

ST-3

MPLA Board Report March 2012

Submitted by Daniel Ireton

KLAEF Scholarships

The Kansas Library Association Educational Fund granted three scholarships for continuing education, totaling \$400.00

Research Modules

K-State Libraries' Joelle Pitts, in cooperation with the Council of Deans and Directors of Libraries (CODDL) and our own Dean Lori Goetsch has begun an initiative to create a series of online learning modules which would be co-created and shared among Kansas Regents Universities. These modules, modeled after the Khan Academy, would supplement library instruction and allow librarians to focus on more in-depth questions when teaching in person. This initiative, if successful, would have implications for information literacy beyond Kansas and indeed beyond academe to libraries and library patrons nationwide – certainly partnerships already built through organizations like MPLA and GWLA would find mutual benefit. While in its infancy, this is a very exciting development and I will be certain to keep our member states abreast of developments

Legislative action

Recent Kansas Legislative Action on Kan-Ed – specifically related to expanding broadband access to rural communities and bridging the digital divide that exists in western Kansas – has unfortunately undergone further cuts to funding.

Legislation which would remove the ban on concealed carry firearms in libraries and other public buildings in Kansas has passed in the House and is under review in the Senate.