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NEMO News, Volume 2, Issue 7

UNO Library Science Education
University of Nebraska at Omaha

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NEMO News

An e-newsletter for University of Missouri-Columbia MLS students living in the Nebraska area.

APRIL 24, 2006

Winter Semester 2006

Volume 2, Number 7



"The real problem with your leisure time is how to keep other people from using it."

~ Unknown



Respite and Relief

Winter Comps are now over, winter semester will soon be finished. Some of us will have a brief respite and a few of us will be breathing a well deserved sigh of relief. Take time to enjoy!

Student Spotlight

Julie Humphrey is in the spotlight for this month, thanks Julie!

Q: What is your education/library/professional background?

Education: I have a B.A. in Spanish from the University of South Dakota-Vermillion, with a minor in Chemistry.

Library background: I started out as a library volunteer in Sioux Falls, SD, when I was fourteen. Two years later, when I was old enough, the librarians encouraged me to apply for an aide position. I was hired to be an Audio/Visual aide at the Main Branch and quickly became one of their prodigies. When I went off to college two years later, I became an aide in the Periodicals department of the I.D. Weeks Library on the USD campus. Soon after graduation 3 ½ years later, we moved here to Lincoln and I became one of the Reference/Periodicals aides at the Bennett Martin Library. The staff there encouraged me to keep applying to get a better position. Two years after moving to Lincoln, I became a Library Assistant II at the Walt Branch. Now, two years later, I am the new Library Assistant III for Youth Services at Walt Branch. (Did you do your math? How old am I? Answer at the end...)

*"Fiction reveals
truths that reality
obscures."
~Jessamyn West*



Q: What is on your reading list? What are your favorites/your recommended/your want to read lists?

You really don't want me to type out everything on my 'to be read' list, do you? I currently have about 85 books on my list of things to read when I get free time (what's that?). I typically read mystery, fantasy, some science fiction, espionage/thriller, horror, anthologies, very limited non-fiction, and now I've taken to reading children's fiction because of my new position. I'm not a big fan of westerns, 'chick lit' or romance novels.

Three books that I recommend to everyone to go read RIGHT NOW are Haroun and the Sea of Stories by Salman Rushdie, Faith of the Fallen by Terry Goodkind, and Total Money Makeover by Dave Ramsey.

Q: What professional journal or article have you read and would recommend? Why?

There was a very interesting article recently about gamers and the library. Since I am a gamer, as is my brother and my husband, I had often wondered if the library would ever begin marketing themselves to that demographic...

Q: What do you do in your "down time"? Your hobbies/recreation, how do you relax?

There was a very interesting article recently about gamers and the library. Since I am a gamer, as is my brother and my husband, I had often wondered if the library would ever begin marketing themselves to that demographic...

Q: What deep dark secret would you like to share?

I am an avid NASCAR fan (I even TiVo the races) and I occasionally wear leather pants for the fun of it (but not to work)...

Q: Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21st century library and information centers.

I have the ability to work well with others. I often end up as a mediator between disgruntled people because everyone feels comfortable enough to talk to me. I like to solve problems, so I try to help them compromise.

Q: What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?

For the love of Pete, don't procrastinate like I do. Leave yourself lots of time to get your projects done so you don't have to stay up all night (or weekend) writing a paper. Nobody needs the stress that procrastination causes.

Q: What do you see as key future trends and challenges in LIS?

With the public's ever growing need for speed, we need to still focus on the importance of good service and accurate results. We just need to learn how to provide the same quality of years past in the quicker response time that people have come to expect in this world of fast-food/convenience living.

Q: What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?

I would love to be remembered as the friendly librarian. The one that creates the positive experiences for people. The person that makes young people want to become librarians when they grow up.

Q: Any Last Words?

Just a big THANK YOU to all the librarians and library staff that have encouraged me over the years to "Go for it!". Without all of you, I may never have discovered my calling in life.

(P.S. - The answer to the first question is 25 ½)

*"Books are
lighthouses erected
in the great sea of
time."*

~E.P. Whipple



Alumni Annotations

Thanks to **Susan Franklin** for her time and thoughts!

Q: What is your education/library/professional background?

