AACR2 Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (2nd ed.). Used as a standard for cataloging procedures and decisions in most libraries and revised periodically.

AACR2R Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (2nd edition revised).

AASL American Association of School Librarians. A division of ALA.

Acrobat Reader. A program from Adobe that captured a document which may then be view it in its original format and appearance.

Act 99. Signed into law November 11, 2015, Act 99 allows boards of trustees for federated public library systems with territory in two or more counties to have a minimum of eleven members instead of the previous fifteen.

Act 150. Beginning in 1997, legislation which amended Wisconsin State Statute 43.12 to enable municipal libraries within a county to invoice, and receive payment from, its home county for services provided to county residents of the not living in a municipality served by a library.

Act 157. Beginning in 2013, legislation which amended Wisconsin State Statute 43.12 to enable municipal libraries in a county adjacent to a consolidated county library to invoice, and receive payment from, the consolidated county library when the consolidated county library bills an adjacent county for providing service to the adjacent county residents not living in a municipality serviced by a library.

Act 169. Signed into law on February 29, 2016 the Return of Library Materials law provides support for libraries to disclose limited patron information when seeking assistance from a collection agency or law enforcement to retrieve lost/long overdue items for payment of same.

Act 420. Beginning in 2005, legislation which amended Wisconsin State Statute 43.12 to enable municipal libraries to invoice, and receive payment from, an adjacent county for services provided to adjacent county residents not living in a municipality served by a library.

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act. A comprehensive and complex act of Congress passed in 1990, intended to eliminate discrimination against the disabled. Title III deals with access to public accommodations which includes libraries. ADA also deals with employment practices.

Administrative Essentials. Developed by the Department of Public Instruction, a handbook of essential information for public library directors in Wisconsin. Chapters in the handbook are similar to those found in DPI's "Trustee Essentials" publication for Wisconsin's public library board members.

Advocacy. (for Libraries) Engaging in activities designed to influence others to support libraries or library funding.

Agency. A system table within Sierra that allows the user to group a library's locations and branches into agencies. Example: Antigo, Elcho, Elton, and White Lake are all part of the conceptual group of Antigo.

AG Attorney General.

Aggregator Software. Aggregators reduce the time and effort needed to regularly check websites for updates, creating a unique information space or "personal newspaper". Once subscribed to a feed, an aggregator is able to check for new content at user-determined intervals and retrieve the updates.

AL American Libraries.   Periodical, blog, podcasts. Flagship magazine of the American Library Association.

ALA American Library Association. The national professional association for libraries and library staff. www.ala.org

Algorithm. A set of instructions or procedures used in order to accomplish a task, such as creating search results in Google. In the context of search, algorithms are used to provide the most relevant results first based on those instructions.

ALS Arrowhead Library System. A former Wisconsin library system headquartered in Milton. The Arrowhead Library System which served Rock County, and the Lakeshores Library System which served Racine and Walworth Counties, merged on January 2, 2023 to form the Prairie Lakes Library System.

ALSC Association for Library Service to Children. A division of ALA.

ALTA Association for Library Trustees and Advocates. A former division of ALA. See "United for Libraries".

ALTAFF Association for Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations. A former division of ALA. See "United for Libraries".

Amazon EC2. Probably the first real iteration of a cloud-computing platform, Amazon's Elastic Compute Cloud is still popular. Making it simple for anyone to throw a virtual server machine onto Amazon's powerful server platform, EC2 changed what it meant to own a server or even run a business. A large number of new businesses don't even own server hardware. Their entire operations run on EC2.

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Signed into law March 11, 2021, it includes billions in funding for public education, libraries, early childhood programs, and internet connectivity resources. State libraries will distribute funds to local libraries to fund services, including offering greater access to technology, establishing mobile digital labs, enhancing workforce development and jobseeker programming and ensuring training and technical support for libraries, including assistance with the safe handling of materials.

AMH Automated Materials Handling. Refers to any automation that reduces or eliminates the need for staff or patrons to check in, check out, or sort material, or to move bins containing library materials.

Ancestry Library. A database that provides access to genealogy information in more than 4,000 databases, including census data, passenger lists, the Social Security Death Index, and much more.

Android. Usually used in the context of Android phone, Android is a free and open source operating system developed by Google that powers a variety of mobile phones from different manufacturers and carriers. It allows users to install apps from the Android Market and from other channels, such as directly from a developer's website.

Anime. Defined as "a Japanese style of motion-picture animation".

ANSI American National Standards Institute.

Antivirus. Software designed to detect and destroy computer viruses.

API Application Programming Interface. The way computer programs share data and functionality with other computer programs.

App. (Application Program). A program that runs inside another service. Many mobile phones allow apps to be downloaded, leading to a burgeoning economy for modestly priced software.

Appropriation. The amount allocated by a municipality or county in support of a governing unit's (library's) budget. Also, the amount voted by the legislature to support programs.

Apple iPad. Tablet device generally as large as a small laptop.

AR Augmented Reality. The use of computers to overlay useful information on top of our perceived world. Similar to Virtual Reality (VR), AR has long appeared in science fiction, but unlike VR, AR has practical applications. Examples: Snapchat filters on your smartphone to put little bunny ears and whiskers on your face; playing Pokémon Go; using Google Glass. See also VR Virtual Reality.

ARPA American Rescue Plan Act. A $1.9 trillion stimulus package passed by Congress on March 10, 2021. It included targeted funding for various sectors of the economy and government impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, ranching from agriculture to small businesses to education – and libraries.

Arrowhead Library System. A former Wisconsin library system headquartered in Milton. The Arrowhead Library System serving Rock County and the Lakeshores Library System serving Racine and Walworth Counties merged on January 2, 2023, to form the Prairie Lakes Library System.

ARSL Association of Rural and Small Libraries. The mission of ARSL is to provide a network of people and materials to support rural and small library staff, volunteers, and trustees to integrate the library thoroughly with the life and work of the community it serves. ARSL has a yearly conference specifically targeted to rural and branch library staff.

ASCII American Standard Code for Information Interchange. A standard format for computer language.

Aspen Discovery (supported by ByWater Solutions). A full-featured Discovery System that integrates with e-Content and other third-party providers, giving patrons comprehensive access to all materials owned by a library/library system in one place. The V-**Cat Library Catalog** is an Aspen Discovery catalog.

Atom. A syndication format for machine readable web feeds that is usually accessible via a URL.

Authority Control. Authority control is a process that organizes bibliographic information in library catalogs by using a single, distinct spelling of a name (heading) or a subject for each topic. Authority control is the process that is applied to both descriptive and subject analysis parts of cataloging. It ensures the consistency and correctness of names and subject headings entered in the bibliographic description.

AV Audiovisual.

Avatar (Computing). A computer user's representation of himself/herself or alter ego, whether in the form of a three-dimensional model used in computer games or a two-dimensional icon (picture) used on the Internet and other communities.

AWSL Association of Wisconsin Special Librarians. A division of WLA.

BadgerCat. Started in 2006, a subset of WorldCat that includes books, CDs, DVDs and other items owned by approximately 500 Wisconsin libraries. It dissolved in July 2010.

BadgerLearn Pro. A free continuing education portal for Wisconsin librarians and support staff. Find webinars, handbooks, videos, presentation slides and more.

BadgerLink. Wisconsin's online library of magazines, journals, newspapers and scholarly articles. Project of DLT to provide access to electronic databases to all libraries and for all Wisconsin residents.

Badgernet. The Wisconsin Department of Administration's statewide network contracted with AT&T. BadgerNet is the successor to the BadgerNet Converged Network (BCN).

Bandwidth. The size or capacity of a data line or system.

Barcode. Vertical bar patterns representing numbers of letters which can be read by an electronic scanner and used for inventory control, tracking, and identification of materials. It is also used in library circulation systems for checking in/out materials to patrons.

BARD. Braille and Audio Reading Download. It is an internet-based service from the National Library Service for the blind and physically handicapped (NLS) that enables the user to download materials to their personal devices. BARD has thousands of books and magazines available for download to an iOS or Android device with no waiting.

BaseCamp. A web-based project-management tool that offers to-do lists, wiki-style web-based text documents, milestone management, file sharing, time tracking, and a messaging system.

BCCB. Building Community Capacity through Broadband (BCCB) is the Wisconsin initiative to connect community anchor institutions to broadband technologies through sustainable public-private partnerships and Community Area Networks (CANs).

BCN Badgernet Converged Network. See BadgerNet.

BI Bibliographic Instruction. Method used to train library clients in using library resources – indexes, online catalog, and computerized databases – through signage, formal classes, or one-on-one instruction.

Blade Servers. Blade servers have become so commonplace that it's easy to forget how stunning it was to see an entire server room of systems reduced to a single rack.

Block. Configuring a social networking service to prevent a particular user from contacting you or viewing your profile.

Block-Chain. A blockchain is basically a distributed database where lots of different parties can read and write transactions to the database. Instead of a third party checking those transactions, the blockchain has a built-in consensus mechanism that checks transactions to make sure they're good. Transactions that pass get hashed—in other works, assigned a digital fingerprint that identifies the transaction. Those validated transactions then get grouped together into a block, which is assigned its own hash. The hash becomes the first hash of the next block of transactions, linking them together in a chain. If everything works as it should, blockchains can theoretically give us a trustworthy database of good transactions without a human being or institution having to intervene to verify those transactions. Blockchain may soon support library budget allocation, grants, donations and financial reports. The ways in which blockchain technology associates to the future of library technology and infrastructure are vast. Cataloging possibilities on the blockchain are enormous. The most pointed applications are in library consortia with shared catalogs.

Blog. A website or section of a website where users post announcements and/or e-journal entries of their thoughts. Each post usually contains a web link. Basically, it is an open forum communication tool that, depending on the web site, is either very individualistic or performs a crucial function for a company. One of the first widespread web-native publishing formats, generally characterized by reverse chronological ordering, rapid response, linking, and robust commenting.

Blogger. One of the first mass blogging services and is credited with popularizing the format. Unlike WordPress, it is not open source. Many Blogger sites are hosted at blogspot.com.

BLS Bridges Library System. Former Waukesha County Federated Library System (WCFLS) with the addition of Jefferson County. BLS is headquartered in Waukesha.

BlueJeans. A cloud-based video conferencing/meeting/webinar service.

Blu-ray Disc. (also known as Blu-ray or BD) An optical disc storage medium. Its main uses are high-definition video and data storage. The disc has the same physical dimensions as standard DVDs or CDs.

Bluetooth. A low-power-consumption and short-range wireless technology for personal area networks (PANS). It connects your personal electronic devices, such as laptops, mobile phones, digital cameras, audio and video equipment, and printers without the clutter of cables.

Book Sanctuaries. Institutions committed to upholding the First Amendment Rights of all citizens, wherein book bans and challenges must follow through a specific procedure to be considered. They are places where books and the right to read them remain at the forefront of what an institution does, and well-funded, well-connected political groups do not get to wield their power in changing what is available.

