

# Amigos Pasa?

*The Official Newsletter of Amigos Library Services*

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## Funding Available to Amigos Member Libraries

Applications are now being accepted for the 2012 Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award.

The Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award Program supports library innovation, development, and research. Through a competitive application process, up to \$7,500 is available to Amigos member libraries and their staffs to fund projects that stress innovation, cooperation, leadership, and development of libraries and librarians.

In 2010, the application guidelines were revised to include an Opportunity Award component, allowing for consideration of a wider range of projects and attracting submittals from all types of libraries.

Project proposals may be submitted by an Amigos member library or an individual librarian working in an Amigos member library. Final applications for 2012 Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Awards are due March 1, 2012. Amigos strongly encourages applicants to submit proposals for preliminary review. The deadline for submitting a draft for preliminary review is January 20, 2012.

For more information, visit the Amigos website to review the application process or contact Laura Kimberly, mailto:[opportunity@amigos.org](mailto:opportunity@amigos.org) or 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2864. *QP*

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## Welcome New Members!

### **Lawton Public Library**

Lawton, OK  
Mr. David Snider, Library Director

### **Navajo Technical College**

Crownpoint, NM  
Mr. Clyde Henderson, Librarian/Director

### **New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology, Joseph R. Skeen Library**

Socorro, NM  
Ms. Lisa Beinhoff, Library Director

### **Northern Oklahoma College, Vineyard Library**

Tonkawa, OK  
Mr. Ben Hainline, Director of Library Services

### **Paul Quinn College, Zale Library**

Dallas, TX  
Ms. Clarice Medley-Weeks, Director of Library

## Nominating Committee Seeks Amigos Board Candidates

The Amigos Nominating Committee is seeking candidates to serve on the Amigos Board of Directors. At the May 9, 2012 election conducted during the annual Amigos Member Business Meeting, those designated as Voting Representatives of Amigos member libraries will elect three librarians and one Independent Director to serve three-year terms on the Board.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Director Shirley Dickerson, invites those interested in serving or wishing to nominate a colleague to contact her by January 15, 2012 at 936-469-1414 or [sdickerson@sfasu.edu](mailto:sdickerson@sfasu.edu). *QP*



## John Bertot to Keynote February 8 Amigos Online Technology Conference



Dr. John Carlo Bertot, Ph.D, professor and co-director of the Information Policy & Access Center (iPAC) and director of the MLS program at the University of Maryland College Park iSchool, will deliver the keynote address at the February 8, 2012, Amigos online conference “Technology: Unexpected Consequences of Legislation and Policies in Libraries”.

Conference programs will explore the unforeseen, unanticipated, and unexpected consequences of the legislation, regulations, and policies that have been instituted because of the technologies now provided by libraries. The conference will also focus on state, national, and international laws and regulations and how they have affected libraries, and on local policies developed to support specific technologies.

Amigos is currently seeking program ideas and speakers for the conference at [www.amigos.org/node/1003](http://www.amigos.org/node/1003). Programs and speakers will be announced as they are selected.

Dr. Bertot joined the iSchool faculty in August 2008. His research spans information and telecommunications policy, e-government, government agency technology planning and evaluation, and library planning and evaluation. He is president-elect of the Digital Government Society of North America, serves as chair of the International Standards Organization’s (ISO) Library Performance Indicator working group, and serves as a member ISO Library Statistics working group. He has previously served as Chair of the American Library Association’s (ALA) Library Research Round Table, and currently serves on the ALA Committee on Research and Statistics and E-government Services Subcommittee. In addition, Dr. Bertot is editor of the *Government Information Quarterly* and *The Library Quarterly*. Over the years, he has received funding for his research from the National Science Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Government Accountability Office, the American Library Association, and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

For complete conference information, go to <http://www.amigos.org/node/1005> or contact Christine Peterson at Amigos, [peterson@amigos.org](mailto:peterson@amigos.org) or 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2891. *QP*

## Amigos Board of Directors November Meeting Highlights

At its November 4 meeting in Dallas, the Amigos Board of Directors received the final report of an audit of Amigos for the 2011 fiscal year that ended June 30, 2011. The Dallas accounting firm Salmon Sims Thomas & Associates, which conducted the audit, issued Amigos an “unqualified” opinion, the equivalent of an excellent performance report.

In her Chair’s report, Anne Prestamo, Oklahoma State University Libraries, Stillwater, OK, announced the recent reactivation of the Amigos Conflict of Interest Policy Review Task Force to address Amigos staff participation in the policy. In a report to Directors, Task Force Chair Patrick Heath, Independent Director, Boerne, TX, noted that the policy approved earlier this year for the Board of Directors and Amigos’ staff did not appropriately address staff responsibilities regarding conflict of interest. Following Heath’s report, Directors approved changes to administrative and personnel policies recommended by the Task Force.

