

CO-4

MPLA Communications Committee Report

October 20, 2010

Submitted by Kathryn Plunkett

Elvita Landau contacted me on August 20 about serving as Chair of the committee until April 2011.

I contacted the members via email on August 23 and followed up with phone calls to the ones I had not heard from.

This was just as the fall semester was starting and the busiest time of year for many on the committee but I was able to communicate by email and Google Groups with several members.

I found out on September 22 that Karen Pardue is no longer an MPLA member.

On October 1, I submitted a program proposal for the MLA/MPLA Annual Conference in April. The program is a panel discussion moderated by Alan Aldrich with four panelists, Nicole Sump-Crethar, David Alexander, Dan Chaney, and Roy Degler. Alan not only came up with the format he also wrote the description which is:

"If new technologies are the forest, then where are the trees? Navigating among new technologies doesn't have to be difficult. Four technologically savvy librarians share new technologies their libraries are using and ways these technologies can add value for your library and your patrons."

We should know by November 1 whether or not the panel discussion program was accepted.

I am also collaborating with Louis Howley on a proposal for an entry on Communication Do's and Don'ts for Middle Managers which, if accepted, will be included in the latest edition of ALA's Librarians Handbook series.

Although Jeanne Narum has opted not to attend the conference in Billings, next April, so her colleagues may attend, she is very interested in helping the committee find ways to promote the MPLA and our mission of helping MPLA members communicate better.

During the past few months we have been busy getting to know each other and planning collaborations as a way to promote the MPLA and the importance of communication.