keeping up with the research linking school library programs to achievement

*K*EEPING UP WITH THE RESEARCH LINKING SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER PROGRAMS TO ACHIEVEMENT IS A PUBLICATION THAT WAS PRESENTED AT THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ALA) CONFERENCE IN JUNE 2005. THIS PUBLICATION IS THE RESULT OF THE ACHIEVEMENT THREAD OF THE *SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL* SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN 2005 AND MAY BE REPRODUCED FREELY IN ITS TOTALITY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES BUT NOT FOR COMMERCIAL USE WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE AUTHOR, WHO CAN BE REACHED AT *DAVIDL@SLIS.SJSU.EDU.* READERS CAN DOWNLOAD A PDF OF THIS DOCUMENT AT DAVID V. LOERTSCHER'S WEB SITE, **WWW.DAVIDVL.ORG.** THE CONTENT IS CURRENT AS OF JUNE 21, 2005. *TEACHER LIBRARIAN* REPRINTS THIS DOCUMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR.

Research Summaries and Bibliographies

- Lance, Keith Curry and David V. Loertscher. *Powering Achievement: School Library Media Programs Make a Difference.* 3rd ed. Hi Willow Research & Publishing, 2005. ISBN: 1-933170-14-X. available from www.lmcsource.com Provides summaries and PowerPoint presentations plus discussion starters of all the Lance studies plus other evidence of library media center links to achievement.

- David Loertscher's biography of school library media research. At www.davidvl.org

- Keith Curry Lance's bibliography of school library media research. At www.lrs.org/impact.asp

- Check out the bibliography done as part of the IASL website (International Association of School Librarianship) titled: School Libraries Make a Difference in Student Achievement at www.iasl-slo.org/isld.html

Tools for Linking School Libraries to Achievement

- The most comprehensive list of measures is in Loertscher, David V. and Ross J. Todd. *We Boost Achievement!* Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 2003. ISBN 0-931510-93-7 available at www.lmcsource.com

- Ross J. Todd and Carol Kuhlthau are developing various measures for linking libraries to achievement. During 2005, watch their website at http://cissl.scils.rutgers.edu/

- Miller, Nancy. *Impact!* Hi Willow Research & Publishing, 2004. This Excel spreadsheet allows school librarians to track collaborative efforts on a daily basis and then print out amazing reports for presentations. Available from www.lmcsource.com Nancy also expects to have a time tracking spreadsheet analysis tool available late 2005.

- The School Library Association of Great Britain has published two self-evaluation guides for school libraries in that country, one for elementary and the other for secondary. See their website at www.sla.org.uk/ The titles of the two publications are printable as PDFs and are:
  a. *Improve Your Library: A Self-Evaluation Process for Secondary School Libraries and Learning Resource Centers.*
  b. *Improve Your Library: A Self-Evaluation Process for Primary Schools*

Ongoing Projects Linking School Libraries to Achievement

National

- Ban Those Bird Units Research Project created by David V. Loertscher at www.davidvl.org asks school librarians and teachers to use 15 models of teaching and learning in

information-rich and technology-rich information environments and report the improvement in higher-order thinking skills.

- Project Achievement created by David V. Loertscher (www.davidvl.org) asks school librarians to create measures and do action research linking their local programs to achievement and report those efforts.

- Check out the CISSL website by Ross J. Todd and Carol Kuhlthau for developments over time at http://cissl.scils .rutgers.edu/

State

1. Virginia Department of Education Office of Educational Technology.
   a. Virginia Linking Libraries and Academic Achievement: Every district has to develop a plan for how they plan to teach and integrate information literacy standards. www .pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/OET/library.shtml

2. Washington State
   a. www.k12library.info
   b. Designed to provide school librarians with the skills, tools, and training needed to make a positive impact on student achievement
   c. Includes study to improve school administrators' perceptions of librarians
   d. Contact Betty Marcoux at elm2@u.washington.edu

3. Ohio
   a. ILILE (Ohio) Project Sails Assessing Information Literacy Skills as they enter College. Also developing an assessment for 9th grade students. Kent State University at www.ilile.org/

6. Oklahoma Study
   - What do Librarians do all day? Study to track hours/minutes spent in professional and nonprofessional activities for:
     - FT School Librarians with Clerical Assistants
     - FT School Librarians without clerical assistance
     - Non-Professionals in school without full-time librarians

   Project under the direction of Ellen Duecker, Tulsa Public Schools with Nancy Miller and David V. Loertscher. The results to be reported late 2005 with the development of a tool that individual school librarians can use to compare their use of time with those in the study. Watch www.lmcsource.com for the announcement of this tool.