Prestamo also announced three appointments to the Fellowship and Opportunity Award Selection Committee for 2012. New committee members are Joanne Downing, Fort Bend County Libraries, Richmond, TX; Juliana Nykolaiszyn, Oklahoma State University Libraries, Stillwater, OK; and Jeanette Smith, New Mexico State University Library, Las Cruces, NM. They join Dwain Gordon (Chair), Arkansas State Library, Little Rock, AR; and Rachel Leket-Mor, Arizona State University Libraries, Tempe, AZ. Laura Kimberly, Senior Operations Manager for Amigos, serves as staff liaison.

Amigos Treasurer Patrick Heath noted in his report to the Board that net operations for Amigos in September 2011 showed a positive variance to the FY2012 Business Plan. He reported that the organization’s investment portfolio included unrealized losses in September.

Laura Kimberly, Senior Operations Manager for Amigos, along with OCLC’s Cathy De Rosa and Matt Goldner, presented information about OCLC’s new Web Management Services and Amigos’ role as implementation and training partner. In her comments, De Rosa stated how pleased OCLC was with the knowledge and skills demonstrated by Amigos’ staff participating in the program. Amigos is currently OCLC’s national partner for Web Management Services implementation and training.

Prestamo, as a member of the OCLC Global Council, shared information with Directors about OCLC’s global search for a successor to retiring CEO Jay Jordan, noting that a subcommittee representing OCLC staff and members has been appointed.

In her report to the Board, Amigos President and Chief Executive Officer Bonnie Juergens provided an update on the status of the open source pilot project and offered other reports on the operations of the organization.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for March 9, 2012. *QP*

## Viewpoint from the Chair



Anne Prestamo

The American Library Association (ALA) is holding its 2012 Midwinter Meeting in Dallas January 20-24. To those who are planning on trekking to Texas next month, I want to extend you a hearty “Welcome to Big D!”

We’re excited that ALA has chosen to host its annual Midwinter Meeting in our backyard. As you might expect, Amigos plans to be a visible presence on the exhibit floor. I encourage all Amigos Members to come by Booth 806, located conveniently near the main entrance to the exhibit hall. Stop by and meet with Amigos’ staff about all that’s new and exciting at Amigos in the way of training, member discounts, etc. To entice you even further, we’ll be giving away an e-reader to one lucky Amigos Member each day at our booth in the exhibit hall.

Additionally, Amigos and LexisNexis are hosting an Amigos Member Appreciation gathering Monday, January 23, between 10:30 a.m. and noon. We invite all ALA attendees from Amigos member libraries to join us for light refreshments and a break from your hectic schedules in a relaxed, informal setting. Amigos staff will be on hand to thank you for your continued support of Amigos. Representatives from LexisNexis will be available to discuss the new enhancements to the LN database. We’ll pass along specific location details as they become available, or you can stop by the Amigos booth, #806, or the LexisNexis booth, #2329, for directions.

Dallas has much to offer in the way of amenities and attractions, as you’ll see from visiting the ALA 2012 Midwinter Meeting website. Additionally, if Amigos can assist you in any way in making the most out of your Dallas visit, please contact any Amigos staff member.

We look forward to seeing you here in January!

Anne Prestamo, Chair, Amigos Board of Directors

## Amigos Conference Boxes Featured in LJ Article

The snack boxes sent by Amigos to participants in the May 2011 online Amigos Member Conference were featured in the article “A Conference Wherever You Are” by Dr. Steven J. Bell in the October 2011 issue of Library Journal.com. Bell praised the snack boxes, one of which was sent to him as a conference speaker, as an example of one way that organizations can “humanize” online conferences for participants.



“The Amigos folks get it,” said Bell in his article. “The major weakness of virtual conferencing is the lack of personal connection with a community that one derives from a physical conference. The minor yet humanizing gesture of providing me with snack breaks goodies made me feel that I’d be part of a larger community experience—even if I’d only be sitting in my office staring at my computer screen. The Amigos Member Conference is totally online. Its mix of keynote talks, concurrent sessions, virtual vendor fair, discussion rooms, Twitter backchannel—and the bonus of archived recordings—goes a long way toward narrowing the gap. By blending hi-tech with hi-touch, library organizations like Amigos are getting closer to the ultimate hybrid conference: professional development with equal parts human connectedness and economical convenience.”

The 2011 Amigos conference was the second year Amigos sent snack boxes to participants. The boxes were the brainchild of Amigos’ Terri Mertz and Carol Wattenbarger, who developed the idea as a way to bridge the personal interaction gap inherent in online meetings. “With an online conference, we felt our attendees might miss the opportunities available at traditional conferences to network with colleagues during breaks in between sessions,” said Mertz. “By sending them a snack, cup of coffee, and a pen or some sticky notes, we wanted to let our attendees know we really wanted them to be part of the entire online conference experience. It was also the perfect way to engage our vendor partners. Their sponsorships enabled us to provide a fun and different way to connect with our attendees.”

Mertz said plans are already underway to send out boxes for the 2012 Amigos Member Conference, and invites vendors interested in contributing items for next year’s boxes to contact her. *QP*

View the Amigos Continuing Education Services Training Schedule at <http://www.amigos.org/node/218> for an up-to-date training schedule and registration information.

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