

Memo

To: Montana State Library Network Advisory Council

From: Jo Flick, CE Coordinator

Date: May 4, 2016

Re: Training Update

The 2015-16 **Summer Leadership Institute** participants continued to meet and to work on their projects through the winter and presented their project reports to the MT State Library Commission at their April 2015 meeting. The leaders decided to create a video to present their projects and that video can be viewed on the MSL Vimeo channel here: <https://vimeo.com/161633686>. The video and their written reports (please let me know if you would like to see the written reports) document the outcomes of this rich learning experience for the 21 participants. This was a very productive cohort. More than half of the participants presented at MLA 2016 as well.

MSL staff continue to produce **online learning** every month, with the goal of adding 30 hours of Montana-centric online learning every year. That goal has already been exceeded in the current fiscal year with recent training including:

- Webside chats with the Montana State Librarian
- Database training, including information on Montana-made online resources such as the MT Memory Project, the Natural Heritage Program's Montana Field Guide and the MT Historical Society's wiki, the Montana History Compass
- Information about the Summer Food Service Program of OPI
- Technical Services Futures Summit
- Upcoming: tips for recruiting and retaining volunteers for library programs

Succession Planning for Library Boards, a training initiative that was started in Spring 2015 in collaboration with Sage Solutions NonProfit Consulting of Bozeman continued with a training session at the Sagebrush Federation meeting in Miles City in March and three online webinars conducted in March and April. The MSL Learning Portal has been updated with links to the recorded webinars and to all the resources related to this training, so that library boards may tune in to view the trainings at a time that is convenient to them and conduct the activities in the original training design. Find all those resources here: http://libraries.msl.mt.gov/learning/library_development/administration/succession. The final training for this project will take place in May at the Pathfinder Federation meeting.

MSL Staff presented training at the **OffLine** Conference hosted by the Lewistown Public Library in February and at the **Montana Library Association conference** held in Missoula in April.

Plans for implementing the Library Development Study Task Force recommendations for training are underway. MSL staff have had a preliminary meeting to discuss training for the Fall, to replace our Fall Workshops event. At the NAC meeting, a proposal to revise that event to provide training in 3-4 different locations will be presented for input from the NAC. The intention of revising the format for MSL's Fall training is to reach librarians that struggle with limited travel budgets or commitments that make it hard for them to be away from their community for several days. The topics are derived directly from the Task Force recommendations. Once the NAC has had input on the proposal, dates and locations will be finalized quickly and a program will be available by early July.