

MPLA Professional Development Committee Report—July 2012

Members of the committee are actively preparing for the upcoming joint conference. Three members (Holly Rick, Cindy Osborne and Anna Vaillancourt) will present a program entitled “DeMystifying Job Postings: Find the Right Job and Ace the Interview”. Cindy will also present a program entitled “Food, Shelter and Libraries” and Robin Clark will present a program entitled “The Collection Revolution”. The committee will also offer a resume review service during the conference. Members of ALA’s NMRT from Nebraska will assist with the effort.

The committee met to evaluate proposals and approved reports on June 20. A proposal from the North Dakota Library Association for a preconference program entitled “Turning the Page 2.0” was approved. Turning the Page 2.0 is a free public library advocacy training course developed and presented by PLA with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Although geared toward public libraries, the committee felt it will be applicable to all types of libraries. The course will kick-off at the conference, as a pre-conference program, and then continue as a 6-week online course. Three facilitators will be onsite for the kick-off, including Eve Poole, Director of Libraries for Denton Public Library in Denton, TX.

Evaluative reports were approved for mini grants received by Nita Gill to attend PLA 2012 and Shereen Rasor to attend Oklahoma Library Association meeting.

An evaluative report from ULA about a preconference program was tabled pending more information about outcomes of the program. The report was approved by email vote on July 10. The committee will work to clarify expectations for reports for future grant awardees.

Our next committee meeting is August 15, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Phillips, University of Wyoming