



New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries

NMCAL Legislative Committee Progress Report

Presented to the NMCAL Membership

April 12, 2012

Update since our last meeting of February 1, 2012;

- The NM State Legislature senators and representatives approved a \$9.7 million Library General Obligation Bond Issue to be placed on the November 2012 ballot. The academic libraries portion will be \$3 million.
- The NMCAL Legislative Committee is looking at creating a link on the NMCAL web-page to have informational flyers and brochures, sample items such as book markers, etc. This material would be helpful in advocating for the library GO Bond.
- The Bonds for Libraries Special Interest Group met in Bernalillo, January 12th and March 8th in Bernalillo to plan strategy for the legislative and election campaigns.
- Library Legislative Day.
 - ✓ On Thursday, February 2, 2012, over 100 library supporters were in evidence throughout the capitol with their yellow "Support Libraries" buttons.
 - ✓ Around 40 school, public and tribal librarians attended a morning advocacy training at the main Santa Fe Public Library. Larry Horan presented practical advice on working with legislators during and after the session.
 - ✓ Gilda Baeza de Ortego, Director of Western New Mexico University represented the academic libraries on the Senate floor.
 - ✓ Melveta Walker, Director of Golden Library, Eastern New Mexico University – Portales represented the academic libraries on the House of Representatives floor.
- Continue to work with Joe Sabatini and Cynthia Shetter, NMLA's Legislative Committee Co-Chairs.