LOUIS

the louisiana library network

LOUIS combines the resources of Louisiana's public and private academic libraries, along with a centralized support staff, to produce a dynamic library consortium which provides library automation services to consortium members. Established in 1992 by the Louisiana Board of Regents, **LOUIS** has 47 members, provides services to over 250,000 students, faculty, and staff, with a $3M annual budget.

Integrated Library Services

LOUIS hosts and supports the automation of library services for 29 academic libraries with 9 million titles. Each library is autonomous with its own branding, policies, data, and processes. The system processes over 100 million transactions and 200,000 reports each year.

E-Subscriptions

Focusing on full-text, LOUIS spends $2M annually to license electronic resources for its members. LOUIS also supports members with unique subscription needs by providing negotiation and contract services. Over 6 million searches are processed against the subscriptions annually.

Interlibrary Loan

LOUIS supports the automation of interlibrary loan functions for member libraries. Patrons submit and track their requests electronically and receive electronic notification when their materials arrive or are due. Over 300,000 transactions are processed yearly.

Digital Library

LOUIS hosts and supports the digital library infrastructure for its members. The LOUISiana Digital Library is an online gallery containing unique cultural and historical resources of Louisiana's libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural institutions. Over 60,000 items are available.

Federated/Metadata Searching

LOUIS offers members a federated search engine which allows users to search across any or all of a library's electronic resources from a single web interface.

Authentication

LOUIS provides an encrypted authentication mechanism to protect access to electronic resources. This service authorizes patrons to access electronic resources from off-campus.

Link Resolving

After a user searches a library electronic resource, this service guides the user from a citation to a list of possible sources for accessing full-text copies of the actual material.

LOUISiana Union Catalog

LOUIS provides users with the capability to view and search the holdings of all Louisiana academic libraries using a single web interface. Combined collections in the virtual LOUISiana Union Catalog total over 14.5 million items.

"Our ability to offer services and materials to users would be severely restricted if it were not for the LOUIS reference databases."

Terry Martin, Library Director, Louisiana College

"LOUIS has been a godsend to all libraries with smaller collections, falling budgets & rising cost."

Walter Wicker, Library Director, Louisiana Tech University

"I just wanted to take a moment between my classes to express my delight and gratitude that you have so graciously made a digital library available. It contains the works of groundbreaking photographers who helped to paint the history of Louisiana."
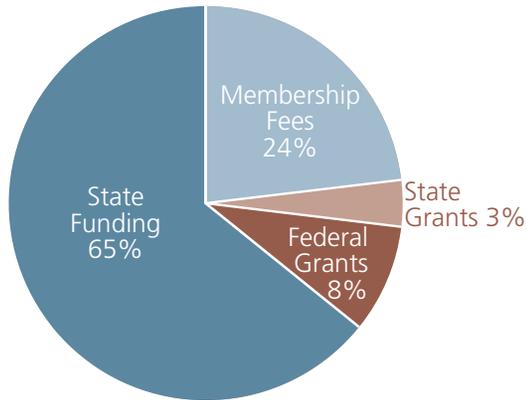
K. Hebert, LSU student

"The joint buying power offered through LOUIS has saved the State millions and allows us to offer quality services."

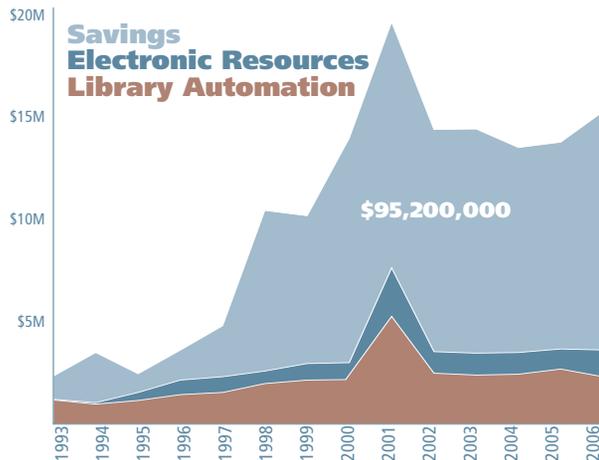*Carol Mathias*, Library Director, Nicholls State University

Funding

LOUIS was initially funded by a Louisiana Board of Regents enhancement grant in 1992. Based on the success of this grant, LOUIS was awarded additional state and federal grants to expand the services of LOUIS. Since 1995, the Board of Regents and LOUIS members have funded LOUIS. A total of $49M has been invested in LOUIS since its inception.

Membership Fees 24%
State Funding 65%
State Grants 3%
Federal Grants 8%

Impact

Supporting library services with a central staff has saved Louisiana millions. If each LOUIS member had contracted for equivalent services as independent libraries, an additional $95M, over and above the $49M LOUIS investment, would have been spent. LOUIS has helped "level the playing field" by providing services to all Louisiana academic libraries regardless of size and/or institutional funding.

Savings
Electronic Resources
Library Automation

$20M
$15M
$10M
$5M

$95,200,000

1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006

LOUIS Members

- Baton Rouge Community College
- Bossier Parish Community College
- Centenary College of Louisiana
- Delgado Community College
- Dillard University
- Grambling State University
- L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College
- Louisiana College
- Louisiana Delta Community College
- Louisiana State Museum
- Louisiana State University and A&M College
- Louisiana State University at Alexandria
- Louisiana State University at Eunice
- Louisiana State University Center for Energy Studies
- Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New Orleans
- Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Shreveport
- Louisiana State University in Shreveport
- Louisiana State University Law Center
- Louisiana Tech University
- Louisiana Technical College
- Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium
- Loyola University New Orleans
- McNeese State University
- New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
- Nicholls State University
- Northwestern State University of Louisiana
- Nunez Community College
- Our Lady of Holy Cross College
- Our Lady of the Lake College
- Pennington Biomedical Research Center
- River Parishes Community College
- South Louisiana Community College
- Southeastern Louisiana University
- Southern University
- Southern University Law Center
- Southern University at New Orleans
- Southern University at Shreveport
- SOWELA Technical Community College
- St. Joseph Abbey Seminary College
- State Library of Louisiana
- The Historic New Orleans Collection
- Tulane University
- Tulane University Law School
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- University of Louisiana at Monroe
- University of New Orleans
- Xavier University

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