

**NCLA Public Policy Committee**  
**Quarterly Report to NCLA Board**  
**July 2006**

The Committee did not meet this quarter.

Chair Ross Holt has resigned as chair to attend to other duties. President Robert Burgin appointed Patrick Valentine of East Carolina University as the new chair.

Membership on the Committee reflects the composition of NCLA. Current membership is Beverley Gass and David Goble, community college libraries; Kate Hickey, independent/private colleges; Jim Kuhlman, university system; Jerry Thrasher and Ross Holt, public libraries; Mary Boone, State Librarian, ex-officio. There is at present no school representation.

The NC Public Library Directors Association sponsored Library Day 2006 on June 7. Directors and Friends honored sponsors of library legislation and met with individual Representatives and Senators to thank them for their support and to explain legislative and budget needs. Advocates also spoke about NC-Live and State Library needs. Kem Ellis of High Point organized this event, with NCPLDA President Charles Brown of Charlotte presiding.

The 2006-2007 General Assembly budget includes \$15.9 million for North Carolina public libraries in recurring aid, a \$1 million increase, plus \$830,248 in one-time aid. There was no change in NC-Live funds.

National Library Legislative Day will be May 1 & 2, 2007, Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Tell Senators and Representatives about the great programs and exciting activities taking place @ your library and in North Carolina.

NCLA is a founding member of the North Carolina Open Government Coalition <http://www.ncopengov.org/>, a non-profit coalition of media, academic and professional organizations. NCOGC membership dues are \$250 a year and are overdue. Membership includes both NCLA president and chair of the Public Policy Committee.

Ross Holt, past Public Policy chair reports that NCOGC is a very valuable organization, both in terms of its mission and in terms of the exposure it gives NCLA. It enables NCLA to meet with the editors of the major daily newspapers, the leadership of the press and broadcast associations, the NC bureau chief of the AP; the executive director of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation is on the board, etc.). It was clear that the other members of the coalition value NCLA participation. Past President Pauletta Bracy also recommends continued membership in NCOGC.

Patrick Valentine, Chair  
Monday, July 17, 2006