BookTok. A subcommunity on the app TikTok, focused on books and literature. Creators make videos reviewing, discussing, and joking about the books they read.

Boolean Operators. Words such as AND, OR, and NOT that are called "logical operators" and are used to either broaden or narrow the retrieval results of a search.

BOT. Wisconsin Valley Library Service Board of Trustees.

BRASS Business Reference & Services Section of RUSA (a division of ALA).

Broadband. Data transmission that can send multiple signals (voice, data and video) over the same bandwidth. The wider the bandwidth, the greater the information-carrying capacity. Broadband, or high-speed internet, is internet with a minimum download speed of 25 megabits per second (Mbps) and a minimum upload speed of 3 Mbps – known as 25/3 Mbps speed. There are 6 main types of broadband: broadband over power lines (BPL), cable modem, digital subscriber line (DSL), fiber, satellite, and wireless. Fiber is the fastest, with speeds up to 10,000 Mbps in some areas. Cable is the most used.

Browser. A computer program for accessing the Internet.

Browser Fingerprinting. Your computer sends information about itself when it requests a webpage from the internet. Your computer reveals information in order to interact with pages on the web. Knowing when to send a mobile version of a page as opposed to a desktop version is important. However, even more information can be obtained, such as a list of fonts on your computer, plug-in details, and a more complex technique called canvas fingerprinting (which looks at

how your browser draws graphics). This combination of your browser and computer's attributes is called a browser fingerprint.

Build America's Libraries Act.

Bundle. A group or "bundle" of software updates for Sierra.

BYOD. Bring Your Own Device.

ByWater Solutions. A vendor that supports the Aspen Discovery product currently used for the V-Cat library catalog, and by the KOHA Integrated Library System.

Call Number. Letters and numbers indicating the location of a book or other material within a library.

Camtasia. Software that facilitates screencasting and video editing.

CAN Community Area Network. High-speed broadband networks that connect schools, libraries, healthcare facilities, educational institutions and government organizations in a community. CANS are owned by the pooled agencies and operated by the technical staff within the various institutions.

Canva. A graphic-design product featuring tools that can be used for both web and print media design and graphics.

CARES Act Grants to States (G2S) – COVID Response Support.

Catalog. A systematic listing of books and other materials in a library with descriptive information about each item.

Cataloging. The process of preparing a catalog, or entries for a catalog. It is the process of creating and maintaining bibliographic and authority records in the library catalog, that are owned by a library.

CCBC Cooperative Children's Book Center. A unique examination, study and research library of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. The CCBC supports teaching, learning and research related to children's and young adult literature and provides informational and educational services based on its collections to students and faculty on the UW-Madison campus and librarians, teachers, child care providers, researchers and other adults in the state of Wisconsin. The CCBC specializes in intellectual freedom issues as they relate to children's and teens' access to materials in libraries and classrooms.

CCBCC Clark County Broadband Connectivity Consortium.

CCG Copyright Compliance Guidelines.

CCL Copyright Compliance Law.

CCSS Common Core State Standards. Developed by a team of experts, educators and stakeholders in a process led by the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers, the CCSS are rigorous, internationally-benchmarked English language arts and mathematics standards that are designed to ensure that students leave school with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in college and careers. The CCSS are NOT a national or state curriculum nor are they federally mandated.

CD Children's Division or Compact Disc.

CD-ROM Compact Disc – Read Only Memory. Used with a computer, the information on it cannot be altered or new information added by the user – therefore it is limited to read-only applications. A CD-ROM can hold more than 650 megabytes of data on one disc, equivalent to more than 200,000 printed pages. The medium is extremely durable and difficult to damage.

CE Continuing Education. Advanced training in a profession (not leading to a degree) to learn new skills or keep abreast of developments in the field.

Censorship. The act of attempting to prohibit or restrict access to materials or information.

Central Wisconsin Digital Project. A former consortium of libraries, historical societies, genealogical societies and museums committed to preserving and disseminating the history of Lincoln and Marathon counties through the digitization of original sources and artifacts and their subsequent publication on the Internet.

CESA Cooperative Educational Service Agency.

CEU Continuing Education Unit.

Chapter 43 The 1872 law that established public libraries and public library systems.

Chat or Online Chat. Any kind of communication over the Internet.

ChatGPT. Arriving in November 2022, a generative artificial intelligence chatbot that has emerged as a tool to create stories, essays, lists, questions and more on almost any topic. Its impact on learning and society as a whole is unclear.

ChiliFresh. A product for libraries that allows patrons to write reviews and integrate them in the library's online catalog.

CIPA Children's Internet Protection Act. A federal law enacted by Congress in December 2000 to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers. CIPA imposes certain types of requirements on any school or library that receives funding from the E-Rate program for Internet access or internal connections. To be CIPA compliant and receive E-rate funding, schools and libraries must have Internet safety policies that include measures to block or filter obscene, harmful pictures on all computers that are accessed by minors.

CIRCA. An inventory product of Innovative Interfaces, Inc. that allows staff to scan items using a handheld device, laptop or even a PC. All that is required is a device that has internet access (with a web browser) and a barcode scanner.

Civic Media. An umbrella term describing media technologies that create a strong sense of engagement among residents through news and information. It is often used as a contrast to "citizen journalism" because it also encompasses mapping, wikis and databases.

Classification. The systematic arrangement of objects, books or other items into groups or classes.

Client Side. Referring to network software where work takes place on the user's computer, the client, rather than at the central computer, known as the server. Advantages of doing so include speed and bandwidth. The work is done within the browser, rather than at the hosting website. See also Server Side.

Cloud Computing. Internet-based development and use of computer technology. The concept incorporates software as a service and provides common business applications online and accessible from a web browser. A computing model in which information and software are provided on demand from over the Internet rather than staying on local computers.

CMS Content Management System. Software designed to organize large amounts of dynamic material for a website, usually consisting of at least templates and a database. It is generally synonymous with online publishing system. The material can include documents, photos or videos.

Coding. Creating instructions that a computer can understand. There are literally hundreds of different computer languages that a computer can read. When this language is used for writing instructions, it is most often called a programming language. If writing a computer program, one is essentially creating instructions that tell a computer how to perform a specific task.

COLA Cost of Living Adjustment or Cost of Living Allowance.

COLAND Council on Library and Network Development. Created by the Wisconsin State Legislature in 1979, COLAND advises the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (DPI) to ensure that all state citizens have access to library and information services. The 19-member council, appointed by the governor, functions as a forum through which librarians and members of the public identify, study, and collect public testimony on issues affecting Wisconsin libraries and other information services. (Wisconsin Statute S43.07).

COLSA Chief Officers of State Library Agencies.

Consortium. A formal or informal association of libraries or other organizations having the same or inter-related objectives. A group of libraries that use their collective buying power to achieve efficiency and economy of scale.

Content Café. Integrates with the online catalog to provide book jackets, reviews, summaries, tables of contents, and book details.

Copyright. A legal way to protect ownership of a creative work by the artist, writer, or photographer who made it. Provides the copyright owner the exclusive right to authorize reproduction or other uses of the work for a specific period of time.

Cost Per Circulation. A pricing formula used by libraries to determine reimbursements from counties for serving nonresidents. Cost per circ for Wisconsin's public libraries is based on the formula stated in WIS. STATS 43.12(1), which is total expenditures minus capital and federal expenditures divided by total circulation.

CPA Cost Per Action. A pricing model in which the advertiser is charged for an ad based on how many users take a specific, pre-defined action-such as buying a product from an online store-based on viewing an ad.

CPC Cost Per Click. A pricing model in which the advertiser is charged for an ad based on how many users click it. This is a common model for "search advertising" and for text ads in general.

CPM Cost Per Mile. Cost per one thousand (often views). Much of online advertising - particularly display advertising - is priced on a CPM basis. CPM is well suited for "brand" or "awareness" advertising, in which the primary purpose of the ad is not necessarily to prompt an immediate response.

CPU Central Processing Unit.

Create List/Review Files. Creates List use lists of Review Files to allow the user to query the database based on certain criteria such as a list of all of the lost books at a library.

Creative Commons. A flexible set of copyright licenses that allow content creators to specify which rights they reserve and which they waive regarding their work that is supposed to codify collaborative spirit of the Internet.

Cryptocurrencies. Digital currencies that use blockchain to transfer value. They operate on a distributed ledger that tracks and verifies transactions. See Blockchain.

Crowdfunding. A strategy where an individual, nonprofit, or business runs a campaign to reach a pre-determined funding goal from a large group of people through an online platform.

Crypto-Currencies. Digital currencies that use encryption to verify and secure transactions and manage the amount of currency in circulation without centralized control. Most (but not all) cryptocurrencies operate on blockchain technology.

CSF Common School Fund.

CSS Cascading Style Sheets. Instructions used to describe the look and formatting for documents, usually HTML, so that the presentation is separate from the actual content of the document itself.

Cutter Number. The "Cutter" is an alpha-numeric device for representing words or names by using one or more letters followed by numerals treated as decimal numbers. In most situations, it represents the author's last name and enables the alphabetic order of items within a given call number area.

CX Community Experience or Customer Experience.

CVTC Chippewa Valley Technical College (Eau Claire, WI). WiscNet offers a variety of datacenter services on the CVTC campus.

CWDP Central Wisconsin Digital Project.

Cyberbully. To attack, harass, or ridicule a fellow community member via posted text, video or other electronic means.

Cyberspace. Refers to the electronic space created by computers connected together in networks like the Internet. In a broader sense, cyberspace has been used to ean the world of interconnected minds.

DAPP Decentralized/Distributed Application. Blockchain-enabled software systems that provide a user interface, often websites. Instead of running on a single server, dapps run on multiple nodes on the blockchain using smart contracts.

Data. A representation of facts, concepts, or instructions arranged in a formalized manner for communication, interpretation and processing.

Data Extraction and Mapping. Removing the information from one database and converting it into the "language" of another database.

Data Visualization. A growing area of content creation in which information is represented graphically and often interactively and appearing with greater frequency on content sites as a way to handle the masses of data that are being made public.

Database. A collection of data organized (usually electronically) for easy retrieval.

DD Deadline Date.

DE Distance Education (or Distance Learning). To deliver education to students who are not physically "on site".

Descriptive Cataloging. It enables the user to find and identify a book etc. by the name of the author, the title, variant titles, etc. It includes recording the attributes of a library item.

Desktop Publishing. The use of personal computers, digitizers and scanners, writing and graphics software, and page layout software to produce printed materials. Desktop publishing can also involve data communications, databases, and number processing software.

DETF Department of Employee Trust Funds.

DigitalLearn.org. An online resource to share ideas, best practices related to helping people attain new digital literacy skills. Library are encouraged to share tips if they offer one-on-one training sessions or class instruction.

Digital Bytes. A WVLS training series launched in February 2018 that provides "bite-sized" trainings of 30 minutes or less that are produced and archived in a digital format.

