NISO 2006 ANNUAL REPORT
NATIONAL INFORMATION STANDARDS ORGANIZATION

A PLAN FOR PROGRESS
2006 was a year of positive changes and measurable progress.
A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

2006 WAS A MOMENTOUS YEAR OF ANSWERS FOR NISO
Through close collaboration with NISO members, the Board, and staff, NISO addressed major questions about leadership, structure, and programming with unprecedented action. We created a path ahead that revitalizes NISO by providing a new strategic plan and the means to achieving goals laid out in the plan.

NISO’s Strategic Plan was developed in 2005-2006 with the assistance of an eleven-member Blue Ribbon Panel and funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Perhaps the most significant step made to implement the plan was the development of a strategic framework, including a remodeled committee structure, that will enable launching Architecture and Topic Committees in early 2007. This structure will allow NISO to discover and address emerging areas for standards development more nimbly and to provide greater guidance and leadership to working groups.

Following the Strategic Plan, we instituted new staff leadership. Todd Carpenter was appointed Managing Director in September to lead NISO in improving constituency relationships, standards development, and operational procedures. Karen Wetzel was brought on to serve as the first Standards Program Manager. She will be providing additional support to NISO’s technical committees and also organizing and developing education programs.

Another goal of the strategic plan, in response to members’ wishes, is broader outreach and education. NISO’s first web seminars were an immediate success.

With the spring events on usage statistics fully subscribed and hundreds more people accessing the information afterward, these webinars kicked off the education program in grand style. The fall conferences on Managing Electronic Collections and Discovery to Delivery also drew capacity audiences and enjoyed exceptional sponsorship from NISO corporate members and partner organizations.

Finally, the Strategic Plan addressed NISO’s core standards work. New activities deal with issues of growing importance to the community, such as usage statistics, license expression, versions of journal articles, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) in libraries’ work, and business practices relating to e-resources. NISO published the first document in its new Recommended Practice (R.P.) Series, publications designed to provide guidance in emerging areas where formalized standards may inhibit innovation. In addition to working groups focusing on the new issues, NISO also reaffirmed past work, detailed later in this report.

2006 has given NISO a strong foundation and lots of reasons for optimism for its work in the upcoming year. I look forward to continued success and to achieving our goals in 2007.

Sincerely,

Carl Grant
Chair, NISO Board of Directors
NISO is fortunate. It is able to rely on a dedicated community of members and volunteers who contribute their ideas, time, and efforts to assume much of the organization’s work through committees and working groups, and also to bring about change within NISO. The diligent efforts the members and supporters of NISO have contributed to determining a strategic direction are finally paying dividends.

Developing the new leadership committees will be a key goal in the coming year. The new committee structure will divide the management of standards working groups into functional areas. This will allow NISO to provide more active leadership and increase the pace of standards development.

In addition, a crucial task for the new committees will be to create criteria to determine which initiatives to pursue in the future. Among these criteria will be if the initiative addresses a critical pain point in the industry; if implementing the project will move forward the consensus state-of-the-art in the community; and if the initiative is one that can be accomplished in a reasonable timeframe. Criteria such as these will allow each committee to recruit experts in the particular area and help focus NISO’s attention and its resources on projects that will be the most effective and have the greatest relevance.

An active focus on adoption, implementation, and education from the development’s outset will ensure that NISO standards have broad impact. A new Education Committee will help plan and organize programs that enhance awareness of significant issues as well as train users on how to implement standards at individual institutions.

We also will be reaching out to partner with other standards bodies to advance common interests. Working with other standards-setting bodies or organizations that are creating de facto standards, NISO will strive to enhance cooperation and alleviate the potential for competition and confusion.

Standards help facilitate information exchange. Without standards, the broad system of collection, distribution, access, and preservation of information would quickly fall apart. As the information landscape changes and grows, NISO also needs to adapt. We will expand NISO’s portfolio of standards, address emerging areas, and ensure that existing standards remain functional or are enhanced to meet evolving community needs. NISO’s new structure and strategic plan prepare us to do just that. I look forward to an exciting and productive 2007.

