

MPLA LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE OUTCOMES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
Dorothy M. Liegl

The Special Committee appointed to consider the MPLA Leadership Outcomes/Learning Objectives included: Al Peterson (ND), Susan Moyer, Michael Mullen (SD) and Dorothy Liegl, chair. The committee communicated primarily by email and considered information received from several states, prior experience as a participant or mentor in several state, MPLA, and other leadership events such as Snowbird.

The consensus of the committee was that:

1. The primary focus should be on building leadership skills. -- this is a group of skills that will provide the attendees to test and adopt the tools best suited to their personality and to the situation at hand -- in effect, it would be a Tool Box rather than just one tool.
2. Leaders can lead from the middle as well as from the front so the emphasis needs to be broader than just finding and encouraging folks who will be the future president of the state association or a future library director. Some may be department heads or take a leadership role on campus committees rather than work toward becoming the director.
3. People who assume leadership roles within their library are more likely to accept leadership roles within the state association and those who are leaders within the state association are those most likely to become leaders within MPLA (or move on to ALA).