OLA Hotline
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Legislative News

Capitol Report from OLA Lobbyist, Nan Heim
2006 Election Results: What's ahead for the Oregon Legislature?

The election results brought exciting news for OLA: Rep.-elect Nancy Nathanson (D-Eugene), librarian and OLA member, will serve in the 2007 Legislature, along with Rep.-elect Suzanne Bonamici (D-Portland), sister of OLA member Andrew Bonamici.

For the first time since 1989, Oregon Democrats will have a majority in both the State Senate and House of Representatives for the 2007 legislative session. It will now be the Democrats' prerogative to chair all the committees, if they choose to do so, and to decide which bills move forward and which never see the light of day.

With Democrats in control, Oregonians can expect education funding to head the Legislature's agenda in 2007. Among their other legislative goals, Democrats will seek to increase the minimum corporate income tax, repeal the corporate kicker, expand Head Start, expand Oregon Opportunity Grants, and increase the cigarette tax to provide healthcare coverage for more children.

Senate Democrats have re-elected their leaders from the 2005 session: Senators Peter Courtney (D-Salem) for President, Kate Brown (D-Portland) for Majority Leader, and Margaret Carter (D-Portland) for President Pro Tempore. The line-up of Senate committee chairs is unlikely to change significantly. In the House, Democrats have chosen Rep. Jeff Merkley (D-
Portland) to be the next Speaker and Rep. Dave Hunt (D-
Oregon City) the next Majority Leader.

Budgets for k-12, community colleges, higher education and
the State Library, including Ready to Read, will be determined
in the Joint Ways and Means Committee. Senator Kurt
Schrader (D-Canby) is expected to continue as Committee co-
chair, but who will co-chair from the House? Interestingly,
none of the Democrats who served on the full Ways and
Means Committee in 2005 will be in the House in 2007.

Finally, three OLA Legislators of the Year will serve in the
2007 session, one from each party and an Independent: Rep.
Vicki Berger (R- Salem), Legislator of the Year in 2005-06;
Senator Ginny Burdick (D- Portland), 2003-04; and Senator
Ben Westlund (I-Bend), 1997-98.

Unofficial Library Measure Results for November 7, 2006
Elections
Compiled by Jim Scheppke

Baker County Library - 5-year library operations local option
levy, $.249 per $1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes - 4,258 (59%)
No – 3,010 (41%)
PASSED

Eugene Public Library – 4-year library operations local option
levy, $.23 per $1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 28,645 (52%)
No – 26,729 (48%)
PASSED

Jackson County Library – 5-year library operations local
option levy, $.66 per $1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 30,010 (41%)
No – 42,498 (59%)
FAILED
Josephine County Library – library district formation, $.55 per
$1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 13,452 (43%)
No – 17,915 (57%)
FAILED
Lebanon Public Library - refinancing of existing city debt and
provide funding for a new library and new police, courts and
jail facility, $1.79 per $1,000 per assessed property valuation.
Yes – 2,662 (59%)
No – 1,823 (41%)
PASSED
Malheur County Library – library district formation, $.68 per
$1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 3,842 (49%)
No – 3,974 (51%)
FAILED
Multnomah County Library – 5-year local option levy to
renew current levy, $.89 per $1,000 assessed property
valuation.
Yes – 147,662 (62%)
No – 91,816 (38%)
PASSED
Oregon City Public Library – 5-year library operations local
option levy, $.38 per $1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 4,208 (46%)
No – 4,904 (54%)
FAILED
Siuslaw Public Library District – bond for expansion of
library, $.11 per $1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 3,471 (49%)
No – 3,629 (51%)
FAILED
Sweet Home Public Library – 4-year library operations local
option levy $.62 per $1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 1,412 (61%)
No – 894 (39%)
PASSED
The Dalles-Wasco County Library – library district formation.
$.68 per $1,000 assessed property valuation.
Yes – 4,472 (53%)
No – 4,013 (47%)
PASSED
Washington County Cooperative Library Service — 4-year
library operations local option levy, $.17 per $1,000 assessed
property valuation.
Yes – 61,669 (57%)
No – 47,395 (43%)
PASSED
Wilsonville Public Library – 5-year local option levy for
public safety, library and parks. $.46-.58 per $1,000 assessed
property valuation.
Yes – 2,520 (46%)
No – 2,910 (54%)
Happenings