Sincerely,

Todd Carpenter
NISO Managing Director
NISO depends on the participation and involvement of a broad constituency for its success. Contributions from librarians, publishers, and library systems vendors ensure that the standards developed within NISO meet our diverse community’s needs. Individual organizations also have a great deal to gain by participating in NISO.

Your participation in NISO offers an opportunity to:

- Network with other key developers
- Engage in the work of other communities to ensure interoperability
- Share information in a non-competitive environment about emerging technologies
- Vet ideas and engage other perspectives
- Comment and vote on NISO and ISO standards
- Encourage acceptance of new initiatives or solutions
- Take a leadership role in NISO and standards development work

- Benefit from established tools for cooperative review and input
- Achieve recognition and career development
- Receive advance knowledge of new standards requirements
- Gain competitive advantage through early adoption of draft standard specifications, requirements, and other standards committee products
- Enjoy a voice and venue in the international standards arena
- Increase press coverage for your organization
- Promote an event on NISO’s Standards Calendar
- Receive discount registration fees at NISO educational events.

If your organization is not a member, join today.

“They say that time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself.”
— Andy Warhol
Standards

NISO’s standards work in 2006 reflects the need to define interoperability requirements essential for an effective and functional flow of information.

REAFFIRMED - The process of reaffirming an American National Standard every five years opens the document to public comment and requires a thorough review to determine whether or not any substantive changes should be made.

ANSI/NISO Z39.43-1993
Standard Address Number (SAN) for the Publishing Industry
The SAN is a seven-digit numeric identifier used to identify organizations and businesses interacting with the publishing industry, including book and serial manufacturers, libraries, and publishers. Originally created to expedite paper-based transactions such as purchase orders and returns, the SAN has been designated as the organizational identifier for use in EDI transactions in the publishing industry.

REVISED - In choosing to revise a standard, NISO conducts a systematic review of the entire standard, even though a few edits may be all that is required to bring it up to date. In accordance with ANSI procedures, if NISO decides not to issue a revision within four years of passing a standard, NISO must then take action to either reaffirm or withdraw the standard.

ANSI/NISO Z39.71-2006
Holdings Statements for Bibliographic Items
This document specifies display requirements or holdings statements for bibliographic items. The standard promotes consistency in the communication and exchange of holdings information and applies to holdings statements for physical and electronic bibliographic items.

NEW - A standard can only be accepted as an American National Standard if the ANSI-accredited body publicly invites comments from all interested parties and resolves any negative comments through a consensus process of decision-making.

ANSI/NISO Z39.87-2006
Data Dictionary—Technical Metadata for Digital Still Images
This standard defines a set of metadata elements for raster digital images to enable users to develop, exchange, and interpret digital image files. The dictionary has been designed to facilitate interoperability between systems, services, and software as well as to support the long-term management of and continuing access to digital image collections.

DRAFT FOR TRIAL USE - Draft standards are issued for trial use to allow implementers to test the standard. At the end of the trial period the standard may be balloted, revised, or withdrawn.

NISO Z39.93 - 200x
The Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI) Protocol
SUSHI automates the retrieval of usage statistics from multiple suppliers and delivers them in a
standardized format to a consolidation application. The draft standard defines a web services-based request and response XML schema to perform the retrieval and delivery.

New — Recommended Practices Series
NISO began a series of guidelines that represent a leading edge, an exceptional model, or a proven industry practice in emerging areas where formalized consensus standards may inhibit innovation.

- Best Practices for Designing Web Services in the Library Context (NISO RP 2006-01)

Standards Maintenance Activities

- OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) assumed responsibility as the Maintenance Agency for The OpenURL Framework for Context-Sensitive Services (ANSI/NISO Z39.88) for five years.
- NISO and Project COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resources) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote harvesting of COUNTER reports via the web service protocol developed by NISO’s Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI).
- The DAISY Consortium, maintenance agency for Specifications for the Digital Talking Book (ANSI/NISO Z39.86) issued maintenance updates to two XML Document Type Definitions (DTDs) that accompany the standard.

