



BENJAMIN TAKA WAKASHIGE
900 Loma Colorado Blvd., NE Unit 4421
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124
(505) 962-4059 home; (505) 304-8047 cell
bwakashige@gmail.com

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE –Mr. Wakashige’s career in librarianship covered libraries of all types: academic, public, school, tribal, and state. He was Director of the New Mexico State Library from 1998 to 2003 and Interim Director in 2011. He has held administrative positions for Central New Mexico Community College, Fort Lewis College in Colorado, National American University, Pacific University in Oregon, Texas A&M -Corpus Christi, and others.

Now retired, Mr. Wakashige maintains a research interest in Japanese-Americans in New Mexico and in Asian-American Library Directors. He enjoys running, gardening, and volunteering.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (selected list)

- Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Leadership Grants - Digitization, Panelist, 2000; National Leadership Grants - Education, Field Review, 2001; Native American Enhancement Grants, Panelist, 2005.
- New Mexico Coalition for Literacy, 2014 – 2015.
- Family Promise (homeless interfaith program) Board, 2014 – 2019, Chair of Board of Directors, 2018 – 2019.
- Central NM United Way Community Fund Panelist, 2015, 2016; 2018; Chair:Panel 1, 2016. Panel 13, 2018
- Letters About Literature Judge, New Mexico State Library, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018.
- Administrative Director of Libraries and Educational Resources, Central New Mexico Community College, 2010 – 2012
- Interim New Mexico State Librarian, 2011
- Library Director, Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado, 2008 – 2010
- Asian/Pacific American Librarian Association, Board, President 2006 - 2007
- System Director of Learning Resources Centers, National American University, main campus in Rapid City, South Dakota, 2006 – 2008
- University Librarian/Director of the Library, Harvey W. Scott Memorial Library, Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon, 2003 – 2006
- State Librarian/Director of the New Mexico State Library, Santa Fe, NM, 1998-2003

EDUCATION

Masters in Librarianship, Emporia State University, Kansas, August 1970
Bachelor of Arts, Western New Mexico University, May 1969