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Kansas Library Association
Mountain Plains Library Association Report, October 2004
Submitted by Susan Moyer, KLA Representative to MPLA

Kansas Library Association President Patti Butcher has appointed a task force to update and revise the Intellectual Freedom Handbook and KLA Website. The task force has been charged with creating an updated and revised handbook, and recommending the content for a comprehensive intellectual freedom website for KLA and its members. Task force members include Cindi Hickey, coordinator of the Institute for Continuous Education, Kathleen O'Leary, Olathe Public, Laura Loveless, KCK Public-West Wyandotte, Rod Inman, Topeka & Shawnee County Public, Susan Taylor, McPherson College, Carol Barta, Northwest Kansas Library System, and Anne Liebst, Washburn University and KLA Webmaster.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius has appointed Marc Galbraith as Acting Kansas State Librarian effective August 1. Galbraith has worked at the State Library for more than thirty years and currently serves as the Director of Research and Information Services. His appointment will continue until a new State Librarian is chosen.

As of August 16, Lori A. Goetsch is the new Dean of Libraries at Kansas State University. She replaced Brice Hobrock who had held the position since 1982. Goetsch' previous experience includes director of the public services division at the University of Maryland's library, head of reference services at the University of Tennessee, head of information/reference at Michigan State University, and Assistant Reference Librarian at the University of Illinois. She is a member of the American Library Association and serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of College and Research Libraries. She earned her MLS from Rosary College (now Dominican University) in River Forest, IL as well as a master's and bachelor's degree in English, from Illinois State University.

Four Kansas Libraries made the Top 10 list in their population categories in the 2004 Hennen American Public Library Ratings (HAPLR). They include the Johnson County Public Library (#2 in 250K-500K category), Elkhart/Morton County Library (#10 in 2.5K-5K category), Seneca Free Library (#2 in 1K-2.5K category), and the Hardtner Public Library (#4 in 0-1K category).

As a result of receiving a \$28,000 grant, the South Central Kansas Library System will offer several free and innovative educational opportunities dealing with Internet safety. This technology initiative is called Kan-Safe and will feature Marvel Comic super hero, Spiderman, at the initial event on October 5. The webbed one will accompany featured presenter Parry Aftab, Executive Director of WIRED SAFETY and internationally known speaker and published author on Internet safety, cybercrime, cyberstalking, workplace risk management, child exploitation, and child pornography.