OCLC –Information

From 2014 Background: OCLC's WorldCat is a database of bibliographic information built continuously by libraries around the world and OCLC since 1971. Each record in the WorldCat database contains a bibliographic description of a single item or work and a list of institutions that hold the item. The institutions share these records, using them to create local catalogs, arrange interlibrary loans and conduct reference work. Records are in 486 languages with over 60% of all records in non-English.

As of June 30, 2013, nearly 303 million records had been added to WorldCat, spanning six millennia of recorded knowledge, from about 4800 B.C. to the present. This unique store of information encompasses records in eight formats—books, serials, sound recordings, musical scores, maps, visual materials, mixed materials and computer files. Like the knowledge it describes, WorldCat grows steadily. A new record enters WorldCat every second.

In fiscal 2013, WorldCat grew by 29.6 million records. Libraries used WorldCat to catalog and set holdings for 582.4 million items and arrange 8.9 million interlibrary loan transactions.

Perspective: South Dakota resources are a small representation within OCLC's WorldCat database: There are currently 78,985 libraries participating worldwide; South Dakota has **17** institutions (academic and larger publics including the SDSL) who currently pay an annual fee to access this enormous and complex database when a specific requested resource is not available within the state and when their librarians have no other choice than to search regionally, nationally or internationally for a specific book or alternative format resource.

Potential Costs/Pros and Cons: Annual fees are based on an individual library's ability to catalog according to international rules and upload materials as well as borrowing and lending of materials.

Without OCLC Worldshare ILL/ILLiad interlibrary loan services:

- No other libraries (beyond the current 17 in SD) would be likely or able (financially) to afford to join OCLC at individual pricing levels.
- Almost every library in SD would <u>no longer</u> have the ability to borrow needed books, articles, and other items from out of state libraries because that service is facilitated by the SD State Library. Items could only be ordered in state through SD Share-It, which includes the collections of only 70 SD libraries.
- SDSL would not be able to adequately service state employees, who frequently need journal articles and books that can only be obtained from out of state libraries (GFP, DENR, CHC are heavy users)
- SDSL could not loan items from our collection to libraries outside of SD
- SDSL would not be able to adequately service the large number of school and small public libraries, whose patrons, students, and teachers request materials that can only be obtained from out of state libraries
- In FY2016, there were 43,287 requests sent to out of state libraries by SD libraries

The State Statute 14-1-49 reads: "*State participation in interstate networks and systems. The State Library Office shall provide for state participation in regional, national, or international library networks and systems designed to increase the quality of library services for the citizens of the state*"