

Intellectual Freedom Committee Report
Jan. 10, 2007, Executive Board Meeting
Michael Greenlee, Chair

Just a quick update since the end of the Conference:

The committee has a new member: Deborah Babbitt, Nampa Public Library, 208-468-5814, dbabbitt@nampalibrary.org. Deborah is interested in planning a possible pre-conference intellectual freedom workshop for the 2007 Annual Conference.

I spoke with Val Fenske and we are working together to finish the guidelines for use the Intellectual Freedom Fund. An initial draft was submitted with the IFC Report on October 6, 2006.

When recently speaking with Robert Wright of the Idaho Falls Public Library, he informed me that they had several intellectual freedom challenges over the past year, all of which resulted in the library keeping the challenged item. Two challenges concerned that same book, "And Tango Makes Three," a true-story of two male penguins living at the NYC Central Park Zoo. Unable to produce an egg of their own, the zookeeper gives them an egg to nurture and, ultimately, a chick to raise; obviously challenged because of homosexual overtones. An unusual title that was challenged was the 1977 movie, "A Bridge Too Far." The patron apparently wanted the movie removed because it was unsuitable for children.