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## NEMO News, Volume 2, Issue 8

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.

MAY 15, 2006

Winter Semester 2006

Volume 2, Number 8

*"Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions."*

*~ Oliver Wendell Holmes*



## ***Congratulations to the Winter Semester 2006 Graduates!***

*Sally Snyder, Becky Wymer, Mary Mollner,  
(not pictured) Wendy Duplechain and Dawn Middleton.*



# Please Welcome

## ***Erica Rose***

*As your new*

***NEMO Graduate Assistant***

*"You cannot teach  
a man anything;  
you can only help  
him find it within  
himself."*

*~ Galileo*



## **Student Spotlight**

**Robin Brooks** is in the spotlight for this month, thanks Robin!

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

I have an associates degree in MicroComputers, a bachelor's degree in Management, and I am nine hours away from finishing my Master's in Library Science at the University of Missouri at Columbia (obviously, or I wouldn't be a NEMO student!).

I came to library land late in life. I've worked in banking, retail management, construction, and then babies (which are two strapping sons now, one in Hastings and one about to graduate from high school in York). Went back to work after babies as the education director for a large church, then back to work full time as a secretary/media aide at a 600 student K-5 elementary school. The media specialist encouraged me to go back to school to get my computer degree, which I obtained in June of 1998.

I moved my family back to Nebraska after 25 years in Georgia in 1998, worked in an attorney's office in Omaha until something library related opened up, then worked as a computer support person at Keene Memorial Library in Fremont, Nebraska. During that time I participated in the first Nebraska Library Leadership Institute, was encouraged to go back to school for a bachelor's by a couple of wild library women who shall remain nameless, and from there it has just been a matter of time and schooling, finishing my bachelor's (which I had started in 1972) in 2002. Accepted the Assistant Director/Children's Librarian position at Kilgore Memorial Library in York, Nebraska in June of 2002 and worked there until moving to Topeka and Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library as a Bookmobile associate in the fall of 2005. Bookmobile associates have circulation, collection development, and programming responsibilities as well as driving on of our three vehicles to and from the stops around the city. Currently one of the five MLS students involved in the TSCPL Grow Your Own @ your library ALA Public Library grant program. I'll be the new promotions chair for the Kansas Library Association starting in July. I'm doing my practicum with the Kansas Library Association this summer working with marketing and membership.

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

The Leadership Challenge  
Making the Most of Being Mentored  
Mentoring  
Pretty Party Cakes (wedding plans)  
The Purple Cow  
Playing with Trains

I'm a non-fiction reader at heart – probably goes back to my childhood and the days of the grocery store encyclopedias where you purchased one a week, and that was the reading for the week at our house. My favorite reads are anything related to leadership and change, particularly in libraries but I've found that retail management and marketing books hold my interest as well (and it seems we may have something in common!!) . As a former children's librarian, I still like to read the summer reading program notebooks (it's a sickness). For fun I

*"A person often  
meets his destiny  
on the road he took  
to avoid it."*

*~Jean de La  
Fontaine*



like to read children's picture books, goofy adult humor picture books for adults – the kind where they dress birds up to look like humans and pose them, etc., and anything by Jill Connor Browne (the Sweet Potato Queen).

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

I recommend reading ALL of Library Journal, American Libraries, the Shy Librarian, and various Radical Librarian websites, blogs and wikis, as much as time will allow. Ha. The print journals and articles will tell you what is going on on a "public" level, the online information gives you what is going on on a "root" level.

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

I like to garden, cook, read, and just sit on the porch and rest. (Remember I'm a grad student so just sitting and staring is considered quality down time!) I like to visit with my friends and family and keep my connections going.

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

I'm a learning junkie. I love classes, workshops, institutes and conferences.

**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.**

See my deep dark secret above ☺. I love to network and make friends in library land, I love to give good customer service and see happy people leave the library. Whoops, I think that is three qualities – which tells you one more of my qualities that will make me a leader - I always give more than expected.

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

Take as many hours you can and still be coherent. Join and give back to your professional organizations on every level – local, state, regional and national. Read the job postings (at least state and regional) every week so that you know what is being expected in the positions you are interested in and make sure you are developing those skills. Smile and be a great library advocate. Encourage others to go to Library School if they seem to have the personality and talents to make it in a Master's level position. Eat, sleep, play and take good care of yourself and your family. Oh, and did I say smile?!?!

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

Technology and the retirement of a large percentage of the professional librarian labor force.

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

I play well with others and love to bring people together to learn about libraries and the skills that are needed for their future success in libraries. I'd like to be known as someone who could bring others into the profession – perhaps as a professional librarian recruiter.

**Q: Any Last Words?**

Don't be afraid to ask the impossible. Then do it.

