



New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries

NMCAL Legislative Committee Progress Report

Presented to the NMCAL Directors

January 23, 2008

August 10, 2007 – New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries – Funding Priorities 2008-2010 brochures printed (attached).

August 17, 2007 – New Mexico Library Legislative Steering Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., Special Collections Library.

Reviewed the structure of the Steering Committee, Joe Sabatini informed the Committee of his conversation with State Representative Ed Sandoval, Holly Buchanan and Ruben Aragon talked about the NM academic libraries funding strategies and priorities, and the text the NMCAL Consortium wished the wording to be on the 2008 GO Bond bill. Discussed the amount and how the funds would be distributed (40 million agreed upon, with 45% for academic, 30% for public and 25% for school).

August 18, 2007- Council of University Presidents (CUP)-Tamayo Hotel, Bernalillo, NM

Ruben Aragon, Isabel Rodarte, and Martha Bedard presented to the CUP organization. Our focus was to review the NMCAL brochure, talk about the 2008 GO Bond initiative and for Martha to give a comparison of how her Texas connection compared with our efforts in New Mexico on funding issues and cooperation. Most questions pertained to the charts and data shown in the brochure.

September 7, 2007 - NMCAL Legislative Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., University of New Mexico’s Zimmerman Library.

We discussed the outcome of our survey pertaining to formula questions. Our consensus was that U.S. academic libraries that we contacted had no state-wide funding formulas in place. Reviewed what we needed to prepare for Library Legislative Day (January 24, 2008). Updated our calendar of key individuals and groups we are talking to about state-wide academic library funding.

September 13, 2007 – Legislative Education Study Committee- Rio Rancho, NM

Holly Buchanan and Ben Wakashige attended the LESC committee meeting. Ben indicated that Holly did a great presentation during the waning hours of the LEFC session. They really didn't have a lot of time to present. As usual there was a long wait before they were able to get to the floor. Ben felt that their effort reminded him of running a marathon - every step counts toward reaching the finish line.

October 5, 2007 – New Mexico Library Legislative Steering Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., Special Collections Library.

We reviewed the text for the GO Bond bill (**See attachment – “Suggested Language for the 2008 General Obligation Library Bond Issue (Draft)”**). Announced that a presentation on the GO Bond will be given at the NMLA Mini-Conference in Las Vegas.

Joe Sabatini gave an update of the activities for Library Legislative Day. David Giltrow gave a short report on the Political Action Committee (PAC) activities mainly on advertisement and radio spots. Additional information on the PAC can be retrieved via their webpage at: www.bondsforlibraries.org. (see **attachment**).

October 9, 2007 – Dr. Kurt Steinhaus, Governor’s Education Policy Advisor, Capitol Building, Santa Fe, NM

Holly Buchanan, Isabel Rodarte, Ben Wakashige, Ruben Aragon, Kathleen Knoth, and Dennis Davies-Wilson were in attendance. The NMCAL brochure was provided, as well as a power point presentation (**attached**) was given. Suggestions and thoughts from Dr. Steinhaus were given to us on library statistics and/or data that would be helpful as well.

October 12, 2007 – NMLA Mini-Conference - Las Vegas, NM

Three individuals, Omar Durant, representing the school libraries, Carol Sarath, public libraries, and Ruben Aragon, academic libraries presented at the NMLA Mini-Conference. The program title, “Panel Discussion: Preparing for the 2008 GO Library Bond Initiative”, provided an update as to the activities accomplished towards the 2008 NM legislative session, strategies on advocating locally and a question/answer session from the attendees. Handouts, namely in the case of the academic libraries the NMCAL brochure was distributed.

October 22, 2007 - NMCAL Legislative Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., University of New Mexico’s Zimmerman Library.

Discussed the status of our assignments pertaining to the activities we need to complete for Library Legislative Day (January 24, 2008). It was reported that the list of appropriate NM academic library resources was forwarded to Tino Pestalozzi, NMHED. We talked about our meeting with Dr. Kurt Steinhaus, and how he asked that we look at what we have done to be good stewards of libraries and funding. We talked about the need for standards. Revised our calendar of key individuals and groups we are talking to about state-wide academic library funding.

October 29, 2007 – Reed Dasenbrock, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Higher Education Department, Santa Fe, NM

In attendance were Ruben Aragon, Martha Bedard, Holly Buchanan, Ben Wakashige, Kathleen Knoth and Dennis Davies-Wilson. Cabinet Secretary Dasenbrock pretty much had his own agenda, so we scratched the use of the power point presentation (**attached**) we had. That definitely was not a bad thing. He felt that the \$40 million dollars was too large of an amount to request on the GO Bond initiative. He discussed with us the LFC’s Formula Enhancement Task Force (FETF) request for library acquisitions inflation. In addition, he added that we, the NMCAL Legislative Committee members work with the FETF in reviewing the present reference resources that were used to determine the academic library acquisitions inflation rate. Suggested we talk with David Abbey and/or Linda Kehoe regarding our funding efforts.

October 30, 2007 – Tino Pestalozzi, Director, Institutional Finance and Capital Projects New Mexico Higher Education Department, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Completed and forwarded a copy of, “List of Acceptable Library Resources for Expending GO Bond Funding New Mexico Academic Libraries” (**attached**).