Digital Equity Act (DEA). Signed into law by President Joe Biden on November 15, 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) includes an historic investment in advancing digital equity and an opportunity for libraries to leverage and expand their digital inclusion roles. The Digital Equity Act (DEA), a provision within IIJA, includes a federal investment of $2.75 billion over five years to promote digital equity, literacy, and inclusion initiatives at the local, state, and national levels. Libraries of all types will be eligible to apply.

Digital Literacy. The ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills.

Digital Lites. Online WVLS newsletter/blog that replaced "The Lamplighter" in January 2010.

DigitalLearn.org. An online resource to share ideas, best practices related to helping people attain new digital literacy skills. Library are encouraged to share tips if they offer one-on-one training sessions or class instruction.

Digitization. The process of translating data into digital form 9binary coded files for use in computers). Scanning images, sampling sound, converting text on paper into text in computer files are examples of digitization.

Discord. A library discord is mainly a fun virtual space mostly geared towards teens and adults to chat and share photos. Discord also features video/voice calling capabilities like Zoom for virtual programming all in one place. Only those with a linked invitation to the library's server can join.

Discovery Layer. A product used to enhance a library catalog so that it provides a single point of access to the full library collection across bought, licensed and digital materials. Typically, a single search box is offered alongside a range of other navigation features. In 2022, WVLS implemented ByWater's Aspen Discovery, a product selected by the WVLS V-Cat Council and WVLS Board of Trustees in 2021.

DIVI. A word press website theme. WVLS uses the DIVI theme to build and maintain the forthcoming new website.

DLC Downloadable Content. DLC is additional content for a preexisting game that can be purchased, downloaded to a console's hard drive, and integrated into the main game.

DLT Division for Libraries and Technology. A division of DPI. Formerly Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning (DLTCL) and changed to Library Services Team in March 2021. See also Library Services Team.

DML Digital Media Labs. Located in a library, it consists of equipment for either creating original digital content or converting older media to digital formats.

DNS Domain Name System. This is how computers convert human-readable domain names and hostnames to numerical IP addresses.

Document-Oriented Database. An increasingly popular type of database. In contrast to relational databases, which rigidly require information to be stored in pre-defined tables, document-oriented databases are more free-flowing and flexible. They retrieve information more quickly but store it less efficiently.

DOI Digital Object Identifier. The DOI system is emerging as an international standard for labeling and tracking intellectual property online. The DOI itself is just a two-part number, with a prefix identifying the original publisher and a suffix identifying the specific work.

Domain Name. Domain names are the base part of website names; another type of hostname.

Doodle. A quick, efficient online meeting tracker. Can also be used to create polls or surveys.

DPI Department of Public Instruction (Wisconsin). Created in 1848, a state agency that advances public education and libraries in Wisconsin. Provides leadership, advocacy, assistance, planning, coordination, and funding for the improvement of public libraries and public library systems so that all Wisconsin residents have equitable access to information. It is headed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, a nonpartisan, constitutional officer elected every four years.

DPLA Digital Public Library of America. The DPLA aggregates resources that can be made freely available on the web from libraries, historical associations, and other cultural institutions; applies metadata; provides a platform for discovery; and makes the resources available in one central place on the web for researchers and other interested parties.

DRM Digital Rights Management. Used by publishers, copyright holders, and hardware manufacturers to limit usage of digital media or devices. It refers to a technology that works to protect digital content. It is described as being active or passive. Active DRM prevents content from being read or copied to unauthorized devices. The content is encrypted so that the only way to access it is through an authorized reader. Passive DRM usually uses watermarks to subtly alter the content to show ownership or to allow identification of the original source in the case of infringement.

DRT Disaster Relief Team.

Dropbox. A free file hosting service offered by Dropbox, Inc., which allows photos, documents and videos to be accessed, edited and shared via computers, phones or tablets.

DVD Digital Versatile Disc. Once known as Digital Video Disc, it is the same size as a traditional compact disc but holds more data, and provides high quality sound with high resolution video.

DVS Descriptive Video Service. A company that produces videos for the visually impaired in which key visual aspects of a production are described.

DWWW Discover Wisconsin Writers Week.

Dynix. Former automation vendor for the WVLS shared automation system which changed its name to SirsiDynix. In 2013, the WVLS consortium – V-Cat - migrated from the SirsiDynix platform to Innovative Interfaces Inc. which uses Sierra as the software product.

E-Book or Electronic Book. A book that has been converted to digital form and can be read on a computer, usually via network services or CD-ROM. Electronic versions of print books expand on the printed medium by adding hypertext links, search and cross-reference functions, and multimedia.

EC2. A computing power rental system by Amazon that has become popular among technology companies because it is much cheaper than maintaining your own computer servers. See Amazon EC2.

ECRR. Every Child Ready to Read. Introduced in 2004 and developed by the PLA and ALSC, a parent education initiative that stresses early literacy beginning with the primary adults in a child's life. The toolkit empowers public libraries to assume an essential role in supporting early literacy within a community.

ECRR2. Every Child Ready to Read, updated and expanded 2nd edition. Released in 2011, it incorporates simple practices, based on research, to help parents and other caregivers develop early literacy skills in children from birth to age five. It also incorporates recommendations that evolved out of an in-depth evaluation of the original initiative and an extensive literature review.

EDI Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.   The American Library Association (ALA) and several library associations in the United States have pledged their commitment to EDI.

EDS EBSCO Discovery Service. Current discovery layer product used by the V-Cat consortium.

Email. Also known as "electronic mail," this is mail that is sent from one computer to another via the Internet.

Embed. A term meaning to place a specific piece of content from one web page inside of another one. This is a common way for video content to be spread around the Internet and is increasingly being used for interactive components.

Electronic Publication (EPUB). EPUB is a free and open e-book standard by The International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF). Files have the extension ".epub". The EPUB format is an open eBook format recommended by The International Digital Publishing Forum. It is essentially a ZIP format. If you change its extension ".epub" to ".zip", the EPUB file becomes a true ZIP file which can be unzipped.

Electronic Resource Management (ERM). Allows libraries to manage, track, and analyze their electronic resources.

E-Rate. Slang for the Universal Service Fund. A federal program of discounts to schools and libraries for telecommunications costs, Internet access costs, and internal connections costs. See www.sl.universalservice.org

ERIC Educational Resources Information Center. A bibliographic database of educational materials.

ESEA Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In 2010, the 50-year old ESEA was rewritten as ESSA.

ESL English as a Second Language.

ESLS Eastern Shores Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Sheboygan**.** ESLS became the Monarch System with the addition of Dodge and Washington counties in 2016.

ESSA Every Student Succeeds Act. A reauthorization of ESEA, this law offers new ways for public, school, and academic libraries to work together and enables school libraries to access federal revenue.

ETF (Department of) Employee Trust Funds.

Ethernet. The standard wired network technology in use almost everywhere.

Facebook. A social networking site.

Facebook Connect. A technology from Facebook that allows a reader to log into a third-party website with their Facebook account, rather than creating a new profile for that website.

Facebook Community Page. Introduced in April 2010, community pages were created as a counterpart to "official fan pages", which are built around a specific person, company, organization, product or brand. They are mostly auto-generated around interests or affiliations found in people's profiles.

Facebook Fan Page. A Facebook profile for a specific person, product, company or organization, usually administered by official representatives.

Facebook Group. Facebook groups are analogous to offline clubs. They do not have to be administered by official representatives.

Facebook Live. A Facebook tool that allows users to post live video to their profile.

Facebook Personal Page. A profile page tied to a single individual which is controlled (in theory) by the individual.

Fair Use. Provision of copyright law stipulating the allowable and legal use of short passages of copyrighted material without permission, for instance as quotations in a magazine or book.

Fan. A devotee of a product, organization, service, or person, who shows that ardor by adding a page dedicated to this group, to his or her Facebook profile.

FAQ Frequently Asked Questions. Many computer sites and discussion lists have FAQs to provide answers to questions.

FAX Facsimile Transmission. An electronic system capable of scanning documents, converting them to electronic impulses, which are transmitted and received over telephone lines.

FC Finance Committee.

FCC Federal Communications Commission.

Firefox. A web browser.

Firewall. A piece of software or hardware that blocks certain types of traffic.

Flash. A proprietary platform owned by Adobe Systems that allows for drag-and-drop animations, program interactivity, and dynamic displays for the web.

Flash Drive. A small, lightweight, removable and rewritable data storage device with a USB connector which connects to the USB ports of most current mainstream PCs and laptops. A flash drive is more compact, holds more data, and has a more durable design than the floppy disk.

Flipster. A digital, full text magazine product.

Flickr. A popular photo-sharing website.

FOIA Freedom of Information Act.

FOL Friends of the Library.

FOWL Friends of Wisconsin Libraries. State organization promoting and supporting local Friends' groups. In 2007, merged with the Wisconsin Library Trustees Association to become WLTF.

Framework. A software package that makes writing programs easier by providing all the "plumbing" for a particular type of task, allowing programmers to just "fill in the blanks" with their own project-specific needs.

FRBR Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records. An evolving conceptual model designed to help users easily navigate catalogs and find the material they want in the form they want it – be that print, DVD, audio, or adaptations. Developed by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Cataloging Section, FRBR is now being integrated into cataloging theory and implemented into systems and practice.

Friend. To request that a Facebook user add you to her/his list of friends, allowing you access to each other's profile.

Friends. People organized in local communities to encourage library use and to raise funds for library projects.

FTE Full Time Equivalent. The total number of employees' working hours divided by 40.

FTP File Transfer Protocol. A method of retrieving computer files from another computer on the Internet.

Full Text. Containing the whole text of an article, as opposed to the bibliographic citation or the abstract.

FY Fiscal Year.

GASB #34 Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement #34. Public entities throughout the country have implemented GASB #34. This standard requires changes in the way state and local governments present their financial statements and capitalize and depreciate assets. It is aimed at helping government entities present a more complete and accurate representation of their operations.

Gateway. A device that routes traffic between networks.

Geek the Library. Geek the Library attempts to spread awareness about the value of libraries and the critical funding issues they face. http://www.geekthelibrary.org

Genrefication. Organizing the fiction collection by genre rather than alphabetically by authors' last names.

Geotag. A piece of information that goes with content and contains geographically based information. Commonly used on photo sites such as Flickr or in conjunction with user-generated content, to show where a photo, video or article came from.

GIGO Garbage In, Garbage Out.

GIMP. An open source web tool for editing images very similar to Photoshop.

Gmail/Google Apps. Google's Web-based e-mail and productivity applications.

GMD General Materials Designator used when cataloging.

Google. Web search engine.

Google AdSense. Google's online advertising network that allows content publishers to embed a piece of code to display Google ads on their sites.

Google AdWords. Google's text-based flagship advertising product, which provides the lion's share of the company revenue. Ads are displayed on Google's own sites based on search terms that users type in, and advertisers pay only when the users click on them.

Google Analytics. A tool to help analyze customer/visitor traffic across ads, videos, websites, social tools, tablets and smartphones.

Google Docs. A free online service offered by Google, comprising word processing, spreadsheet, presentation and other software. Users can work collaboratively on documents, editing them simultaneously.

