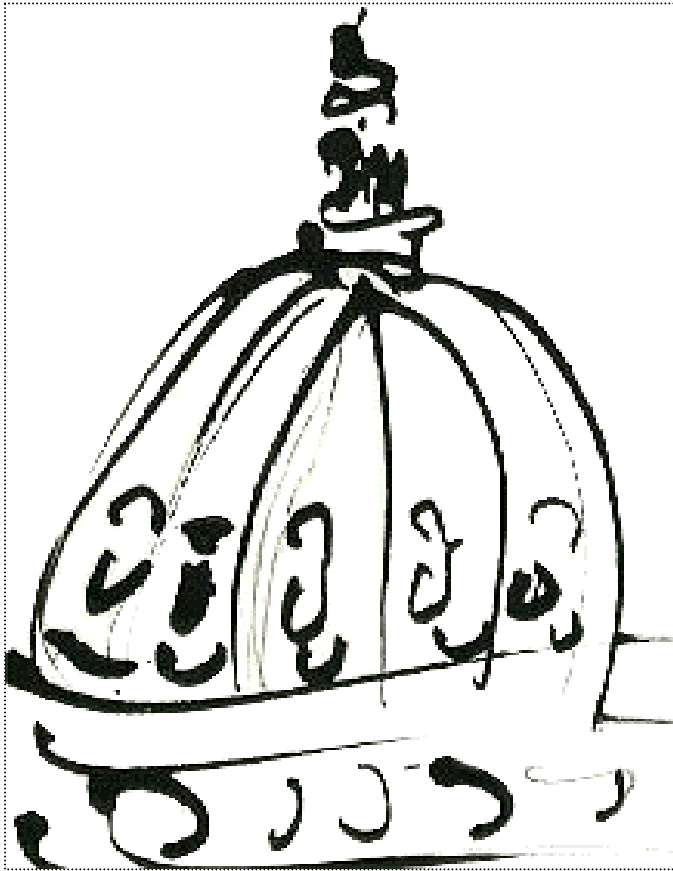




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## **Public Libraries and the Internet 2006: Study Results and Findings**

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**APPENDIX 3-A: STATE LIBRARY ONE PAGE PROJECT BRIEFING**

### Site Visits Describing Successfully Networked Public Libraries Public Libraries and the Internet 2006 Study

Florida State University's, Information Institute<sup>46</sup> conducts a national, biennial, *Public libraries and the Internet* study.<sup>47</sup> The 2006 study, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation<sup>48</sup> and the American Library Association, will contain *Public libraries and the Internet: Best Practices* case studies. The case studies will tell the stories of exceptional rural, urban and suburban public libraries or systems who have successfully addressed significant challenges to provide a range of innovative public access Internet services. The study will address the following research questions:

- **Visions of Success:** What is a definition of a successfully networked public library? What factors, management, infrastructure, and activities describe successfully networked public libraries?
- **Getting from A to B:** What strategies and factors contributed to your successfully networked public libraries' achievement? Are there programs or approaches at the local, state, or national levels that can assist public libraries become successfully networked?
- **Measures of Value:** Are there measures that describe successfully networked public libraries that show their value and provide a lever to use with public library funders?
- **Sustainable Funding:** Has your successfully networked public library generated new, sustaining revenue? What varieties of local, state, and national support do successfully networked public libraries obtain?
- **Issues and next steps:** What issues does your library face now related to Internet connectivity? What are the next steps these libraries plan?

Large and small, rural and urban successfully networked public libraries and systems will be visited. In particular, libraries that struggled to become successfully networked are of especial interest.

**We would like your help to:** (a) agree to have your state participate in the site visits, (b) identify 3-4 highly successfully network connected public library sites for Joe Ryan to visit in your state; (c) assist him in making the initial contacts with these libraries; and, (d) allow him to meet with selected state library staff to discuss these questions when we visit the state.

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<sup>46</sup> Florida State University, School of Information Studies, Information Use Management and Policy Institute <<http://www.ii.fsu.edu/>>.

<sup>47</sup> *Public libraries and the Internet* studies < <http://www.ii.fsu.edu/plinternet.cfm>>.

<sup>48</sup> Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation < <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Libraries/>>.