



In His Own Words Mr. Carey Hatch, Assistant Provost for Library and Information Services

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Assistant Provost for
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Services

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Despite some delays, the *SUNYConnect* initiative is alive and well. It seems appropriate to use *SUNYergy* as a forum for some major *SUNYConnect* announcements, including the

- [LMS vendor selection!](#)
- [SUNYConnect Information literacy course](#)
- availability of remote access to [SUNYConnect databases for SLN students](#)
- as well as an update on the *SUNYConnect* financial plan.



But, first let me extend my thanks to all of my SUNY colleagues working together via multiple committees to move the *SUNYConnect* initiative forward.

One area of interest to many is the selection of the *SUNYConnect* library software system. On August 9th, representatives from the SUNY Library Automation Migration (SLAM) Evaluation Team, the SUNY Council of Library Directors (SCLD), the *SUNYConnect* Advisory Council and the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS) presented the Team's recommendation for the *SUNYConnect* Library Management System (LMS) to Provost Salins. [Provost Salins](#) accepted the recommendation, but stated that it was necessary to fully inform Executive Vice Chancellor Dunn and other key members of System Administration about the *SUNYConnect* initiative.

During this same time period, the Advanced Learning and Information Services ([ALIS](#)) group, of which OLIS is a part, has been working with the management consulting firm of KPMG to assess ALIS programs and operations. The Provost requested that KPMG consultants review the *SUNYConnect* program plans and the LMS selection process. At this time, the KPMG assessment of ALIS is nearing completion. Preliminary reports indicate that this review by KPMG supports the *SUNYConnect* initiative and the LMS selection process.

We are pleased to announce that *SUNYConnect* LMS contract negotiations with Ex Libris USA, Inc. will commence shortly. Additional information about the

selection of Ex Libris' ALEPH500 system can be found in this issue of SUNYery. We hope to see you at one of the upcoming regional meetings designed to get the word out about this exciting development.

Despite recent reports of SUNY budget problems, the *SUNYConnect* financial plan remains intact. The proposed financial plan for *SUNYConnect* draws revenue from System Administration University-wide accounts, the LAIP set-aside fund, University-wide capital funds, and campus contributions. *SUNYConnect* does not require any new state money to move ahead.

We regret if any of these delays have caused any concerns within the SUNY community. Please be assured, as we have been, that the Provost's Office is intent on moving the *SUNYConnect* initiative forward. Thank you for your efforts, past, present and future, in support of *SUNYConnect*.

Mr. Carey Hatch
Assistant Provost SUNY Office of Library and Information Services



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