

**President Elect Report for General Meeting  
02/19/11**

For the past year, I have attended E-Council meetings and become familiar with the operations of the association. In addition, I have been responsible for a modest set of duties and several initiatives. Here are some of the highlights:

- Went to ALA and participated in pre-conference for chapter leaders and attended sessions relating to advocacy, marketing, fundraising, etc.
- Worked with ad hoc committee (Bill Smith, Mary Jo Joiner, Mike Robinson, and Patty Linville) that reviewed language in the Handbook concerning travel to ALA for the ALA Councilor. The proposed changes that were approved by the E-Council revise the language in the Handbook to clarify intent and match current practices.
- Recruited Social Media Team as an ad hoc committee (Coral Sheldon-Hess, Elise Tomlinson, Freya Anderson and Mike Robinson) that has set up a Facebook / Twitter presence for AkLA and drafted a social media plan.
- Investigated Capwiz, a website (<http://capwiz.com/ala/ak/home/>) made available by ALA for state associations to manage grassroots campaigns and deliver constituent messages to elected officials. Capwiz has several major functions including tools to track legislation and customizable forms for library supporters to contact elected officials about specific issues.
- Familiarized myself with the background and issues surrounding AkLA's legislative priorities and with the website for Alaska State Legislature, i.e. how to find and track bills, set up alerts, etc.
- Nominated to represent AkLA and libraries on the Governor's taskforce that is looking at ways to accelerate the development of affordable broadband throughout the state. Met with Sue Sherif to get up to speed on the Online With Libraries (OWL), a major project with federal, state, and private funding that will enhance public computer centers and broadband access at more than 100 public libraries across the state.

It has been an enlightening year for me as President Elect and I learned a lot that will prepare me to take on the role of President in the coming year. I thank my colleagues on the E-Council for their willingness to share their knowledge and insights. I look forward to serving the association as President in the coming year. We live in a wonderful and unique state and libraries play a crucial role in supporting and enhancing that life in our communities.

--Mike Robinson