

ST-4

Montana State Report – July 2008
Pam Henley, State Representative

ASLD/PLD

ASLD bylaws were revised, increasing the responsibility of the secretary to include maintaining digital files of all agenda and meeting minutes, providing the MLA webmaster with information on officers and committee members, and becoming of the Publicity Committee to ensure newsletter articles are submitted. The annual division retreat will be held in October.

Spanish Language Outreach

Funded by the Gates Foundation and coordinated by OCLC, the project hosted 7 workshops around the state, attended by nearly 80 librarians. A blog has been set up for participants to post ideas and activities.

Library Education

Montana is one of 4 states partnering to prepare an IMLS grant proposal for library education scholarships, intended to assist residents pursuing an MLIS degree or school library media endorsement. An online survey was sent out to the Montana discussion list to gather data.

Web 2.0 Training

The state library offered a Web 2.0 Challenge, a self-paced online course designed to introduce library staff to wikis, blogs, RSS feeds and more social networking tools. Over 40 people completed the first round, and a second round has started.

Downloadable E-content Project

Digital Library Reserve's Overdrive product was selected for a statewide downloadable e-content pilot project. LSTA funds will help support the opening collection, with participants sharing initial hosting costs. Fifteen libraries are part of the first phase.

PEEL Grant

Funded by IMLS, a PEEL stipend is available for libraries to add a professional librarian for 2 years. Libraries receiving the grant must match the funds, and make an effort to continue the position following the grant period