Thoughts from the State Librarian

by Christie Brandau, State Librarian

It was with deep appreciation that we paid tribute to the members of the joint Kansas Library Network Board/State Library Advisory Commission (KLNB/SLAC) as they held their last meeting on June 29. That board will be succeeded by the State Library of Kansas Board, established during the last legislative session through SB67 and effective on July 1, 2007.

Members of the SLAC/KLNB honored for their service included Micaela Ayers, Gwen Alexander, Roger Carswell, Karen Cole, Pat Gaunce, Lori Goetsch, Martha House, Beverlee Kissick, Jackie Lakin, Ellen Miller, Michelle Swain, Susan Taylor and Gayle Willard. The members of the new State Library of Kansas Board will be announced by the Governor's office in the next few months.

So much has been achieved during the two-year tenure of the KLNB/SLAC! Here's a partial list of accomplishments during that time, from A to … W?

- *Audiobooks, Music and More* successful creation and implementation
- Automation of Kansas Talking Books (KLAS System)
- Base funding for Talking Books increased by $75,000
- Databases renewed
- Development of the "virtual" Kansas Library Catalog and federated searching; continued redevelopment of the SLK website
- ELMER project to bring high-definition videoconferencing capabilities to 14 public libraries
- Gates: second round of hardware grants in progress
- HomeworkKansas funded and implemented
- Kansas Book Festival and festival gala held
- Kansas Center for the Book established at SLK
- Kansas Notable Books program created
- Kansas Reads…the Learning Tree (statewide one-book project) started
- Kansas Reads to Preschoolers (statewide reading project) began
- Letters about Literature participation by Kansas
- Library automation projects funded through LSTA in seven systems
- LSTA: completion of report on 2001-2006 LSTA Five Year Plan
- LSTA: completion of 2007-2012 LSTA Five Year Plan
- Patron-initiated interlibrary loan pilot project with Coffey County library
- Promotion of Talking Books funded at $75,000
- *Reaching for Excellence: Certification for Kansas Public Library Administrators*
- *Reaching for Excellence: Kansas Public Library Trustee Certification Program*
- Reorganization and clean-up of physical space at the State Library
- Rural Sustainability/staying connected Gates project successfully completed
- Second Life branch of the State Library of Kansas created

- State Data Center expanded and $75,000 funding for a State Data Center Coordinator received
- State Librarian's Luncheon initiated and expanded Authors Dinner at Tri-Conference
- Summits held on continuing education, statewide resource sharing and statewide databases
- WebJunction Kansas development

The Last Joint Meeting of KLNB/SLAC

and launch

Ellen Miller Chaired the Meeting

Thanks again to the members of KLNB/SLAC for their leadership and service to the State Library of Kansas and libraries in the state.

Christi Brandau