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## Message from the President

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## **Message from the President**

“Change is Inevitable...Growth is Optional.” Change has been a constant at my library lately. We’re renovating and enlarging our main library (a public library in Sumter, South Carolina) and we’ve had to move into temporary quarters. We’ve spent a little more than a year in an old funeral home (and no, we haven’t seen any ghosts yet!) and have a few more months to go. While this has been a big change and a big adjustment, the end result is well worth the effort – a brand new building with plenty of space for patrons, staff and books. My staff has been incredible in a time of major change and they’ve shown a team spirit that’s awe inspiring.

We all know that change is a part of every librarian’s life. Wikis, blogs, instant messaging, Flickr and Web 2.0 are transforming the role of libraries and librarians every day. And as librarians we have to meet that challenge of change, not only in our local libraries, but also in SELA. And the best change for SELA would be growth – more members, more partners and more involvement in the business of SELA.

Our strategic planning document is a great starting point for change and we now have the challenge to make the recommendations of the plan a reality. I hope that everyone will be ready to bring new ideas to the table as we face the future with SELA.

Our next opportunity to make changes within SELA comes at our Leadership Conference. We’re holding the Conference a little earlier this year for many reasons (remember, the key word is change!). May is a busy time for everyone and we had to work around graduation at any possible meeting site. Plus, doing it earlier means the costs are down a bit – something that all librarians have to keep in mind.

The Leadership Conference will be held in Atlanta on March 22-24, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Airport North. We’ve planned great speakers to inspire us and plenty of time to get the business of the Association done. I hope that you will join us for this important aspect of our work. This is our chance to plan for the future and everyone’s invited!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President and I look forward to working with each of you as we meet change head-on. SELA has a bright future that will come true because of the hard work of all its members.

Hope to see you in Atlanta,  
Faith Line