

## SCHOLARSHIP FOR MINORITY STUDENTS 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

This was the first full year for the committee to be a standing committee. Many thanks to the committee members who stayed on the second year and helped make the second full year of the scholarship successful: Elliot Applebaum, Patrick Davidson, Terry Buchner, Tiana French, Terri Kirk, Paul Poland, Faith Steele, without whose great ideas and input the Scholarship Committee could have not moved forward!

In the first quarter of becoming a full fledged Standing Committee the following was accomplished:

The KLA Board supported making the Ad Hoc Committee became a Standing Committee and the first Scholarship for Minority Students was awarded to Faith Steele of Lexington.

The committee met in January to plan for marketing and promotion of the scholarship in 2008.

Members composed the description for the new "Standing Committee" for the entry into the KLA Book of Policies and Procedures.

The committee composed an introduction for the Scholarship which now appears at the top of the home page of the KLA web site. Scholarship information appears at the top of the home page under "Home" and a drop down menu from home shows "Scholarships" at the bottom of that menu.

The Scholarship information was submitted to the Governor's Office for Minority Empowerment (GOME) and it appeared in their newsletter. It is also on their website.

ALA was contacted to add Kentucky's Scholarship to their directory of Financial Assistance for Library and Information Schools (FALIS) listing of scholarships, grants and internships in various states.

Scholarship information was also submitted to the UK Library School. It appears on their website and list serve.

The Editor of Kentucky Libraries was contacted to have the Scholarship Standing Committee information added to the inside back cover in future issues.

A meeting was held with a representative from the UK Library School and a UKSLIS Alum in an effort to help uncover possible candidates for the scholarship. At least one applicant was identified and hopefully this application and others will soon be a reality.

The committee proposed several fundraising ideas and the following have been incorporated:

A challenge was issued to the KLA Board for donations to the Scholarship; several individuals have responded to the challenge with pledges!

Christie met with Tom Underwood to compose wording for the electronic membership application form as well as the paper form. The forms will now include a check-off option for contributing to the Scholarship.

By July 15, the scholarship application deadline, the KLA office received several applications.

The scholarship committee met July 28<sup>th</sup> to review the applications and select the scholarship recipient. Once the process was complete, the committee ended up with a tie between the top two candidates. The committee decided to award 2 scholarships this year, the premise being that it would help the profession by getting more minorities into the Library Science program and into future librarianship in Kentucky sooner.

Though our selection process yielded two top excellent candidates, the committee felt that for future years we should have a more detailed scoring system that will allow an easier selection of a single candidate. A draft of a scoring scheme is in process.

Funding for the scholarship continues to be a concern. Though there is currently a balance in the account, the committee will assess ways to increase that balance for the scholarship itself and to fund the additional annual expenses over and above the scholarship for the recipient's KLA membership and annual meeting registration fee.

The committee recommends that the KLA Board fully fund the \$1000 commitment that was originally made and voted on at the 2007 Spring Board meeting. This funding commitment will assure that at least one minority scholarship per year will be available in perpetuity.

The committee also recommends that there be line item annual operating amount dedicated to the committee and its work. The amount should include the chair person's travel, postage, and printing. This amount would be in addition to the \$1000 award.

Other activities: The two scholarship recipients were notified and the recipients were mailed their first installment of the scholarship; \$500 to each.

The 2008 scholarship recipients will formally receive their award and certificate at the annual KLA luncheon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christie Robinson, Chair

October 1, 2008