B.A. English Hastings College, minor in Philosophy
MA English Texas A&M University
MA Library Science University of Missouri

I am interlibrary loan librarian/adjunct instructor of English at Hastings College and Administrative Assistant at the Republican Valley Library System.

Q: What is on your reading list? What are your favorites/your recommended/your want to read lists?

On my want-to-read list:

Saving Fish from Drowning by Amy Tan

Karen Harper's Elizabeth I Mystery Series (recommended to me eons ago!)

Latest favorite author: David Liss, author of *A Conspiracy of Paper*, *The Coffee Trader*, *A Spectacle of Corruption*

Favorites: mysteries, thrillers, historical novels

Q: What professional journal or article have you read and would recommend? Why?

Dye, Jessica. "Folksonomy: A Game of High-tech (and High-stakes) Tag." *EContent* 29.3 (2006): 38-43. When I attended the recent "Joe Janes Colloquium," he mentioned folksonomies, a term I'd heard before, but didn't really understand. When I heard it again at the colloquium, it made me curious. This article gave me perspective on this social tagging trend—what it is, its different types, the advantages and disadvantages, the major players in folksonomy technology and where the technology/movement might be headed in the future. Interesting stuff!

Q: What do you do in your "down time"? Your hobbies/recreation, how do you relax?

"Down time"? What's that?!

Q: What deep dark secret would you like to share?

I read in the bathtub. I'm proud to say I've only submerged one book in my entire lifetime and it was my own, not a library's—thank goodness!

Q: Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21st century library and information centers.

Loving a good challenge, being prepared to meet it head-on.

Q: What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?

Take deep breaths. Unhook yourself from the computer for more than a day once in a while. Eat lots of comfort food. Keep everything (classes, family, work, etc.) in balance.

Q: What do you see as key future trends and challenges in LIS?

Trends: Partnerships—I see libraries forging more and increasingly creative relationships with other entities (other professions, local organizations, hospitals, even library-library).

Challenges:

- Continuing to meet the needs of our users in a rapidly changing environment. Trite, but true.
- Being our own advocates; promoting our libraries to make them key in our communities and the lives of our users.
- Money, money, money.

"Liberrian: One who picks liberies from wild liberry bushes and makes a liberry pie. Mmmmh! Mmmmh! So delicious!"

**~R. Lee Hadden
(Message reproduced in
Library Juice, 12
April 2000)**



Q: What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?

Too soon to tell, but: a passion for our profession and a willingness to mentor others. Oh, yeah, and a bottomless candy dish on my desk.

Faculty Focus

Thanks to **Chris LeBeau** for sharing her experiences!

Q: What is your education/library/professional background?

I began as a history major (B.A. History) attending Marymount College which has now been taken over by Fordham University. I worked in libraries throughout college and decided to attend library school at Long Island University. There I was tracked into public librarianship since I lacked a second masters. I was, however, able to move into academic libraries when I moved to the Midwest. While working at Creighton University I took advantage of the free tuition for employees to get my M.B.A., building on my interest in finance. When you live blocks away from Warren Buffett, and he's a constant in your life through the newspaper or seeing him around town, it's hard not to be interested in finance.

My first library position was at Pennsylvania State University in Technical Services. Following Penn State I lived in a very rural Massachusetts town for a year and worked at Marlboro Academy, organizing its high school library. At Marymount College I again worked in Technical Services. After Marymount I took a demanding job at the Greenburgh Public Library on the outskirts of New York City. I began in Technical Services, but moved to Reference upon graduation from library school. At Creighton University I continued in Reference and took responsibility for online searching, and later all electronic resources. That position grew to encompass web responsibilities in addition to business librarianship. (Job creep) In fact, smaller libraries offer all kinds of opportunities since they try to accomplish all the same things large libraries do without all the people resources.

In 2002 life moved me to Kansas City where my MBA got me a business librarianship position at UMKC. So it paid to get that degree. You never know which card in your deck is going to be your trump card someday. Then I was fortunate enough to be in this state where the library school came up with this great idea to experiment with shared positions between campuses. So I split my 40 hour work week between SISLT and UMKC, basing myself in Kansas City. It's an ideal job for me at this point in my life.

