

2-2014

Library Education and Development Newsletter, Volume 7, Issue 3

UNO Library Science Education
University of Nebraska at Omaha

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LEAD.

Library Education and Development Newsletter

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Dr. R.J. (Becky) Pasco
Professor, College of Education
Coordinator, Library Science Education
University of Nebraska at Omaha
Roskens Hall 308E
402-554-2119
1-800-858-8648, ext.2119
rpasco@unomaha.edu

Bridget Kratt
Instructor, College of Education
Library Science Education Programs
University of Nebraska at Omaha
Roskens Hall 308L
402- 554-3673
bkratt@unomaha.edu

Registration Information

Mark your Calendars!

Summer 2014 Enrollment Dates

03-03-14 GR - for currently enrolled graduate students
03-04-14 SR
03-05-14 JR
03-06-14 SO
03-07-14 FR
03-10-14 Open Enrollment

Fall 2014 Enrollment Dates

03-31-14 GR - for currently enrolled graduate students
04-02-14 SR
04-04-14 JR
04-08-14 SO
04-10-14 FR
04-14-14 Open Enrollment

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Advice from the Frontlines

Jenn Cejda

Irving Middle School

School Librarian

Lincoln Public Schools



In your capacity as a professional librarian, what aspects of your job bring you the most joy?

There is so much that I love about my job as a middle school librarian it is hard to choose just one thing to share. Since I have to, I would say that the favorite part of my job is building relationships with students in all grade levels. I enjoy seeing my 6th graders grow and change, as they get ready to move onto high school. It's

the little things in my day that I love the most. The "talking books" with the group that comes in to spend their lunch time with you, the groups that come in after school to catch up on homework that they missed or just play cards, even the ones that try to skip class and take refuge in the library. There is always a connection to be made. Making these connections with students makes our library a vibrant and fun place to be.

Please discuss one personal characteristic that you feel has contributed to your success as a school librarian?

The personal characteristic that I feel has contributed to my success as a school librarian is flexibility. You never know what is going to happen on any given day. We wear many different hats and we have to be ever ready to change our hats midstream, preferably with a smile on our face. To me this is what makes my job exciting and keeps me on my toes.

The AASL Standards for the 21st Century learner ask today's school librarians to rethink and redesign their work with students to ensure mastery of the skills and dispositions necessary for personal and academic success. Please share a lesson, unit, or experience that represents the best of you as a Teacher and Information Specialist.

This year I have been working very hard to get my 6th grade researchers to improve their ability to write "big" or "thick" questions. I have gone back to my roots as a kindergarten teacher and have tried to do this by incorporating movement into my questioning lesson. As I do some "think aloud" teaching I model generating all kinds of questions. I put

Continued p. 3

these questions on large strips of paper. I then have students come to the front of the class and hold the questions. As a class, we decide if they are "thick" questions or "thin" questions. Thin questions have to get on their knees as a physical reminder that they are "smaller" questions. We can then move them around and combine several "thin" or "small" questions into larger "thick" questions." When we do this the Thick question is put on a larger strip of paper and held over the little questions like an umbrella. It may not be high tech, but the 6th grade students LOVE all this movement. I have really seen an improvement in the understanding of "thin" and "thick" questions as well as combining questions, plus, it's just fun.

"I have always
imagined that
Paradise will
be a kind of
library."
-Jorge Luis
Borges

"Reading ½ hour
a day will keep
Mrs. Cejda
away."
- 8th grade student

Please share a favorite book you have read recently.

I have just recently finished *The Testing* by Joelle Charbonneau. After a glowing review by one of my 8th graders, I decided to give it a try. I was getting a bit tired of the dystopian offerings that were coming my way, but this really perked me up! It is fantastic. Very "Hunger Games-ish." I loved the strength and problem solving ability of the female protagonist. I am currently enjoying the 2nd one in the trilogy and am anxiously awaiting the release date of the 3rd book in June.

Please share a favorite website you have used for instruction or professional development.

Just recently I used Tween Tribune (<http://tweentribune.com/>) with one of my Reading teachers. She was looking for a place to get nonfiction articles in order to work on identifying topic sentences and main idea. This site is great because you can get access to articles that cover many different reading levels.

Student Spotlight: **Renee Gilsdorf** **University of Nebraska at Omaha Graduate Candidate**

What is your education / library/experience background?

Due to the retirement of a wonderful teacher and friend, I was offered the librarian position at Norfolk Catholic this past year. The school has two libraries, one in the elementary school and one in the high school. I had consistently substituted at Norfolk Catholic over the past nine years and had grown to know and love both the students and staff at Norfolk Catholic. Even though I started a new job this past year it felt like I was walking into a building full of old friends.