**Help the Oregon State Library Evaluate LSTA**

The Oregon State Library (OSL) is in the process of conducting an evaluation of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program. The evaluation is required by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and OSL is working with Himmel & Wilson, a library consulting firm, to gather information from the Oregon library community. Since LSTA funds statewide initiatives as well as competitive grants, we'd like your opinions and ideas even if you haven't been directly involved with an LSTA grant. Although the evaluation looks back over the last several years, it will also begin to form the basis for our next five-year plan. Please take advantage of this opportunity to express your thoughts about the priorities that OSL should be pursuing in its efforts to improve library and information services. The survey will remain open through November.

*Take the survey* - it should take less than five minutes to complete.

**Dun & Bradstreet Business Librarian/Library Award**

The Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS) of ALA is seeking nominations for the Dun & Bradstreet Award for outstanding service to minority business communities.

This Award of $2,000 recognizes a business librarian or library that has created an innovative service for a minority business community, or has been recognized by that community as an outstanding service provider. Services might include imaginative collaborations with, or unique provisions of library service to, the minority business community. If you know of such a colleague or library, please consider nominating them for this wonderful award.

Complete award description and nomination information is available at the [RUSA BRASS website](http://rusa.org) (select the Awards button near top of screen). Awards will be presented at the
2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington D.C.

Deadline for receiving submissions is December 1. Please send nominations & supporting documents to:

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**Health Information Outreach Awards**

National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Pacific Northwest Region, is currently accepting proposals for Express Outreach Awards. The Application for 2006-2007 Express Outreach Awards must be completed and submitted via email attachment by December 1, 2006. Applications will be reviewed as quickly as possible, and projects should begin in January 2007.

Express Outreach Program Goals:

- To improve use of health information by those in the public and medical community without adequate access to library and information services;
- To build or strengthen partnerships between network members and other community organizations;
- To foster local health information expertise in community organizations;
- To promote awareness and use of the products and services of the NLM and the NNLM.

Priority will be given to proposals involving outreach to:

1. Public health workers, including personnel at government or community agencies;
2. Health professionals serving minority populations;
3. Health professionals in rural areas;
4. Minority populations;
5. Senior citizens;
6. Low income populations; and/or
7. Community or faith-based organizations.

For more information contact: Gail Kouame, Consumer Health Coordinator. More details are also available at the NNLM/PNW website.

**Reviewers Needed for Willa Awards**

Jane Kirkpatrick, an Oregon author, is the current president of Women Writing the West. Her responsibilities include selecting the 2007 Willa Awards. She needs 21 librarian reviewers to evaluate a maximum of five books from within a specific category (three reviewers per category).

The books will be sent to the reviewers in May, and the reviews are due August 1st. There are rubrics, guidelines, and an evaluation form to guide the process. The categories are:

- Contemporary Fiction
- Historical Fiction
- Original Softcover Fiction
- Creative Nonfiction
- Scholarly Nonfiction
- Poetry
- Children's/Young Adult Fiction and Nonfiction (category filled)

To volunteer or for further information, contact Sue Kopp at (503)517-1032 or by email.

**Surveys Made Easy Workshop**

Do you need to know how your library is used or what your users want from your library? Attend this PORTALS workshop on Friday, December 8, from 9am - 12pm at the Mt. Hood Community College Library, Room 2307.

Learn basic information about surveys, including what kinds of questions to ask, and how to ask them. Then learn how to use SurveyMonkey, survey software available on the web. Topics included in this workshop: survey design techniques; reaching the right audience; asking the right questions; getting a good response rate; SurveyMonkey basics; question types: multiple answer, open ended, etc. distributing the survey;
exporting data; and analyzing the results.

Presenters are Dolores Judkins and Patrice O'Donovan. Dolores Judkins is currently the Head of Research and Reference Services at Oregon Health & Science University Library. Patrice O'Donovan is currently the Portland Campus Library Director for Linfield College School of Nursing and Health Sciences and is a tenured Associate Professor in the School of Nursing.

Cost: $25 for students; $35 for PORTALS members: $45 for others

Register at the PORTALS website.

**Employment Opportunities**

**Calendar**