7. Delaware (coming soon from Ross J. Todd): Check the CISSL site for more information as this develops.

8. Kansas: Revised Kansas assessments for Spring 2006 provide:
   - Instructional reports for curriculum alignment
   - Student reports
   - Kansas has had these types of reports before, but revised assessments will provide more accurate data with additional grades (3-8). Also, KIDS, a student database, will be up for 2005-2006 school year. Should be able to conduct research down to student level.

Federal Efforts and Reports

- NCES: *The Status of Public and Private School Library Media Centers in the United States: 1999-2000* USDOE NCES 2004-313 E.D. At http://nces.ed.gov/programs/quarterly/vol_6/1_2/6_1.asp

- School Library Media Centers: Selected Results From the Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS:2002) at http:// nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2005302

- *Fifty Years of Supporting Children's Learning: History of Public School Libraries and Federal Legislation From 1953 to 2000* NCES 2005-311 (National Center for Education Statistics) at http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2005/2005311.pdf

Conferences

Ongoing

- The **Treasure Mountain Research Retreat**, held irregularly but also usually just before the AASL National Conference, is a group of school library scholars and practitioners who get together to share research and practice. Anyone interested in school library research may attend the retreats and information about the upcoming retreat on Oct. 5-6, 2005 in Pittsburgh is available at www.davidvl.org

- At the annual ALA conference, the AASL Research Committee usually sponsors a research program that reports the results of the Highsmith Research Award winner.

- The Judy Pitts Research Forum is held at the biennial AASL national conference and features selected research papers.

- At both the midwinter and annual conferences of the American Library Association, the AASL Research Committee meets usually during the All Committee meeting time. Anyone can attend this committee meeting and it is a great place to keep up to date and rub shoulders with some great researchers in the field.

- The International Association of School Librarianship annual conference has research reports from varying countries. The 2005 conference is in Hong Kong. See at www.iasl-slo .org/isld.html

- ISTE (The International Society for Technology in Education) holds an annual conference known as the NECC conference where research on technology in education always has a spot on the program. See at www.iste.org/

Past

- During 2005, two invitational conferences had research threads. The SLJ Summit held in New York City during 2005 had a research thread and its report is available at www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA517173.html. Also, CISSL held an international conference in New York City during 2005 and its information is available at http://cissl.scils.rutgers.edu/

- On June 4, 2002, Laura Bush hosted a White House Conference on School Libraries to discuss the latest research on libraries, student achievement, and successful local programs.

Mrs. Bush was joined by her co-host, Dr. Robert Martin, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This website has the full text of papers by Keith Curry Lance (What the Research Tells Us About the Importance of School Libraries), Gary Hartzell, and Kathleen Smith among others. See at www.imls.gov/pubs/whitehouse0602/whitehouse.htm

Periodicals and Articles

Periodicals

- *School Library Media Research* (SLMR) is the online research journal of AASL and regularly publishes formal studies done about school library media programs. At www.ala.org/aaslslmrTemplate.cfm?Section=slmrb

- School library publications regularly review various research studies in a more popular format: *Teacher Librarian, School Library Journal, Knowledge Quest.*

- *School Libraries Worldwide* is the official publication of the International Association of School Librarianship that reports research from around the world. See at www.iasl-slo.org/slw.html

Articles

- "Research in the School Library Media for the New Decade: Polishing the Diamond." *Library Trends*, Spring 2003.

- "Print Environments: Between High and Low Socioeconomic Status (SES) Communities." *Teacher Librarian*. February 2005. (Study examined the access of books among six communities in the greater Los Angeles area.)

