report directly to the President and Congress.

Congress agreed with Dr. Mumford and created NCLIS as an independent agency. It should be pointed out that the library programs Dr. Mumford identified are now the responsibility of the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a new agency created in 1996. Congress, at the time of creating IMLS, explicitly assigned NCLIS an advisory role regarding IMLS.

Summing it all up, Representative Patsy Mink of Hawaii (the only co-sponsor of the NCLIS legislation currently serving in the House of Representatives) said, "As a completely independent agency, [the Commission] will be able to make recommendations free of undue pressure from any source."

APPENDIX 2

THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science is a unique institution, established by Congress in 1970 to serve as an independent voice articulating the needs of the people for library and information services. While some other governments have created organizations to administer library programs and policy, nowhere else in the world is there an organization like NCLIS.

NCLIS has always been challenged by its very broad mandate and its very limited resources. The Commission has never had more than 11 staff members and only in FY 2000 and FY 2001 has the Commission's appropriation exceeded \$1 million. The challenge has been and continues to be to make a difference for users and potential users of libraries and information services with the modest resources that are available.

A far-seeing Congress established NCLIS in anticipation of the critical role library and information services would play in the life of the country. President Lyndon Johnson appointed a number of distinguished individuals to a temporary National Advisory Commission on Libraries in 1966. This group commissioned studies and held hearings throughout the country. In 1968, its comprehensive report expressed the overall importance of libraries and a number of actions the federal government should take with regard to libraries. First among its recommendations was the call for a permanent National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

On the first day of the 91st Congress, legislation was introduced to establish such a commission and additional bills were introduced in the weeks that followed. It is still a matter of some admiration that Congress had the foresight to recognize the need for legislation with such a strategic view of the value of information. At that time, the image of computers was that of room-sized machines; the popular view of the future of computing was reflected in the movie *2001*. Few people were talking about inexpensive, ubiquitous availability of desktop computing. The concept of the Internet, if it existed at all, was incubated in the minds of a few prescient academics, and the technological tools of widespread copying—photocopying, video recording, and digital duplication—were in their infancy.

Nonetheless, Congress passed the legislation creating the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (P.L. 91-345) with the following Congressional statement of policy:

The Congress hereby affirms that library and information services adequate to meet the needs of the people of the United States are essential to achieve national goals and to utilize most effectively the Nation's educational resources and that the Federal Government will cooperate with

State and local governments and public and private agencies in assuring optimum provision of such services.

The Congress established the Commission as an independent agency within the executive branch and gave it the primary responsibility to develop or recommend plans for, and to advise appropriate governments and agencies on, that Congressional policy. The Commission was comprised of fifteen Presidential appointees, including the Librarian of Congress, who would meet periodically; a strong, permanent staff would carry forth the work of the Commission on a day-to-day basis.

On the floor of the House of Representatives, Representative John Brademas of Indiana, principal sponsor of the legislation and floor manager for the bill, made very clear his sense of the value of the Commission. He acknowledged the “small cost,” but he anticipated savings “many, many times” greater as the advice of the Commission was factored into other federal legislation dealing with libraries. He also predicted that the Commission’s work would be “of inestimable worth to the magnificent system” of libraries at all levels—local, state and national—and of all types.

Support for the establishment of the Commission was overwhelming. The Senate bill passed unanimously; the House bill passed by a roll call vote of 261-11; and the conference report was accepted by unanimous consent in both houses. Two future Presidents then serving in the House, Gerald Ford and George Bush, voted for the legislation. When the bill reached the desk of President Richard Nixon, despite his stated concern about creating any new agencies, he signed the bill with a strong statement of support:

Libraries and information centers are among our most precious national resources. Americans from all walks of life look to these institution when they wish to expand their knowledge and wisdom beyond their own life experiences....

As a nation, we ask much of libraries and of information centers. To help them come closer to the goal of making knowledge available in a timely way to all who seek it, the Federal government has established various libraries and information centers and has developed programs to assist them in serving their clientele.

The National Commission, created by the bill before me, will be asked to provide an overview of our needs in this area and to advise on what steps we can take to ensure that we are meeting them...

I look forward to the contributions of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. That body is to seek the improvement of America’s knowledge of knowledge, its libraries and information centers. This task is a crucial one, for the continuing health and enrichment of our Nation. With this knowledge, I have signed S. 1519.

Within a year of signing the bill, President Nixon had nominated and, with Senate approval, appointed a distinguished group of academics, technologists and library professionals to begin the wide-ranging work of the Commission. These part-time members met in twelve daylong sessions during the first year. Over the next four years, the Commission was instrumental in implementing an impressive number of research studies and hearings in working toward the objective of developing a national plan. This plan, *Toward a National Program for Library and Information Services: Goals for Action*, was published in 1975.

