



# Between Friends

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Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System

Spring 2011

## Dean Smith named director of Library System

Dean Smith, who joined the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System three years ago as an assistant director, has been named to succeed Julia Clarke as director. Clarke retired from that post at the end of 2010 after 25 years of service to the Library System.

As assistant director, Smith had been in charge of the staffing and



**NEW LIBRARY SYSTEM DIRECTOR Dean Smith, center, confers with assistant directors Lauren Fernandez (left) and Natasha Casteel.**

### Julia Clarke retires

operation of the System's 17 libraries. Before coming to Albuquerque, he was a senior development librarian for the Southwark Libraries in London, England. From 1987 to 2003, he held various supervisory positions with the New York Public Library system. At various times, he was responsible for managing staff at several branches, training library managers, overseeing budgets in excess of \$2 million and increasing the circulation of materials for adults and children.

Smith is looking ahead to the "challenges we are preparing for as the economy recovers and the

Library budget recovers," thinking about what the Library System could do with increased resources. "I want to continue moving the Library System forward as an effective and well-loved system.

"The enhancements to our services provided by the Friends just makes all the difference," he says. "The staff do core services very well, but we couldn't do the

level of quality programming without the Friends."

Smith holds a masters in library and information sciences from Indiana University and a bachelor of education in school media services from Ball State University. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professions, the American Library Association and the New Mexico Library Association.

**In 2010, the Friends raised almost \$200,000 by selling books!**

**The monthly book sales brought in \$128,870.**

**The Main Library Used Bookshop brought in \$50,507.**

**Fiction to Go (books for sale on an honor-pay system at 11 of our 17 branches) brought in \$19,213.**

**Well done—thanks to our great volunteers!**



Between Friends

## Profile: Diane Hice, a new director for the Friends

When she was growing up, Diane Hice says, “I wanted to do something exciting with my life, not just work at a desk.” But, she acknowledges, that is exactly what she does now as vice president of Medical Affairs and executive director of Health Services at Presbyterian Healthcare Services. Officially, she is responsible for “operational, financial and clinical activities for medical management, including case management, care

that I have done.” She still remembers curling up with a Nancy Drew mystery when she was young; she would reserve one night a week for the pleasure of reading in bed. She loves the feel and smell of a real book, but she received a Kindle recently as a gift and promises she will give it a try!

Her goal in joining the Board is to promote self-sufficiency through education and literacy. She would like to help the Friends seek out literary grants or help in other ways. Presbyterian encourages its people to do volunteer work in the community. She was involved as a tutor and committee member for Albuquerque Reads, belonged to the Chamber of Commerce and took the Leadership Albuquerque course in 1999. She decided she wanted to serve on a board of directors, researched it and chose the Friends.

Married and a resident of the Northeast Heights, she has an extended family that includes seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild. She grew up in River Edge in northern New Jersey and has lived in California, Illinois, Maryland and Virginia. She holds a bachelor of science degree in nursing from the Medical College of Virginia and a master of arts degree in organizational management and behavior from the University of Phoenix in Albuquerque. She also participated in a family

nurse practitioner program and a pediatric nurse practitioner program.

And she’s not done yet: In January, she went back to school online at New Mexico State to work toward a master’s degree and a PhD in nursing, to prepare herself for research work after her retirement.

We are happy to have her!

### Curling up with a good Kindle?

coordination, benefit certification, utilization management, technology assessment and disease management.”

And, in her spare time, she is serving her first term as a director at large on the Friends’ Board of Directors.