Google Groups. A service from Google that provides discussion groups for people sharing common interests.

Google Wave. An online collaborative space introduced by Google in which people can communicate and work together in real time.

GoToMeeting. A web conferencing product that allows people to meet online, rather than in person.

GoToWebinar. A web conferencing product that offers "web seminars" or an online event designed to facilitate communication between a small number of presenters and a large remote audience using the Internet.

GPO Government Publishing Office. (Formerly Government Printing Office)

GPS Global Positioning System. Used for navigation purposes as well as for map-making and land surveying.

Growing Wisconsin Readers. Launched in 2013, Growing Wisconsin Readers was a three-year early literacy initiative based in Wisconsin public libraries. It was coordinated by the Division for Libraries and Technology and supported by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds awarded by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The primary goal of the initiative was to provide resources to caregivers (e.g., parents, grandparents, guardians, childcare providers) about how to read effectively with babies, toddlers, and young children. The secondary goal was to visibly showcase ways in which public libraries support early literacy in communities throughout Wisconsin.

Hash. An algorithmically assigned key that identifies a piece of data but cannot be used to reproduce it. Hash algorithms are frequently used to verify the integrity of files, check passwords, and identify files.

High Demand. A method used in the ILS by V-Cat libraries to ensure that the new materials purchased stay local for a set amount of time upon receipt of materials. Once that time elapses, the materials are then made available to be shared more broadly.

Holdings. The books, periodicals, AV items, etc., owned by a library.

Homepage. The first page a user sees on an Internet Web site.

Horizon. The former software used for the V-Cat or WVLS shared automation system.

Hostnames. A human-readable label that points to a device connected to a network.

HQ Headquarters.

HTML Hypertext Markup Language. A language or programming code used to create documents on the World Wide Web by telling a browser what a Web page should look like.

HTML5. The upcoming, powerful standard of Hypertext Markup Language, which has added advanced interactive features.

HTTP Hypertext Transfer Protocol. The standard protocol modern web browsers and the web itself uses.

I&R Information and Referral.

ICYMI In Case You Missed It.

IF Intellectual Freedom.

IFLS Library System. Inspiring and Facilitating Library Success Library System. Formerly the Indianhead Federated Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Eau Claire.

IFLS Indianhead Federated Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Eau Claire. See IFLS Library System.

iFrame. An HTML tag that allows for one web page to be wholly included inside another; it is a popular way to create embeddable interactive features.

ILL Interlibrary Loan. The loan of materials between and among libraries.

ILS Integrated Library System. Library automation systems. Software that allows libraries to track items owned (through acquisitions, cataloging and serials) and circulate them to patrons.

IMC Instructional Media Center.

IMLS Institute of Museum and Library Services. IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Their mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. More information is available at www.imls.gov.

IMTT Instructional Media & Technology Team. Consists of several consultants in the areas of library, media, and technology and is part of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Inclusive Services. Inclusive library services are holistic, spanning library policies, collections, space, and services. Inclusive services reflect equity and accessibility for all members of the community. Diverse communities are strengthened by libraries that intentionally develop and deliver services to individuals or groups for who accessing and

using the library is difficult, limited, or minimized. (from *"What Does It Mean to Be Inclusive? A Statement from the Division of Libraries and Technology"*; May 2017)

Infographics. A visual image such as a chart or diagram used to represent information or data.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The IIJA was signed into law by President Joe Biden on November 15, 2021. See Digital Equity Act (DEA) and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

Innovative Interfaces Inc. (III). Offers the "Sierra" integrated library automation system. In January 2013 the WVLS consortium – V-Cat- migrated to this new software from SirsiDynix.

Instagram. An online photo-/video-sharing and social networking service that enables its users to take pictures and videos and share them on a variety of social networking platforms.

Instant Messaging (IM). Technologies that allow real-time communication between two or more participants over the Internet.

Intellectual Freedom. A term used in the library profession primarily to mean the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction.

Internet. Decentralized computer networks that link millions of computer users in every country. Bibliographic databases (such as V-Cat), discussion groups, specialized databases (such as Ancestry.com and Novelist) and many other resources may be accessed by computers over high-speed lines.

Internet Explorer. A web browser

iOS. Apple's operating system that runs on iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, and Apple TV.

IoT Internet of Things. A network of everyday devices, appliances, and other objects equipped with computer chips and sensors that can collect and transmit data through the Internet.

IP Intellectual Property or Internet Protocol.

IP Address. An Internet Protocol address, or IP address, is a numerical address that corresponds to your computer on a network. When a computer wants to connect to another computer, it connects to that computer's IP address.

IPAC Internet Public Access Catalog.

iPad. Released in April 2010, the iPad is Apple's tablet computing device; it uses the same operating system and development tools as the iPhone.

IPFS Interplanetary File System. A file transfer protocol (like HTTP) designed for peer-to-peer sharing of content. It uses the Ethereum blockchain to store unalterable information. Plus, a blockchain-based cryptocurrency, Filecoin, is being created to incentivize hosting IPFS content.

IPv4/IPv6. There are two types of IP address in common use. IPv4 addresses are the most common but IPv6 addresses are newer and are necessary because of all the people and devices in the world.

ISBN International Standard Book Number.

iSchool-Madison. Information School of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, formerly School of Library and Information Studies/Science (SLIS)-Madison.

ISNi International Standard Name Identifier.

ISP Internet Service Provider. The company that provides your Internet connection.

ISSN International Standard Serials Number. A unique eight-digit number, in two groups of four, assigned to a periodical by the International Serials Data System.

IT Information Technology. Information Technologist. Person who works with technology and automation.

Item Statuses. A system table within Sierra that defines the current state of an item. Examples: Available, Damaged, Lost, Billed.

Item Types. A system table within Sierra that defines the item's material type. It is associated mainly with the Loan Rule Determiner table. Examples: Book, DVD, eReader, Musical Recording.

IUG Innovative (Interfaces Inc.) User's Group. See also WILIUG.

KCLS Kenosha County Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Kenosha.

Keyword Searching. A method or strategy of searching for a word or combination of words that describe a document in a natural language as opposed to the control-led language of subject descriptor searching.

Kindle. An electronic book (e-book) device launched in the United States by Amazon.com in November 2007.

Koha. Developed in New Zealand, an open-source software designed for integrated library system.

KPIs Key Performance Indicators.

LAC Library Advisory Committee. A 15-member WVLS committee that has representation from all types of libraries. Its purpose is to advise the WVLS staff and board on matters relating to promotion and implementation of programs of cooperation and communication among all libraries and other information sources in the WVLS area.

Lakeshores Library System. – a former Wisconsin library system headquartered in Racine. The Arrowhead Library System serving Rock County, and the Lakeshores Library System serving Racine and Walworth Counties, merged on January 2, 2023, to form the Prairie Lakes Library System.

LAMA Library Administration and Management. A division of ALA.

Lamplighter. The name of the WVLS newsletter that was printed and mailed to subscibers. When the format went digital in January 2010, the name of the newsletter changed to "Digital Lites." WVLS now publishes a Monthly Newsletter that is emailed to subscribers, as well as a "Digital Lites" blog.

LAN Local Area Network. A small network that is confined to a local area.

LAWDS Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills. This project brings together public library staff with the staff of regional Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) and Wisconsin Job Centers, to facilitate more seamless support of job-seeking patrons, business owners and entrepreneurs. This project was made possible in part by the Institute of

Museum and Library Services. The project ended in 2022. Beginning in 2023, LAWDS participants agreed to continuing its work under the rebranded moniker The Library Workforce Connection (LWC).

LC Library of Congress. 1. The Library of the U.S. Congress which also serves as our National Library. 2. The classification system used by the majority of larger research libraries.

LCCN Library of Congress Control/Card Number. – assigned to an item by the Library of Congress.

LCOMM Library Council of Metropolitan Milwaukee.

LD&L Library Development and Legislation Committee. A committee of WLA.

LDR Local Data Record.

League of Women Voters' of the Northwoods (LWV). Voter Education & Registration Assistance Project (VERAP) is a collaborative project with libraries in our area to promote voter registration for all eligible adults.

LEAN WI or LEAN Wisconsin. Libraries and Enterprise Applications Nexus of Wisconsin. The name of the technology resource sharing partnership between Wisconsin Valley Library Service, IFLS Library System and Northern Waters Library Service.

LFLs Little Free Libraries. Book sharing boxes that foster neighborhood book exchanges around the world.

LGBTQIA+. A term used to signify Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual people collectively.

Libby App. The app that connects to OverDrive to facilitate a patron's use of Wisconsin's Digital Library. The app allows a patron to browse the collection, place requests, check out titles, and read/listen to titles on their smart devices.

 LibLearnX. In 2022, the American Library Association replaced its ALA Midwinter Meeting with LibLearnX: Library Learning Experience.

LibPAS. Wisconsin Public Library and System Annual Report Electronic Reporting Portal Library Performance Assessment Solution. It is open to retrieve reports, infographics, and brochures.

Libraries Win. The suite of technology services available to library members of LEAN WI partners.

Library Services Team. Consolidation in March 2021 of two DPI teams - Public Library Development team and Resources for Libraries and Lifelong Learning team.

Library Workforce Connection. Formerly LAWDS, LWC is a workforce development workgroup consisting of Library System Directors, regional Library Consultants, Workforce Development Specialists, and others. The group aims to showcase successful workforce development and service-related initiatives (which could be utilized in libraries throughout the state) and troubleshoot evolving workforce development challenges.

LibraryThing. A social cataloging web application for storing and sharing personal library catalogs and book lists.

LIRT Library Instruction Round Table.

LITA Library and Information Technology Association. A division of ALA.

LITAC Library and Information Technology Advisory Committee.

LJ Library Journal.

LLAMA Library Leadership and Management Association.

LLD Library Legislative Day.

LWC Library Workforce Connection.

LWV League of Women Voters. Voter Education and Registration Assistance Project (VERAP) is a collaborative project with libraries in our area to promote voter registration for all eligible adults.

LWVNOW League of Women Voters of the Northwoods. See VERAP.

Loan Rule Determiner. A system table within Sierra that defines the combinations of items' Locations, Item types, and Patron Types to determine what Loan Rule to use. Examples: A Medford patron checking out a book will have the two-week checkout loan rule apply. A Medford patron checking out a DVD will have the one-week checkout loan rule apply.

Loan Rules. A system table within Sierra that defines the checkout period, renewals, timing of notices, and other parameters associated with circulation.

Location-Based Services. A service, usually in a mobile Web or mobile device application that uses your location in order to perform a certain task.

LP or LT Large Print or Large Type. Printed materials set in 18-point type.

LSTA Library Service and Technology Act. Federal funding program to benefit libraries.

LTE Letter to the Editor.

LVIS Libraries Very Interested in Sharing. Represents the first nationwide OCLC resource sharing group agreement whereby participants exchange resources at no charge.

MA Marc Alert. A term used by the V-Cat Council members. A brief bibliographic record.

