

## ST-5

MPLA Board Report July 2011

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The Nebraska Library Commission has taken a significant budget cut for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The “Dollars for Data” program, the regional library systems, Interlibrary Loan compensation payments, continuing education programs, and the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute will see reduced funding. The Nebraska Library Association (NLA) has committed an annual \$2,000.00 base donation to future library leadership institutes in Nebraska.

The *NLAQ Quarterly* is being reborn as an online, peer-reviewed journal. NLA has received 4 applications for editor. Interviews will be conducted soon.

NLA has created an ad hoc committee on committees to review the current organizational structure. A Communications Committee would replace the Publications and Publicity committees. The Scholarship and Citation committees would be combined into the Scholarship & Awards Committee. The Membership Committee would be dissolved as the Executive Director and the Internet Site Coordinator have absorbed their duties. A proposal is on the table to revamp the Diversity and Intellectual Freedom committees as round tables.

Robin Brooks Clark, Sherry Crow, John Dale, Betty Meyer, and Rod Wagner represented Nebraska at ALA’s Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The Nebraska Library Association was recognized as a contributor to the National Library Legislative Day. Sessions included the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress landscape, Congress’ appropriations committee, and telecom copyright and privacy issues.

Dr. Joan R. Giesecke, Dean of Libraries at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UNL) received the Equality Award from the American Library Association at its annual conference in New Orleans in June. The annual award, given to an individual or group for outstanding contributions in promoting equality in the library profession, consists of \$1,000.00 and a framed citation of achievement donated by Scarecrow Press. Letters supporting her nomination cited that Dr. Giesecke’s vision, leadership, energy, research, presentations, and mentoring have increased gender and racial diversity among librarians at UNL and in the librarian profession.

The newly expanded and renovated Scottsbluff Public Library was dedicated on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The Lied Scottsbluff Public Library is being proudly touted as “the community’s living room”.