Working Group Activities

- Versions of Journal Articles (launched in partnership with the U.K. Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers) completed its first set of recommendations to their Review Group and issued revised recommendations for further review.
- License Expression (cosponsored by the Digital Library Federation, EDItEUR, and Publishers Licensing Society) completed a mapping of the ERMI and ONIX licensing schemas and drafted basic guiding principles to the collaborative development of license expressions.
- Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI) issued a draft standard for trial use (NISO Z39.93) through May 2007; numerous trial implementations are underway.
- RFID for Library Applications was newly established to develop a set of recommended practices for the use of RFID in library applications. A working draft of the recommendations document was developed addressing privacy issues, interoperability, security, and a data model identifying mandatory and optional data elements.

“Change is inevitable in a progressive society. Change is constant.”
— Benjamin Disraeli
Educational Programs, Conferences, and Meetings

- Invitational Roundtable on Digital Identifiers explored issues and identified potential standards needs. The group recommended several areas for further action by NISO.
- NISO’s first ever webinar discussed the Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI).
- A three-day Managing Electronic Collections seminar covered topics ranging from usage statistics to repositories, and from electronic resource management (ERM) systems to licensing terms.
- Discovery to Delivery seminar explored innovative ways to more fully use existing standards, such as OpenURL, and to implement leading edge technologies to improve access to and delivery of electronic information resources.

ISO TC 46 on Information and Documentation

- NISO turned over the leadership in 2006 as Secretariat of TC46 Subcommittee 4, Technical Interoperability, to Standards New Zealand.
- Published a new edition of Part 1 of the Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions standard (ISO 3166).
- Published a fourth edition of ISO 2789, Information and documentation – International library statistics.
- Balloted and approved a major revision of ISO 3297, International Standard Serial Number (ISSN), following almost two years of collaborative work.
NISO GOALS FOR 2007

- Organize NISO’s leadership committees and launch a new structure that will direct and manage standards activities

- Redesign and improve the www.niso.org website and other communications channels

- Implement technological tools to assist in the more rapid development of NISO standards

- Enhance the support and training provided to standards committees and committee chairs

- Form an Education Committee to plan and develop robust meeting and seminar content and double the number of programs held

- Begin a series of Thought Leader meetings to incubate new standards activities

“Times do change and move continually.”
— Edmund Spenser
FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIALLY, 2006 WAS A SOLID YEAR.

NISO’s finances had a significant rebound in 2006 from the previous year, despite additional expenses related to the leadership transition. The organization ended the year with a surplus of $85,444, compared with a ($69,554) loss in 2005.

Overall revenue was up a modest 1.2% in 2006 to $713,625. Support from its members remains the single largest source of operating revenue for NISO, with over 75% of income derived from member dues. Despite adding five new members in 2006, membership dues were down slightly owing to the loss of several large members resulting from industry consolidation. Indications are that industry consolidation in the publishing and vendor communities may continue to exert downward pressure on dues revenue into the foreseeable future. Publishing and investment income were both up modestly in 2006.

Training generated significant revenue and enhanced member educational opportunities. Both fall seminars, as well as the three webinars, were extremely well attended and received significant support from generous industry sponsor-partners.

On the expense side, supporting services, such as governance, marketing, and overhead, saw a significant reduction — down nearly 33% from 2005 — owing to reduced administrative costs during the 2006 staff transition. Program services, including expenses for standards incubation, international standards participation, and publications, also experienced a modest reduction in spending of 11%. A significant portion of the expense reduction in program services was a result of the transition of the ISO TC46/SC4 Secretariat to Standards New Zealand in 2005. These are temporary reductions, however, as NISO plans significant investments in 2007 in staff resources to manage NISO’s standards work, incubate new standards activity, and enhance outreach and educational programs.

Complete audited financial statements are available from the NISO offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Winston Tabb
NISO Treasurer
### NISO Summary of Operating Revenue and Expenses - 1997-2006*

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<td>121,119</td>
<td>34,030</td>
<td>141,198</td>
<td>226,296</td>
<td>276,391</td>
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*NOTE: These figures are drawn from audited financial statements covering 1997-2006. Complete copies of the full financial audits are available from the NISO office.*

### NISO Net Assets & Annual Surplus/loss 1997-2006

### NISO Revenues 1997-2006

### NISO Voting Members 1997-2006
NISO BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006

Carl Grant, Chair
VTLS, Inc.