Q: What is on your reading list? What are your favorites/your recommended/your want to read lists?

I'm glad you asked me what's on my list rather than which 6 books I read this month! I tend to enjoy biography and nonfiction the most, although I love a beautifully written piece of literature. I just finished *A Million Little Pieces* as I want to gain a better understanding of the devastating nature of addiction and addiction behavior, despite the criticism this book has received. Kansas City's Whitney Terrell is a friend, and his book, *King of King's County*, is next on my list. MU's Steve Watts is also a friend, and I'm anxious to read his book on Henry Ford (*The People's Tycoon: Henry Ford and the American Century*). His next book is on Hugh Hefner which should be very interesting.

Joan Didion's book sounds good, and I also recently read *Riding the Bus with my Sister* (Rachel Simon). I have a mentally retarded sister, so this book really hit home with me.

Q: What professional journal or article have you read and would recommend? Why?

Oh dear, I read tons of them and I like to stay abreast of so many different areas of librarianship. I'm reading a great new book called "Readings Matters: What the Research Reveals about Reading, Libraries and Community," by Catherine Ross. I just digested papers by Michael Gorman -- "A Paper on Education for Librarianship and ALA's Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies, 1992," -- and responses by John Budd -- "The Intentional Curriculum: An Exploration of Academic and Intellectual Politics" -- and Fiona Black --

"Our whole American way of life is a great war of ideas, and librarians are the arms dealers selling weapons to both sides."

*~James Quinn
WESTPAC/NOCALL
joint meeting,
1990)*



"Patterns, Perceptions and Predictions: Librarianship in the Early 21st Century." I stumbled on a good article by Joan Giesecke, Dean of Libraries at the University of Nebraska, "Core Competencies and the Learning Organization" in *Library and Administration Management* (1999). And I follow issues like the Open Access articles and Jill Emery's many articles on electronic resources. My teaching directs my reading to a great degree.

Q: What do you do in your "down time"? Your hobbies/recreation, how do you relax?

Down time, what's that? Humm, well I mostly enjoy digging in the dirt. I have an obsession for growing things, and I'm pretty good at killing them too. I love the natural environment and landscape, and the beauty and joy these bring to our lives. I particularly enjoy the selection process (do I sound like a librarian?) for finding the right bush for the right spot. And I enjoy dragging home a 40 or 50 lb conquest in my car, and hauling it out and getting it into place. (Oh but you asked about relaxing things). I also have a passion for architecture, not only the bricks and mortar, but the social dimensions of architecture. I love riding my bike which can easily be combined with cruising neighborhoods, enjoying architecture and landscape. I play golf, I enjoy art museums, and I love to travel. Sometimes I even like to cruise the Internet for my interests. There is a wonderful world of information out there, I'm sure you noticed. ;-)

Q: What deep dark secret would you like to share?

I'd like to own a dry cleaning establishment; I think they must be very lucrative. Well, let me try that again...In my next life I'd like to be Julia Roberts ...but then on the other hand, I might like to try architecture or landscaping or sound engineering or theatrical directing. So many choices, so little time.

Q: Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21st century library and information centers.

Will I be a leader? I like to think that we all have the ability to "lead" at various levels. We can all be influencers. I think the ability to study the issues and to be willing to speak up about them, and to try to exert influence where one can is something I tend to do, in my element. I enjoy connecting people and ideas to bring about something new. I dislike the words "no," "can't be done" or "tried that."

Q: What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?

You have chosen a great profession, and many of you have the most genuine reasons for going into librarianship. Continue to build your portfolio of talents, skills and knowledge and be prepared to do this forever. Stay open minded to new trends and technologies; attune yourselves to outside elements and pressures, learn from them and grow with them. Focus on the patrons and their needs, not always necessarily on your preconceived notion of the library. Be open to your personal preconceived notions and get them out of the way.

Q: What do you see as key future trends and challenges in LIS?

