

Saskatchewan School Library Association Executive Newsletter



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Hooked into Conference 2007

Plans are well underway for the annual SSLA spring conference. The theme of the 2007 conference is: **Hooked in . . . Hooked on. . . Hooked up. . . to School Libraries** and it promises to be a stellar event. Conference organizers have succeeded in getting renowned school library advocate and author Doug Johnson (<http://www.doug-johnson.com/>) to be the keynote speaker. As a result of collaboration with other STF subject councils, the conference planning committee has arranged for SSLA members to participate in an exciting pre-conference summit entitled: Learning in a Digital Age. SSLA members are encouraged to register early for the conference and to invite their colleagues to do so as well. Registration and other information related to the conference can be found on the SSLA's website: (http://www.stf.sk.ca/prof_growth/ssc/sslal/).

Conference attendees will be warmly welcomed at the Saskatoon Inn Hotel & Conference Centre. Boasting an exciting Internet Café/Author Coffee House and a sumptuous banquet, there is much that awaits those who attend the SSLA conference. The SSLA Executive extends appreciation to all the dedicated teacher-librarians and other individuals of the Prince Albert Catholic School Division, Prince Albert Grand Council, and Saskatchewan Rivers School Division who will host the conference this year.

Executive Meeting Highlights

September 2006

⇓ The SSLA Executive, aided by Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF) Executive Assistant, Milton Block held its first meeting of the new school year in Saskatoon on Saturday, September 16, 2006. The meeting coincided with the STF's Special Subject Council Day. It was a marvelous occasion for professional development and knowledge exchange. Executive members participated in a number of workshops that focused on the revitalization and sustainability of Special Subject Councils. The SSLA Executive used the opportunity to share posters and bookmarks with those in attendance.

⇓ Barbara McNeil of the SSLA's Poster Committee offered a final report on behalf of the Poster Committee.

⇓ The Executive reviewed and adjusted matters pertaining to the budget set in June 2006. The Executive received the final report of Dan Cloutier, treasurer of the 2006 Conference.

⇓ A report on Conference 2007 was forwarded to the executive by H el ene Pr efontaine, member of the planning committee.

⇓ There was a discussion about the activities planned for Saskatchewan Library Week and National School Library Day.

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↯ The Networking Secretary, Charlene Leaderhouse reported that the SSLA's website had been updated and that new links had been added.

↯ Past president, Violet Smotra-Cook provided highlights of her attendance at the CLA-CASL conference in Ottawa. The Executive learned that there was dialogue about a new role description for teacher-librarians, producing materials to support advocacy, and translating resources into French.

↯ It was reported that the SSLA partnered with Regina Catholic Schools to produce a book of prose, poetry and essays. Proceeds from the book sale were donated to the Circle Project, the Regina Family Literacy Network, and the Dr. Sterling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching. A presentation of \$450 was made to each organization. It was reported that Regina Catholic Schools is planning to distribute the book to all school libraries in the province.

November 2006

↯ The SSLA Executive held its second meeting on November 28, 2006 by way of a teleconference. The Executive opted to use the teleconference format as a way of conserving funds and sustaining the budget.

↯ Treasurer, Joanne Allen reported that the SSLA received a Special Subject Council Grant of \$1728.00 on October 12, 2006. Ms. Allen also reported that as of November, 2006 the SSLA membership had increased to 194. The Executive extends a warm welcome to new members.

↯ Charlene Leaderhouse, Networking Secretary, shared information about a membership drive initiative in which information and brochures were sent to 28 school divisions.

↯ Past-President, Violet Smotra-Cook stated that biographical information is being collected about Connie Acton, the teacher-librarian in whose memory the Connie Acton Award of Merit is named. Ms. Smotra-Cook reported that she submitted an article about a National School Library Day event that was organized at Judge Bryant School in Regina.

↯ President Joan Miller reported on a presentation she made to teacher-librarians of

Regina Public Schools and her participation in a CASL-PAC teleconference. Ms. Miller indicated that Susan Bates of the STF has extended invitations to Special Subject Councils to become involved in Showcase 2008. The SSLA Executive discussed a number of ideas related to Showcase and is interested in promoting participation in Showcase 2008 to all members.

