



New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries

NMCAL Legislative Committee Progress Report

Presented to the NMCAL Membership

April 10, 2008

Meetings Attended.

January 24, 2008 – NMCAL Library Legislative Review – Santa Fe, N.M., NM Supreme Court Law Library.

A NMCAL library legislative review was held at the NM Supreme Court Law Library in Santa Fe New Mexico. The legislative review was to provide an overview of academic library legislation, as well as a review of an information folder provided to State Legislators' during Library Legislative Day at the State Capitol. Over twenty academic librarians and supporters attended the review.

March 7, 2008 – New Mexico Library Legislative Steering Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., Special Collections Library.

Legislation action report: Governor Richardson signed the GO Bond bill at the University of New Mexico this past week. A report was given by Ben Wakashige on behalf of the Political Action Committee (PAC). Some the items mentioned were, 1) booth at the NMLA Conference, 2) funding raising efforts, 3) requested that the Library GO Bond Steering Committee remain active and continue as the PAC advisory group and the PAC is putting together a list of regional library coordinators to help disseminate information about the GO Bond.

March 27, 2008 - NMCAL Legislative Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., University of New Mexico's Zimmerman Library.

A summary of the March 7th GO Bond Steering Committee meeting was given. It was suggested that a letter from the NMCAL President be sent to the Council of Presidents asking for their support for the GO Bond during the November election. A discussion of Library Legislative Day was conducted. Ben provided a report from the PAC. We talked about who should be part of the NM Funding Formula Task Force.

April 3, 2008 – New Mexico Library Legislative Steering Committee Meeting – Albuquerque, N.M., Special Collections Library.

Ben Wakashige and David Giltrow, PAC members met with Cooney-Watson Associates on strategic marketing for the Library GO Bond. Hope to use noted authors such as Rudolfo Anaya and Denise Chavez for radio spots. Another effort is to place op-ed pieces and letters

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to the editor in local newspapers. Bumper strips will be made and used as a fund raiser. The PAC and the NMLA Legislation Committee will have a session at the NMLA Conference on Friday. Web designer Devon Steele has prepared a review of web tools that will be shown at the NMLA session. Fund raising was discussed by both David and Ben, in which they have a goal of \$60,000, but are somewhat realistic with the amount of \$20,000.

Brief discussion on the distribution of GO Bond funds. We will be using the 2006 figures for estimates for literature being printed. The State Library will have some preliminary figures for public and tribal libraries.

Summary of Legislative Developments.

The following is a brief summary of the 2008 Legislative activities as it relates to academic libraries:

- SB 333, 2008 General Obligation Bond Act, \$3 million for academic libraries. Will be on the November ballot as GO Bond B.
- HB 2, General Appropriations Act, Higher Education Department inflationary increase for libraries of 4.21%.
- Included in SB 133, 2008 General Obligation Bond Act is \$5 million to plan, design, construct, equip and furnish the Ben Lujan Learning Resource Center addition at Northern New Mexico College. Will be on the November ballot as an allocation in GO Bond D.
- General Libraries, University of New Mexico, received an allocation in SB 165 for \$101,700 for the Indigenous Nations Library program.
- General Libraries, University of New Mexico, received an allocation in HB 2, General Appropriations Act, for \$71,700 for American Indian Research.
- In SB 471, Severance Tax Bond Projects, the governor vetoed \$10,000 for improvements at the library at the Gallup branch of the University of New Mexico.