The Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board (MLB) met December 19, 2005 and February 23, 2006 in Regina. The annual general meeting that focused on the Multitype Database Licensing Program was held on February 22, 2006.

**Board Appointments**

The new chair for the Board will be Zenon Zuzak when Carol Shepstone’s term has been completed. Heather West from SIAST has joined the Board in the position of library director from a post-secondary library. The current Board appointment process is underway.

**Promotion**

The Board affirmed the continuation of the promotion program and identified the need for a committee to work on a long-term strategy. Educating staff and branding have been determined to be essential in any future promotion efforts.

**Multitype Library Development Unit Staff Changes**

The Board would like to thank Melissa Bennett for all her work in support of the Board’s initiatives. Amy Rankin was named the manager of the Multitype Library Development Unit. The new Multitype Library Coordinator is Elgin Bunston.

**Multitype Database Licensing Committee (MDLP)**

Two new databases will be added to the MDLP. Novelist from Thomson Gale and Ebsco’s Auto Repair Reference Center will be available in the summer of 2006. The next general MDLP meeting focusing on the MDLP will be September 6, 2006, in Saskatoon.

**Librarian Competency Profile**

A working group has been working with the Public Service Commission to create a competency profile for professional librarians, as recommended in Working Together: Saskatchewan Libraries and other Information Providers. The working group will be meeting with other librarians within government to review the current draft.

**Saskatchewan Libraries Conference**

The Board sponsored two sessions at the Saskatchewan Libraries Conference. Tanya Rogoschewsky presented the report Digitization in Saskatchewan and Critical Issues in its Continuing Development that the Board commissioned her to produce in the summer of 2005. Jason Bird presented the 8Rs report and its implications for Saskatchewan.

**Saskatchewan Digital Alliance Thoughts**

The Board is interested in pursuing the establishment of a Saskatchewan digital alliance, as described in the report Digitization in Saskatchewan and Critical Issues in its Continuing Development, prepared by Tanya Rogoschewsky: http://www.lib.sk.ca/staff/digitization/diginventory.html. Representation should include archives, libraries, museums and other organizations. To build on the work done over the past few years, the alliance may focus on:

- Creating education opportunities related to digitization
- Establishing a best-practices framework
- Ensuring interoperability for the future by developing a province-wide strategy for digitization projects.
- Promoting careful usage of resources by eliminating duplication of efforts and facilitating information and equipment sharing.
- Researching and recommending digitization software, potential contract businesses, metadata standards, etc.
- Facilitating mentorship-style partnerships among organizations with established digitization projects and those recently embarking on digitization.
- Helping to create the infrastructure necessary to merge existing digital collections into a digital library.
- Increasing public knowledge of the available digital resources about Saskatchewan.
- Being a strong voice for securing funding.

The next meeting of the Multitype Library Board will be held June 7-8, 2006 in Regina.

Information on MLB is available at www.lib.sk.ca/staff/multitype/ Or contact the board’s secretariat: Provincial Library, 8-1945 Hamilton Street Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3V7 306-787-2355 bunstone@library.gov.sk.ca

Multitype increases access to information through the sharing of resources among different kinds of libraries!