↯ The Editors of the Medium, Maria Furgiuele and Heather Dack spoke of the new edition and invited SSLA members to contribute articles to the publication. Bravo editors!

↯ Vice-president, Barbara McNeil detailed developments at the recent meetings of the Multitype Library Board.

↯ It was reported that Karen Loch attended the Willow Awards Launch in Christopher Lake on October 27th.

There was a discussion about STF Summer Short courses and a decision made to invite SSLA members to submit proposals for short courses as soon as possible. The next meeting of the Executive is scheduled for February 2007.

STF Summer Short Courses

The STF is currently seeking proposals for Summer Short Courses. Teacher-librarians who wish to submit proposals are invited to contact Lynn Brown at the STF (1-800-667-7762). Proposals need to be submitted by January 31, 2007.

Great News for School Libraries in Saskatchewan

The province of Saskatchewan now has regulations that require boards of education and conseils scolaires to provide library services and establish the policies and standards that govern them. News of the new regulations was shared at the most recent meeting of the Multitype Library Board (Regina, Nov. 23, 2006) by Delee Cameron of the Department of Learning.

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<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslpubsandjournals/slmrb/editorschoiceb/lance/interviewlance.htm>

Great News...

Continued from p. 2

Ms. Cameron drew the Board's attention to page 947 of the Saskatchewan Gazette, Part II: Revised Regulations of Saskatchewan/Règlements Révisés De La Saskatchewan. Item 5 (1) reads:

A board of education and the conseil scolaires shall:

- (a) provide school library services; and
- (b) establish policies and standards governing school libraries.

The SSLA Executive joins all members of the library community in congratulating the Department of Learning for creating the new regulations. The two regulations are likely to make significant contributions toward the health and longevity of Saskatchewan's school libraries.

Research on School Libraries

News travels fast on the information super highway and so it will come as no surprise to learn that teacher-librarians are talking about the recently released Ontario library study. The document makes for good reading and can be found at:

http://www.accessola.com/osla/graphics/eqao_pfe_study_2006.pdfTeacher

Another useful research report is one by Ross J. Todd (2003) that summarizes results obtained from research done in 39 "effective" Ohio schools between 2002 and 2003. The study focused on finding out how students benefit from school libraries. Find out more by visiting: <http://www.oelma.org/StudentLearning/documents/OELMAResearchStudy8page.pdf>

Teacher-librarians will not want to miss an interview given by Keith Curry Lance about research that deals with school libraries. Snatch a few moments from your busy schedules and read the interview at:

Digitization: What is it and where are we at in Saskatchewan?

Digitization is the process of converting information into a digital format. With regard to the library sectors of Saskatchewan, the Provincial Library and the Multitype Library Board have taken positive stances on digitization. The Multitype Library Board's vision states that "access to information is a democratic right of all people in Saskatchewan" and the Saskatchewan Provincial Library's vision emphasizes equitable access to library information and resources. Digital collections support the vision of equitable access by providing universal access to cultural, historical and scientific resources. Teachers, library technicians, assistants and teacher-librarians wishing to find out more about the digitization initiatives of the Multitype Library Board can do so by visiting:

<http://www.lib.sk.ca/staff/digitization/diginventory.html>. There will be at least one digitization pilot project between 2007 and 2008. Additional information about the Multitype Library Board can be found at: <http://www.lib.sk.ca/staff/multitype/>.

Promoting the Interests of Teacher-librarians and School Libraries

Each fall and spring STF councillors meet in Saskatoon to address issues that are important to the teaching profession. SSLA members are encouraged to work with their local associations and STF councillors to put forth resolutions aimed at strengthening the voice of teacher-librarians, school libraries, and the value they add to public education for Saskatchewan's children and youth.



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Holiday Greetings

The SSLA Executive takes this opportunity to extend best wishes for an enjoyable holiday season and a very happy New Year to all!



Library Quotes to Remember...

A house without books is like a room without windows. No man has a right to bring up children without surrounding them with books.... Children learn to read being in the presence of books.

