Literacy and Learning Disabilities
Special Collection

Grant Number X257S000012

January 1, 2003 – March 31, 2003

Name of Organization: Center for Literacy Studies

Region: Southern LINCS

Reporting Period: 2nd Quarter: Jan.1 – March 31, 2003

Project Director: Beth Bingman

Report Prepared By: Margaret Lindop

1. Goals and Objectives for the Quarter

- Invite new members to be part of the CKG.
- Attend *Bridges to Adulthood* Symposium at the LDA Conference in Chicago in order to consider ways to coordinate our efforts on the special collection with other NIFL LD initiatives around the country.
- Complete History section.
- Complete the writing of introductions to all major sections.
- Contact SLINCS states and SLRCs about linking to the special collections and sharing resources with the Collections.
- At NAASLN -Facilitate interactive sessions on the collection and host a computer lab for informal promotion of special collections.
- Hold feedback sessions on the collection with teachers and learners. Use feedback to refine site as a whole and learner activities in particular.
- Try out a ‘bulletin board’ on the Collection: LD Online’s: “Adults with LD” discussion list
  [http://www.ldonline.org/bulletin_boards/adults_ld.html](http://www.ldonline.org/bulletin_boards/adults_ld.html)
2. Activities initially planned for the Quarter. See # 1.

3. Barriers or Concerns Regarding Meeting Goals, Objectives, and Activities.

- Due to the timing of conferences (LDA and NAASLN) and a back injury, I was able to do only one feedback session with teachers and learners during this quarter and did not complete some other tasks.
- Based on the feedback session I did with learners, I see more clearly the difficulty in creating learner activities that are truly accessible. This is particularly true for beginning literacy and ESOL learners.

4. Major Outcomes During Second Quarter

- Invited Christopher Lee to become a new member of the CKG. He accepted and has already been working with me (Margaret) to improve Assistive Technology portions of the site. He will also be advising us on ways to make the site more accessible for all users.
- Reviewed 23 resources for possible inclusion in LD Special Collection, of which 9 were selected.
- Participated in the Bridges to Adulthood Symposium prior to the LDA Conference in Chicago, briefly demonstrating the Special Collection and networking with other Bridges trainers and LD content experts from around the country.
- While attending the LDA Conference, I networked, learned of new research, and did PR for NIFL and the LD Collection via conversation and distribution of materials (125) at the NIFL booth.
- At the NAASLN conference I facilitated two interactive sessions on the LD collection (for a total of 19 people) and was available in the computer lab at other times for informal promotion of LINCS and the Special Collections. I distributed 90+ fliers for the LD Special Collection and (along with Beth and Tim) 100 – 150 LINCS CDs.
- COABE accepted our proposal to facilitate an interactive lab session on the Collection.
- Arranged to do a session on the Collection at the VALUE conference in June. Archie Willard (CKG member) and I will co-present.
- Completed introductions to primary and some secondary pages of Decisions: Planning for Success.
- Contacted some SLINCS state offices and SLRCs about linking to the special collections and sharing resources with the Collections. Will complete in early April.
- Held a demonstration / feedback session on the collection with 2 teachers and 7 beginning literacy and ESOL learners in Blount County, TN. I received valuable feedback about the need to increase
accessibility for those with low literacy.

5. **Problems Encountered in the Use of Project Funds.** None.

6. **Assessment of Collaboration with NIFL Staff During the Second Quarter and Suggestions for Improvement.**

Collaboration with NIFL staff has been excellent. Emails, calls, collaboratively constructed agenda, and posted minutes of calls have kept us up to date.

In addition to CDP communication, the chance to network with other Bridges to Practice trainers and content experts (at the LDA pre-Symposium) was very much appreciated.

7. **Assessment of Collaboration with CKG Members during the Second Quarter and Suggestions for Improvement.** We were unable to hold a CKG conference call this quarter. Nevertheless, there were individual CKG conversations by phone and in person at the LDA and NAASLN conferences:

- With Christopher Lee: brainstorming re: Assistive Technology and website accessibility
- With Robin Schwarz: more conversation re: ESOL and LD
- With Diane Sawyer re: instruction
- With Archie Willard re: website learner activities and co-presenting the LD Collection at the VALUE conference in June.
- With Amanda Keller regarding learner use of the site.

I also conferred with two unofficial consultants to the Collection: Glenn Young regarding LD legal issues and language of the site and Marshall Raskind regarding success indicators for adults with LD.

I had hoped to get together with Susan Vogel at LDA, but missed her. I plan to consult with her soon about development of resources for adults with LD as they enter post-secondary education.

8. **Next Quarter’s Goals and Objectives, Expected Outcomes, Planned Activities, and Suggestions**

**Site Development and refinement:**

- Focus on development of interactive learner activities and audio accessibility
- Write explanatory set up for use of “Bulletin boards” on LD and ADHD
- Re-evaluate all currently featured resources for continued linkage from
the LD Collection, keeping the best of the best.

Work with CKG

- develop learner activities
- gain better electronic access to *current* research

Training Events & Marketing

- Present the Assistive Technology component of “Keeping Up to Speed”, NIFL Pre-Conference at COABE
- Facilitate computer lab session on LD Collection at COABE.
- Co-present (with Archie Willard) a session on LD Collection at VALUE conference in June.
- Continue to market all Special Collections via e-mail and posts to discussion lists.

Assessment of LD Collection Usefulness

- Have feedback component to the COABE and VALUE sessions.
- Upon completion of the LINCS pilot project, follow up at the E. TN site with a presentation / feedback session on LD Special Collection.
- Analyze Web-Trends data for insight into users’ needs

9. Number of:

Materials Identified for the Special Collection: 9

Materials Web Published: 0

Materials Cataloged: 4

Records edited: 3 (fixed url, added to collection, changed abstract etc)

Web Pages Launched & Updated: 5

Conference Presentations: 2 (plus computer lab venue for participants)

Conference Participants: 19 plus 80–90 more lab users

*LINCS* Marketing Materials Distributed: 200+LD Collection fliers;

100-150 LINCS CDs
Email Postings Marketing the Special Collections: 5

Technical Assistance/Reference Questions Answered via phone /email: 8

Other Phone Calls/emails: 0 Conference call w/ CKG, 9 individual calls /emails/personal contacts w/ CKG members, 4 w/ NIFL staff, 1 conference call w/ CDP, 5 w/ individual CDP members.

Web Use Statistics: The following monthly statistics are for the period of


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Comparison: 1st and 2nd Quarters: 2002-2003

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