

**Mid-Hudson Library System Board Meeting
Director's Report November 2004**

Hearings on Library Funding: A series of open hearings were held by the Assembly Committee on Libraries. I spoke as well as Jim Hoover. In addition, three member library directors, Jim Cosgrove, Matt Pfisterer and Carol Donick and Kingston Library Board President, Al Alstrom, made presentations.

NYLA Conference: Meribeth, Margaret, Rebekkah and I attended the annual NYLA conference. Margaret has taken over as President of the Youth Services Section.

New York State Legislation: After the Assembly's unwillingness to override the Governor's veto, I spoke with several of our legislatures. They all feel the 5% will be restored after Election Day. Our Republican Assembly is getting discretionary money to give to libraries. Most, with the exception of Assemblyman Miller, do not care that the 5% being cut is being cut from the System and not the libraries. I doubt we will hear much until after the election.

Technology: Laurie and I attended an Innovative Interfaces symposium on public consortia. Both Laurie and I led sessions, but much of the time was devoted to letting Innovative know the various issues that consortia have with the product mostly centering on more customization at the library level. People from Onondaga Library System will visit the System to see a demonstration of the Innovative System.

Library Resources Demonstration: Our six month LSTA bridge grant offers demonstrations of our online resources and request-a-title to community groups.

Continuing Education: We have begun another round of our *Trustee Essentials* training. We also have had sessions on *Managing for Results*.

The list below includes documents & information that are to be placed in the permanent record. Board members may request copies of documents by contacting Peggy on ext. 16 pwinn@midhudson.org.

Member Memos:

- 04-15: Smart Access Manager (SAM)

Correspondence:

- Article from *The Independent* re: impact of Governor Pataki's budget veto.
- *Putnam News* article dated September 1, re: National Library Card Sign-Up Month.
- Article from *The Poughkeepsie Journal* re: the wealth of information available through HomeACCESS, written by MHLS part-time Web Development Intern, Nathaniel Smith.
- Article from *The Daily Mail* re: how Greene County Libraries have become valuable sources of information.
- Article from the *Mid-Hudson Post Pioneer* re: the Assembly Hearing on Libraries, in Kingston, NY on October 12.

Other Reports:

- Staff Library Visits Report

