

takes literacy seriously and understands the role of the school library and teacher-librarian. The focus of the presentation was the Free Voluntary Reading (FVR – FeVeR) program. This part of the presentation included the PowerPoint used during an assembly to introduce the FeVeR program to the students. An all-too-frequently-made assumption is that, while Free Voluntary Reading programs are fine at the elementary level, the idea is just not workable in secondary schools. It was so encouraging to hear about a FVR program that works in a secondary school. □

—Brenda Dillon

Advocating the Evidence in the Secondary School Library Information Centre

MICHELLE REGINA, MARY ELISE CITTON, LORI LISI, York Catholic District School Board.

This was another well-presented session. Studies in many states, particularly the Colorado, Alaska, Oregon, California and Iowa studies have shown that a well funded, well staffed school library with a large collection has a direct impact on increased test scores. There is little data for Canada. This workshop gave practical advice on how to begin to collect the requisite statistics in out own libraries. Additionally, it was emphasized that teacher-librarians must assume leadership roles in their schools and continue to advocate for the type of funding and staffing that will enhance the EQAO scores for their schools. □

—Lynn Poth

LORI LISI



Mentorship: Partnerships for Lifelong Learning

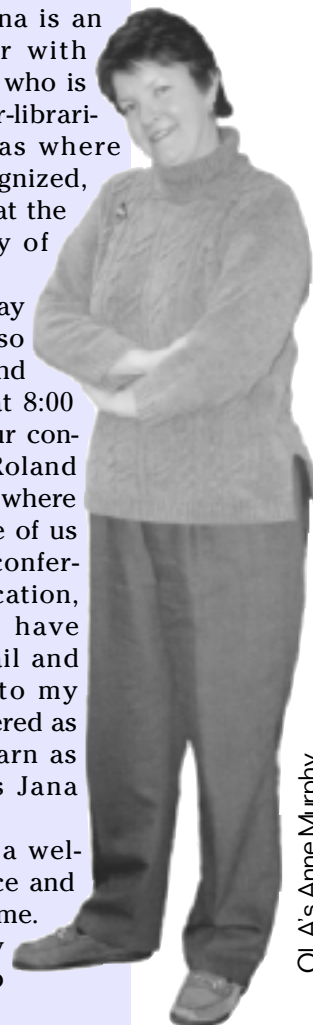
A new initiative at this year's Super Conference package was mentorship. Persons interested in either being mentors or having mentors were invited to contact Anne Murphy. By the time Super Conference began, she worked her matchmaking magic and paired 12 mentors with protégés.

Sharon Armstrong from Grand Erie District School Board and I from Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board were paired with Jana Roth. Sharon and I are both secondary teacher-librarians; Jana is an experienced grade 7/8 teacher with Intermediate/Senior qualifications, who is interested in working as a teacher-librarian. Since Jana teaches overseas where Ontario's AQ courses aren't recognized, she's completing a library degree at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Information Studies.

I met Jana at 7:30 am the Thursday Super Conference began. We met so early because Jana wanted to attend Phyllis Yaffe's opening program at 8:00 am. Well, we got so involved in our conversation that we barely made Roland Case's 9:00 am session! And that's where we met up with Sharon. The three of us met periodically to discuss the conference, teacher-librarianship, education, and, well, life. The three of us have agreed to stay in touch by e-mail and Jana hopes to arrange a visit to my school library. Although I volunteered as a mentor, I have no doubt I'll learn as much from Jana and Sharon as Jana might learn from me.

The mentoring initiative was a welcome addition to Super Conference and one to be continued in years to come. I would like to thank Anne Murphy for her work as mentorship co-ordinator. □

—Brenda Dillon



OLA's Anne Murphy