

First Certified Administrator Is on State Library Talking Books Staff

by Shannon Roy, Continuing Education Coordinator

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Debra Peck of the Kansas Talking Books Service in Emporia has become the first certified public library administrator to request re-certification. Debra sent documentation confirming over 45 contact hours of continuing education and library training to the Certification Program office at the State Library at the end of February.

No. The State Library staff didn't rig the project. But they do know Debbie as an avid lifelong learner who is very, very focused on anything she decides to do.

As a child, Debbie and her sister liked to "play library" and check out books from their Grandmother's small collection. She did library work through her junior high, high school and college years. After her graduation from Emporia State University (ESU), she began working part-time at the Emporia Public Library. Later she worked full-time in the Children's Department. Debbie started with the State Library over twenty years ago and is presently with the State Library Kansas Talking Books Division, which is headquartered at Emporia State University. Debbie has been actively involved in library training programs offered by ESU and Flint Hills Technical College and she was a 2005 KPLACE graduate.



Toni Harrell, the Director of Kansas Talking Books, commented: "I have always found Debbie to be open-minded and eager to embrace new ideas and change. She is good at setting goals and puts forth a lot of effort in all that she does. WebJunction has been a great way for her to explore a variety of library related areas. We are all very proud of this accomplishment."

If anyone is wondering how Debbie Peck took that much continuing education and library training while working full-time for the rapidly growing Kansas Talking Books Service, I can tell you that she didn't waste much time on driving. Her documentation reflects a major commitment to the online courses now available to Kansas librarians. We'll have to tell WebJunction about their new poster child.

We sent our congratulations to Debra Peck as the first re-certified administrator. She will soon be followed by other life-long learners.