

EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

■ School of LIBRARY &
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Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to offer you congratulations on the opening of Bulgaria's 10th Annual National Library Week. This is such an excellent way to celebrate the value of libraries to the people of Bulgaria, the communities in which they live, and the country as a whole.

Your theme this year, *Libraries – A Place for Learning*, emphasizes both its traditional role as in supporting education of a nation's youth and new roles that modern technology allows libraries to assume to help all people in a community reach their personal goals.

We understand that this is also the 25th anniversary of the Bulgarian Library and Information Association. Emporia State University has a long history of cooperation with BLIA and Bulgarian libraries. We recognize the important role that BLIA has played in the development of libraries in Bulgaria. BLIA's leadership and members over these years should be commended for its vision and dedication.

Emporia State University is committed to educating future librarians who understand the critical role that libraries play in providing access to information and defending the right of people to obtain and use resources that help them lead a productive life. We realize that this happens best when the students can understand how libraries develop and operate, not just in the US, but around the world. We are pleased that we can help our students achieve this global understanding.

We are honored that some of our students and faculty will be able to celebrate National Library Week, BLIA's anniversary, and May 11, the Day of the Library and Information Workers and deliver these congratulations in person.

We wish you the very best celebrations in support of libraries and librarians.



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