

**Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative**  
**Director's Report**  
**October 2006**

**MLC Presentation:** On Friday September 15 I did a presentation to the Board of the Michigan Library Consortium on Cooperatives in Michigan. I explained the funding and services of our cooperative as well as the other cooperatives in the state. The program was well received and as part of the discussion I stressed the need for libraries to advocate for the cooperatives with the legislature. In light of the fact that we might have a new governor and that many legislators have been term-limited and so a freshman batch of legislators will be taking office it is imperative that the work of cooperatives is conveyed to them.

**LSTA Grants:** On Monday, September 18 I attended the LSTA Grant workshop in Kalamazoo. This workshop, sponsored by the Library of Michigan, was planned as an introduction to the new competitive grant program. At our Advisory Council meeting we will discuss grants and how the cooperative will fit into the program this year. Deadline for the grants proposal submission is January 31, 2007.

**Gates Grants:** A meeting will be held at the end of September to discuss how the Gates grants will be administered. This information has been long awaited and we hope will get new computers for public access into our member libraries. By the time of our meeting I will be able to give the board a progress report.

**MLA Conference:** The annual conference will be held October 11-13 and will be in Detroit. I will be attending the conference along with a large number of librarians from our area. As a member of the Michigan Library Association (MLA) Board there are some special meetings that I will be attending.

**State Librarian's Award of Excellence:** Again this year I am on the review committee for nominations to the Award of Excellence. There are 22 nominations this year and the committee will meet early in October to make the final decision. The award will be presented at the MLA Conference. MMLC has been fortunate to have several winners. Public Libraries of Saginaw won the Honorable Mention the first year the award was given. Genesee District Library won the award in the second year and last year Grace A. Dow Memorial Library of Midland won the award. The award comes with a \$5,000 cash prize and this year the honorable mention libraries will each receive a cash award.

**From September 22 until October 1 I will be on vacation, returning October 2, 2006. Irene will be in the office should you have any questions.**

