

# Paula A. Kiely

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## Library Experience

### **Milwaukee Public Library**

Director

September 2006 –

Provide executive leadership for the largest public library system in Wisconsin, including the Historic Central Library and twelve neighborhood libraries. Work with a 12-member Board of Trustees to ensure quality services to Milwaukee residents, the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation Board and the Friends of the Library Board. Serve on Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett's cabinet and work with members of the Milwaukee Common Council to provide excellent cost-effective library services to residents.

Major Achievements:

- Helped raise over \$2.6 million through the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation
- Strengthened community partnerships to bring high profile events to the library
- Engaged staff and community members in a planning process to develop a long-term service and facilities plan
- Aligned service priorities to meet user demand and to support city initiatives
- Expanded remote services through the library's web page including specialized databases, virtual references services, a library blog and a MySpace page
- Increased professional development of all staff through monthly educational convocations and support of individual training opportunities
- Increased efficiencies of library materials processing

### **Milwaukee Public Library**

Deputy City Librarian / Manager of Central Library Services

May 2000 – September 2006

Responsible for the planning, development and implementation of library service at Milwaukee's Central Library, the largest public library in Wisconsin. Oversee collections in 3 major subject areas and the Betty Brinn Children's Room, public services including reference, programming, collection development, and staffing. Manage volunteer activities including the BookSeller used book store and Docents. Serve as head of the Milwaukee Public Library system in the absence of the City Librarian.

Major Achievements:

- Established system wide library training plan for reference staff
- Developed a flexible staffing formula for budget allocation

- Increased security of library buildings through establishments of security committee
- Facilitated online sale of used books by Friends of the Library
- Helped attract North American Serials Interest Group conference to Milwaukee
- Coordinated service operations during renovation of the Central Library's grand staircase, the Wells Street entrance and the new Children's Room entrance
- Implemented National Endowment for the Humanities funded program, *Branching Out. Poetry for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*
- Established the COMPASS Guide initiative (2001-04), including the successful Life After High School workshops and the Teen Advisory Board

### **Milwaukee Public Library**

Coordinator of Children's Services

October 1998 – May 2000

Responsible for directing and managing services to Milwaukee's children and others through services, programs and collections. Provided leadership and direction to professional children's services staff at Central and neighborhood libraries. Managed newly opened Betty Brinn Central Children's Room. Worked with Milwaukee Public Library Foundation to raise funds for programs and materials.

Major Achievements:

- Revitalized services to pre-school children
- Increased visits to children's room, attendance at programs and circulation of collection
- Created and developed the award winning *Books2Go* program, which develops reading readiness skills in preschool children through outreach to child care facilities and training of child care providers.

### **Milwaukee Public Library**

Librarian I and II

January 1995 – October 1998

Provided library services in neighborhood and Central libraries as a young adult and children's librarian. Selected library materials, developed and executed programming, answered reference questions, participated in planning for the Central Library Betty Brinn Children's Room.

### **Brookfield Public Library**

Librarian

January 1993 – January 1995

Served as a children's librarian, offered a full range of services including collection development, reference and programming.

## Other Experience

### **University of Wisconsin Milwaukee**

Personnel Department

Academic Staff - Assistant Program Specialist

Responsible for consulting with assigned schools and colleges on recruitment practices for faculty and academic staff positions.

### **Bader Rutter and Associates**

Accounting Assistant

Responsible for client billing. Assisted with conversion of manual accounting system to company's first PC-based automated system.

## Education

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Master of Library and Information Science (Honors)

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Bachelor of Fine Arts – Art (Honors)

## Selected Additional Coursework and Professional Development

Financial Accounting (6 credits)

Looking Ahead – The Future of Public Libraries (Salt Lake City, UT)

Internet & Society Seminar (Harvard University)

Continuing Education in non-profit management

Entrepreneurial Solutions for Non-Profits

## Grants

\$16,500 HP – Library Technology Access Equipment Grant (2002)

\$21,100 Library Services and Technology Act – Learning for All: Services to Youth with Learning Disabilities (2001)

\$74,900 Library Services and Technology Act – Books2Go (2000)

## Professional Activities

Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference (Program Co-Chair)

Library Services and Technology Act – State Advisory Committee (2005-08)

Wisconsin Heritage Online Planning Committee (Founding Members, Marketing Chair)

Library Council of Southeastern Wisconsin (Executive Board, Past President)

Wisconsin Library Legislative Day (Annual)

Wisconsin State Summit on the Future of Libraries (Green Lake)

### Community Activities

Westown Transportation Committee (Creators of ParkMilwaukee.com)

Westown Community Economic Development Committee

### Memberships

Beta Phi Mu (Library Honor Society)

American Library Association

Public Library Association

Wisconsin Library Association

Wisconsin Historical Marine Society

Professional Dimensions (Board 2005-08; VP Strategic Planning)

Downtown Rotary

### Awards

City Innovation Award – Central Library Betty Brinn Children's Room

Innovation Award – Public Policy Forum – Books2Go

Innovation Award – Public Policy Forum – Free Computer Training Classes

Graduate of the Decade – UWM/School of Information Studies