*"On how many people's libraries, as on bottles from the drugstore, one might write: "For external use only."  
~ Unknown*



## **Alumni Annotations**

Thanks to **Julie Hector** for her time and thoughts!

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

B.A. – Psychology – University of Nebraska Lincoln  
M.A.L.S. – University of Missouri Columbia, 2005

I am the Adult Services Librarian at the Eiseley branch of Lincoln City Libraries.

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

Favorite book: Jane Eyre

Favorite book I've read somewhat recently: The Plot Against America by Phillip Roth

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

Baldwin, M. (2006). Librarians as knowledge provocateurs. *Public Libraries*, 45(2), 11-14.

Great quote from this article: "The survival of American democracy may depend on the willingness of public librarians to become knowledge provocateurs that stimulate public interest in sociopolitical issues and responsible citizenship."

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

My (and my husband's) ongoing hobby for the last two years has been remodeling our home.

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

I haven't had to use APA style in a very long time, and I *almost* miss it.

### **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 think the overall ability to adapt to change is a very important quality. I also think that being able to identify areas/procedures/policies where change could be beneficial for your organization is equally important.

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

Don't stress out over comps!

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

Technology, technology, technology...keeping up with it, using it effectively, developing new and better ways to reach our patrons and communities.

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

I hope to make positive contributions to the library profession and promote the value of libraries and information professionals to the community.

## **Faculty Focus**

Thanks to **Melissa Cast** for sharing her experiences!

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

BA in American Studies from Grinnell College  
MLS from University of Missouri-Columbia



*"Th' first thing to have in a libry is a shelf. Fr'm time to time this can be decorated with lithrachure. But th' shelf is th' main thing."*

*~Finley Peter Dunne*



Instruction Librarian, University of Central Oklahoma  
Education/Psychology Librarian, Northeastern State University  
Director of Member Services, Association of College and Research Libraries  
Education/Reference Librarian, UNO

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

On my current reading list -  
1776 by David McCullough  
Quilting Lessons: notes from the scrap bag of a writer and quilter by Janet Catherine Berlo  
The Unknown Matisse by Hilary Spurling

I love biographies and autobiographies. Authors, sports figures, politicians, celebrities, historical figures, artists, everyday folks, you name it.

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

D. Oblinger, "Understanding the New Students: Boomers, Gen-Xers, Millennials," EDUCAUSE Review, Vol. 38, No. 4, July/August 2003, pp. 37-47.

Most people are worried about technology changes but I think we need to get back to thinking about how our patrons are changing.

The New Horizon report from Educause is something I plan on digging into this summer.

[http://www.nmc.org/pdf/2006\\_Horizon\\_Report.pdf](http://www.nmc.org/pdf/2006_Horizon_Report.pdf)

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

I have to do something that uses the other half of my brain or stress will way me down - doodle for 30 minutes, collage, paint.

I'm also trying to write more letters and notes to family and friends.

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

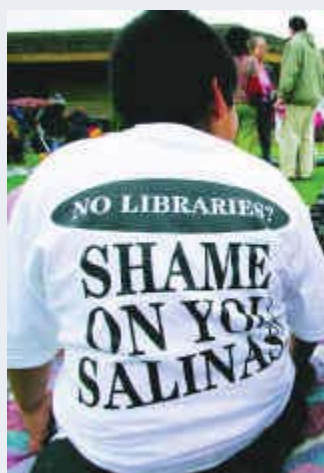
I actually like fruit cake.

**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 once regularly taught an instruction session for a business marketing class. The professor told me that what he liked about my teaching was that I didn't always know the answer to students' questions, but that I could reason my way to the answer.

*"I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries."*

*~Carl Sagan,  
Cosmos*



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

Don't forget the basic skills set that is crucial for any position.

- organize and present ideas on paper or in front of a group
- critical thinking
- problem-solving

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

Change will be a constant. It's so tempting to want to rest and have everything be the same for a while. But databases, technology and our patrons are constantly changing. There's not a lot of time to sit back.

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

Next question, please.

### **Q: Any Last Words?**

I chose this profession because of the opportunity for variety that it offers. It hasn't bored me yet.

## **SISLT Calendar**

|                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 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>

## **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](mailto: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.

*"Mary Kay is one of the secret masters of the world: a librarian. They control information. Don't ever piss one off."*

*~Spider Robinson  
(The Callahan  
Touch. Ace, 1993,  
p. 64)*



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](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](mailto:EsserL@missouri.edu)  
573-882-1023

**Practicum Coordinator for  
7381:**

Anita Phipps  
[Randaph@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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  
[jshm84@mizzou.edu](mailto:jshm84@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](mailto:rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu)  
1-800-858-8648, ext. 2119