

CO-5

Leadership Institute Committee  
Report to MPLA Board  
Jan. 24, 2004

Thirty participants and six mentors - plus Maureen Sullivan and Mary Bushing - attended the second successful Leadership Institute @ Ghost Ranch. Evaluations overall were extremely high in 2003, with minor suggestions for improvements. Mary Bushing has done an exceptional job as Coordinator.

The Leadership Committee met by conference call on Jan. 21, 2004.

The committee is focusing its attention on this year's institute, and future years. The dates for 2004 should be set this week; it will probably be very late November. Application forms will be available on the MPLA website Feb. 1 - Apr. 30. State decisions should be completed in June, with notification of those selected going out in July.

The committee agreed to utilize 5 mentors this year. Mary Bushing will make initial contacts with those under consideration.

We also agreed that a statement will be added to the application form and selection process that:

"preference in selection of at-large candidates will be given to MPLA members. The at-large slots are those available once each state has chosen up to 2 candidates to attend."

Patti Butcher, chair, had spoken with Stan Terry of Ebsco to thank them for their support of the institute, and to gauge their support for future years. Based on their conversation, the group agreed to pursue additional corporate sponsors, and to not rely solely on Ebsco.

Other issues resolved include continuing the requirement of an MLS for attendance at Ghost Ranch. The committee plans to develop additional leadership offerings to meet the needs of other MPLA members: examples being considered are an "MPLA Fellows" program targeting mid-career librarians, and regional leadership workshops targeting non-MLS librarians. The possibility of obtaining an IMLS leadership grant was discussed, and will be pursued.

The committee will meet again later this spring to discuss issues related to the 2004 institute. We welcome your suggestions as we develop new opportunities for MPLA members!

Respectfully submitted,  
Patti Butcher, chair  
1-21-04