

Date: 23 March 2010
Site: New Mexico Department of Transportation Library/Knowledge Center
Staff: Krystyna Cherry, Senior Librarian
Scott McClure, Research Bureau Chief

Site Visit Summary

History & Overview

The New Mexico Department of Transportation Library began as a transportation section in the collection of the New Mexico State Library. In the mid-1990s, the physical collection was slated for elimination and a large portion was taken into private office collections throughout the department. The remainder was weeded further and moved to a rented space belonging to the University of New Mexico. The NMDOT library was reestablished in the early 2000s and began with what remained of the collection being moved to the Research Bureau at the District 3 offices in Albuquerque. The library does not have a dedicated budget and is funded as part of the Research Bureau.

Staff

Krystyna is a solo librarian at the NMDOT. She began her job at in the library as a temporary cataloger in the LTAP bureau in 2001. She has a background in art and textiles with a degree from Oxford University and received her M.A. from the University of Colorado. The Research Bureau staff has been reduced from 12 people to 6 in recent years.

Physical Space

The library is located in the NMDOT District 3 Research Bureau. The collection occupies approximately 600 square feet.

Collection & Services

Approximately 50% of the collection is TRB publications. Krystyna established a duplicate distribution program with the LTAP program and sends a monthly list of available publications to recipients. There is great interest at NMDOT about what other states are doing, what is the latest and greatest technology or practice, but a lot of things in civil engineering don't change so the collection is quite similar in its makeup and subject matter to other state DOT libraries with state reports, AASHTO and TRB reports that mainly reflect Highways as the dominant subject concentration. Additionally, Krystyna has developed a PE exam preparation collection in the past year. NMDOT is an OCLC library, but not yet participating in TLCat. Cataloging is done in-house and by the state library. A copy of completed research is emailed to the government documents department at the state library, where it is cataloged into OCLC. 5 physical copies are sent as state laws require. Krystyna catalogs materials in-house using the Liberty3 system. The collection is cataloged using the Library of Congress classification scheme.

Monographs	Approximately 8,000
Active serial titles	2,000

Krystyna spends a lot of time engaged in literature searches for the Research Bureau. She uses TRIS, RiP, and other databases and the Internet, frequently including Google transportation metasearches to provide her customers with a comprehensive look at what is available in the literature on the desired topic. Interlibrary loan and document delivery as well as some reference are other services provided by the NMDOT library. Krystyna also participates in marketing NMDOT research at in-state conferences to get the word out that NMDOT can provide a great deal of completed research and fill new research needs. The PE exam preparation collection is an

important service added within the last year. She makes an effort to know the engineers and communicate with them regularly to stay current with their research and information needs.

New Mexico DOT's Priorities and Goals for TPF-5(105) and the Next Pooled Fund Study

- NMDOT plans to participate in a future pooled fund study to follow TPF-5(105).
- Cataloging backlog needs to be addressed and NMDOT would take advantage of pooled funds for contract cataloging if available in the future.
- Professional development and travel benefits are extremely valuable benefits for pooled fund members. Krystyna looks for better ways to do things. What is the most efficient, time saving, how to do more with fewer resources? She wants to know what similar sized DOT libraries are doing and networking at meetings and conferences provide these opportunities.
- Best practices exchange for promoting research tools to staff.

More about the New Mexico DOT Library/Knowledge Center:



About NMDOT

<http://nmshtd.state.nm.us/main.asp?secid=15426>

About the NMDOT Research Bureau

<http://www.nmshtd.state.nm.us/main.asp?secid=16486>

NMDOT Research Bureau Services

<http://nmshtd.state.nm.us/main.asp?secid=16306>

NMDOT Library Catalog

<http://slk060.liberty3.net/nmdot/gateway/gateway.exe?application=NMDOT&displayform=frame>

NMDOT Completed Research Reports

<http://nmshtd.state.nm.us/main.asp?secid=14833>

NMDOT Guiding Principles and Organizational Chart

[http://nmshtd.state.nm.us/upload/images/GTG/Q1_2006/Guiding Principles Priorities and org chart.pdf](http://nmshtd.state.nm.us/upload/images/GTG/Q1_2006/Guiding_Principles_Priorities_and_org_chart.pdf)

For more information about the NMDOT Library, please contact:

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