

State Librarian's Report

April 6, 2005 to May 27, 2005

Agency Goals

MSL Goal 1: MSL employees have pleasant, efficient, and sufficient office and work areas.

Worked with Management staff to make final decisions on the office placements.

Worked with Doug Olson, Department of Administration and contractor on carpeting choices and trying to identify timelines for conference room availability.

Walk through daily when in office to check on noise levels and other disruptions by/for staff, safety concerns, etc.

MSL Goal 2: Users have reliable and easy access to MSL's electronic services.

MSL Goal 3: MSL employees are fully committed to fulfilling the agency's mission.

Provided more limited but appropriate updates to the State Library staff via stand up or "virtual" stand up meetings.

Continue to work with State Library management, Jim Kerins from Communications and Management Services, and Department of Administration to move forward on the alternative pay plan proposal. Really close to completion on the work on all the position descriptions identified early on as needing work before transferring to new pay plan. Additional position descriptions will need work after the transfer. We have one position description still not clearly identified at a broadband level. All position descriptions and paperwork were filed with Department of Administration and we are ready to go as soon as they give their official okay and as soon as we resolve the one band level issue.

Some work on vision/mission statement accomplished.

MSL Goal 4: All of MSL essential services are funded through state funds.

Followed House Bill 2 through the completion of the legislature. State Library received Governor's recommended budget, which included the return of some interlibrary loan reimbursement monies, some federation monies and a position taken from library development department. Additionally due mostly in part for work by Representative Monica Lindeen's HB482, the percentage of coal severance tax monies allotted to the shared account was increase, resulting in additional monies for the federations. The Federation funds were return to within \$20,000 of their original funding before the cuts of the previous couple of sessions. Made initial contacts with Nora Smith and Cindy Carrywater, new Commissioners appointed by Governor Schweitzer to fulfill Al and Gail's soon to be open seats.

Attended a Chief Officer of State Library Agencies (COSLA) meeting in Washington DC, agenda included but not limited to numerous updates on federal legislation including Institute of Museum and Library Services, National library Service, Gates Foundation, Public Library Association's smartest card campaign.

Received an EggTymer from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) in appreciation of the role of the COSLA librarians particularly in the area of the Health Awards.

Lois Fitzpatrick, Montana Library Association Government Affairs Committee Chair and I met with Amy Astin from Representative Rehberg's office, Simon Chabel from Senator Baucus's office and Melanie Gaint from Senator Burns' office to discuss federal legislation regarding topics such as appropriations, copyright, access to government information, privacy (patriot act) and telecommunications e-rate.

MSL Goal 5: MSL provides clearinghouse for all geo-spatial data.

Montana Talking Books Library (MTBL)

TBL Goal 4: Increase productivity and satisfaction of staff members and volunteers.

Met with Christie and MTBL staff as appropriate to follow up on issues, answer questions, and/or provide guidance.

Welcomed and thanked the Montana Telephone Pioneers for their many hours/years of service to Montana's Talking Book library and patrons at a reception held in their honor at Jorgenson's.

Library Development Department

LDD Goal 1: To improve library services to citizens by establishing an adequate and stable taxing district.

Met weekly with Director of Library Development to follow up on issues, answer questions, and/or provide guidance, as well as continue to try to transition tasks from my former position.

Consulted on state aid, local library board bylaws, public library director evaluations and selection procedures, federation plan of service development, and other public library funding issues with local trustees and public library directors.

LDD Goal 2: To ensure that all Montana citizens have access to quality library services.

Reviewed two collection management policies for approval.

Met with Communications and Marketing Coordinator regarding statewide senior marketing program.

Welcomed and participated with Governor Schweitzer in book readings with the state daycare kids in celebration of National Library Week.

Participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Bozeman Public Library.

LDD Goal 3: Montana citizens will understand, value, and use the services of Montana's libraries.

Prepared materials and made presentations at South Central Federation meeting in Harlowton, prepared materials for Golden Plains Federation meeting that was scheduled for during Montana Library Conference but did not happen at that time. Materials were distributed.

Visited with Commissioner Randall, libraries and librarians in Townsend, White Sulphur Springs, Harlowton, Roundup, Billings, Columbus, Joliet, Red Lodge, Hardin, Laurel, Big Timber, Lewistown, Moore, Denton, Stanford, Belt and Great Falls.

Welcomed and thanked trustees participating in the Library board education project training session.

Welcomed and thanked participants in the Cooperative Reference meeting.

Participated in a number of meetings and informational sessions at the Montana Library Association meetings in Billings.

Montana State digital Library (MSdL) which includes Library and Information Services (LIS) and Natural Resources Information System (NRIS) and the Natural Heritage Program (NHP)

LISD Goal 1: State employees have the information that they need to make good public policy recommendations and decisions.

Reviewed policies and procedures with LIS Supervisor.

NRIS Goal 2: A broad range of user groups can easily locate data in effective formats. Users find that this information is augmented with related datasets to increase their value. Potential NRIS users are well informed of information available through the clearinghouse and trained in the use of NRIS tools. Staff assistance is available when needed to assist users in locating and utilizing data.

Met with management regarding the possible future changes for governance of the Natural Heritage Program.