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Kansas Report to MPLA

July 23, 2008

Submitted by Susan Moyer, KLA Representative to MPLA

The KLA and MPLA joint conference planning group met on July 23. It includes Denise Smith, KLA First Vice President; Laura Loveless, KLA President; Rosanne Siemens, KLA Executive Director; Rob Banks, MPLA President; and Eileen Wright, MPLA Vice-President/President Elect.

KLA will hold its first meeting of the new fiscal year on July 24 at the Manhattan Public Library.

Kan-ed and the State Library of Kansas announced that the following database products will be available through statewide subscription for FY 2009: Gale/Cengage Learning package (Academic OneFile, General OneFile, Literature Resource Center, Health & Wellness Resource Center, Alternative Health, Business & Company Resource Center, Business & Company Profiles ASAP, Custom Newspapers, Gale Virtual Reference Library, Chilton's Auto Repair); ProQuest Nursing Journals; Heritage Quest; Ebsco's Ultra Online Package/ Middle Online Package/ Primary Online; Novelist; WorldBook Encyclopedia; WorldBook Advanced; and WorldCat.

The Kansas Center for the Book was one of three state centers honored with a 2008 Boorstin Center for the Book Award. Named for Daniel Boorstin, Librarian of Congress from 1975-1987 and creator of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, the Boorstin Awards recognize high achievement in state centers. Kansas received this distinction along with Rhode Island and Ohio for innovative literacy projects that touch readers of all ages, including preschoolers through adults

The Kansas Center for the Book has announced its Kansas Notable Books List for 2008. Included on the honor roll are 15 titles: *American Shaolin: Flying Kicks, Buddhist Monks, and the Legend of Iron Crotch: An Odyssey in the New China*, by Matthew Polly; *The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians*, illustrated by Brad Sneed; *Can I Keep My Jersey? 11 Teams, 5 Countries, and 4 Years in My Life as a Basketball Vagabond*, by Paul Shirley; *The Curse of Catunkhamun* by Tim Raglin; *The Farther Shore* by Matthew Eck; *From Emporia: The Story of William Allen White* by Beverly O. Buller; *Hellfire Canyon* by Max McCoy; *Hunger for the Wild: America's Obsession with the Untamed West* by Michael L. Johnson; *The Kitchen Sink: New and Selected Poems, 1972-2007* by Albert Goldbarth; *A Matter of Justice: Eisenhower and the Beginning of the Civil Rights Revolution* by David A. Nichols; *The Middle of Somewhere* by J. B. Cheaney; *The Rest of Her Life* by Laura Moriarty; *Sea Monsters: Prehistoric Creatures of the Deep* by Michael J. Everhart; *Storm Chaser: A Photographer's Journey* by Jim Reed; *Writing in an Age of Silence* by Sara Paretsky.

Dean Gwen Alexander recently announced that the American Library Association has awarded Emporia State University's School of Library and Information Management continuing accreditation to 2015. The seven year accreditation is the maximum offered by the ALA. The principal change in the program involves a reduction in the number of required credit hours to 36, all of which will continue to be delivered in weekend seminars at the main campus, the Metro Learning Center in Overland Park and in online courses. Similar weekend-intensive classes are also taught in Portland, OR, Salt Lake City, and Denver. SLIM's curriculum also includes current issues courses that feature trips to domestic and international locations for service learning opportunities. Classes will visit Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado, San Miguel de Allende in Mexico, and Sofia, Bulgaria this fall. Expenses for travel are provided by scholarships, which are made possible by a \$1.9-million bequest from the late Martha Kruse Furbur, a 1938 SLIM graduate.

School librarians from Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and La Paz, Bolivia, gathered on June 11-12 for the annual Kansas Summer Institute for School Librarians held at Emporia State University's Jones Institute for Educational Excellence. Literacy was the central theme and presenters included Toni Buzzeo, author and school librarian from Buxton, Maine, and winner of the 2000 Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Award for her book, *The Sea Chest*, and Jane Kurtz, author of twenty-five books for young readers. The Summer Institute for School Library Media Specialists is an annual event sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education, School of Library and

Information Management, State Library of Kansas, and the Kansas Association of School Librarians. The purpose of the Institute is to provide current, best practice information related to school libraries, resources and information literacy instruction.

A tornado struck two Kansas communities, Chapman (approx. pop. 1,200) and Manhattan (approx. pop. 50,000), on June 11. An estimated 60% of the structures in Chapman were either damaged or destroyed, including all school buildings (<http://www.cityofchapman.org/>). The high school library escaped relatively unscathed though all computers were destroyed but the library serving grades K-8 is a total loss. The public libraries in both communities were unharmed as was Kansas State University's Hale Library. Other portions of campus did sustain extensive damage.