I think our challenges are several. We live in a society that contains a large segment of the population that manages to fulfill its information needs just fine without libraries. They prefer to buy and own books, they get other information off the Internet or in conversations, and they can subscribe to magazines delivered to their homes. They can sit on their couches and order up any TV show or movie on demand and never have to face the problem of having it unavailable or "checked out." They can download and listen or view any number of programs on their iPods. We have become a society that has mastered the art of convenience. We can meet the challenge of offering materials and resources they want, but how do we meet this challenge posed by the convenient lifestyle. How do we plug into this? How do we entice people who are both increasingly homebound and, at the same time increasingly mobile, to want to visit our libraries? And if they are not homebound, they are stressed out running from work to children's activities to home obligations. Capturing our audience is our challenge because without them, we are in danger of losing our funding. We must prove our relevancy to their lives. And we need to serve the underserved.

"Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers."

~Charles W. Eliot



Q: What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?

I don't plan on leaving a legacy, but if I have a few patrons and students that appreciated the work I did for them, that's all I hope for. I was taken aback, when I left my last job, by the number of people who made an effort to find me in my cubicle just to say thank you for all the work I did for them. I didn't realize how many people I had touched. We come to rely on certain people in our lives -- they become constants -- and we start taking each other's presence for granted. This was an eye-opener for me and very satisfying to know that my work was meaningful.

Q: Any Last Words?

Explore libraries, visit different ones everywhere you go, walk in, feel them, observe them, absorb their ambience, notice their rhythm and flow, look for architectural detail, see how the building encourages interaction, grab some programming ideas, take away as many ideas as you can, enjoy them! Here's an endless hobby. Really, all the world's a library!

Exclusive Invitation to Graduates and their guests.

School of Information Science & Learning Technologies



Winter 2006 Graduation Reception

Now is the time to celebrate all of your accomplishments! Please join us for the
**SISLT Graduation Reception on
Friday, May 12, 2006
2:00 to 4:00 pm in 223 Townsend Hall**

If you plan on attending the SISLT graduation reception, please remember to RSVP by May 5th if you have not already done so. Thanks!

You are welcome to invite family and friends. RSVP to Amy Adam at AdamAe@missouri.edu or call toll free 1-877-747-5868 by Friday, May 5, 2006 (please let us know how many guests you will be bringing).

We look forward to celebrating with you!

SISLT Calendar

April 28, 2006	Pre-Comps meeting for Summer Comps. 3:00 p.m., UNO campus, Allwine Hall, room
May 5 2006	Winter Semester 2006 class work ends
May 8 2006	Final examinations begin
May 12 2006	Winter Semester 2006 ends
May 12, 2006	SISLT Winter Graduation Reception 2:00-4:00 p.m. 223 Townsend Hall
May 12 2006	Commencement 8:00 pm Mizzou Arena
Jun 13 2006	Summer Semester 2006 begins
June 17 – 25, 2006	Summer Comps

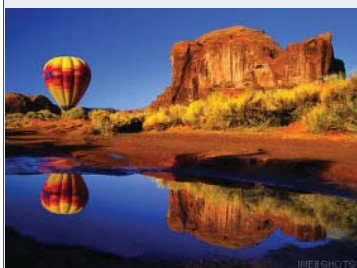


Commencement

This site has all the information that you need to prepare for the commencement ceremony in December and May – ordering regalia, where to stay, parking, etc. <http://www.missouri.edu/~grads/gradpro.htm>

"True silence is the rest of the mind; it is to the spirit what sleep is to the body, nourishment and refreshment."

~ William Penn



Practicum Applications

For those who are planning on completing a practicum during the Fall 2006 semester, please see the information below. If you haven't already done so, you will need to contact Dr. Becky Pasco at rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu in order to arrange your practicum.

As part of the MU MLS program, students are required to complete a practicum. A practicum is required unless the student obtains a waiver from her or his advisor.

Following are the important steps for the practicum process.

