

**Interim Director's Report
To Directors Association
January 2011**

Funding Update:

- No additional 2010 funds from the State have been received by any library system.
- Despite NYLA's advocacy for Article 7 bill and preservation of the supplementary system operating aid and hold harmless provisions, the Legislature did not act. There is no indication that the Legislature will be coming back any time soon.
 - All system types have asked DLD to request the release of the library state aid.
 - Due to the non-receipt of the supplemental funding, MHLS is not able to pay out on any part of the 2010 Member Library Incentive Program. The Board has planned to not have a 2011 monetary incentive program.

2012 Member Fee:

- The 2012 member assessment fee is official. At their December meeting the MHLS Board of Trustees approved the fee, which was developed by the System Funding Task Force and endorsed by the DA. This honors the year-in-advance notification commitment from the MHLS Board of Trustees to make sure each library had proper notice of the increase in fees. Each Director needs to insure that their Board has this information for budget planning.
- Fee charts per library have been added to the website at <http://midhudson.org/mhls/committee/main.htm> for:
 - 2010 and 2011 Fee *[MHLS DA endorsed 3/3/2009, MHLS BOT approved 3/14/2009]*
 - 2012 Fee Assessment *[MHLS DA endorsed 11/9/2010, MHLS BOT approved 12/11/2010]*
 - Member Library Database & Audiobook Cost Totals 2011. *[MHLS DA approved 6/4/2010]* Includes costs of all collectively purchased databases: Chiltons, Gale Testing & Education, HeritageQuest, Mango, Syndetics, TumbleBooks and the OverDrive subscription.

SEAL / Spring Valley issue:

- Libraries that were getting hit with SEAL requests from Spring Valley should not be having problems at this point. Judy Fishetti at SENYLRC reworked the SEAL settings so that all Spring Valley requests currently go automatically only to RCLS libraries, and if no one there has it other SEAL participants have to be added manually. This automatic vs. manual procedure will be reevaluated by the SENYLRC RIC advisory committee at their next meeting, but the order of requests going first to RCLS libraries will remain.

OverDrive Update:

- The MHLS Digital Download website at <http://mhls.lib.overdrive.com> has been getting great usage. There were nearly 2,000 OverDrive checkouts and 500 new patrons in December. Both the downloadable audiobook and eBook format are continuing to grow in popularity with our patrons.
- Even with 872 unique audiobook titles, and 224 eBook titles (and duplicate copies of ones with over 8 holds), we are not keeping up with the demand. New content is immediately scooped up. Because the state funding did not come through, the \$18,000 targeted for OverDrive from Central Library Development Aid in 2010 did not arrive.