MAC Address Media Access Control Address. A unique identifier designed to identify different computers on a network.

MailChimp. A free tool used to design and send eNewsletters.

Makerspaces. A place for library users to build or make things, collaborating and learning from each other in a shared space with tools provided by the library.

MALC Madison Area Library Council. A multitype group similar in purpose to the LAC.

Malicious Social Engineering. Malicious social engineering is a threat where an attacker tricks a targeted user into divulging sensitive information by pretending to be a familiar person or service. There is a broad range of malicious activities accomplished through human interactions. It uses psychological manipulation to trick users into making

security mistakes or giving away sensitive information. An example of a phishing scam is one in which emails appear to come from [a library] soliciting funds for a political action committee, political cause, or political party.

Manga. Comics and print cartoons originally published in Japan. However, manga and manga-influenced comics now exist in other parts of the world.

MARC Machine Readable Cataloging. MARC records contain data in standardized format and allow conversion to automated cataloging and circulation systems. MARC records reduce the need for individual libraries to prepare original cataloging for common acquisitions.

Marcive. A vendor that specializes in authorities processing, cataloging, and government document processing.

Mashup. A combination of data from multiple sources, usually through the use of APis.

Mastodon. A social networking software platform – open-source software for federated micro-blogging. It allows someone to run their own social media site (and let other people use it too, if they want), and each Mastodon site is capable of talking to all of the other Mastodon social media sites. It's like a cross between Twitter and email. But it's not exactly like either of those.

MATS Media and Technology Section, a former section of WLA.

MCFLS Milwaukee County Federated Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Milwaukee.

MCLS Manitowoc-Calumet Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Manitowoc.

MCPL Marathon County Public Library. The headquarters/resource library for WVLS.

MED Medium.

Meebo. Instant messaging program that supports multiple (IM) instant messaging services such as Yahoo, Facebook, etc.

Metadata. Structured information that describes, explains, locates, or otherwise makes it easier to retrieve, use, or manage an information resource. It organizes the data in a web page so browsers can display it sensibly.

Micro-blogging. A form of multimedia blogging that allows users to share brief text updates or photos and audio clips.

Millenium ILS. Integrated library system software formerly offered by Innovative Interfaces, Inc.

Minecraft. An online game about placing and breaking blocks in a 3D world which tasks players with collecting resources while cutting into randomly generated landscapes, warding off terrible things, making imaginative things and building creative structures and artwork. In March 2015 it won the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Award for "Most Addicting Game", and the console edition won the BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) Game Award in the "family" category.

MINITEX. A publicly supported network of libraries in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, headquartered at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities in Minneapolis. Participates reciprocally in interloan with Wisconsin libraries.

MLS Masters Degree in Library Science. The graduate professional degree in library and information science.

MLS Monarch Library System. Formerly Eastern Shores Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Sheboygan.

Mobile. An umbrella term in technology that was long synonymous with cellular phones but has since grown to encompass tablet computing and even netbooks.

Mobile Web. Refers to accessing the World Wide Web (WWW) using a mobile device such as cell phones, PDAs, and other portable gadgets connected to public network.

Mobile Worklists. Mobile Worklists is a native iOS app that makes materials handling and management tasks more efficient, saving time and paper for library staff. Fully cloud-based and built on the Open Library Stack (OLS), Mobile Worklists provides functionality for traditional library operations.

MOOC Massive Open Online Courses. It is an online course aimed at large-scale interactive participation and open access via the web. In addition to traditional course materials such as videos, readings, and problem sets, MOOCs provide interactive user forums that help build a community for the students, professors, and TAs. A distance education development that will often use open educational resources. Typically, they do not offer academic credit or charge tuition fees.

MP-3 Motion Picture Experts Group, Audio Layer 3. A way of compressing audio (sound/music) files so they are small enough to download quickly from the Internet. The technology creates sound files a tenth the size of standard CD music files with very little loss of sound quality.

MULS Minnesota Union List of Serials.

Multimedia. An item that combines more than one medium – ex. Audiovisual media with the printed word.

Multitype Cooperation. The involvement of all types of libraries – public, academic, school, and special – in cooperative arrangements.

MWFLS Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Horicon, dissolved in 2016.

MySQL. A dominant open-source database management system on the Internet, MySQL is a free and flexible alternative to expensive systems.

NAT Network Address Translation. It is used by routers to share a single IP address among many devices.

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The NTIA will be administering many of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grant programs and is holding virtual listening sessions to receive input from the public. The sessions are designed to collect stakeholder input to help inform program development and implementation, and libraries are encouraged to participate in one or more of these important discussions.

NCIP National Circulation Interchange Protocol. Enables the processing of interlibrary loan requests within the local circulation system.

NCLIS National Commission on Library and Information Science. A federal advisory group composed of representatives from various library groups and distinguished librarians.

NCSAM. National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

NEH National Endowment for the Humanities.

Net Neutrality. The principle that internet service providers should enable access to all content and applications regardless of the source, and without favoring or blocking particular products or websites.

NESS Network and Enterprise Services Subscription.

Network Interface/Network Adapter. The ethernet and Wi-Fi connection for a computer.

NEWIL Northeast Wisconsin Intertype Libraries. A multitype group similar in purpose to the LAC.

News Feed. A constantly updated, but not necessarily comprehensive, list of Facebook friends' activities, such as changes to their profiles, wall posts, or the addition of new friends.

NFLS Nicolet Federated Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Green Bay.

NICE Northern Wisconsin ILS Consortium Exploration.

Ning. An online platform for people to create their own social networks.

NISO National Information Standards Organization. A non-profit association accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), that identifies, develops, maintains, and publishes technical standards to manage information in our changing and ever-more digital environment.

NLS National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

NLW National Library Week. Sponsored by the American Library Association annually in April.

NMRT New Members Round Table (of the American Library Association).

Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs). Unique pieces of digital real estate that exist on the blockchain. See Blockchain. The world of NFTs provides ample opportunities for library collections. A library with a unique item in its collection can display it digitally as an NFT. This new ecosystem begs for the curation of themed collections. Local history artifacts, community art contests, and niche artistic movements all stand out as fertile grounds for maximizing NFT programming and display within the realm of libraries, museums, and public institutions.

Nonresident. A person who resides outside the taxing area of a public library.

Nook. Barnes & Noble's eReader device.

Novelist Plus. Integrates with the online catalog to provide recommendations and read-alikes for the non-fiction collection.

Novelist Select. Integrates with the online catalog to provide book jackets, summaries, book series information, recommendations, and expert and reader reviews for the fiction collection.

NTC Northcentral Technical College.

NWLS Northern Waters Library Service. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Ashland.

OCLC (Formerly) Online Computer Library Center. A bibliographic utility based in Ohio which provides online cataloging, interlibrary loan, serials control and other services to libraries worldwide.

OCR Optical Character Recognition. Refers to the branch of computer science that involves reading text from paper and translating the images into a form that the computer manipulates.

OIB Outstanding International Books.

OIF Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Online Chat or Chat. Any kind of communication over the internet.

Ontology. A classification system with nodes or entities, that allows non-hierarchical relationships, in contrast to a taxonomy, which is hierarchical.

OPAC Online Public Access Catalog. A computer workstation for use by the public which is connected to a library's circulation system; can be searched by author, title, etc., and shows an item's status (on shelf, overdue, etc.)

Open ID. An open standard that lets users log in to multiple web sites using the same identity through a third party.

Open Office. OpenOffice.org is a multiplatform and multilingual office suite and an open source produce. Compatible with all other major office suites, the product is free to download, use and distribute.

Open Source. Open source is a development method for software that harnesses the power of distributed peer review and transparency of process.

OS Operating System. A basic layer of software that controls computer hardware, allowing other applications to be built on it.

OSLS Open Source Library Software.

Outreach. Programs and activities that extend beyond the library building. Examples include service to nursing homes, jails, and other correctional facilities; bookmobile service and books-by-mail service to geographically remote areas; and service to the homebound.

Overdrive. A vendor whose products include downloadable audiobooks and videos.

Overdrive eBook. Adobe eBook is a digital version of a print book that has been optimized for on-screen reading. eBooks are available in two formats, EPUB and PDF.

Overdrive WMA Audiobook. A digitally protected audiobook that has been optimized for download. Overdrive WMA Audiobook titles are built using a Microsoft Windows Media Audio format, which greatly enhances the sound quality for desktop listening, play of CD copies (where permitted by the publisher), and portable device use.

OWLS Outagamie Waupaca Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Appleton.

P2P Peer-To-Peer. A network architecture in which users share resources on their own computers directly with others.

PAC Public Access Catalog. May be used interchangeably with the term OPAC; may also mean a catalog of library holdings which is not online.

PACE Poverty Awareness for Community Engagement.

Packet. A unit of data sent between devices. It is the basic unit of data that computers on a network exchange.

P-Codes 1-4. System tables within Sierra that provide easily obtainable information on the patron record for statistical purposes. P-Code 1: Gender, P-Code 2: Currently Unused, P-Code 3: Birth Year, P-Code 4: Municipality/City.

Paging List. A list of materials that are on hold. Libraries run this list to see what items they own have been placed on hold (requested).

Patron Types. A system table within Sierra that defines the patron. It is associated with mainly the Loan Rule Determiner table. Examples: Merrill Adult, Merrill Juvenile, Antigo Adult, Antigo Juvenile.

PCI DSS Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards.

PDA Patron Driven Acquisition. PDA requires that new books embed technology and use criteria to automatically generate purchase to a library's collection.

PDA Personal Digital Assistant. A handheld computer.

PDF Portable Document Format. A document that can be as simple as coloring sheets with a few images for preschoolers to formatted academic studies with charts and graphs, the PDF format allows these documents to be transmitted electronically in an unalterable format identical to the one in which it was published. An Acrobat Reader program (downloaded from the Internet) is needed to read and print PDF documents.

PDL Periodical. A library word used to describe magazines, journals and newspapers.

Phishing. A cyberattack technique that entails cybercriminals leveraging fraudulent emails to manipulate recipients into sharing sensitive information, clicking malicious links, or opening harmful attachments.

PII Personally Identifiable Information.

PILL Patron-initiated InterLibrary Loan.

Pinterest. A visual bookmarking tool that helps users discover and save creative ideas, images, videos and other objects "pinning" them to their pinboard.

PIPA Protect Intellectual Property Act. Counterpart to SOPA which is legislation that would significantly expand the powers of US law enforcement to combat online trafficking in copyrighted and counterfeited goods. (See SOPA)

PLA Public Library Association. A division of ALA.

Platform. In the technology world, platform refers to the hardware or software that other applications are built upon.

Playaway. A portable, self-contained device that comes preloaded with one audio book.

PLSR Wisconsin Public Library System Redesign Project. A process developed out of three studies – the LEAN Study, Public Library System Standards Study and ILS Study – which had workgroups of experts and other stakeholders study how public library systems services are currently provided in Wisconsin and around the country. Workgroups identified desired service outcomes, designed service models to improve how services are delivered and determined how new service models can be implemented.

