

**Director's Report**  
**ODL Board of Directors Meeting of February 13, 2009**

I hope all of you had a restful and restorative holiday season. The legislative session is underway in Washington and at the state capitol and there will be many challenges ahead. Those of you who have served on the Board for a few years will notice that we are not considering proposals for federal funding at our upcoming Board meeting as we have in years past. Unfortunately there is still not a federal budget so we have no firm numbers on what we will have to spend in the year ahead so we are postponing that action until later when we know more. Based on discussions with those at the Institute of Museum and Library Services, it appears that there will be support for continued federal funding for libraries but no details are known yet. The president is expected to submit a preliminary budget in February and a revised one in April.

The Oklahoma legislative session began on Monday and is off to a strong start. I have made presentations to both the Senate and House education appropriations committees on how ODL serves Oklahomans. I am including a few of our handouts to these committees following this report for your information. We were requested to explain our request for new operating funds to the House Appropriations and Budget education subcommittee but the Senate Education Appropriations subcommittee focused only on performance review in SFY08.

The governor presented his budget recommendations on Monday, February 2nd following his State of the State address. The recommendations included a budget reduction of 5% for ODL plus a 10% reduction of our travel budget. You will find a discussion of how ODL might handle a budget reduction on the Board agenda. While it is very preliminary at this point, it seems likely that we will be asked by legislators as to how the agency would reduce services so we want to get your input on our response.

I look forward to seeing you at our Board meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>.