South Central System Presents Innovative and Entertaining Budget Workshop

by Nancy Malone, CE Coordinator, South Central Kansas Library System

South Central Kansas Library System (SCKLS) recently presented an innovative workshop for those who create budgets for public libraries, both directors and library trustees. "Who Wants (Their Library) To Be A Millionaire?" was presented by SCKLS Director Paul Hawkins and McPherson Library Director Steve Read on Wednesday, March 22, 2006 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the South Central Kansas Education Service Center in Clearwater.

Hawkins and Read presented an entertaining budget workshop based on the popular game show "Who Wants to Be A Millionaire?" Participants learned the basics of what new librarians and trustees need to know about public library budgets and had fun while they learned. The workshop began with a complimentary meal. There were two guest speakers at the lunch. Byron Warta of Newton and Keith Anderson of Inman spoke about the work of the Kansas Library Trustee Association.

Two lively hours of information and learning followed as SCKLS librarians learned how to secure better funding for their libraries.

Paul Hawkins has 20 years experience assisting member librarians and trustees to better understand their budgets. Steve Read has plenty of practical budgeting knowledge. He has copresented past budget workshops and he is the author of the recent *Kansas Public Library Ratings: Read Index*.

Participants evaluated the workshop very favorably with comments such as:

[&]quot;This was a lot of fun!"

[&]quot;It's nice to meet people from other libraries."

[&]quot;This was a creative activity."