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*People, Libraries
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

GPLS wins Mellon Award for Technology Collaboration

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has named the Georgia Public Library Service as one of 10 recipients of the second annual Mellon Awards for Technology Collaboration. The \$50,000 grant recognizes GPLS for the development and release of the Evergreen open-source library automation system.

The Mellon Awards honor not-for-profit organizations for leadership in the collaborative development of open-source software tools with particular application to higher education and cultural heritage not-for-profit activities. The awards were presented Dec. 10 by Sir Timothy Berners-Lee, director of the World Wide Web Consortium and inventor of the World Wide Web, at the Fall Task Force meeting of the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI) in Washington, D.C.

Accepting the award on behalf of GPLS were Dr. Lamar Veatch, state librarian; David Singleton, deputy state librarian; Julie Walker, assistant state librarian for support services and strategic initiatives; Elizabeth McKinney de Garcia, PINES program director; and Brad LaJeunesse, consultant and leader of the Evergreen software development team.

"Evergreen is a most significant milestone in the life of Georgia's public libraries," said Veatch, "and the



From left: LaJeunesse, Singleton, Veatch, Berners-Lee, Garcia and Walker (Photo courtesy Andrew W. Mellon Foundation)

Mellon Foundation's award today is high recognition, indeed, for all those involved in its development. A cooperative library system like PINES is a miracle of public library collaboration and the realization of a true statewide library card. The Evergreen software that now powers PINES is yet another aspect of this shared vision for a sustained, self-directed, library management system. It is one that permits PINES to develop and grow its services in ways that best meet the needs of the libraries and the publics they serve. We are honored and grateful to the Mellon Foundation for recognizing the potential of Evergreen with this award."

After an international public nomination process, the recipients of

this year's awards were selected by the MATC Award Committee, which included Berners-Lee; Mitchell Baker, CEO of Mozilla Corp.; John Seely Brown, former chief scientist for Xerox Corp.; Vinton G. Cerf, vice president and chief Internet evangelist of Google Inc.; John Gage, chief researcher and director of the Science Office of Sun Microsystems Inc.; and Tim O'Reilly, founder and CEO, O'Reilly Media.

The Mellon Foundation is a not-for-profit philanthropic organization with offices in New York City and Princeton, N.J. For more information on this year's awardees, prizes, and projects for which they were recognized, visit the CNI Web site at www.cni.org. ►►