- Also, take a look at Lynn Schrum's editorial in the *Journal of Research and Technology Education* (March 2005). She expresses her concern about the fact that there is no research linking technology and systemic improvements in student learning. (Could insert "library programs" in the place of "technology" throughout her article and it would still make sense. [from D. Johnson])

- Coiro, J. 2003. "Reading on the Internet: Expanding our Understanding of Reading Comprehension to Encompass New Literacies." *The Reading Teacher*, 56, 458-464. Available online from Reading Online at www.readingonline.org/electronic/elec_index.asp?HREF=rt/2-03_column/index.html

- Plucker, Jonathan. "Trend Analysis of Indiana K-12 Library Services since the School Library Printed Materials Grant." Center for Evaluation and Education Policy. October 8, 2004. At www2.evansville.edu/mgrnweb/2winter05.htm

- Newcomb, Amelia. AASA. "Peter Senge on Organizational Learning." Of particular note look at "The Learner's Accountability" Q: How does a school leader combine standards and accountability with the constructivism that you talk about? www.aasa.org/publications/sa/2003_05/SengeQ&A.htm

- Possible "Gaps" in the Research. The following research links (and authors) who are not showing "links" with school libraries. . . . A wake-up call to us to "get connected" with these organizations and researchers:

- www.nswtl.net/info/research/achieve.htm
- www.tcrconnections.com/research-big6.html
- www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/OET/llaa/overview.html
- www.gatesfoundation.org/Education/ResearchAndEvaluation/Research/StandardsAssessment.htm
- www.ed.gov/offices/OERI/ResCtr.html
- www.ncrel.org/gap/research.htm
- http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2001/2001030.pdf (Are strong school library media programs noted as indicators of school quality? Why or Why not?)

The Lance Studies

Here is a list of the Lance studies and their predecessor, the Gaver studies. All are linked at http://lrs.org (Colorado State Library).

Gaver 1963	Gaver, Mary V. *Effectiveness of Centralized Library Service in Elementary Schools.* 2nd ed. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1963 (out of print; find in many academic libraries or school district professional libraries).
Colorado I 1993	Lance, Keith C., Linda Welborn, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *The Impact of School Library Media Centers on Academic Achievement.* Castle Rock, CO: Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 1993 (available from LMC Source, PO Box 720400, San Jose CA 95172, and online at www.lmcsource.com).
Colorado II 2000	Lance, Keith C., Marcia J. Rodney, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *How School Librarians Help Kids Achieve Standards: The Second Colorado Study.* San Jose, CA: Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 2000 (available from LMC Source, PO Box 720400, San Jose CA 95172, and online at www.lmcsource.com).
Alaska 2000	Lance, Keith C., Christine Hamilton-Pennell, Marcia J. Rodney, with Lois Peterson and Clara Sitter. *Information Empowered: The School Librarian as an Agent of Academic Achievement in Alaska Schools.* Revised ed. Juneau, AK: Alaska State Library, 2000 (available for $10 from The Alaska State Library, PO Box 110571, Juneau, AK 98811). Executive summary and order information at www.library.state.ak.us/dev/infoemp.html
Pennsylvania 2000	Lance, Keith C., Marcia J. Rodney, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *Measuring Up to Standards: The Impact of School Library Programs & Information Literacy in Pennsylvania Schools.* Greensburg, PA: Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries, 2000. At www.statelibrary.state.pa.us/libraries/lib/libraries/measuringup.pdf
Massachusetts 2000	Baughman, James C. *School Libraries and MCAS Scores.* Preliminary Edition. Boston, MA: Graduate School of Library and Information Science,

