



Chapter Council Presents Sharing Roundtables

MLA Annual Meeting

Chicago IL

Sunday, May 18, 2008

Final Report Form

MLA Sunday, May 18, 2008 Chapter Council Sharing Roundtables

Table 13: How to Obtain Funds for Library Projects

Participants: Kristi L. Holmes (facilitator), Ellen Justice (recorder), Paul Raimondo, Terrie Wheeler

In a brief format, please list topics discussed and ideas shared. Use the back of this sheet or an extra sheet if necessary:

Monetary awards can be applied for from the National Library of Medicine, NN/LM (National Network of Libraries of Medicine) or RML (Regional Medical Library) <http://nnlm.gov/funding/> to support library projects. One librarian was able to get an award to support a train-the-trainer initiative to train social workers to use GoLocal & MedlinePlus for consumer health information.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) <http://www.ims.gov/applicants/applicants.shtm> also provides funding. Another source is Grants.gov <http://grants.gov/> where one can match what they are wanting to fund with potential grants. Other organizations that list funding opportunities: Foundations Directory <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/> (subscription), Community of Science <http://fundingopps.cos.com/>, Chronicle of Higher Education <http://chronicle.com/>.

Pointers shared:

- The ideal is that one has an idea, objectives and points of evaluation and then looks for a grant; however, the reality often is that one may be able to chase specific grants (money) but just don't be obvious about it.
- Keep the grant application flexible so that it may be able to function in several different scenarios.
- Sometimes RML offers course on writing grants.
- Tie the grant into your organization's mission. Usually need the commitment of your organization to help make a grant project a success.
- Set goals and find ways to measure those goals. These goals will be important for the grant application.
- Federal agencies usually cannot compete directly for federal grant funding, but require a private or public state or local partner who will receive the funding.
- Librarians may also be able to ask a for-profit company to host or sponsor a lunch-n-learn event but need to one needs to know the organizational policy.
- To keep informed one librarian said she has an outreach librarian that periodically sends out an e-mail to researchers that includes organizations with funding opportunities.

Recorder: Please send your report (MS Word file attachment preferred) by Monday, June 9, 2008 to:
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