

ND SLAYS
School Libraries and Youth Services
Kathy Berg, Horizon Middle School Librarian
May 30, 2008
Lucky #13

- **Nominated the following SLAYS members for NDLA Executive Board:**
 - **SLAYS Chair Elect** - Beth Graff - Beth graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead. She was a K-12 Librarian in Carson, ND for 2 years and a cataloger at the State Historical Society Library for 4 ½ years. Beth also worked in Mandan in 1991 as an Elementary Librarian for 4 years, then she moved to the Jr. High and has been there ever since. She is currently enrolled in the VCSU M.Ed. Concentration in Library and Information Technologies program.
 - **SLAYS Secretary** - Lesley Gunderson - Lesley graduated from Mayville State University in Mayville ND, twice. First obtaining a BA in early childhood, she returned several years later to complete a BS in elementary education with a minor in library science. She has always worked in education; from summer jobs in migrant schools to kindergarten enrichment with the YMCA, from day care centers to teaching adults in continuing education programs. This is her first year in the Bismarck public schools as an elementary librarian, having moved from Kansas City where she was an elementary librarian for two years prior. Being a life long learner, Lesley is currently enrolled in the VCSU M.Ed. program with a concentration in Library and Information Technologies.
- **Completed and sent in the AASL Application and required policies, bylaws, etc., for AASL re-affiliation** to Jennifer Habley, Program Coordinator, Affiliate Assembly Liaison American Association of School Librarians.
- **Submitted AASL Region IX Report, highlighting the following:**
 - Activities - The ND Governor's Commission on Education Improvement reached an agreement on funding equity for school during its 2007 legislative session. The commission is now studying the issue of adequate funding for K-12 education. The 'Picus' Report released in March recommends that LMSs be included in the basic instructional expenditures for adequate schools;
 - Issues - we are facing are similar issues in libraries across the nation. Some of those are limited budgets, censorship issues, staffing cuts, technology trends and keeping up with them, i.e., iPods, blogs, wikis; and
 - Accomplishments – The new Master of Education program at Valley City State University that has been designed for teachers at either primary or secondary level, now offers a concentration in Library and Information Technologies, which meet both the AASL/NCATE (American Association of School Librarians/ National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) School Library Media Specialist Preparation Standards and the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction standards for the

preparation of library media specialists at the highest credential level-LM01;

- Accomplishments - the ND Department of Public Education now requires that Library Media Specialists take two semester hours of library-approved credits from Valley City State University as part of the renewal process for the ND professional educator's license.
- **Kirsten Baesler, Konnie Wightman, Bonnie Kettleon, and Kathy Berg submitted the following two ND considerations for commendation to the AASL Director-Elect:**
 - The new Master of Education program at Valley City State University that has been designed for teachers at either primary or secondary level, now offers a concentration in Library and Information Technologies. This new program will meet both the AASL/NCATE (American Association of School Librarians/ National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) School Library Media Specialist Preparation Standards and the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction standards for the preparation of library media specialists at the highest credential level-LM01.
 - The ND Department of Public Education and the Educational Standards and Practices Board of ND, require that all teachers obtain four credit hours in education every five years for recertification. As of 2007-08 school year, The ND Department of Public Education now requires that Library Media Specialists take two semester hours (of the four) of library-approved credits from Valley City State University as part of the renewal process for the ND professional educator's license.
(These commendations will be discussed via email with the AASL Director-Elect before the ALA conference in Anaheim this summer. Then, designated representatives from each state affiliate will meet at the ALA annual conference in Anaheim to discuss each state's concerns and considerations for commendation.)
- **Sent out email reminders to the ND library list serves, once again asking for nominations for the following awards:**
 - School Library Administrator of the Year; and
 - Youth Excellence Program of the Year. As of May 23rd, 2008, we have received one nomination for the Youth Excellence Program of the Year award. Click on the link for details: <http://www.ndla.info/awards.htm>
- Planned the following conference sessions:
 - Conference Book Club - "A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future" by Daniel Pink. (Kirsten Baesler, Kathy Berg, Konnie Wightman?)
 - Blogging for School Librarians (Kathy Berg, Robin Kress?)

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Berg

SLAYS Chairperson