1. **Contact Dr. Pasco** and tell her what semester you want to complete your practicum and what type of library you are interested in. You will need to apply for the practicum during early registration for that semester. For instance, to complete a practicum in Winter 2007, you will need to apply for your practicum during early registration this semester (Fall 2006).
2. Also discuss how many hours/credits you will want to complete. She will handle all of the initial contacts with potential libraries/supervising librarians.
3. Decide which of the two practica courses you need to take. Course 7380 is Practicum in School Libraries and Course 7381 is Practicum in Information Agencies (Public, Academic, or Special Libraries).
4. Make sure that you have taken the prerequisite courses. The courses required for each of the practica are different, so check the guide for the appropriate course – School Libraries (7380) or Information Agencies (7381). These guides are available at http://sislt.missouri.edu/practicum_faq.html - scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the appropriate links. If you will be taking a prerequisite course during the semester of your practicum, check with the practicum coordinator.
5. Once the supervising librarian agrees to host you as a practicum student, Dr. Pasco will give you the appropriate contact information. You can then contact the librarian and set up an initial meeting to discuss what you will do during your practicum.
6. Either before or after you meet with your supervising librarian, you may turn in your Practicum Application to the appropriate Practicum Coordinator.

Contact information for 7380:

Linda Esser
EsserL@missouri.edu
573-882-1023

Practicum Coordinator for 7381:

Anita Phipps
Randaph@aol.com
573-446-8716

7. Your Practicum Coordinator will approve your practicum application and will give you permission to enroll in your practicum.
8. In addition to your application, you will need to submit a learning plan for your practicum. This document will describe your learning objectives and projects that you will complete at your location. More detail about learning plan requirements is provided in your practicum guide. If you have trouble writing your learning plan, don't worry! E-mail your Practicum Coordinator, Dr. Pasco, or the current grad assistant (the practicum coordinators are very helpful, so don't be afraid to send them and outline or draft of your learning plan – they can offer suggestions).
9. Once you have completed your learning plan, send a copy to your practicum coordinator via e-mail. You will receive a response – it will either pass approval or you will be told what to change/add. If applicable, send the



revised copy to your coordinator.

10. Once the coordinator approves your learning plan, you and your supervising librarian will need to sign and date the form. You will then send the signed form to your practicum coordinator.
11. You're done with application process!

Please contact Joyce Keber at jshm84@mizzou.edu if you have any questions about the practicum process.

Scholarships

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: 21st Century Librarian Scholarship:
Master of Library Science
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/mls/mlsscholarships.html>

Application Deadlines: All application materials must be postmarked by:

- March 15 for Summer Semester/Quarter
- May 15 for Fall Semester/Quarter
- November 1 for Winter Semester/Quarter or Spring Quarter

The Nebraska Library Commission established this scholarship to provide financial support to eligible Nebraskans seeking a master of library and/or information science degree. This scholarship fulfills the requirements of the grant awarded to the Nebraska Library Commission by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians.

The Nebraska Library Commission will award ten to twenty scholarships of **\$2,500** each year for tuition, course-related materials, and fees associated with the graduate program. Scholarship funds may be used for any ALA-accredited graduate degree program in library and/or information science.

Each applicant can apply for and/or receive only one scholarship of \$2,500 during a one year period from the date of the scholarship award. Scholarship funds may be used for more than one academic semester or quarter. Applicants may receive a maximum of two scholarships during their graduate program. Scholarship funds will be deposited in the recipient's student account at the library/information science school. The first scholarships will be awarded in Fall 2005 for Winter/Spring coursework.

To Apply: Applicant must complete and submit the application form and all required materials.

Scholarship Award Notification:

- April 15 for Summer Semester/Quarter
- June 15 for Fall Semester/Quarter
- December 1 for Winter Semester/Quarter or Spring Quarter

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

Current Nebraska residency.

- Demonstrated acceptance by or application to an ALA-accredited graduate degree program in library and/or information science.

Applicants, after obtaining a graduate degree in library and/or information science, agree to:

Seek employment in a Nebraska public, school, institutional, academic, tribal, or special library in a professional librarian.



- Be willing to serve as a formal library mentor for 12 months in the Nebraska Library Commission's mentoring program after obtaining a graduate degree in library and/or information science.
- Be available for follow-up interviews by the Nebraska Library Commission for scholarship program evaluation.



NEMO NEWS CONTACT INFORMATION

Joyce Keber
NEMO Graduate Assistant
jskm84@mizzou.edu

Dr. R. J. (Becky) Pasco
Associate Professor, College of Education
Coordinator, Library Science Education
University of Nebraska at Omaha
Kayser Hall 514G
6001 Dodge Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68182
402-554-2119
rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu
1-800-858-8648, ext. 2119