

**South Central Kansas Library System  
Executive Committee Nominees  
October 2020**

**Linking Public Member Libraries**

**Four-year Term Beginning January 2021 and Ending December 2024**

**Jean Thiessen, Director, Whitewater Memorial Library**

Candidate's Statement:

*“After serving a full term on the SCKLS Executive Committee, I now have a greater understanding of how the system operates regarding governance, finances and service to member libraries. With that knowledge and experience, along with 29 years of librarianship and a K.P.L.A.C.E. (Kansas Public Library Advanced Continuing Education) certificate, I hope to serve member libraries for another 4 years.”*

**Major Service Center I Public Member Libraries**

**Four-year Term Beginning January 2021 and Ending December 2024**

**Mendy Pfannenstiel, Director, Arkansas City Public Library**

Candidate's Statement:

*“I have been the Director of the Arkansas City Public Library for six years, and I (and my staff) have come to rely on SCKLS for their generous grant programs, consulting services, and continuing education events. I greatly admire SCKLS' dedication, transparency, and professionalism towards its members. I've learned that one gains a better understanding of how an organization works by serving on that organization's board, and it would be an honor to actively participate on and learn from the SCKLS Executive Committee. Thank you for considering my nomination.”*

**Regents Academic Member Library  
Four-year Term Beginning January 2021 and Ending December 2024**

**Kathy Downes, Dean of University Libraries, Wichita State University  
Libraries**

Candidate's Statement:

*"I have been so honored to serve as the Regents Academic Library Representative to the SCKLS Executive Committee over these last three years. As a longtime librarian at Wichita State University, I had always admired the South Central Kansas Library System and appreciated its dedication towards helping member libraries serve their communities. Once on the Board, I saw firsthand the enthusiasm and dedication of each SCKLS staff and each board member. From its technology support, numerous grant programs and continuing education opportunities to its customized services and events, I saw SCKLS helping libraries be their very best. Being a part of and contributing to these efforts was and is awe-inspiring and humbling."*

*"I am excited and grateful to be nominated for another term on the SCKLS Executive Committee. It would be a true privilege to continue serving the library community as an Executive Committee member. If chosen, I will make every effort to support and advance the mission and goals of the South Central Kansas Library System. Thank you for your consideration."*

**Major Service Center II Public Member Library  
Four-year Term Beginning January 2021 and Ending December 2024**

**Jeff Roberson, Public Library Board Member, Board of Trustees,  
Hutchinson Public Library**

Candidate's Statement:

*"I have truly enjoyed my time on the SCKLS Executive Committee and would enjoy serving out another term. Lending my support over the years has been a great honor. The services provided by SCKLS are invaluable to the member libraries. I often talk about what SCKLS does out in the community and while mostly invisible to the public at large, I am proud to help educate the public about SCKLS and what they provide for the communities. The SCKLS tag line of "Libraries Transform Communities" is so true on many levels. During this pandemic, Libraries have shown that they can pivot quickly with the changing demands we all are facing. SCKLS helps play a role in this as well."*

**Major Resource Center Public Libraries  
Four-year Term Beginning January 2021 and Ending December 2024**

**Savannah Ball, Branch Manager, Wichita Public Library**

Candidate's Statement:

*“I have worked for the Wichita Public Library for a total of 14 years, 3 years in my current position as the manager of the Rockwell Branch Library in east Wichita. I have an understanding and deep appreciation of library systems, working as the Consultant and Continuing Education Coordinator at the Southwest Kansas Library System for 3 years. I am also actively involved in the Kansas library community, serving two terms on the Executive Committee of the Kansas Library Association and teaching an annual course on library customer service to new Kansas directors for the Applied Public Library Education program. I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the SCKLS Executive Committee as the Major Resource Center representative, as I feel that the system helps to make library service accessible to all Kansas citizens. I believe the support that is provided to libraries and library staff by SCKLS plays a crucial role in the success of libraries in South Central Kansas. Thank you for your consideration.”*