I have been extremely lucky, and have been blessed to teach at such great schools along the way. I started my career teaching fifth grade at Lindsay Holy Family in Northeast Nebraska. My time was cut short at this small D1 school and after only two years my husband was transferred to Nebraska City. It was at Nebraska City Lourdes where I found out how much I enjoyed teaching middle school. I taught Science to the 6th - 8th graders. Once again this school holds a special place in my heart and I think highly of the kids who graduate from this fine school.

Upon the final transfer of my husband's job, we found ourselves back in Northeast Nebraska. This time I had two children of my own with the third and ultimately fourth on the way. This is when I decided to become a full time mom, and a part time teacher. I started subbing at Norfolk

Catholic when my oldest daughter started Kindergarten. Even though I missed my job teaching full time, I will never regret the opportunity I had to stay at home and raise my four kids. I also feel that it was due to working with kids from Pre-K to 12th grade that really inspired me to apply for the librarian position. I love the variety of kids I get to visit with and see throughout the day, and what better job could there be than inspiring kids to read!

What is on your reading list? What are your favorites? Your recommended? Your want to read lists?

My reading interests have changed over the years. I find myself loving the Karma Wilson series of bear books, with a favorite *Bear Sleeps On*. I also have gone through the phase of reading all of the Junie B. books from Barbara Parks. Laura Ingalls Wilder is an absolute favorite, and I think I have read the Little House on the Prairie series at least three times.

As you can see, depending on what age my kids are, depends on what I am currently reading. I am focused on creating a love for reading in my children, and when I have a spare minute I have one of them on my lap as we share the next story in a series. I am told that I must read *Runaway Twin*, *Saving Zasha*, and *Safe Haven*, all recommended by my daughters. If it is up to me however I would like to finish *Champion* by Marie Lu, the last book in a series I have started.

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**What do you do in your “down time”?
Do you have any hobbies? How do you
relax?**

With four kids, a full time job, taking classes to get my masters, and doing a little coaching on the side, laundry and dishes are what I usually get to do in my spare time. We are lucky however to live on an acreage where I have a big garden. When possible I love to go out and spend time in my garden. Unfortunately I have not been able to convince our school board that school should not start until canning season is officially over.

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

It was during my interview where the principal shared with me that he wanted the library to take on a new look. He mentioned that he wanted to transition it from a quiet place of study to a coffee shop feel where conversation takes place and reading is enjoyed. I did not have the heart to tell him that I really don't like coffee, and even though I have read countless children's books I have let my reading slip in the young adult area. Thanks to Bridget's class in Young Adult Literature I can honestly say that I have rekindled that love for young adult books, and I look forward to the day when I have more time to read.

**Name one of your personal or
professional qualities that will make you
a leader in 21st century library and
information centers?**

Lets face it, the world is revolving more and more around technology everyday. The

library I work at serves as the High School's computer lab. It is also where the iPad and laptop carts are stationed. My job not only focuses on keeping the library up and running, but I work with most of the technological devices our school owns. I have been taking classes and attending seminars to learn about the newest trends in technology and then I have been working with the teachers on how to implement these ideas in their classrooms. I also teach all of the digital citizenship curriculum in our school and I want my students to fully understand the digital tattoo they leave behind. The partnership I have with my fellow teachers, and the motivation I possess to make our school a leader in education are qualities that will take me well into the 21st Century.

**What advice do you have for other
students who are currently enrolled in
Library Science studies?**

I have only taken a few classes in the Library Science department at UNO, but so far I have been very impressed. The information I have taken from my classes has really helped me in my career as a librarian. My advice to students is to sit down and really take note of the resources given to you in class. The professors have a wealth of knowledge and have been so willing to share what they know if you only take the time to ask.

**What do you see as key future trends
and challenges for school librarians?**

I feel that as librarians we need to embrace technology, not fight it. I know that many of us feel the best way to read is to snuggle up to a good book on a cold day. With

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access to so many electronic devices today's youth seems to prefer reading their book digitally. Accept the change and become motivated to find ways to develop that true love of reading in your students even if it is not the conventional way. As I see less and less use of our reference materials in the library I am reminded of how I need to teach the students how to properly conduct research online. Even though the look of the library might be changing, our job remains the same. Let's help this generation of kids become the best they can be!

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

The one thing I want to leave behind is my passion to learn. Be humble enough to listen to the advice of others. It is often through this advice and a second perspective that most of my growth and learning has taken place.

Do you have a favorite quote?

One of my favorite links on twitter is inspirational quotes @Inspire_Us. Not only did I take this quote to heart, but I continually try to push my students to try new things. I feel that this quote says it best:

Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark. Professionals built the Titanic.

Did you know???

Dr. Melissa Cast-Brede, College of Education Criss Library Liaison, is available in the Roskens Hall Student Lounge on 2nd floor, two days a week for personal, one-on-one librarian/student interactions. No question is too big or too small.