— Horace MANN (1796-1859)

St. Paul wrote to his son Timothy:

When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments.
(2 Timothy 4:13)

In an 1863 sermon, "**Paul -- His Cloak and His Books**"; **C.H. Spurgeon** said of Paul:
*"He was inspired, and yet he wants books!
He had been preaching for thirty years, and yet he wants books!
He had seen the Lord, and yet he wants books!
He had a wider experience than most men do, and yet he wants books!
He had been caught up into the third heaven, and had heard things that it was not lawful for a man to utter, and yet he wants books!
He had written a major part of the New Testament, and yet he wants books!"*

All quotes taken from the site of the International Federation of Library Associations:

<http://www.ifla.org/I/humour/subj.htm>

Please visit this wonderful site!

Treasures for You...

Be sure to glance at the Appendix which follows on p. 5 & 6. ☺ ☺ ☺

Appendix

Useful Online Information for teacher-librarians and library workers

(Reprinted with permission from Trinity College)

Standards

- [UNESCO School Library Manifesto](#)
The School Library in Teaching and Learning for All

Role Statements

- [Teacher Librarian Role Statement doc](#)
P.L. Duffy Resource Centre based on SA statement
- [Role Statement for Teacher Librarians](#)
School Library Association of South Australia SLASA
- [The Role of the Teacher Librarian](#)
Barbara Braxton Palmerston District Primary School based on Learning for the Future
- [The Role of the Teacher Librarian](#)
Elearning Planning Guide Victoria
- [Teacher Librarians: What are we? What should We Be? Professional Development from the Inside](#)
Rosemary Horton
- [Role of teacher-librarian and the school library Beehive, cocoon, or the site of a revolution?](#) Metaphors, meaning and the school library Research Column 2, Scan Volume 15, No. 2, 1996
- [The New Library in the Wired School](#)
From Now On Jamie McKenzie
- [Good school libraries: making a difference to learning](#) The Office for Standards in Education UK
- [The Library Office](#) Office of Library Information Services Baltimore
- American Library Association ALA
 - [Roles and Responsibilities of the School Library Media](#)

[Specialist Because Student Achievement IS the Bottom Line](#) Information

Power: Building Partnerships for Learning

- [Position Statement on the Role of the Library Media Specialist in Outcomes-Based Education](#)

Research and Value of Teacher Librarians

- [Impact of School Libraries on Student Achievement: a Review of the Research Report for the Australian School Library Association](#) Michele Lonsdale Australian School Library Association
- [Impact of School Libraries on Student Achievement: a Review of the Research](#) pdf file Report for the Australian School Library Association Michele Lonsdale Australian Council for Educational Research Melbourne March 2003
- [National Inquiry into Teacher Education](#) Submission by the School Library Association of South Australia Inc. (SLASA) pdf Inquiry into Teacher Education Standing Committee on Education and Vocational Training
- Ross Todd Center for International Scholarship in School Libraries
 - [WA Authentic Learning](#) Powerpoint
 - [WA School Libraries: A Class Act](#) Powerpoint
 - [WA Workshop Evidence-Based Practice](#) Powerpoint
- [Teacher librarians, an under utilised asset in schools](#) Sue Spence

- Curriculum Leadership Journal
3:14
- [Good school libraries: making a difference to learning](#) pdf Ofsted
 - [School Libraries Work](#) pdf U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science Scholastic Research Foundation Paper
 - [Building Knowledge-Rich Environments for Youth: A Worldwide Challenge for Schools and School Librarians](#) David Loertscher
 - [The School Intranet: Making Schools Even More Resourceful](#) Connections
 - [Heart of the School: The school library is as valuable as learning how to read and compute.](#) District Administration
 - [Center for International Scholarship in School Libraries](#) CISSLE Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, USA
 - [School Library Impact Studies](#) Library Research Service, Denver, Colorado USA
 - The Ohio Research Study Ohio Educational Library Media Association
 - [Student Learning through Ohio School Libraries](#)
 - [Student Learning Through Ohio School Libraries](#) pdf file A Summary Dr. Ross J. Todd December 15, 2003
 - [School Library Media Research](#)
 - [Kids at schools with librarians do better, study suggests](#) The Star Apr. 6, 2006. Canadian Press
 - [School libraries & student achievement in Ontario](#) pdf The Ontario Library Association a study by Queen's University and People for Education April 2006
 - [School Library Media Studies on Achievement](#) Iowa Educational Media Association Links

- [School Libraries - Put Scores on the Board](#) Recent research and publications that support and promote the link between positive library service and student achievement. SLAV School Library Association of Victoria Links



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