

Speech to the annual meeting of inFIRE

the International Fire Information and Reference Exchange

Developing Internet Outreach Training Program for Illinois Fire Service Personnel,
Public and Community College Librarians

By **Lian Ruan**, Head Librarian, Illinois Fire Service Institute, University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign

Abstract:

The Library found a credible solution to the specific information access need of the Illinois fire service personnel through the LSTA Full Year Grant Project (1/00-9/00). The Library was able to launch an Internet Outreach Training to fire departments, public and community college librarians around Illinois so they could use the Library Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC), Web Site Home Page, e-mail and listserv system and obtain fire safety information. The collaboration and partnership between the FSI Library, the selected fire departments, public and community college libraries facilitated resource sharing and the coordination of information across organizations in a problem-centered and service-oriented manner. The impact of this innovation and training on use of the FSI Library material by the fire service personnel, public and community college libraries was studied and training materials were designed for use beyond the project year.