

MPLA Continuing Education Committee Report 7/2005

Pre-Conference Grants:

The Committee has approved Extending Children's Literature with Props, Crafts, and Activities, a half-day workshop, will be held October 5, 2005 in Pierre, SD, sponsored by the South Dakota Library Association. Grant approved for \$500.

- The Committee has received the following pre-conference evaluative reports and disbursement of funds is authorized:
 - Oklahoma – 2004
 - Montana – 2005
- Kansas – 2005 evaluative report has been received as of 19 July 2005.

CE Clearinghouse:

On March 22, 2005, the Continuing Education Clearinghouse went live thanks to the fine work of our Webmaster. Available at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/ce/index.html> this page is designed to provide MPLA members with a manageable listing of resources for Continuing Education in the MPLA Region. The anticipated next step (Long Range Plan Goal I Objective B.3) of constantly updating the page has been discussed with the Webmaster, who is willing and able to work with the appointed coordinator as per Long Range Goal I Objective B. 1. The Chair does not feel comfortable designating a committee member responsible, and similarly, no committee member has jumped at volunteering for this responsibility. Even with cooperation from all State Representatives, the anticipated time and effort required to maintain a dynamic list of continuing education opportunities within the MPLA region (and beyond) seems daunting. The Chair has received additional web sites suggested for inclusion by MPLA members, and will work with the Webmaster to make these available on the Clearinghouse page, and to investigate others ways of keeping the clearinghouse resources up-to-date.

Ask a Career Question:

The Chair has discussed Long Range Goal I. Objective E. 7. with the Webmaster and will follow-up the “Ask a Career Question” proposal with other members of the MPLA leadership. There are concerns about our ability to make this process “automatic”. Web forms are problematic in themselves, and once submitted, the content would have to be forwarded to MPLA-L by someone (Joe?). There would probably need to be someone making sure that questions were answered in a timely manner. The Chair would appreciate any guidance from the Board on this issue.

Newsletter Article:

The Chair submitted a newsletter article highlighting recent MPLA Continuing Education Pre-Conference Grants. Initially the Chair had wanted to include links to the completed Evaluative Reports, but the good counsel of Board members regarding privacy/propriety concerns prevailed, and the report will consist of program title and abstract, sponsoring state association, number of attendees, and amount approved by Continuing Education Committee.

Continuing Education MOP:

The Chair had considerable discussion with the MPLA Executive Secretary, Past President, and President regarding interpretation of the CE MOP and Pre-conference grant funding and disbursement. Funding amount will be set in the Spring, corresponding to Pre-conferences to be held in the Fall and the following Spring. The Chair has forwarded a rewrite of the entire CE MOP to the Bylaws and Procedures Committee for review. Prior action items from the Continuing Education Committee requested in October 2004 and March 2005, have been tabled and are still pending Board review.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Stanton