

ST-5

MPLA Nebraska report
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2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE: The theme this year is "Libraries: Bridges to Information". The conference is Oct 29-30 at the brand new LaVista Conference Center, with pre-conferences being held the day before

2012 Joint Conference: Motion carried by NLA to extend an invitation to MPLA to join our 2012 conference in Omaha.

Toni Anaya, NLA Diversity Committee Chair, then presented to the board a combined NLA/NEMA/MPLA/ARL conference proposal for 2012. Toni Anaya, Pam Bohmfalk, and I will coordinate getting information to MPLA about ARL. Basically, ARL promotes the conference and seeks presenters. They do not share in the profits. Below is more information. I will attend a NLA Board meeting on March 27th and more information will be available. For now:

Advantages to the invitation:

- Increased focus on employment opportunities in Nebraska to ARL members
- Increased attendance to the conference
- Opportunity to invite outside presenters (Potential presenters submit program proposals in the same manner as MPLA and NLA members.)
- Increased dialogue on diversity issues. ARL has Diversity in Libraries Conference every two years: in 2010 it will be at Princeton, so the next one is 2012. Upon acceptance by ARL, we would have to focus this joint conference on diversity issues.
- Nebraska is located in the heart of America and is easily accessible from several major cities for ARL members to come.

Possible roadblocks:

- JCLC, Joint Conference For libraries of Color, is being held KC in Sept. 2012 and ARL may put their resources towards that conference and may not be interested in our joint MPLA, NLA, NEMA conference.
- But Kansas City may be a more attractive venue
- ARL members may submit to JCLC rather than Diversity in Libraries if held jointly with us (?).

OTHER: The registration for JCLC is around \$400, so our registration fee to attend is more attractive.

For more information about ARL: <http://www.arl.org/index.shtml>

For more information about NEMA: <http://schoollibrariesrock.org/>

A Request for Funds form is now complete. Before NLA gives money to a cause it will need to approve the request. Questions asked on the form include:

- What will funding cover?
- Is any other Group Contributing to the Project? _____ (if yes, how much or what percentage)
- How will this Project/Event enhance the Mission of NLA

A new job description for the executive director was approved. The position was then posted online. Kathy Thomsen continued through February. In conjunction with the new job description the Conference Handbook was updated. It includes a link to the MPLA Conference Handbook.

Lobbyist, Ken Winston, reported that no bills have come across the legislature yet concerning library issues. There may again be a bill for second-class cities to change the authority from administrative to advisory library boards. One City clerk is annoyed about it and continues to press; but the original senator does not have plans to submit it again.

The line item for the President was increased to \$1500 to allow them to attend a conference such as ALA.

An invite was sent to in-coming President Eileen Wright to attend the fall NLA/NEMA conference.

ITART, Information Technology and Access Roundtable, has a great web page:
<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/ITART/> please take a look.

NLA is now posting meeting agendas and reports online, following MPLA's example.

Spring Meetings:

- College and University: May 15 Sara Martin Keynote "Librarians as Transformers"
- Para-professional: March 18
- Public Library and Tufts: Lexington, Wahoo, Bridgeport, @ early May
- New Members Round Table: March 12
- TSRT: March 20th Unconference, Manhattan KS,