Throughout the past three decades, the Commission's activities have been many and varied, but can be broadly aggregated into the following categories:

- Federal Information Policy
- National Information Policy
- International Information Policy
- Library Statistics
- Services for Special Populations

The following sections highlight the activities that were undertaken by the Commission to meet directions given to it by Congress when NCLIS was established.

Highlights of NCLIS Federal Information Activities

Throughout its history, NCLIS has paid special attention to the issue of public access to government information. These activities are encapsulated by the Principles of Public Information, which the Commission adopted in 1990, that state, in part, "public information is information owned by the people, held in trust by their government, and should be available to the people except where restricted by law."

Through the years, NCLIS has participated in the development or review of various proposals to revise Title 44 of the U.S. Code, particularly as it relates to the Federal Depository Library Program, federal publishing, and federal information resources management. Most recently, the Commission published its own *Comprehensive Assessment of Public Information Dissemination*, responding to requests from Senators John McCain and Joseph Lieberman. The Commission recommended, among other things, that the United States Government formally recognize and affirm the concept that public information is a strategic national resource, and that broad, explicit public information dissemination authority be included in the missions of all agencies and organizations, regardless of the branch of government.

In 1982 the Commission published the results of its Task Force on Public Sector/Private Sector Task Force, *Public Sector/Private Sector Interaction in Providing Information Services*. The report was revised and republished in 2000 as part of the *Comprehensive Assessment of Public Information Dissemination*. In 1999 the Commission concluded a multi-year study, funded by the Government Printing Office and conducted by Westat,

Inc., to assess electronic medium and format standards for the creation and dissemination of government information and published the report *Assessment of Electronic Government Information Products*.

In 1989 the Commission held a hearing on the Office of Technology Assessment report, *Informing the Nation: Federal Information Dissemination in an Electronic Age*, and the Office of Management and Budget's proposed revisions to OMB Circular A-130 on managing federal information resources.

NCLIS has advised the Department of Commerce on archiving data from satellites and on its 1999 proposal to close the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). NCLIS has also advised the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) on standards for Federal librarians, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on contracting out Federal library services. NCLIS served on the Library of Congress Network Advisory Committee (NAC) and has examined the role of the Library of Congress in the national network. The NCLIS Executive Director is a permanent member of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) and the NCLIS Deputy Director is currently a member of the FLICC Executive Board.

Highlights of NCLIS National Information Activities

As would be expected given its mission, national information activities have dominated the Commission's activities. Primary among these was its service as the lead agency for two White House Conferences on Library and Information Services, one in 1979 and one in 1991. The purpose of the conferences was to increase literacy, productivity and understanding of the democratic process in the United States through better utilization of library and information services. The information developed through the pre-conferences and the conferences was a major source of input to the Commission on the issues that needed to be addressed in order to meet the library and information needs of the American people.

The Commission's first major initiative was a multi-year effort through hearings, consultant reports and other research to prepare its 1975 publication *Toward a National Program for Library and Information Services: Goals for Action*. This was followed by a second major publication, *Library and Information Services Needs of the Nation*.

NCLIS was instrumental in working out the five-year review component, which allowed the deadlocked Copyright Act of 1976 to proceed, and it has retained an active interest in copyright issues. It has also been active in the development of the Library Services and Construction Act (LSTA) and its successor, the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), as well as legislation on education. The Commission has supported funding for libraries, including development of the Universal Services Fund, popularly known as the "E-Rate" program to fund the wiring of schools and libraries for Internet access.

Literacy and information literacy have been major concerns of the Commission. It worked to transfer technology from the government to public libraries to improve adult literacy programs. It continues to actively promote the importance of skills for finding and using information to help citizens of all ages to perform more effectively in an information society. NCLIS is an active member of the National Forum on Information Literacy (NFIL) and is working with NFIL and UNESCO to hold an international conference on information literacy.

The Commission completed a series of studies on the implications of the new information technologies for the library and information field, including an examination of how information technology can contribute to increased productivity. NCLIS was also instrumental in the Federal Highway Administration's adoption of a national library symbol for use on highway signs.

NCLIS has had along-standing interest in library and information science education and recruiting, and it has supported programs for continuing education for library personnel. Networking and cooperation among libraries have also been issues that the Commission has addressed. The Commission has examined issues relating to coordination of bibliographic control of library materials and the establishment of a National Periodicals Center.

Highlights of NCLIS International Information Activities

Since the United States withdrew from UNESCO in 1984, NCLIS has cooperated with the Department of State to coordinate and monitor proposals for International Contributions for Scientific, Educational and Cultural Activities (ICSECA) funds and to disburse the funds to appropriate organizations and activities. In recent years, NCLIS has held a series of meetings with key UNESCO officials as well as members of the U.S. Permanent Observer Mission to UNESCO to discuss information policy initiatives, and in FY 1999 the Commission passed a resolution to support the U.S. rejoining UNESCO.

