

Update on Building a Sustainable Future Projects

by Cindi Hickey, State Library Consultant

From August to October, I had the great fortune to travel the highways of Kansas visiting libraries across the state to present the "Building a Sustainable Future" workshops. The circuit took me on a journey starting in Marion and ending in Topeka during the transition to my favorite



Kansas Workshops

The Kansas workshops, Building a Sustainable Future, were supported through the collaborative efforts of State Librarian Christie Brandau, WebJunction and OCLC.

On behalf of the State Library and myself, I send thanks to Brenda Hough, my co-trainer for the project. Brenda is the technology coordinator for the Northeast Kansas Library System (NEKLS) and she was a key player in developing and delivering these workshops. Special thanks also go to Jim Minges, NEKLS system director, for sharing Brenda's time and talents for this project.

Bonnie Keim, Nancy Ott, Annette Treadwell, and Lois Ware at the State Library worked diligently to distribute mileage reimbursements, pay workshop expenses and prepare the workshop packets.

Shannon Roy took charge of the heaps of LEEP forms. Thank you all!

Sherry Backhus, currently working with the State Library to develop database training, accompanied me to Colby and led the WebJunction training for the workshop. Thank you, Sherry.

Thanks also go to the library directors and system staff who promoted the workshops, coordinated lunches, provided computer support and more. They are:

Carol Barta, Richard Miller and LaDonna Clark, North Central Kansas Library System
Janet Marler, Librarian, Marion City Library
Jamie Kelley, Director, Marysville Public Library

season. Autumn in Kansas is breathtaking. The deep blue autumn skies reflect the warmth of the golden landscape. It is the perfect time to travel Kansas byways.

The last component of the full day workshops focuses on acknowledgment, and there are many to be made for this project. The Rural Library Sustainability project and the Kansas workshops were generously funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The curriculum was developed by WebJunction's Michelle Huber

Roger Carswell, Sandy Wilkerson and David Blakesley, Southeast Kansas Library System
Andrea Sobba, Librarian, Garnett Public Library
Mary Meckley, Director, W. A. Rankin Memorial Library, Neodesha

Nancy Malone, Jeanie Armour, and Ted Morris, South Central Kansas Library System

Leslie Bell, Jane Ballagh de Tovar, and the staff of the Northwest Kansas Library System
Jeff Friesen, Director, Pioneer Memorial Library, Colby, and Debbie Tittel

Emily Sitz, Carolyn Guernsey, Charlene McGuire, Brett Bradley, Tandy Ritchhart, and Janelle Jarboe,
Southwest Kansas Library System

Chris Rippel, Central Kansas Library System
Christine Sander, Director and the staff of the Stockton Public Library
Ron Brubaker, Director, Minneapolis Public Library (and Mrs. Brubaker)

Brenda Hough, Northeast Kansas Library System
Kim Priest, Director, Mary Cotton Library, Sabetha
Anne Liebst, Washburn University Mabee Library

Kudos and thanks to all of the workshop participants who took a day away from their libraries for networking and planning. All of your ideas and efforts were shared along the way and will be shared with the thousands of other workshop participants across the U.S. through WebJunction!



Marysville Workshop

Although the workshops are completed, the project continues through the monthly follow-up sessions that Brenda and I will be leading. We will convene in the State Library Room at OPAL for one-hour sessions for at least the next 5 months. Workshop participants who attend at least two of these follow-up sessions will be eligible for a drawing that will send three Kansas librarians to the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington D.C. The follow-up sessions will begin November 8 at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. See the sidebar for details about joining an OPAL conference in the State Library room.

The School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) at Emporia State University is hosting an e-mail list for our workshop participants, thanks to the work of Yvonne Ballester and the sponsorship of Dr. Ann O'Neill. Brenda and I will continue to post tips and resources to the Building a Sustainable Future

blog at <http://rls-ks.blogspot.com/>. Share your ideas on the blog, too. For more great ideas, watch the Kansas WebJunction message forum at <http://ks.webjunction.org/forums/thread.jspa?threadID=3849&tstart=0> as the Kansas workshop participants put their plans into action.

If you didn't have the opportunity to attend a workshop, you will find the full curriculum on WebJunction at <http://ks.webjunction.org/do/Navigation?category=11761>. The curriculum is supported by resources located in the Rural and Small Libraries Section of WebJunction at <http://ks.webjunction.org/do/Navigation?category=498>. One of those resources is the Rural In Focus seminar series hosted by Brenda Hough. To view archived versions of past seminars, see the schedule for upcoming sessions and browse supplemental information related to the seminar topics, visit <http://ks.webjunction.org/do/Navigation?category=13496>.

Please contact me, Cindi Hickey, at chickey@kslib.info if you have questions about this project, or join us online at [WebJunction Kansas!](#)

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Sidebar

Instructions for Joining an Online Conference in the State Library OPAL Room

You will need:

A headset with microphone

Or

Speakers and a microphone

To join a conference:

1. Go to <http://67.19.90.10/masteradmin/room.asp?id=rs9ce39cde94c2>
2. Before you try to enter the room, click on "First time users click here to install the plugin" and follow the directions.
3. After the plugin has been installed, click on "Click here to enter the conference room." When the dialog box pops up type in your name and no password. Then click on the "OK" button.
4. You should now be in the State Library OPAL room.
5. A moderator will be in the room one half hour before the program begins to help you test your microphone.

Contact Cindi Hickey, chickey@kslib.info if you have questions or problems.

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