Presidents Annual Report

2003-2004  Sharon Jenkins

My term in office was marked by a series of fairly interesting events in NM academic library life. I shall structure my report along an outline of seven calendar occurrences; from Spring of 2002 through the Spring of 2004. This encompasses my time serving on the Executive Committee of NMCAL.

At the Spring 2002 annual conference breakfast I was elected to the position of Vice-President/President-Elect. Elected to the following positions were Louise Bolton-Hoffmann of San Juan College as secretary/treasurer and Kay Krehbiel of NM Tech as four-year representative. After reports from various committees were heard, several notably significant points were dealt with: NMCAL voted to contribute more funds to the Library Bonds Education Committee (for a total of $1,000.00), the state library let it be known that our contract with the database vendor was up for renewal, a discussion was begun about formulating a strategic plan for NMCAL, and a travel Grant was proposed to cover expenses associated with NMLA annual conference attendance. (Please refer to the minutes of the April 19, 2002 meeting for complete details).

During the summer 2002 retreat – held in Socorro on August 9th and 10th – then president Julie Miller arranged a strategic planning workshop. Lorie J. Barzano was retained to facilitate its construction. Ms. Barzano delivered a summary report as well as a Working Strategic Plan (WSP). The latter document we were to further refine over the next several months. (again, please refer to these documents for details.) The WSP had five goals arranged into five workgroups. Each Workgroup/Goal had a group leader assigned to it. During the ensuing months, each of the five Goal/Workgroups was to (a) review the objectives for their respective goals and (b) assign timeframes to accomplish each objective. My task was to shepherd the various workgroups along through completion of the assignments. We anticipated completing the tasks around the end of the year or early 2003.
At the fall 2002 NMLA mini-conference in Ruidoso, an emergency meeting of NMCAL was called at the request of the State Librarian. As then president Miller was not available, I called the meeting to order and conducted the session. State Librarian Ben Wakiashige reviewed upcoming changes in the statewide dataset vendor but was unable to confirm the vendor identity due to incomplete contractual arrangements. By the end of the conference we were informed that the vendor would change from ProQuest to Thompson/Gale. This caused a good bit of consternation coming as it did mid-semester. Throughout the remainder of the fall semester, I continued to encourage completion of assigned tasks related to the strategic plan.

At the Winter 2003 Library Legislative Day, NMCAL joined with NMLA to be recognized by the legislature at the Round House in Santa Fe. Plans were formalized to support educational efforts for the General Obligation Bond initiative statewide.

At our Spring 2003 meeting Julie Miller formally hands over the NMCAL gavel to me and I begin my official term as president of the organization. Elected to serve on the Executive Board that term were Elizabeth Titus of NMSU as Vice-President/President-Elect and Jim Pawlak of ENMU-Ruidoso as the 2-year representative. A major question raised was about continuing the relationship between NMCAL, LEIAN and OCLC. There was also a discussion about beginning a more formal relationship with the New Mexico Association of Research Libraries (NMARL). A more focused discussion of the Strategic Plan, Workgroup/Goal activities and the mission statement began at the conclusion of the business meeting.

The summer retreat was held in Ruidoso in 2003. The newest state Librarian, Richard Akeroyd was introduced. Reports from several of the Workgroup/Goal committees were heard and a recap of progress on the objectives was given. After it was ascertained that a quorum was present, action was taken to revise the entire committee structure along more functional lines. Each member was assigned to serve on one of the committees, whether they were present or not, additionally committee chairs were assigned. At the conclusion of the meeting, the roster of new committee assignments was distributed via e-list to the group. (please refer to the roster for original assignments) The newly formed Library Legislative Committee began operations immediately by working on strategies to use to inform New Mexico academic librarians on how to better educate
their constituents on library concerns. The committee gave its report which included plans to more formally support education on passage of the General Obligation bonds.

At the Spring 2004 NMLA annual conference minutes from the previous summer retreat were approved with corrections, the treasurer reported, as did the State Librarian. Newly elected to serve on the NMCAL Board were; Carol Frick of UNM-Gallup as Vice-President/President-Elect, Jerry Klopfer of NMMI and Louise (Bolton) Hoffmann will share the position of Secretary/Treasurer and R. David Meyers of St. John’s College was selected as the 4-year representative. Camila Alire (then Dean of UNM Libraries) gave the AARL report and distributed the NM Academic library statistics. A bylaws change was made and additional monetary support was given to LIBEC for the G.O. Bond initiative. Two decisions were made that should make conducting the business of the organization easier. NMCAL voted to dispense with formal business meetings at NMLA annual but to continue to have an informal gathering. Additionally a vote was passed to have a formal meeting the day prior to NM Library legislative day, in Santa Fe. (please see meeting minutes for complete details) At the close of the meeting I ended my stint as President by handing over the NMCAL gavel to Elizabeth Titus (in absentia). All in all it had been an extremely eventful and highly rewarding term.