	2000. See the study at http://web.simmons.edu/~baughman/mcas-school-libraries/Baughman%20Paper.pdf
Texas 2001	Smith, Ester. *Texas School Libraries: Standards, Resources, Services, and Students' Performance.* Austin, TX: EGS Research & Consulting, 2001. Available at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/schlibsurvey/index.html
Oregon 2001	Lance, Keith Curry, Marcia J. Rodney, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *Good Schools Have School Librarians: Oregon School Librarians Collaborate to Improve Academic Achievement.* Salem, OR: Oregon Educational Media Association, 2001. Available in print from LMC Source (www.lmcsource.com) and online at www.oema.net/Oregon_Study/OR_Study.htm
Iowa 2002	Rodney, Marcia J., Keith Curry Lance, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *Make the Connection: Quality School Library Media Programs Impact Academic Achievement in Iowa.* A Research Project by Iowa Area Education Agencies, published by the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency, 2002. Available at www.aea9.k12.ia.us/download/04/aea_statewide_study.pdf
New Mexico 2002	Lance, Keith Curry, Marcia J. Rodney, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *How School Libraries Improve Outcomes for Children: The New Mexico Study.* Sante Fe, NM: New Mexico State Library, 2002. (Available from LMC Source online at www.lmcsource.com).
Michigan 2003	Rodney, Marcia J., Keith C. Lance, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *The Impact of Michigan School Librarians on Academic Achievement: Kids Who Have Libraries Succeed.* Salt Lake City, UT: Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 1993 (available from LMC Source online at www.lmcsource.com).
Illinois 2005	Lance, Keith Curry, Marcia J. Rodney, and Christine Hamilton-Pennell. *Powerful Libraries Make Powerful Learners: The Illinois Study.* Canton, IL: Illinois School Library Media Association (available via www.islma.org).

Other Research Studies on School Libraries and Achievement

Florida 2003	Baumbach, Donna J. *Making the Grade: The Status of School Library Media Centers in the Sunshine State and How They Contribute to Student Achievement.* Salt Lake City, UT: Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 2003. (available from LMC Source at PO Box 131266 Spring TX 77393 or online at www.lmcsource.com).
Ohio 2003	Todd, Ross J. *Student Learning Through Ohio School Libraries: A Summary of the Ohio Research Study.* OELMA. Study available at www.oelma.org/StudentLearning/documents/OELMAResearchStudy8page.pdf and other resources at www.oelma.org/studentlearning.htm
Scotland 2001	Williams, Dorothy and Caroline Wavell. *The Impact of the School Library Resource Centre on Learning.* Library and Information Commission Research Report 112: Report on Research Conducted for Resource: The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries. Aberdeen, Scotland: The Robert Gordon University for The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries, 2001. Available at www.rgu.ac.uk/files/SLRCreport.pdf
Minnesota 2003	Baxter, Susan J. and Ann Walker Smalley. *Check It Out!: The Results of the School Library Media Program Census.* Saint Paul, MN: Metronet, 2003. Available at http://metronet.lib.mn.us/survey/index.cfm
Missouri 2003	Miller, Jamie, Jinchang Want, Lisa Whitacre, and Quantitative Resources. *Show Me Connection: How School Library Media Center Services Impact Student Achievement.* Available at http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/librarystudy/libraryresearch.pdf
Australia 2003	Lonsdale, Michele. "Impact of School Libraries on Achievement: A Review of the Research: Report for the Australian School Library Association." Australian Council for Educational Research. Melbourne. March 2003. At www.asla.org.au/research/
North Carolina 2004	Burgin, Robert and Pauletta Brown Bracy. *An Essential Connection: How Quality School Library Media Programs Improve Student Achievement in North Carolina.* Salt Lake City, UT: Hi Willow Research & Publishing, 2004. Available at www.rburgin.com/NCschools2003/NCSchoolStudy.pdf and an updated version from LMC Source at www.lmcsource.com
Indiana Ongoing	Ongoing. Follow online at www.ilfonline.org/Units/Associations/aime/Data/index.htm
Delaware 2005	Todd, Ross J. Should be released some time in 2005. A *Google* search plus notifications in library periodicals should provide access when published.
Smalley 2004	Smalley, Topsey N. "College Success: High School Librarians Make a Difference," *Journal of Academic Librarianship,* vol. 30, No. 3, May, 2004, p. 193-98.

Other Research Reviews of Interest

Krashen 2004	Krashen, Stephen. *The Power of Reading.* 2nd ed. Libraries Unlimited, 2004 (available for sale online at www.lu.com).
McQuillan 1998	McQuillan, Jeff. *The Literacy Crisis.* Portsmith, NH: Heinemann, 1998 (available for sale online at www.heinemann.com).

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> JUNIOR NONFICTION

300S

Cash, credit cards, or checks: A book about payment methods (Money Matters). Nancy Loewen. Picture Window Books, 2005. $15.37. 1-4048-0951-1. Grades 2-4. A talking piggy bank teaches students the basics: "You can only write a check for as much money as you have in your bank account."

