A Message from the President

Digital Equity is a concept that is at the heart of what we do as libraries. The so-called "digital divide" is becoming more and more pronounced as many companies and employers only use electronic methods of communication. Those with limited access have learned that the library is the place to whom they can turn for help in bridging the divide. From internet access and printing to online research access and a host of increasingly sophisticated online tasks, we spend a big part of our day helping folks cross the gap to achieve digital equity in achieving their goals.

As President, I have had the opportunity to see the many ways this digital divide can be bridged by creative library staff in both countries. The more opportunities we have to network as professionals and share our experiences, the greater our ability to advocate for the disadvantaged in the digital world. This issue of the Pacific Northwest Library Association Quarterly is one way of listening in on the thoughts and experiences of our colleagues in our international region. Another opportunity is coming up in August, when the PNLA Conference will celebrate libraries as leaders. "Libraries Lead!" will be held at the Centennial Hotel in Spokane, Washington on August 7-9. I look forward to seeing you there and learning from your experiences!

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PNLA Quarterly 83(1/2) 4