

ALA Councilor Report – 6  
Quarterly Report – May 2009  
By Shelby E. Harken, ALA North Dakota Chapter Councilor

I sent out several items of interest on the NDLA listserv. I also posted a number of messages regarding stimulus money on the new ALA Councilor blog.

**Date:** 3/11/2009

**Subject:** Omnibus budget passes - Library dollars

From the ALA Washington Office:

The Senate finished debate last night on the FY 2009 omnibus bill. The President is expected to sign the bill before the Continuing Resolution runs out at midnight.

Some highlights:

- LSTA total is \$215 plus administration for IMLS. This includes the long fought for \$171.5 million for the State Grant.
- Improving Literacy Through School Libraries is \$19.145 million.
- GPO got \$141 million.
- Superintendent of Documents-\$38,744,000
- Congressional Printing and Binding-\$96,828,000
- Revolving Fund-\$4,995,000
- The Library of Congress total was \$607 million which includes enough money to complete the Talking Books transition.

**Date:** 3/12/2009

**Subject:** ARRA Stimulus notes

I listened to a phone conference call and posted notes to the listserv.

Please see: <http://www.ala.org/knowyourstimulus>

Bill Summary

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT BILL OF 2009 (ARRA)

Energy & Commerce Provisions on Health Care, Broadband, and Energy

[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/woissues/washfunding/fedfund/State-by-State\\_TtI.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/woissues/washfunding/fedfund/State-by-State_TtI.pdf)

Oversight:

**State Oversight of Federal Stimulus Funds**

At least 44 states and the Virgin Islands have created or proposed ways to track, provide oversight and provide information relating to federal stimulus funds. Governors have created new entities, state agencies are documenting projects, and legislatures are forming commissions or committees to oversee the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

See: <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/fiscal/stimulusoversight.htm>

North Dakota

Lawmakers on the appropriation committees in the legislature have been meeting to discuss plans with the state's ARRA funds. Gov. Hoeven has started <http://nd.gov/recovery/> to track the state's use of stimulus funds.

**Date:** 3/17/2009

**Subject:** ALA elections

I reminded members of the electronic ballot for ALA elections

**Date:** 4/27/09

13,125 voted -- of 56,069 eligible, or 23.41%

That includes the following:

Persons notified by email -- 12,610 of 48,493 notified (26%)

Persons notified by letter -- 500 of 7,553 notified (6.62%)

Paper ballots -- 15 of 23 sent (65.22%)

This compares to the following final count from spring 2008:

17,089 voted -- of 59,141 eligible, or 28.90%

Web ballots -- 15,655 of 48,140 eligible (32.52%)

Paper ballots -- 1,434 of 11,001 (13.04%)

I set posted a number of messages mostly regarding federal stimulus funds.

**Date:** 3/18/2009 9:44 AM

**Subject:** NDLA blogs - ALA Councilor blog up

I started adding to the blog for the ALA Councilor.

The direct link is: <http://ndlaonline.org/alablog/>

It can be found from the main NDLA Weg page <http://www.ndla.info/> under Blogs

**Date:** 4/8/2009 8:16 PM

**Subject:** Stimulus information on blog

Some of you might be interested in information from ALA I have posted on the ALA Councilor's Blog found on NDLA's web site.

<http://ndlaonline.org/alablog/>

ALA signed on the following letter asking a judge to assert vigorous oversight of the proposed Google book search settlement.

**Date:** 5/4/2009

**Subject:** Google book search settlement

The American Library Association (ALA), the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) today filed comments with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York for the judge to consider in his ruling on the proposed Google Book Search Settlement. The associations asked the judge to exercise vigorous oversight of the interpretation and implementation of the settlement to ensure the broadest possible benefit from the services the settlement enables.

<http://wo.ala.org/gbs/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/googlebrieffinal.pdf>

Letter From Emily Sheketoff of the ALA Washington Office