



## In His Own Words

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*(Editor's note: an excellent example of "sunyergy, libraries working together" is the SUNY Librarians Association. SUNYLA has a long history of cooperative efforts regarding SUNY library programs and services. SUNYLA's letter to Provost Salins in support of SUNYConnect is included here, and used by permission.)*

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December 10, 1998

**Dear Provost Salins,**

The Executive Board and Council of the [SUNY Librarians Association](#) is writing to express its strongest support for [SUNYConnect](#). [SUNYConnect](#) is vital to ensure that SUNY faculty and students have equal access to the vast array of electronic information resources that are necessary to compete in the information age and is the next logical step in a series of cooperative library projects. Since 1991, 40 campuses have participated in the Library Automation Implementation Project [sic] which allowed their libraries to install a common online catalog. This year SUNY students and faculty are all benefiting from shared access to several electronic databases and reference resources.

The success of these projects rests on our governance structure and commitment of support that begins in your office and is delivered to us on a daily basis from the Office of Library Services [sic]. Our joint commitment leads us to a vision of a "virtual library" to interconnect SUNY campuses with shared catalogs, databases and services in order to invigorate our institutions with cutting-edge, modern technologies that will raise the reputation of our system, attract quality students, faculty, and staff, and serve as a model for other states. Also, SUNY has the unique opportunity to benefit from economies of scale because it is one of the largest university systems. SUNY Libraries have always shared resources and spent carefully, and [SUNYConnect](#) expands our purchasing and access opportunities. We are confident that the [SUNYConnect](#) model will soon be the envy of others.

Obviously, we are proud of what we have already accomplished together and know that it is all in the best interest of the SUNY community. We thank you for

your leadership and urge you to continue to make *SUNYConnect* a priority as we take advantage of information technology and put it to work for our students, faculty, and staff.



Sincerely yours,

*Wilfred E. Drew*  
President, SUNY Librarians Association  
[Associate Librarian, SUNY Morrisville.](#)



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