Groundhog Day (Let's See). Marc Nobleman. Compass Point, 2005. $13.55. 0-7565-0648-4. Grades PreK-3. This brief book simply explains "What is Groundhog Day?" and "What is a groundhog?" In addition to holiday information, there are facts about the habits and habitat of the groundhog. Index is included.

Jason and the Argonauts (Ancient Myths). John Malam. Picture Window Books, 2004. $16.27.1-4048-0902-3. Grades 3-5. The ancient Greek myth is explained with captivating illustrations and humorous dialogue. A pronunciation "Who's who" guide assists with the names of the characters.

Media madness: An insider's guide to media. Dominic Ali. Kids Can Press, 2004. $14.95. 1-55337-174-7. Grades 5-9. Want to know the scoop on reality TV? Is a newspaper really news? Readers learn about various types of media presented in an entertaining manner. Glossary and index are included.

Where's Mom's hair?: A family's journey through cancer. Debbie Watters. Second Story Press, 2005. $10.95. 1-896764-94-0. Grades 3-6. Described by the author and her sons in picture-book format, a family faces the mom's cancer and medical treatments. Photographs show each step of the cancer fight, including a poignant haircutting party.

Carnegie Corp. 2004	*Reading NEXT : A vision for action and research in middle and high school literacy* (A report to Carnegie Corporation of New York). Alliance For Excellent Education. 2004 Carnegie Corporation of New York. At www.all4ed.org/publications/ReadingNext/
Brock Study 2005	Brock, Cathy Collins. "Trade Books: How they Significantly Increase Students' Vocabulary, Comprehension, Fluency, and Positive Attitudes Toward Reading." Institute for Literacy Enhance Research Report 1739-004 A Research Investigation. 2005. (*Google* the first five words of the title for a copy.)
Scholastic Reading Bibliography 2005	Scholastic has published a pamphlet "Research on Reading" that lists a number of research articles connected to reading. See them under research on trade books at http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/paper backs/articles.htm
Scholastic Library Bibliography 2004	"School Libraries Work!" A Research Foundation publication by Terry Young. Scholastic, 2004. This pamphlet was disseminated by the thousands by Scholastic and is due to be revised by Terry in 2005. It is downloadable at http://librarypublishing.scholastic.com/content/stores/Library Store/pages/images/slw_04.pdf
Loertscher And Woolls 2002	Loertscher, David V. and Blanche Woolls. *Information Literacy A Review of the Research.* 2nd ed. Hi Willow Research & Publishing, 2002. Available from www.lmcsource.com
Chelton and Cool 2004	Chelton, Mary K. and Coleen Cool. Eds. *Youth Information Seeking Behavior: Theories, Models, and Issues.* Scarecrow Press, 2004.
Marzano 2000+	The Robert Marzano What Works Guides are indispensable as a key to research in educational theory and curriculum development. Begin with: *What Works in Schools: Translating Research into Action.* ASCD, 2003.
Cawelti Buide 2004	Cawelti, Gordon, ed. *Handbook of Research on Improving Student Achievement.* 3rd ed. Educational Research Service, 2004. A very useful summation and analysis of the research in various parts of the curriculum and education in general.
ASCD 2004+	Check out the March 2004 issue of *Educational Leadership* with the issue title: What Research Says About Reading. Numerous articles reviewing the research.
Krashen	Subscribe to Krashen@sdkrashen.com to keep up with Krashen's pithy and pointed critique of reading research and his replies to editors, newspapers, and journals throughout the world. There is no truer friend to libraries and their impact on reading.
Technology And Canada	Check out the research reports connecting tech-nology learning at www.hrsdc.gc.ca/asp/gateway.asp?hr=en/hip/lld/olt/Skills_Development/Research_reports.shtml&hs=lxt
CARET	CARET is the research on technology databank sponsored by ISTE (The International Society for Technology in Education). Check out their site at http://caret.iste.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=resources
What Works Clearinghouse	Check out the What Works Clearinghouse that describes itself as: "The What Works Clearinghouse was established in 2002 by the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences to provide educators, policymakers, researchers, and the public with a central and trusted source of scientific evidence of what works in education." At www.whatworks.ed .gov/whoweare/overview.html