James Neal, Vice Chair / Chair Elect
Columbia University

Winston Tabb, Treasurer
Johns Hopkins University

Todd Carpenter
Managing Director / Secretary
NISO

NISO VOTING MEMBERS 2006

3M

Alcatel-Lucent

American Association of Law Libraries

American Library Association

American Psychological Association

American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T)

American Society of Indexers

ARMA International

Armed Forces Medical Library

Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA)

Association for Information and Image Management (AIIM)

Association of Information and Dissemination Centers (ASIDIC)

Association of Jewish Libraries

Association of Research Libraries

Auto-Graphics, Inc.

Baker Robbins & Company

Book Industry Communication

California Digital Library

Cambridge Information Group

Checkpoint Systems, Inc.

College Center for Library Automation (CCLA)

Colorado State Library

Copyright Clearance Center

CrossRef

DAISY Consortium

EBSCO Information Services

Elsevier

Endeavor Information Systems

Ex Libris, Inc

Factiva

H.W. Wilson Company

Helsinki University Library

Index Data

Inera Inc.

INFLIBNET Centre

Infor Library Solutions

Infotrieve

Innodata Isogen, Inc.

Innovative Interfaces, Inc.

The International DOI Foundation (IDF)

Ithaka/JSTOR/ARTstor

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Library Binding Institute

Library of Congress

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Medical Library Association

MINITEX

Modern Language Association

MuseGlobal, Inc.
NISO VOTING MEMBERS 2006 (CONTINUED)

Music Library Association  
National Agricultural Library  
National Archives and Records Administration  
National Library of Medicine  
National Security Agency  
New England Journal of Medicine  
NexTag, Inc.  
NFAIS  
OCLC Online Computer Library Center  
OCLC PICA, Inc.  
Polaris Library Systems  
ProQuest Information and Learning  
Publishers Licensing Society Ltd.  
Recording Industry Association of America  
Ringgold, Inc.  
RLG  
SAGE Publications  
Serials Solutions, Inc.  
SirsiDynix  
Society for Technical Communication (STC)  
Society of American Archivists  
Special Libraries Association (SLA)  
Swets Information Services  
TAGSYS, Inc.  
Talis Information Ltd  
Thomson Gale  
Thomson Scientific  
TLC The Library Corporation  
Triangle Research Libraries Network  
U.S. Department of Defense, DTIC  
(Defense Technical Information Center)  
U.S. DOE, Office of Scientific & Technical Information  
U.S. Government Printing Office  
VTLs, Inc.  
WebFeat  
Zone & Zone Co. Ltd.

LIBRARY STANDARDS ALLIANCE MEMBERS 2006

Boston College  
British Library  
Emory University Library  
Florida State University Libraries  
Harvard University Library  
Houston Public Library  
Indiana University Library  
Johns Hopkins University  
Library and Archives Canada  
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)  
Nebraska Library Commission  
New Mexico State University  
New York State Library  
Northwestern University  
Ohio State University Libraries  
Princeton University Library  
Smithsonian Institute Library  
Stanford University Libraries  
University of Arizona  
University of Chicago Library  
University of Florida  
University of Georgia Library  
University of Maryland  
University of Notre Dame, Hesburgh Library  
Westchester Library System  
World Bank (Joint Bank Library Fund)  
Wyoming State Library
NISO STANDARDS ARE YOUR SOLUTIONS

NISO is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to initiate, develop, maintain, and publish technical standards for publishers, information services, libraries, and others involved in the business of the creation, storage, preservation, sharing, and dissemination of information.

By promoting development of and compliance with NISO standards, your organization can:

- Lower procurement, operational, and/or sales costs
- Reduce duplication of effort
- Help speed community understanding, acceptance, and adoption of solutions
- Benefit from improved reliability of products or services in the market

To become a member of NISO or for more information about NISO activities, visit www.niso.org
Solutions that save you time, money, and energy