- Need the perfect book recommendation?
- Having trouble with APA citation?
- Need help finding a statistic?
- Need a book or journal not available at UNO?
- Would you like to check out an iPad or Kindle?
- Not sure which journal to use?

ASK MELISSA!!!

Melissa is available in Roskens Hall
**Mondays and Tuesdays from 2:30
p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Announcements:

Scholarships, Registration, Comprehensive Exams, Graduation

Scholarships

NSLA: Nebraska School Librarians Association

NSLA awards two \$800.00 continuing education scholarships to school library Media Specialists and paraprofessionals who wish to gain additional professional training in the field on a full or part time basis. For more information, visit the NSLA website: <http://www.neschoollibrarians.org/awards-and-scholarships.html>

NLA: Nebraska Library Association

The NLA established the Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund to provide \$1000.00 to any Nebraska student in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Library/Information Science, or a Master's Degree in a media program that meets the ALA/AASL curriculum guidelines. The \$250.00 Duane Munson Scholarship is available to help practicing librarians and paraprofessionals to gain additional library-related education and training. For submission and deadline information, visit the NLA website: <http://nebraskalibraries.org/member-resources/scholarships>

Nebraska Library Commission

The Nebraska Library Commission is continuing to offer its 21st Century Librarian Scholarship program for undergraduate candidates. Scholarships may be used for tuition (for coursework contributing toward a certificate or degree), course-required materials, and school-assessed fees.

See <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.ne.gov/scholarships.asp> for details and to learn how to apply.

Questions? Contact Kathryn Brockmeier, Grant Program Manager, by e-mail (kathryn.brockmeier@nebraska.gov), or by phone 402-471-4002 or 800-307-2665.

American Library Association

The American Library Association and its units provide more than \$300,000 annually for a Master's Degree in library and information studies from an ALA accredited program, or for a Master's Degree in school library media that meets the ALA curriculum guidelines for a National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The scholarship process is open annually from October-March. Applications and reference forms are available during that time period.

Instructions and general information remain available year round. For a complete list of available scholarships, visit the ALA website: <http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/scholarships>

Program Completion Requirements

- To register for comprehensive exams, contact Joyce Jones in the Department of Teacher Education;
- Phone: 402-554-2212 or 1-800-858-8648, ext. 2212.
- Email: jpjones@unomaha.edu
- Selective Retention forms should be submitted at the completion of 12 credit hours and approved before students can register for comprehensive exams. Please make note of the following registration deadlines.

Comprehensive Exam Deadlines

Secondary Education Literacy/Library Candidates: The registration deadline is April 14th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Summer 2014** semester. **The required review session will be held Monday, May 12th.**

Reading Candidates: The registration deadline is April 25th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Summer 2014** semester. **The required review session will be held Thursday, May 1st.**

Elementary Education Capstone

Elementary Education School Library Candidates: TED 8700 Elementary Capstone has replaced the comprehensive exam. **Fall 2014 class dates: Friday, September 5th, October 17th, November 14th, and December 5th from 5 to 8pm. This course is by permission only.** Please contact Dr. Kathy Danielson at kdanielson@unomaha.edu or contact Dr. Rebecca Pasco at rpasco@unomaha.edu.

UNO College of Education is:
Live with LiveText

Livertext is your:

- *academic social network*
- *evidence of meeting program standards*
- *professional portfolio*

Implementation began in Spring 2013!

Upcoming Conferences, Professional Development and More!

NETA

*Nebraska Educational
Technology Association*
Spring Conference

April 24-25, 2014
LaVista Embassy Suites and
Conference Center



MetLink

Elementary Literacy
Conference
Saturday, March 29, 2014
@UNO alumni center

School Librarians' Day: *Inquiring Minds Want to Know*

March 29, 2014
8:30 am
Roskens Hall (UNO)

For more information contact:
bmaass@windstream.net

AASL Fall Forum



Good IDEAS!

Innovation, Design, Experiences, Activities, Synergy

Wendy Loewenstein, IDEAS Room Coordinator, UNO College of Education, 402-554-3653, wloewenstein@unomaha.edu

Fur.ly Makes WebQuest Creation Simple (and fast)

What is a webquest?

A webquest is an easy way to guide your students' through websites that you want them to access. Educators gravitated towards webquests because it was a lot less painful than having students type in web addresses. It also keeps them focused on a task and guides them to safe, useful websites. However, webquests can be somewhat laborious to create. Fur.ly can help you create a webquest in just a few minutes. Yes, the web address for this site is: fur.ly.

How do I make one?

The screenshot of the site below makes it apparent that this is a simple site to use. All you have to do is copy and paste the websites that you want your students to visit. It will then generate a unique URL for all of your websites once you hit "go."