NCLIS has been a regular participant in the meetings of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and is currently a distinguished partner in the preparations for the IFLA conference to be held in Boston in 2001. The Commission has welcomed many groups of international librarians throughout the years and helped them to understand U.S. information policy. On behalf of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) and the State Department, Commissioners have served on official delegations to other nations.

Sister Libraries, the NCLIS millennium project, is an international initiative to pair public and school libraries in the United States with others worldwide, focusing initially on programs specifically planned for children and teenagers.

The Commission and the British Library hosted a meeting on information and productivity in 1986 and participated in a series of conferences on the Role of

Information in the Economy with representatives from industry, government and academia from the U.S., U.K. and Canada in 1986 and 1987. NCLIS has worked with the Australian and British library commissions and with governmental and non-governmental organizations in other countries. The Commission worked with the USIA on its international library programs and served as a member of the U.S. Book Abroad Task Force.

Highlights of NCLIS Activities for Library Statistics

FY 2001 is the fifteenth consecutive years of cooperation between the Commission and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in implementing the Library Statistics Program (LSP). The Commission serves as a liaison to the library community, organizes meetings and training workshops, supports in-state training and technical assistance, monitors trends, and advises NCES on policy matters.

In addition, the Commission has sponsored six statistical projects, individually and in cooperation with other organizations, to measure public access to the Internet through public libraries. Now that most public libraries offer public Internet access, NCLIS research is shifting from measuring connectivity to measuring performance and productivity.

The Commission participates in a variety of activities to encourage the development of standards for library statistics, as well as the accurate and timely collection and dissemination of relevant statistical information to assist in policy development and implementation at the Federal, state and local levels.

Highlights of NCLIS Activities for Special Populations

NCLIS has addressed the needs of many special populations, including children, the elderly, Native Americans, individuals with disabilities, people who are economically disadvantaged, people who live in rural areas, and cultural minorities.

Children have been the focus of a number of Commission hearings, reports and resolutions. In 1984 NCLIS responded to the report entitled *A Nation at Risk* by urging strong school library media center services and critical information skills for all students. Following the second White House Conference, the Commission held hearings on library and information services for young people, surveying selected school libraries and working toward school library media provisions in the reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In 1998 a Commission hearing focused on *Kids and the Internet: The Promise and the Perils* and earlier this year the Commission held a hearing on *School Librarians: Knowledge Navigators Through Troubled Times*, focusing on the correlation between well equipped, professionally-staffed school libraries and student performance and on the investment necessary to make adequate school library media centers available to all students.

The information needs of the elderly also have received significant attention from the Commission. In fact, the Commission's enabling legislation includes a requirement that at least one Commissioner be "knowledgeable with respect to the library and information service and science needs of the elderly." The Commission has worked with a variety of federal agencies and national organizations regarding federal, state and local programs to improve library and information services for the aging. NCLIS has provided information to the Congress on legislation, including reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, so that information service requirements of this rapidly expanding segment of the population would be addressed. In 1995, the Commission co-hosted a national Pre-White House Conference for Older Adults, called "Toward the White House Conference on Aging: Priorities and Policies for Library and Information Services for Older Adults." In 1998 NCLIS helped to develop and participated in *The Internet: Empowering Older Americans*, a forum sponsored by the Senate Special Committee on Aging and moderated by a Commissioner.

Through a series of regional hearings, NCLIS explored the lack of availability of library and information services for Native Americans living on or near reservations. In 1992, the Commission issued *Pathways to Excellence: A Report on Improving Library and Information Services for Native American Peoples*. In addition, the Commission worked with Congress, the Native American community and the library and information services community to establish Title IV of the Library Services and Technology Act to provide federal support for Native Americans living on or near reservations. NCLIS also encouraged the development of the American Indian Library Association and served as an advisor to the Training and Assistance for Indian Library Services (TRAILS) program at the University of Oklahoma, to provide training and assistance to American Indians and Alaskan Native for improvement of library services on their reservations and in their villages.

In 1999 the Commission held a hearing on library and information services for individuals with disabilities. This issue had been addressed as well through the Commission's work on services for senior citizens, since most people develop some disabilities as they age.

With assistance from the National Agricultural Library, NCLIS conducted a six-year program to identify means to meet the needs for rural library and information services. In 1982, NCLIS assisted the Congress in coordinating and conducting a Congressional hearing on *The Changing Information Needs of Rural Americans: The Role of Libraries and Information Technology*. Following the hearing, NCLIS worked with the Department of Agriculture to organize a National Advisory Board on Rural Information Needs (NABRIN).

NCLIS also conducted hearings and sponsored a two-year research project for a task force to review the library and information needs of cultural minorities.

In these three decades Commissioners have seen and experienced much progress and some disappointments. At the beginning of a new century, The Commissioners see amazing opportunities for libraries and information services to enrich the life and work of the American people and an increased need for policy leadership to ensure equitable access for all.