

NLLN Continuing Education Scholarship Reports for 2008/2009

**Emily Millard
MLA Annual Conference
November 19-21, 2008**

I am happy to report that I had a fun and educational time at my first MLA conference. In fact, it was the very first conference I have ever attended. I have worked in libraries for most of my employable years, first as a student shelver and then as support staff and circulation, but I have never been involved in the inner workings and gatherings. I was pleased and honored to be included on this occasion and feel it benefitted me greatly.

The sessions I attended were terrific. I was most pleased with "Social Networking" and "I Can't Understand You." I felt that these two sessions had the most connection to what I do in the library. I also attended "23 Things: Better than a Deep Fried Twinkie." I participated in the program this spring but only completed through Thing 9. I am definitely going to try to finish the program after seeing what else is out there to learn.

I also attended an informal Young Library Professionals get together. It was a great chance to meet others who are fairly new to their careers. In fact, the conference as a whole was a great chance to network and to meet people face-to-face that I have spoken with on the phone or e-mailed. It is so nice to be able to place a face with a voice. It brings a seemingly distant world down to a more personable level.

Thank you very much for the support to make my attendance at this conference possible. I am looking forward to the opportunity to attend many more in years to come.

Sincerely,

Emily Millard
Fergus Falls Public Library