

State Library Commission and Kansas Library Network Board Elect Joint Chair and Vice-Chair for the Coming Term

by Shannon Roy, Editor

There is an ongoing process that will combine the Kansas Library Network Board (KLNB) and the State Library Advisory Commission (SLAC). The legislation has been written, and will be presented again at the 2007 Legislative Session for approval. Meanwhile, the two boards have agreed to elect a joint chair and vice-chair. The chair and vice-chair will work to meet the obligations of both committees.

At the joint meeting on June 16, 2006, Micaela Ayers, Director of Library Services at Butler Community College, was elected to serve as chair of the partnering boards. Micaela has been serving as a member of the Kansas Library Network Board. Gwen Alexander, Associate Dean at Wichita State University (WSU) Libraries, was elected to serve as vice-chair. Gwen has been serving on the State Library Advisory Commission since 2003.

Gwen Alexander has been Associate Dean at Wichita State University Libraries for five years, where she is responsible for access services (circulation, interlibrary loan, reserves, and stacks management) and information resources (collection development, reference, instruction, and liaison). She is also an adjunct instructor at Emporia State University's SLIM, teaching Management of Information Agencies this summer.

Gwen earned both MA and Ph.D. degrees in Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona. She also holds the ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute Certificate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and a Leadership Certificate from the Center for Management Development at Wichita State University. She is a member of WSU's Center for Teaching and Research Excellence Faculty Advisory Council, Treasurer of the WSU Women's Association, and Chair of the Scholarship Committee for the Downtown Wichita Rotary Club.

Gwen lives with her Lhasa Apso, Chica Bonita, and enjoys being with her three grown children and their children as often as possible.

Micaela works with three libraries that are part of Butler Community College—the L.W. Nixon campus library and joint-use libraries with two area high schools. The library staff recently completed a facelift of the campus library and expanded their reference services. Micaela also co-chairs the Butler Knowledge Management System Council.

Micaela is a member of the 2005 MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute Class, and of the 2004 Leadership Butler Class. She has joined Rotary and attends with her father, as her parents live on a century-old farm just north of town.

Micaela moved to El Dorado in 2002 after nearly three years in Coffeyville, where she was library director at the community college. She received her MLS degree from the University of Kentucky at Lexington in 1998. During her coursework, she managed the information center for the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection. Prior to that she served a stint in Boston as a freelance graphic artist. Before that she spent six years in Kansas, where her daughters Rachel, now 23, and Bethany, 20, were born. She was raised in upstate New York, and is a graduate of SUNY at Albany.

Her hobbies include remodeling a 1918 bungalow, reading (currently a biography, *Intimate Enemies, the Baroness of Pontalba*), movies, TV, gardening, and hiking. Micaela and her husband also enjoy singing in church and 'mystery' dates where only one of them knows where they are going and what they are going to do.