November 8, 2007 – New Mexico Independent Community Colleges, Santa Fe Community College, Santa Fe, NM

At the NMICC meeting were Ruben Aragon, Janet Maes and Sylvia Medina in person; Sharon Jenkins via teleconference. The teleconference meeting was attended primarily by University Presidents of the NMICC group. Our focus was to review the NMCAL brochure, talk about the 2008 GO Bond initiative and discuss the importance of the funds received from previous successful GO Bond funding. Questions and/or discuss brought up by the Presidents pertained to the library acquisitions inflation formula and how GO bond funding has been used in previous years.

November 15, 2007 – Legislative Education Study Committee- Santa Fe, N.M., Capitol Bldg.

Ben Wakashige was able to get away to attend the Legislative Education Study Committee meeting. A very unusual and rare occurrence took place. The presentation by Omar Durant on the Library GO Bond was scheduled for 4 pm. Would you believe that the Committee was ahead of schedule and Omar made his presentation at about 3:45 pm? All went well; there were only two comments/questions. Omar was very precise and direct on the recommendation for \$40 million (\$18 million for academic libraries). There was a very supportive comment from Representative Bobby Gonzales and a question about the use of the GO Bonds funds for public library from another legislator who I could not identify. The Library GO bond effort continues to move forward.

November 16, 2007 – New Mexico Library Legislative Steering Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., Special Collections Library.

Omar Durant gave a report of a presentation given at the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC). Larry Horan, NMLA Lobbyist also attended the LESC meeting. The Political Action Committee (PAC) reported on the information available on their web page (www.bondsforlibraries.org.) The GO Bond language was reviewed again for accuracy. Ben Wakashige and Omar are beginning to put together a list of regional coordinators to get the word out on the 2008 GO Bond initiative. Discussions also took place on providing a gift book to our State Legislators, a library information table in the Capitol building's Rotunda, library delegations on the floor of both the House and Senate Chambers, and how we need to encourage the entire library community to attend the Library Legislation Day activities on January 24, 2008.

November 20, 2007 – Linda Kehoe, Principal Analyst, New Mexico Legislature, Capitol Building, Santa Fe, NM

Ruben Aragon and Ben Wakashige attended the meeting with Linda Kehoe, Capital Outlay Coordinator/Analyst, Legislative Finance Committee. Ms. Kehoe invited Ms. Arley Williams with the LFC staff to also join our meeting. Both Ms. Kehoe and Ms. Williams were very interested in the GO Library Bond program and asked questions relating to it. She requested information about the distribution of the 2006 GO Library Bond funds. The distribution information was provided to Linda Kehoe within a few weeks after the meeting. Linda Kehoe later requested information on what the GO library bond funds could be spent on.

December 6, 2007 – Legislative Finance Committee Hearing, Capitol Bldg., Santa Fe, NM

Linda Kehoe, Capital Outlay Coordinator/ Analyst, LFC, made a presentation to the Legislative Finance Committee in the afternoon. She reviewed capital outlay expenditures which were appropriated by the legislation in past sessions. She also reviewed estimated requests for 2008 GO Bonds which at the time of the presentation totaled \$223.8 million. She noted that there was a request for \$220 million from higher education. She also noted that the library community has requested \$40 million. In the audience attending the session were Omar Durant, David Giltrow, Joe Sabatini, Pat Hodapp, and Ben Wakashige.

***December 10, 2007 - NMCAL Legislative Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M.,
University of New Mexico’s Zimmerman Library.***

Reviewed the final details we need to complete for Library Legislative Day (January 24, 2008). We discussed and summarized our meetings with NMHED Cabinet Secretary Dasenbrock, the NMICC Presidents and Linda Kehoe, LFC. Dialog on the need to have the NMCAL Executive Board review various needs identified in our meetings/presentations. Some needs to consider are; to consider developing a funding formula, explore cooperative academic projects state-wide, determine what we have done to be good stewards of libraries and funding, the need for New Mexico academic library standards., etc. We have asked Kathleen Knoth, NMCAL President to consider the possibilities.

January 10, 2008 – Senate Finance Committee Hearing, Capitol Building, Santa Fe, NM
Omar Durant, Ben Wakashige, Cynthia Shetter, Ruben Aragon, David Giltrow & NMLA Legislative Advocate attended. They also met with Rep. Picraux and heard Gov. Richardson’s speech. Only five of the 10 committee members were there. Omar shared a chart of recent bond issues. Omar made remarks about the three types of libraries. Sen. Beffort asked how much the public libraries in her district would get, and how did this affect the capital outlay projects she is proposing.

***January 11, 2008 – New Mexico Library Legislative Steering Committee Meeting –
Albuquerque, N.M., Special Collections Library.***

Omar Durant discussed his presentation to the Senate Finance Committee on January 10th. Majority of the rest of the meeting was spent reviewing the events for Library Legislative Day and the multitude of tasks that will surface during the entire legislative session. This year’s session opens Tuesday, January 15, and closes Thursday, February 14. The Library GO Bond PAC gave a report on what they have accomplished so far and what needs to be done in the upcoming days and weeks.