Podcast. Radio-style shows in MP-3 format that may be created, downloaded and listened to on a computer device.

POE (Power over Ethernet). It still is a relatively new technology, and many companies haven't implemented it yet. But companies that have moved to POE have seen major benefits, especially in the ability to run devices such as VOIP (Voice over IP) phones, access points and other appliances without the need for a wall wart to provide power.

Polaris Library Systems. Integrated library system vendor, acquired by Innovative Interfaces, Inc. in April 2014.

Port. When an application wants to send or receive traffic, it has to use a numbered port.

Portable Media Player. A portable consumer electronic device that is capable of storing and playing digital media, such as digital audio, video, and images.

PPP Point to Point Protocol. Enables a computer to connect to the Internet with a modem and a telephone line; allows a user to use a browser such as Netscape.

PrairieCat. Over one hundred libraries in Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) share an integrated library automation system known as PrairieCat. It became an Illinois Intergovernmental Entity in December 2010. The consortium is a separate legal entity that contracts with RAILS for services to support the daily operation of the shared catalog. It is the northern and western Illinois equivalent of V-Cat.

Prairie Lakes Library System (PLLS). The Arrowhead Library System which served Rock County, and the Lakeshores Library System which served Racine and Walworth Counties, merged on January 2, 2023 to form the Prairie Lakes Library System.

Profile. User profile or simply profile is a collection of personal data associated to a specific user.

Programming Language. A special type of language used to unambiguously instruct a computer how to perform tasks.

Project WIN. A 2013-2014 investigation to determine the desirability and feasibility of developing one ILS platform from three distinct and autonomous ILS platforms used in WVLS, IFLS Library System (known as Indianhead at that time) and Northern Waters Library Service.

Promptcat. A vendor-prompted copy cataloging service for non-serial titles which links order-fulfillment by a vendor to OCLC and setting a library's holding on WorldCat (the OCLC online Union Catalog) and delivering a monographic OCLC-MARC record to the library.

Protocol. A way of communicating over the Internet. Different protocols are ideal for dissimilar forms of communication.

Proxy Server. A server (a computer system or an application program) that acts as a go-between for requests from clients seeking resources from other servers.

Public Library Standards. See Standards.

Quick Response Codes (QR Codes). QR codes are two-dimensional barcodes that instead of being traditional multiple-bar layout, they appear as a pixilated square. QR codes can store numbers, text, hyperlinks, bookmarks, contact information, calendar information, email addresses, phone numbers, SMS text information, locations and maps, social network information, and much more.

R&L Reference and Loan Library – Madison. See RL&LL.

RASD Reference and Adult Services Division. A division of ALA.

Raspberry Pi. A credit-card sized computer that plugs into a TV and a keyboard and is capable of doing things that a desktop PC does, like spreadsheets, word-processing and games. It also plays high-definition video.

RASS Reference and Adult Services Section. A division of WLA.

RDA Resource Description and Access. Initially released in June 2010, a standard for descriptive cataloging which supports resource discovery in a digital world.

RDC Regional Data Center (Eau Claire, WI).

Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS). It is one of two multi-type regional library systems in the state that covers northern and western Illinois. The membership includes academic, public, school, and special libraries. It was formed by the merger of five library systems in July 2011.

Recollection Wisconsin (formerly Wisconsin Heritage Online or WHO). A collaborative effort to bring together digital versions of Wisconsin history materials from participating libraries, archives, museums and historical societies across the state. The program also provides guidelines, and training and support to contributing partners in an effort to standardize and coordinate cultural heritage digitization efforts at the statewide level. (recollectionwisconsin.org)

Relational Database. A piece of software that stores data in a series of tables, with relationships defined between them.

ResCarta. Professional software designed to build and organize digital collections.

RFI Request For Identification.

RFI Request For Information. Standard business process that provides written information about the capabilities of various suppliers.

RFID Radio Frequency Identification Technology. A method of storing and remotely retrieving objects.

RFP Request for Proposal. Also called a request for bid, an RFP is a document requesting potential suppliers to submit proposals to sell goods or services at a proposed price. Usually, the RFP contains detailed specifications of the goods or services wanted.

RFQ Request for Quote.

RL&LL Resources for Libraries and Lifelong Learning. A team within the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) which manages and supports the WISCAT virtual and union catalog and resource sharing platform used by many public and

multitype libraries in Wisconsin. They also manage and support the BadgerLink databases that are available to all Wisconsin libraries and residents. In March 2021, merged with another DPI Team to become the Library Services Team. See also Library Services Team.

Router. Computer hardware that makes decisions about which path Internet traffic will take to reach its destination.   It is a device that passes traffic back and forth.

RSS Rich Site Summary or Really Simple Syndication. A "pull" technology that retrieves new content from web sites (text, audio, video, pictures.) and brings it to users. RSS makes it possible for people to keep up with their favorite web sites without having to search entire sites for new content. To retrieve new content, users must subscribe to an RSS feed or aggregator software.

RUSA Reference and User Services Association. A division of ALA.

S3. An online storage system run by Amazon that is often used as a cheap way to store photos and videos used on websites.

SaaS (Software as a Service). An alternative to traditional computing in which people use software applications that are located on the Internet rather than on their own computers or networks. SaaS is typically thought of as a low-cost way to obtain rights to use software as needed versus licensing all devices with all applications. On-demand licensing enables the benefits of commercially licensed use without the associated complexity and potential high initial cost of equipping every device with applications that are infrequently used but needed.

SAN Storage Area Network.

SCLS South Central Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Madison.

Screencasting. Creating a digital movie in which the setting is partly or wholly a computer screen, in which audio narration describes the on-screen action. Screencasts are carefully produced works designed to educate, entertain or influence an audience.

Scribd. A document-sharing site that is often described as a "YouTube for documents" because it allows other sites to embed its content. It allows people to upload files and others to download in various formats.

Scripting Language. A programming language designed to be easy to use for everyday or administrative tasks.

SDI Selective Dissemination of Information.

Search Engine. Special sites on the Web designed to help people find information stored on other sites. There are differences in the ways various search engines work, but they all search the Internet, or parts of the Internet – based on important words in their indexes.

Semantic Web. A vision of the web that is almost entirely machine readable, in which documents are published in languages that are designed specifically for data.

SEO Search Engine Optimization. A suite of techniques for improving how a website ranks on search engines.

Server. A computer which hosts software for services such as electronic mail routing, database sharing, or file transfer to local or remote computers.

Server-Side. Referring to when network software runs in a central location, the server, rather than on the user's computer, often known as the client. See also Client Side.

Shelf List. List of materials owned. Arranged in the order they are kept on the shelf.

Shoutbomb. Service provider for sending telephone and text message circulation notices to library users.

Sierra. This is the software that runs the V-Cat or WVLS shared automated system and the graphical user interface software from Innovative Interfaces Inc. It was installed in January 2013.

SIG Special Interest Group of WLA. SIGs provide a vehicle for WLA members to share ideas, plans, news, and opinions related to a particular area of interest without the formal expectations and structure of a traditional association unit.

SIP Standard Interchange Protocol. SIP is the de facto standard for communication between library self-service devices and the wide variety of integrated library systems (ILS) that libraries use. It provides the crucial common language that makes possible such widespread functions as self-checkout, automated materials handling, PC management, or fine and fee payment.

SirsiDynix. A former automation vendor for the WVLS shared automation system.

Sitemap (or Site Map). Lists the pages of a web site.

Sketchnoting. This is a self-descriptive term that refers to taking notes enhanced with sketches, doodles, or simple drawings as well as text.

Skype. Software that allows users to make telephone calls over the Internet. Additional features include instant messaging, file transfer, and video conferencing.

SLA Special Libraries Association. A division of ALA.

SLACK. A direct message/instant message service that is geared toward workplace communication. It is currently in use by the WVLS staff and LEAN WI staff.

SLC Schools and Library Cooperation.

SLD School and Library Division.

SLIS School of Library and Information Studies/Science. In Milwaukee and Madison (see iSchool-Madison)

SLJ School Library Journal.

SLP Summer Library Program.

Smartphone. A mobile phone offering advanced capabilities beyond a typical mobile phone, often with PC-like functionality.

Smishing. A new form of "phishing" or cyberattack technique that targets victims through text messages rather than emails.

SMS Short Message Service. SMS is a communication service standard that allows the interchange of short text messages between mobile telephone devices.

Snap Chat. Mobile phone app that allows users to send short videos or images to their friends. Popular with celebrities and teens.

Social Media. A broad term referring to the wide swath of content creation and consumption that is enabled by the many-to-many distributed infrastructure of the Internet.

SMO Social Media Optimization. A programming strategy for building and engaging community.

Social Networking Site. An online social network that allows people to create and share personal information via photos, music, videos and personal blogs. Each social network has different rules and methods for searching out and contacting potential friends.

SOIS School of Library & Information Science. Located in Milwaukee.

SOMBAW System Office Managers and Business Administrators of Wisconsin.

SOPA Stop Online Piracy Act. A bill put before the US House of Representatives which would significantly expand the powers of US law enforcement to combat online trafficking in copyrighted and counterfeited goods. (See also PIPA)

SOPAC Social Online Public Access Catalog.

Special Needs. The educationally and socioeconomically disadvantaged in urban and rural areas; functionally illiterate and unemployed persons; the elderly; ethnic minorities; persons with limited English-speaking ability; persons with physical/mental disabilities (including people with developmental disabilities and mentally ill persons); and residents of the state, county and locally funded institutions. See also Inclusive Services.

SRLAAW System and Resource Library Administrator's Association of Wisconsin. Made up of administrators from all 16 public library systems and their resource libraries, this group meets four times a year to discuss statewide legislative and policy issues that impact public library service in Wisconsin. They collaborate with other statewide library organizations and regularly provide input to DPI's Public Library Development Team on statewide library issues.

SRRT Social Responsibilities Round Table. A division of WLA.

Stacks. The bookshelves in a library.

Standards. Generally accepted criteria developed at state and national levels suggesting or requiring certain minimum deemed essential for proper operation of libraries. The lastest edition of the Wisconsin Public Library Standards (6th edition; 2018) is available on the DPI website.

Status Update. New information on Facebook friends' activities.

Structured Thesaurus. A group of preferred terms created for editorial use to normalize and more efficiently classify content.

StumbleUpon. An Internet community that allows its users to discover and rate Web pages, photos, and videos. It is a personalized recommendation engine which uses peer and social-networking principles. Web pages are presented

when the user clicks the "Stumble" button on the browser's toolbar. StumbleUpon chooses which Web page to display based on the user's ratings of previous pages, ratings by his/her friends, and by the ratings of users with similar interests.

STEM Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The term is typically used when addressing education policy and curriculum choices in schools to improve competitiveness in technology development.

STEAM Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. Adds the "Arts" to STEM (above) for a more holistic approach when addressing education policy and curriculum choices.

