

NDLA Board Report
From
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I attended an MPLA Board Meeting in Denver on March 5th, 2005.

WLA MPLA Conference - October 12 – 15th, 2005 in Jackson Hole at the Snow King Resort. The theme is *Beyond Borders... Inspiration, Innovation, Imagination*. One big name speaker they have lined up is Stephen Abrams, the president of the Canadian Library Association. He is also a VP of Innovation at Sirsi Corp. SLA has recognized him as one of the “Best of the Information Profession.” He will speak about *Google Inc. and Libraries: our common future*.

The Conference planners have received plenty of program suggestions so it should be a good conference.

Web casting of the WLA/MPLA Joint Conference will occur. Teton County Library received a grant to do this. There will be links on the Associations web pages. Oklahoma State U. will host the server. The web cast will be available for 30 days. The WLA Program Council thoroughly discussed the potential ramifications of web casting the conference I have their minutes if NDLA should consider doing this in the future.

There will also be a pre-conference fieldtrip to Yellowstone Park. Leaving Jackson Hole Tues. morning and coming back on Wed. in time for the MPLA Board mtg. There will be a geologist on the bus.

Room rates are \$85 for single or double, more \$\$ for more people.

Early bird Registration is \$80. This includes 2 breakfasts.

Exhibitors are paying \$500 for the first table, \$450 for the next. Electricity for 3 days is \$75.00, internet access is \$300 for 3 days, wireless is free but it doesn't work very well. Airfare is expensive. On NorthWest the tickets range from \$500 - \$600. Is there any interest in organizing a van or bus to the Conference?

Membership

The Board would like to see an ad in every state association's newsletter to recruit members to MPLA. It should be in every issue if possible.

MPLA Leadership Institute – Ghost Ranch, New Mexico

The institute will be on October 23rd - 28th, 2005. There are new guidelines this year. “More than 5 years experience and less than 20” opens it up to mid career librarians. Someone suggested next year it should be for those with more than 20 years experience – a refresher for those feeling burnt out.

Registration is \$450 for MPLA members and \$550 for non-members. I will post the announcement on the listserv.

MPLA will be sporting a new web page fairly soon, though no new date was given. All Board reports and minutes are on it as well as conference information and other important links. There is a link to the Snow King Resort on it now. Dan Chaney has put all the job lines from MPLA states that he can find on the homepage. ND doesn't have one. Should we be thinking about starting one?

The nominating committee is looking for qualified candidates for president elect and secretary of the organization. If anyone has anyone they think should be forwarded to the committee let me know.

The Reorganization Committee has been meeting and will have recommendations ready for the Board meeting in July. Some of the issues they are looking at is the size of the executive board, committee chairs perform most of the work shouldn't they be able to vote, sections plan conference programs and meetings why be on the Board, maybe there should be a Program council instead, benefits and challenges of virtual meetings, do we have the right committees.... The committee will develop a "White Paper" of ideas and seek feedback.

The next meeting will be July 23, 2005 in Denver at the Executive Towers Inn.

Questions to the Board

There was discussion at the meeting on whether the job ads Joe Edelin puts on the listserv were appropriate or should they just be on the web site. What does this Board think?

Should I be forwarding to the NDLA listserv Don Wood's IFA news items from that listserv which goes to Jim Heckel who posts them to the MPLA list?