The screenshot shows the Fur.ly homepage. At the top, the logo "fur.ly" is displayed with the tagline "Shorten multiple urls into one". Below the logo is a text input field labeled "enter your urls" containing the text "http://www.wevideo.com/". There is a second empty input field below it. A button labeled "Go" is at the bottom. A "prove you're human" section with a CAPTCHA image and a "reCAPTCHA" logo is also visible.

Interested?

Find Out More about Fur.ly:

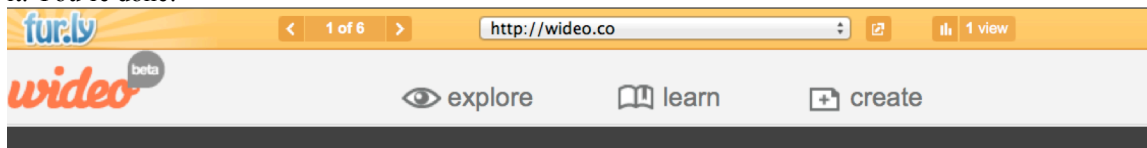
To test it out, I included a fur.ly of book trailer creation resources. Click it to get the fur.ly experience:

<http://fur.ly/4897/booktrailers>

Click here for a short video about Fur.ly:

<http://youtu.be/FgslzP9LLjo>

The shortened URL will send students to the first website and will include a yellow bar across the top of the website (see image below) that will allow them to navigate through the sites. All you have to do is share the shortened URL with your students and that's it. You're done!



Tips & Tricks:

- You don't have to make an account, but if you do, then the "reCAPTCHA-prove you're human" component of the site disappears. Which is worth it!
- If you create an account, you can see the statistics for your fur.ly to see if students are visiting ALL of the sites and when.
- During the creation of your fur.ly, when you navigate away from the page to copy and paste new URLs to include, the additional line to add the next URL goes away. In order for it to reappear, you simply have to hit the "space bar" on your keyboard and the line will reappear.
- Before you share your shortened URL with your students/audience, double check and make sure that the addresses are all correct by testing the link and navigating through ALL of the sites.

Things to Consider

Q: Who's the tech leader at *your* school?

A: Odds are, it's the librarian.

STATUS AS LEADER



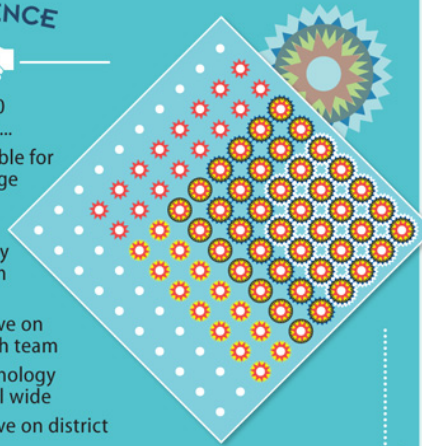
72% of school librarians are seen as technology leaders in their school



INFLUENCE



- In a group of 100 school librarians...
 - 72** are responsible for technology usage in the library
 - 56** help introduce technology at the classroom level
 - 42** officially serve on the school's tech team
 - 34** impact technology adoption school wide
 - 19** officially serve on district tech team

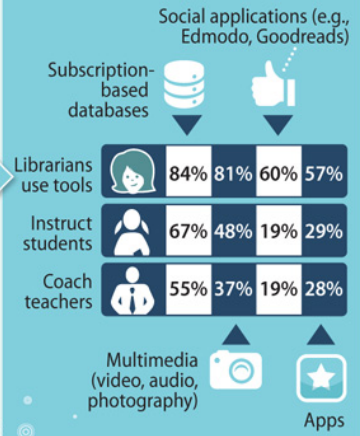


TECH TOOLS



Multimedia, social apps, Web-based resources, wikis, etc.

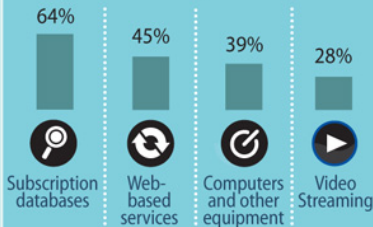
Here are the top tools:



PURCHASING POWER



Librarians are responsible for purchasing and/or recommending technologies for their school, including:



TECH DESTINATION

LIBRARY



57%

of librarians surveyed say:



“Students and teachers come to the library to learn new technologies.”

See the survey at <http://ow.ly/rtZRO>

Brought to you by School Library Journal® Source: School Library Journal's 2013 School Technology Survey.

For questions or suggestions regarding the UNO L.E.A.D. Newsletter, please contact:



EmiLee Paul
UNO Library Science
Graduate Assistant
epaul@unomaha.edu