

State Librarian's Report
Prepared for April 6, Commission Meeting
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A few brief but critical updates from my desk:

Legislative update:

House Bill 2, appropriations/budget bill for all agencies is moving on to Senate Finance and Claims committee as I write this. House Bill 2 passed out of the full House with the 5% reductions as previously presented to you.

House Bill 316 (Coal Tax Shared account reduction potential) is still in House Appropriations, recommendations of amendments from Long Range Plan Committee was to restore the funding for the Coal Tax Shared account. Amendment has not been accepted yet but is good news for us if the amendment is accepted.

Bob Cooper, Director of Statewide Library Resources has announced his retirement after many great years of service in Montana's Library Community. His last working day at the State Library will be March 31st. The position opening will be posted by end of week March 18th.

I am participating on the screening/interviewing team for the University of Montana's hiring team for the Director of the Montana Natural Heritage Program. We are doing six phone interviews this week and hope to move to on-site interviews for some of the candidates in April.

MSL's full Spring 2011 update report can be found at:

http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/MSLReport.pdf

Long Range Plan evaluation and strategic planning wiki site is available at: <http://montanastatelibrary.pbworks.com>. Please share your thoughts on our accomplishments and yet to be accomplished activities.