GLA Installs Officers, Announces 2010 Award Winners

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The Georgia Library Association installed officers and announced award winners and grant recipients at the Georgia Council of Media Organizations (COMO) 2010 annual conference, held in Athens in mid-October.

Leading the organization in 2011 will be President Carolyn Fuller, who has served as the Henry County Public Library System's director since September 1999. Serving as first vice president/president-elect will be Elizabeth L. Bagley, who serves as director of library services at Agnes Scott College, where she was appointed in March 2006.

Other officers include Second Vice President Pat Carterette, director of continuing education at Georgia Public Library Service, and Secretary Debbie Holmes, director of library services at the College of Coastal Georgia. These officers will be joining Treasurer Cathy Jeffrey, head of technical services at Clayton State University, whose term continues from 2010.

Outgoing GLA President Carol Stanley and Bagley, chair of the GLA Awards Committee, announced the following award recipients: Sarah Steiner, Georgia State University's social work and assessment librarian, received the Bob Richardson Memorial Award for significant contributions of time and effort to the organization.

The Charles Beard Library Advocacy Award for outstanding contributions to Georgia's libraries was presented to Dr. Melvin Steely, University of West Georgia, Georgia's Political Heritage Program.

An honorary GLA membership was presented to Callie McGinnis, who is retired from Columbus State University Libraries.

The GLA Library Support Services Award was presented to Brad Baxter, University of Georgia Libraries, Systems/GALILEO Support, for outstanding contributions to Georgia's libraries.

Tessa Minchew, systems/catalog librarian at Georgia Perimeter College at Clarkston, received the McJenkin-Rheay Award, given to a young librarian who has made outstanding contributions to GLA.

Heidi Benford received the Nora Symers Paraprofessional Award for outstanding contributions to GLA and the Paraprofessional Division. She is an acquisitions assistant at Clayton State University.

The 2010 GLA Paraprofessional Grant winners are: Jennifer Duke, administrative assistant at the Clayton State University Library; Lori Hayes, library associate/circulation clerk/assistant branch manager at the Braselton Library;
Katy Hendricks, library assistant and interim manager in the Youth Services Department for the Spout Springs Branch of the Hall County Library System; Eileen McCoy, children’s services manager for the Augusta Public Library; and Dianne Scott, library assistant at the Swilley Library of Mercer University in Atlanta.

Additionally, the GLA Scholarship Committee announced the 2010 winners of the Charles Beard and C. S. Hubbard Scholarships, two awards given annually by GLA to provide financial assistance for students pursuing a master’s degree in library science (MLS).

The winner of the Charles Beard Scholarship for 2010 is Holly Phillips, a graduate of Valdosta State University who is now enrolled there to pursue her MLS. Phillips has worked in a variety of positions, including branch supervisor, in public libraries since 2006. Her supervisor, Melody Jenkins, director of the Moultrie-Colquitt County Library, praises Holly’s interpersonal skills, her leadership abilities, as well as her “competence, tenacity and intelligence.”

The 2010 winner of the Hubbard Scholarship is Bonnie Moore, who earned a bachelor’s degree from Shorter College in 2009, and who works as a library technical assistant at Georgia Northwestern Technical College in Rome. Moore began work on her MLS at Valdosta State University in January. In recommending her for this scholarship, Moore’s supervisor, Linda Floyd, described her as having a “true passion for the library” and as steadfastly goal-oriented, completing several interim goals as part of the process of starting her graduate degree.

GLA President Carol Stanley (right) — as “Lady COMO” — welcomes Roberta Stevens, president of the American Library Association, to COMO 2010 in Athens. (Photo by Ann Hamilton)