Her choice of nursing as a career was influenced by the presence of several nurses in her immediate family. And her choice to devote some of her energies to the Friends was influenced by her favorite hobby, reading. “I’m a homebody. I like the quiet life,” she says. “My parents always promoted reading, and libraries are ingrained into my system. Reading is a big part of everything

**The Friends for the Public Library is a volunteer organization that assists the Library through advocacy and fund-raising. Friends funds purchase equipment and supplies for Library programs, such as the Summer Reading Program, community outreach projects and workshops for day-care providers. Major fund-raising efforts include the monthly book sales, Fiction to Go and the Bookshop at the Main Library. To become a member, go to [www.friendsforthelibrary.org](http://www.friendsforthelibrary.org) and download a membership application. Dues start at \$10 annually and cover the calendar year from January 1 through December 31. Members receive free admission to the monthly book sales and 10% off at the Bookshop.**

**Visit  
The Friends  
Used Bookshop  
at the Main Library**

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**5th & Copper NW  
768-5123**

**Open:**

**Mon.-Sat. 10:30 am-4 pm**

**Closed: Sundays**



*Between Friends* is published quarterly by the Friends for the Public Library, a non-profit corporation in support of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System.

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Friends with a current membership receive *Between Friends* by mail, free of charge.

## **With a little help from the Friends: “Diversity, Literature and Teens: Beyond Good Intentions”**

*This is a report from Cheryl Mugleston, youth librarian at the Lomas-Tramway Library:*

In November 2010, I was fortunate to be able to attend the Young Adult Literature Symposium, offered by the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association. More than 400 librarians, educators, authors and YA literature fans attended the three-day symposium, held in Albuquerque.

I attended several sessions that addressed a variety of issues in young adult literature. In one session, authors discussed the place of sexuality in young adult literature and explained their roles in writing sensitive, interesting literature. Other presenters provided many book suggestions for teens with a wide variety of reading or non-reading interests. Authors of books for teens discussed the role of gay, lesbian and bisexual characters in their novels, and offered new ways of thinking about homosexual characters. Others discussed “teen-friendly” graphic novels featuring characters of color and provided insight into how different abilities and disabilities affect life experiences. Presenters gave many book talks, demonstrating skills that will enable librarians and educators to promote reading to teens from diverse ethnic and social backgrounds.

Among the many authors who spoke, the highlights were the two keynote speakers at the closing session: Ellen Hopkins and Lauren Myracle. They discussed writing about sensitive topics for young adults, and the importance of overcoming intellectual freedom challenges to ensure that all teens have access to books of all kinds.

I am appreciative to the Friends for the Public Library for covering the cost of the symposium. I was inspired and energized by this experience, and gained new knowledge and skills regarding diverse literature for teens.

—Cheryl Mugleston

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## **Library Advisory Board focuses on budget and bonds**

As we begin 2011, we must say goodbye to Julia Clarke who served in our Library System for almost 25 years. She was a positive, energetic director, who worked to turn every challenge into an opportunity. It is hard to imagine the Library without her, but even Julia deserves to start a new and exciting phase of life: retirement!

Our new director, Dean Smith, has been assistant director in charge of the staffing and operation of the system. We have all gotten to know Dean over the past three years as he worked to help Julia cope with the constant cuts in budget and positions. He is a veteran of the struggle and has the experience to deal with the challenges of the position. Welcome, Dean, to your new responsibilities. We'll all do our best to support you in your new role.

The Advisory Board will be focusing on the city operating budget and city library bond this quarter. For the past four years, the library operating budget and staffing positions have been decreasing. We are working to avert additional cuts in the FY 12 budget. We are also encouraging the city admini-

stration to propose \$3 million in the library materials bond and \$500,000 in a Library automation bond for the ballot in November. If the bonds are at those amounts, the materials budget will be back to 2006-2007 levels, which would be a move in the right direction. Then we just have to work to convince our neighbors to vote "yes" on those bonds!

Remember to visit the [SupportABCLibraries.org](http://SupportABCLibraries.org) website to keep current on funding news. You can sign up through the website to join our SupportABCLibraries e-mail distribution list, too. If you plan to attend the city public meetings on the budget and bonds, please pick up a yellow Support Libraries button at the Coffee Connection at Main and wear it to the meetings. The button makes a powerful statement of support at public meetings.

Many thanks to the Friends' volunteers who raise the money to pay for our efforts and for all of the wonderful programs provided to our community through the Library System. This is funding that is in our own hands. The more books, CDs and DVDs we donate to the Friends, the more money they can raise!

**Ceil van Berkel, Chair**  
**Library Advisory Board**