November 23, 2009

Dear Mr. King:

Please accept this letter in acknowledgement of the critical importance of the Kentucky Virtual Library and the many resources and services it provides to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Every day, KYVL ensures that all Kentuckians have equitable access to quality information and resources that most user communities would be unable to afford on their own. Whether you are at a large research institution, small liberal arts college, at a school or public library, KYVL provides access to the same high quality information to all.

On our campuses, we rely on the basic core of databases KYVL provides to supplement our local subscriptions and resources. When KYVL is cut, we are forced to pick up the resource independently at a higher price or remove access for our students. School and public libraries are often not able to find dollars to recover the resource for their communities, and for them the loss of KYVL is often a permanent loss of access.

The other essential services that KYVL provides, the courier service, the Voyager Integrated Library System and servers, the MetaLib servers and the Kentuckiana Digital Library allow us to share resources and make our collections available and more accessible to every citizen in Kentucky. This broad access helps strengthen the support system in place for citizens contemplating postsecondary education, or moving between institutions.

All of these important KYVL initiatives save money for our schools, colleges and universities, libraries and the Commonwealth. The potential additional decrease in funding for resources and services would have a devastating impact to our institutions.

Please convey to the Governor the importance of the Kentucky Virtual Library and its services in educating and providing information access to all citizens of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Sheila Stuckey, Chair of SAALCK, Kentucky State University

Arne Almquist, Northern Kentucky University
Mike Binder, Western Kentucky University
Carrie Cooper, Eastern Kentucky University
Carol Pitts Diedrichs, University of Kentucky

Adam Murray, Murray State University
Elsie Pritchard, Morehead State University
Hannelore Rader, University of Louisville
Sheree Huber Williams, KCTCS