Subject Cataloging. It involves subject analysis of resource and providing corresponding subject headings from a controlled vocabulary or subject heading list. It enables the library users to find what documents/materials the library has on a certain subject.

SUDOC Superintendent of Documents. SUDOC numbers are assigned by the Government Printing Office to documents and are used to order items from the GPO.

Survey Monkey. A free tool to create and publish custom surveys via the Internet.

SWAC Spoken Word Audiocassette.

SWLS Southwest Wisconsin Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Fennimore.

Symphony. A SirsiDynix integrated library system product.

T-1 Line. A dedicated fiber optic communications line leased from the telephone company, which provides high speed access to the Internet. A T-1 line is capable of carrying data at 1.5444 megabites per second (MBPS).

Tablet Device. Any device with an open-face display, generally as large as a small laptop.

Tag. A common type of metadata used to describe a piece of content that associates it with other content that has the same tag.

TAG Teen Advisory Group.

Tags or Tagging (Computing). A keyword or term associated with or assigned to a piece of information.

Taxonomy. A hierarchical classification system.

TDD Telecommunication Device for the hearing impaired.

TEACH Technology for Educational Achievement.

TechAtlas. Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, a free web-based technology management and planning tool for libraries.

Teen Read Week. Teen Read Week is an annual national adolescent literacy initiative created in 1998 by the Young Adult Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association. Held in October the same week as Columbus Day, it encourages teens to be regular readers and library users.

Telnet. A program that allows a person on the Internet to connect to selected information around the world.

Text Messaging. Texting is the common term for the sending of "short" text messages from mobile phones using the Short Message Service (SMS). For a great list of Text Message abbreviations, go to: http://www.webopedia.com/quick_ref/textmessageabbreviations.asp

TikTok. Known in China as Douyin, TikTok is a video-focused social networking service owned by Chinese company ByteDance Ltd. It hosts a variety of short-form user videos, from genres like pranks, stunts, tricks, jokes, dance, and entertainment with durations from 15 seconds to three minutes. It is a platform for sharing short videos, often synced to music.

TL-DR Too Long: Didn't Read.

TNS Teleform Notice System. It allows WVLS to send automated phone notices, such as hold pickup or overdues, to patrons.

Tockify. An online calendar designed with an emphasis on good looks and ease of use. It can be customized extensively to blend seamlessly into websites.

Toolkit. A set of aggregated software and/or digital resource for a specific issue or topic.

Town. In Wisconsin, the word "town" denotes a unit of government.

Township. In Wisconsin, the word "township" is a surveyor's term describing the basic grid framework for legal descriptions of all land in the state.

TPD Technical Processing Department.

Transparency. In the context of news and information, a term describing openness about information that has become increasingly popular.

Trustee Essentials. Developed by the Department of Public Instruction, a handbook of essential information for trustees of public library boards in Wisconsin. Chapters in the handbook are similar to those found in DPI's "Administrative Essentials" publication for Wisconsin's public library directors.

TTS Text-To-Speech. The ability of a computer to convert any text into spoken words. Useful to people with visual disabilities, proof-readers, people who prefer to listen to their ebooks, people learning a foreign language, and as a simple pronunciation guide for those unfamiliar words encountered in print but never spoken.

Tumblr. A free microblogging platform and social networking website that allows users to post multimedia and other content to a short-form blog.

Tweets. Text-based updates sent in twitter.

Twitter. A social networking and micro-blogging service that allows its users to send and read others' updates (or tweets), which are text-based posts of up to 140 characters-in length.

Twitter Live. A Twitter tool that allows users to post live video to their profile.

UD Use Date.

UI User Interface. The part of a software application or website that users see and interact with, which takes into account the visual design and the structure of the program.

Union List. A combined listing of the holdings of two or more agencies or departments.

Unite Against Book Bans (UABB). A campaign to raise awareness about the recent rise in book challenges in public libraries and schools. A coalition of more than 25 organizations has joined forces with ALA's Unite Against Book Bans campaign is designed to influence local boards and state and national legislation to protect the rights of readers and students and the librarians and educators who provide the books they read.

United for Libraries. Formerly Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF). On February 1, 2009, Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocate (ALTA) joined forces to become an expanded division of ALA known as the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations, now "United for Libraries". Through this partnership, United for Libraries brings together libraries' voices to speak out on behalf of library services and free public access to information.

Universal Service Fund. See USF below.

URI Uniform Resource Identifier. The way to identify the location for something on the Internet.

URL Universal/Uniform Resource Locator. Also known as a web address which is displayed in a web browser's address bar.

USA PATRIOT Act Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act. Passed on October 26, 2001, and designed to broaden surveillance capabilities of law enforcement following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

USAC Universal Service Administration Co. An e-Rate management portal.

User Friendly. Easy to use format implying the dialogue or interface capabilities between a computer user and computer is simple to understand.

USF Universal Service Fund. Established under 1993 Wisconsin Act 496 to ensure that all state residents receive essential telecommunications services and have access to advanced telecommunications capabilities. The Fund supports telecommunications services and access programs that are provided by several state agencies, including the Department of Public Instruction. The USF replaced GPR as the sole funding source for Aid to Public Library Systems since FY 2008-09. The USF also supports BadgerLink and DPI's Library Service Contracts for specialized library materials and information provided by the Milwaukee Public Library, the Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (WRLBPH), and the Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC).

UW University of Wisconsin.

UWEX University of Wisconsin – Extension Services provides continuing education opportunities.

UWM University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Campus.

UWMC University of Wisconsin – Marathon Campus, now UWSP-Wausau Campus.

UWSP University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Campus.

UWSP-Wausau University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Wausau

UX User Experience. Refers to a person's emotions and attitudes about using a particular product, system, or service. See User Experience for more information.

V-Cat. The name of the WVLS shared automation system.

V-Cat Council. A WVLS group made up of one representative from each V-Cat member library, whose purpose is to implement policies and procedures related to the WVLS shared automation system.

V-Cat Library Catalog. A database of library collections. The current V-Cat library catalog is an Aspen Discovery catalog.

VCR Videocassette Recorder.

VERAP Voter Education & Registration Assistance Project. (See LWV League of Women Voters). A collaborative project between the League of Women Voters of the Northwoods and with public libraries to promote voter registration for all eligible adults.

Vertical File. A collection of pamphlets, clippings, and/or pictures kept in a filing cabinet and arranged for ready reference, generally by subject. Also called pamphlet file or information file.

Virtual Library. Information resources located entirely online.

VR Virtual Reality. The use of computers to create a complete simulation of a human reality. A visual stereoscopic 3D image that you look at using a lens. If you have a smartphone you can use Google Cardboard to experience this. Oculus Rift and HTC VIVE make more high-end products that use headsets that provide both audio and visual elements for a more realistic experience. While wearing a VR headset, if you move your head upwards you look up in your virtual world, same goes for looking down, left to right and behind you.See also AR Augmented Reality.

Virtualization. Virtualization software enables a single computer to function as several virtual computers. You can install multiple operating systems (for example, Windows, Linux, Mac OS X) on a single physical computer and they can each run independently, as if they were installed on their own physical computer. There is no visible difference to the applications or to the users. The two main types of virtualization are server virtualization and desktop virtualization. Server virtualization is software that allows you to optimize a single server computer so that it is able to do the work of multiple servers. In the case of desktop virtualization, the server does all the work for multiple desktop terminals.

VMware. The drive to virtualize was driven by VMware. Offering everything from simple-to-use products that let consumers run virtual machines to the most robust enterprise-class virtualization platforms, VMware has made it possible to run whole farms of servers with very little hardware involved.

VOIP Voice Over IP.

VTAE Vocational and Technical Adult Education.

WAAL Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians. A division of WLA.

Wall. A space where a Facebook member can post photos, videos, web links, or other content he or she wants to share.

WAM Web Access Management. A tool that allows Sierra to authenticate with databases and online services.

WAN Wide Area Network. A large telecommunications network that covers a wider area than a LAN.

WAPL Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries. A division of WLA.

WCAN Wausau Community Area Network.

WCFLS Waukesha County Federated Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Waukesha. With the addition of Jefferson County in 2015, this system became the Bridges Library System (BLS). See BLS.

WCRS WorldCat Resource Sharing.

WDBs Workforce Development Boards.

WDC Wisconsin Deferred Compensation.

WEA Wisconsin Education Association.

WEAC Wisconsin Education Association Council.

Web Management Report. The web interface product from Innovative used for statistics gathering.

Web Site. A place on the web.

Webinar. A type of web conference, that is typically one-way, from the speaker with limited audience interaction.

WebJunction. An online community where library staff meet to share ideas, solve problems and take online courses.

WEMA Wisconsin Educational Media Association, now known as WEMTA.

WEMTA Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association. An independent professional association serving school library media and instructional professionals in Wisconsin.

Wessler Scholarship Fund. A gift to WVLS in memory of Carol Ruth Wessler, a long-time WVLS reference and interlibrary loan librarian who died in 1984. Since the initial establishment of this scholarship program, additional funds have been added in memory of other WVLS employees. Scholarship funds are available for use by area library staff from all types of libraries who wish to attend continuing education activities in the area of reference, referral and interlibrary loan and customer service.

WHCLIS White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

WHO Wisconsin Heritage Online. See Recollection Wisconsin for more information.

Widget. A web widget is a portable chunk of code that can be installed and executed within a separate web page. (Such as daily weather, clocks, event listing, etc.)

Wiki. A web space that is open to and editable by a group of people. The most famous wiki is called Wikipedia, a massive online encyclopedia.

WILIUG Wisconsin/Illinois Innovative Users Group.

WiLS (formally Wisconsin Library Services). A member-based, not-for-profit organization that offers services to libraries of all types, cultural institutions, government agencies and other non-profits. They provide cooperative discounts for databases and other products, manage the purchase of new electronic resources and offer continuing education opportunities, project management and strategic planning guidance.

WIOA Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014.

WISCAT. A Union/Virtual online database of materials held by Wisconsin libraries. The database is managed by RL&LL, and used to create and manage requests for material between and among participating libraries in Wisconsin.

WiscNet. A member-driven cooperative that provides Internet access and network support for research and education organizations across Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Author Project. A project made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services in which public libraries help local authors get recognition for their works. Wisconsin residents who are authors of self-published adult or young adult fiction are invited to submit their work to be included in a state collection accessed through BiblioBoard.

Wisconsin Library Services. (See WiLS.)

Wisconsin Statutes. Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes refers to libraries and systems.

Wisconsin's Digital Library. Established in 2001, a shared, statewide collection of ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines available for free to all Wisconsin public library card holders. Currently, Wisconsin's Digital Library is the collection of digital materials powered by [OverDrive](). OverDrive is supported by and funded through the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium.

WTBBL Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library.

WISEdash. A data portal that uses "dashboards" or visual collections of graphs and tables, to provide multi-year education data about Wisconsin schools. As a public reporting tool, WISEdash is used by districts, schools, parents, researchers, media, and other community members to view data published by the Department of Public Instruction.

WISEgrants. A web portal created through a collaboration within teams at DPI that provides a one-stop access to accessing and reporting federal funding information.

