

President's Annual Report, 2007-2008

Elections at the April 2007 general meeting created the 2007-2008 Board consisting of: President Kathleen Knoth (UNM-T), Vice-president/President elect Ruben Aragón (NMHU), Secretary Dennis Davies-Wilson (UNM-LA), Treasurer Molly Morris (NMSU-Dona Ana), Two-year representative Esther Shir (UNM-V), and Four-year representative Isabel Rodarte (NNMC).

This year we focused on funding issues for academic libraries across the state. A good deal of time and energy was spent on researching funding formulas and other options, beginning to market the benefits of having an academic librarians consortium, and beginning a dialogue with various councils, organizations, and committees. NMCAL needs to have a presence.

As president, I worked very closely with the NMCAL Legislative Committee. The committee consisted of: Ruben Aragón (NMHU), Holly Buchanan (HSLIC), Isabel Rodarte (NNMC), Ben Wakashige (NAU), Sharon Jenkins (NMJC), and Martha Bedard (UNM).

Between the president and the committee members, meetings were held with Senator Campos (June 6, 2007), New Mexico Association of Community Colleges (June 8, 2007), Council of University Presidents (August 18, 2007), Legislative Education Study Committee (September 13, 2007), Dr. Kurt Steinhaus, Governor's Education Policy Advisor (October 9, 2007), Dr. Reed Dasenbrock, Secretary of Higher Education (October 29, 2007), New Mexico Independent Community Colleges (November 8, 2007), and Linda Kehoe, Principal Analyst, New Mexico Legislature (November 20, 2007).

The summer retreat was held at New Mexico Tech in Socorro on August 3-4, 2007. A goal of this president is to update a document on the website entitled, "NMCAL Accomplishments 1988-1996". The research I did on NMCAL activities from 1996-2006 was distributed for review.

The members voted to fund the production of a NMCAL marketing brochure that the Legislative Committee developed (see "NMCAL Funding Priorities 2008-2010" at <http://lib.nmsu.edu/nmcgal/publications.html>).

The theme of the retreat was addressing the various ways of funding academic libraries. Presenters included: Joe Sabatini and Ben Wakashige on GO Bonds, Dr. Elizabeth Titus presented her paper entitled "New Mexico Academic Libraries and New Mexico Library Funding Formula: A Chronology", and Patricia Brkich, development officer, spoke to library fundraising. Dr. Susan Oberlander, the new State Librarian, was introduced as she was one of the founding members of NMCAL when she was the library director at Northern New Mexico Community College (1978-1992).

The New Mexico State Library's contract with OCLC to fund WorldCat statewide was ended unexpectedly in December 2007. Because of this Ron Glass, OCLC representative, was invited to the January business meeting the evening before Library Legislative Day. A lot of information regarding WorldCat and its various formats and pricing was conveyed.

Myself and vice-president Ruben Aragón represented academic libraries in the Senate and the House of Representatives at the opening of Library Legislative Day on

January 24, 2008. Each State Senator and Representative were given packets of NMCAL information and a thank you chocolate bar.

After a lot of energy was spent working with NMLA, legislators, and college and university officials it was decided we would ask for a \$40 million GO Bond for 2008. In the end, a \$9 million GO Bond was approved by the Legislature for the November ballot with a third of that amount to be distributed to academic libraries, and 4.21% for an inflationary increase for acquisitions in the State budget was approved by the Legislature.

At the final meeting for this board on April 10, 2008, three librarians were awarded NMCAL travel scholarships to present at the NMLA conference and the Distance Education Task Force was re-established as a standing committee. Afterwards the gavel was handed over to Ruben Aragón, incoming president.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Knoth, UNM-Taos Library Director