WISELearn Resource Library. A repository of high quality, standards-aligned educational resources and professional learning materials representing the diversity of our global community. Many of the resources are authored, recommended, or submitted by Wisconsin teachers, administrators, librarians, and DPI consultants.

WISL Wisconsin Small Libraries. A section of WLA.

WISPPR Wisconsin Preservation Program. A program whereby WiLS members receive consultant services for preserving/maintaining library collections.

WLA Wisconsin Library Association. A professional association for library staff, trustees and friends.

WLHC Wisconsin Library Heritage Center. A program of the WLA Foundation that is designed to promote the understanding of the history of libraries and librarianship in Wisconsin.

WLS Winnefox Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Oshkosh.

WLTA Wisconsin Library Trustee Association. A former division of WLA which joined forces with WLA's Friends group to become a new division known as Wisconsin Library Trustees and Friends (WLTF).

WLTF Wisconsin Library Trustees and Friends. A division of WLA.

WordPress. A powerful, open-source, easy to use blogging software and content management system.

WorldCat. The OCLC online union catalog which contains the bibliographic records cataloged by OCLC member libraries. It is the most comprehensive database of library materials in the world. See also BadgerCat.

WorldCat Cataloging Partners. WorldCat Cataloging Partners is a collaborative effort with materials vendors to reduce the cost of cataloging for libraries. WorldCat Cataloging Partners, delivers OCLC MARC records that match the materials ordered through participating vendor partners and sets your library's holdings automatically in WorldCat.

WPLC Wisconsin Public Library Consortium. The WPLC pools the resources of WPLC member libraries throughout the state to cooperatively undertake projects that may otherwise be unavailable to single libraries and library systems.

WRLBPH Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

WRLS Winding Rivers Library System. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in La Crosse.

WSDLC Wisconsin Schools Digital Library Consortium. Established in January 2018, WSDLC was developed through a partnership between the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, CESA Purchasing, the CESA Statewide Network and WiLS to create an infrastructure to support a shared ebook and digital audiobook collection for WI K12 students.

WTBBL Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library.

WVLS Wisconsin Valley Library Service. A Wisconsin library system headquartered in Wausau.

WWW World Wide Web. A part of the Internet in which information of any nature, without standardization or verification, may be presented based on a technology called hypertext. WWW enables a user to use a browser such as Netscape or Internet Explorer to navigate among hyperlinked documents to find information (text, graphics, audio and video.)

XHTML. Extensible HyperText Markup Language.

XML Extensible Markup Language. Unlike HTML where authors must use certain tags that make text bold, create clickable links, etc., with XML, authors make up their own tags, making it easier to share and search resources that are in different formats.

XR Extended Reality. An umbrella term used for virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR). XR learning allows people to experience studies in an upfront, immersive environment, and you don't have to be a tech expert to build your own XR learning experience.

YA Young Adult.

YALSA Young Adult Library Services Association. A division of ALA.

YouTube. A popular video-sharing Web site.

YSS Youth Services Section. A division of WLA.

Z39.50. An ANSI standard for telecommunications and bibliographic information retrieval, defines a standard way for computers to communicate and share information without knowing the search syntax used by the other computer.

Zine. A small, handmade magazine with specific, curated content which comes in a range of designs. Zine programs promote activism, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression; and they empower future authors and artists. They cost virtually nothing to produce and enable you to utilize items that are likely already in your library. The most appealing aspects of a zine program is the infinite versatility of the format. Zines are adaptable to all age groups and skill sets; they can also take on an endless variety of formats, themes, and materials.

Zinio. Recorded Books digital full text magazine product.

Zoom Meetings. Released in 2011, a proprietary videotelephony software program that allows up to 100 concurrent participants in an online meeting with a 40-minute tine restriction.

Definitions for Organizational Models for Public Libraries and Public Library Systems

Public Library
A library is established by a municipality or county according to the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 43, and governed by a library board appointed (largely) by the municipality or county that established the library. The municipality or county that established the library also generally provides most of the funding to operate the library. A public library is open to serve the public at least 20 hours per week all year round and has a paid staff and a certified director who works in the library at least ten hours per week.

Municipal Library (Wisconsin Statute 43.52)
Most library services are provided by municipal libraries, which are governed by local library boards and receive funding from municipal governments. Local services may also be provided through contracts between municipal libraries and other library organizations. Where there are no municipal libraries, county governments provide library services or contract for such services.

Consolidated County Library (Wisconsin Statute 43.57)
A consolidated county library may be established by a county board which assumes some or all existing municipal or joint public libraries within the county by consent of the parent organizations of those libraries. In most cases, countywide library services is provided on a consolidated basis, where each library in the county is a branch of a main county library; however, in some counties with consolidated county libraries, each municipality with a branch library owns and is responsible for maintenance and repair of the library building (i.e., Door County). Consolidated county libraries have one countywide library board, which governs all libraries. There are currently seven consolidated county libraries, one of which is the Marathon County Public Library.

NOTE: The use of the terminology "consolidated county library" in the Wisconsin Statutes is misleading. On the face of it, this terminology implies that all public library services and facilities within a single county are consolidated under one governing body. This is not the case in Wisconsin. Cities and villages within a county with a consolidated county library can still establish and operate an independent municipal library and exempt themselves from the county library levy if they tax themselves for library service at a rate higher than the county library levy, as provided under Section 43.64(2).

Branch / Satellite Library
A branch or satellite library is an auxiliary unit that has at least all of the following:
- Separate quarters
- An organized collection of library materials, including a core collection of materials on site at all times
- Paid staff, including a certified 'director' who works in the library at least ten hours per week.
- Regular scheduled hours for being open to the public (at least 20 hours per week all year round)

Service Outlet

A service outlet is a location to which library materials are distributed for lending but at which there is no permanent collection or library staff. Examples of outlets may include, but are not limited to, collections in nursing homes, jails, grocery stores, etc.

Joint Public Library (Wisconsin Stat. 43.53)

A joint public library is a library established by two or more municipalities, or a county and one or more municipalities. A joint public library is governed by a library board appointed (largely) by the government jurisdictions that established the library. These jurisdictions also generally provide most of the funding to operate the library. A joint public library is open to serve the public at least twenty hours per week all year round and has a paid staff and a certified director who works in the library at least ten hours per week. Examples: Antigo Public Library is a joint library, operated by the county and the municipality; Rhinelander District Library is a joint library, operated by two or more municipalities. If the territory of a joint library lies in two or more counties that are not in the same public library system, the joint library board or, if no such board exists, the governing bodies of the municipalities and counties that created the joint library shall determine the system in which the joint library will participate.

District Public Library

A district public library is established by referendum of the electors residing within the library district area, and governed by a library board elected by the residents of the library district area (which may or may not correspond with the boundaries of one or more municipalities). A library district is typically funded by a property tax levied on property owners within the library district area, at a tax rate usually established by referendum of the electors residing within the district area. District public libraries are open to serve the public at least twenty hours per week all year round and have a paid staff and a certified director who works in the library at least ten hours per week. Wisconsin law does not yet recognize district public libraries.

County Library Service (Wisconsin Stat. 43.57(3))

A county may provide library service(s) under contract or participate in county library planning. For example, a county government may: contract for access to public libraries by residents who live outside the primary service jurisdiction of a public library; operate one or more fixed library facilities, but is more likely to operate a bookmobile or books-by-mail program that supplements the service provided by independent municipal and/or joint public libraries within the county; provide support services to the public libraries in the county, such as a centralized processing service, shared computer system or interlibrary loan clearinghouse; and/or conduct county library planning and determine the allocation of county library funding to municipal and/or joint public libraries serving county residents. In this later example, these organizations have no paid staff and exist only boards appointed by the county. Essentially, they are library boards without a library. The Dane County Library Service is an example of this method.

Resource Library (Wisconsin Stat. 43.16)

Each public library system must have at least one system resource library. To enhance the research and reference capacity of member libraries, each public library system must contract with the member library with the largest annual operating budget to serve as the system resource library. The resource library must have a collection of at least 100,000 volumes, be open to the public at least 50 hours each week, and employ at least one permanent reference librarian with a master's degree in library science. If no library in the system meets these requirements systems must enter into a supplementary contract with an academic library in the system or a resource library in an adjacent system.

Public Library System (Wisconsin Stat. 43.17)

Wisconsin's public library systems were created by the legislature in 1971 to improve and extend public library services, promote resource sharing among libraries, and increase access to library materials and services by the state's residents. Serving a specific geographic region, each system provides special services and programs not offered by municipal and county libraries. Public library systems receive state aids for coordination and supplementation of services beyond what could be provided by local and county funds. Public library systems do not oversee the administration of local libraries, which remain autonomous in regard to local services and operations. Although not required to do so, all local units of government that provide library services participate in a public library system.

Single-County Public Library System

A single–county public library system is considered a county agency and may be consolidated or federated.

Single-County Consolidated Public Library System

A Single-County Consolidated Public Library System may be established by a county board according to the provisions of Wis. Stat 43.21. A consolidated single–county public library system has a seven- or nine-member board appointed by the county board.

Single-County Federated Public Library System

A Single-County Federated Public Library System may be established by a county board according to the provisions of Wis. Stat. 43.19. A federated single-county public library system has a seven-member governing board, three of which, at the time of their appointment, shall be active voting members of library boards of participating municipalities. Members are nominated by the county executive (or by the county chairperson in a county without a county executive) and approved by the county board. A federated public library system located within a single county with a population of 500,000 or more constitutes a separate legal entity solely for the purposes of having custody and control of all system funds, making contracts, and providing employee benefits. No more than one system may be established within a single county. If the territory of a municipality lies in two or more counties which are not in the same public library system, the municipal library board or, if no such board exists, the municipal governing body shall determine the system in which the municipality will participate.

Multi-County Public Library System or Federated Public Library System

Multi-county systems must be federated systems, since their membership includes multiple independent libraries that are not branches of a centralized library. A multi-county system is considered a joint agency of all participating counties but constitutes a separate legal entity for purposes of having exclusive custody and control of all system funds, holding title to and disposing of property, constructing, enlarging and improving buildings, making contracts, and suing and being sued. In multi-county federated systems, governing boards have 15 to 20 members. The members are nominated by the county executive in each county in the system (or by the county board chairperson in each county without a county executive) and approved by each county board in the system. Members are appointed in proportion to population distribution with at least one system board member from each county.

All 15 public library systems in Wisconsin are federated public library systems.

Public Library Districts. In very basic terms a public library district is defined as an independent taxing authority that is authorized by state law to establish and operate a public library. A public library district could include one or more contiguous municipalities or one or more contiguous counties. According to statistics collected by the Institute for Museum and Library Services, nearly 15% of U.S. public libraries are organized as districts. Similar to the four current methods of public library governance in Wisconsin, the formation of a public library district is a matter of local choice. The four current methods are **Municipal Libraries, Joint Libraries, Consolidated County Libraries** and **County Library Services** listed above.