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UNO Library Science Education

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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

The aspects of my job that bring me the most joy are when I help a student that said they did not like reading find a book they want to check-out; then I see them come back and check out more books on their own. I also enjoy collaborating with the teachers in my school to expand students’ knowledge of the world.

Please discuss one personal characteristic that you feel has contributed to your success as an Information Professional.

I like to believe that there is always a solution. So, when a student or teacher has a problem or concern I like to help them find a solution. These solutions range from assisting with book selections, assisting with technology, to writing curriculum. I have a pretty positive attitude most days.

What one issue should future librarians be prepared to address in the workplace?

I think future librarians need to be able to address the distant learning needs of patrons. I believe the time is coming when fewer people including children will be in a traditional classroom. I believe people will need the services of school and public libraries to attend and complete the classes they take online. To compete these courses patrons will not only have technology needs, but they will need the ability to access a wide range of print materials.

In our coursework we often discuss the importance of collaboration. Can you share an instance of successful collaboration with a group?

I believe successful collaboration happens in many ways. I am fortunate to work with a group of innovative teachers who are constantly looking for new ways to enhance students learning. My recent favorite collaborative project was a reading lesson in which students had been reading Parvona’s Journey in their reading class. The teacher and I worked together to create a research project in which students learned more about Afghanistan by using Culturegrams. Then they created a visual report using Microsoft Movie Maker. These reports helped the students gain appreciation for the culture of Afghanistan while sharing what they learned through their videos.

On a lighter note: When the work day is done, what do you like to read?

Right now I am really into teen psychic mysteries like Sight. I also like nontraditional fairy-tales like Red Rider’s Hood or Princess Ben.

Thank you, Kelly, for your wonderful contributions to the profession!

"Knowledge is free at the library. Just bring your own container."

~ Unknown
What is your education / library / professional background?

I am currently beginning my 25th year of teaching K-12 vocal and instrumental music in Dodge, Nebraska. After being elected to the John Rogers Library board and holding the office of President for 3 years, my passion for libraries emerged and I began my studies with Dr. Pasco at UNO. I hope to move into a library position in the near future.

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

I try to read the new and upcoming books that are consistently on the best seller list. I think The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini, The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd, Marley & Me by John Grogan, and Mitch Album’s Tuesdays with Morrie are some of my favorites. When a book makes me laugh out loud, cry, and reflect on my own actions and ethics it is on my personal favorite list. I would recommend any of these.

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

The journal, Knowledge Quest, has been my favorite professional journal and one I use frequently during my studies to find articles of information and reference for research purposes.

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

I enjoy golf and play whenever I have the opportunity. My down time is spent with my three children: Ashley 19, Paige 17, and Garrett 15. The younger two are actively involved in sports, so much of our family time is spent from the bleachers cheering one another on. I also have a two year old white Bichon Frise named Baxter who is my most loyal companion and walking partner.

What deep dark secret would you like to share?

I am a cancer survivor with only optimism and hope for a cure in the near future. I even developed a program at our local library entitled Read for a cure @ your library where all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life.

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 love teaching. It was definitely my calling in life and I’ve never regretted the decision. My passion for this profession is obvious not only to my co-workers but to my students as well. I know the kids look forward to coming to my class and I also know that when I am pushing them out the door to go back to their classroom that I’ve accomplished what I set out to do. Engaging the kids in fun and educational geared activities with peers while laughing and having fun is what learning is all about. I make a personal goal to talk to each one of my students every single day. I want them all to know they are important. Professionally I serve on numerous committees within our school and when I see something that needs attention I believe it is my personal responsibility to put my energy into making the situation right. I am a “doer” and if I see something that needs improvement I take the initiative to set the ball in motion.

What do you see as key future trends and challenges for Library Information Specialists?

I believe Library Information Specialists will be more responsible for the upcoming technology trends of the future and be challenged with budget and personal cuts making their responsibility greater. I also believe that copyright policies will begin to impact users to a higher degree and that, due to funding, libraries may be forced to increase the inner library loans and sharing of books rather than purchasing their own.

What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?

Ask questions and don’t be afraid to reach out for help. Use this not only as an educational journey, but as a life changing, personally enhancing experience that will not only make you a better teacher but make you a better person.

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

I would hope that people would remember me as a person that loved to teach and as an individual that cared. My legacy will be the solid and proud program that I have developed after 25 years and it is my hope that it will remain strong and intact long after I am gone.

Thank you for contributing, Cindy! Best of luck this semester!

“One sure window into a person’s soul is his reading list.”

~ Mary B.W. Tabor
Announcements
Scholarships, Registration, Comprehensive Exams, Graduation

Scholarship Opportunities:
The Nebraska Library Commission awards scholarships to Nebraskans for coursework and degree programs in library studies. Scholarships valued at $1000 are available for students pursuing a Bachelor’s Degree in Library Science or School Library Media, or those involved in a Library Technical Assistant course of study. Scholarships valued at $2500 are available for students pursuing a Master’s of Library and/or Information Science degree (MLS), or those seeking a Master of Education degree in School Library Media. Due to state and federal funding considerations, scholarships have been temporarily suspended and will not be awarded in the Fall 2008 scholarship round. Future scholarship rounds may be limited until additional funding can be identified in 2009. For information and deadlines, visit the Now Hiring @ your library website at: http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/NowHiring/Scholarships.asp

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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 NLC at: http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm

Nebraska Educational Media Association
NEMA 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 NEMA at: http://schoollibrariesrock.org/

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 at: http://www.ala.org/Templates.cfm?Section=scholarships

Registration Information:
Spring 2009 Registration
Dr. Pasco will send an email through the Libmed service as soon as registration dates are announced. In addition, all students currently enrolled at UNO will automatically receive an e-mail from Student Enrollment Services. The UNO e-mail account is the sole communication vehicle for many important enrollment services announcements, including registration information. Please check your account on a regular basis. If you need help accessing your e-mail account, please visit the helpdesk website, or call them at 554-HELP (4357). Classes fill quickly, so be ready to register during your assigned time! Contact Dr. Pasco with any questions.

Graduation:
Fall 2008 Graduation
You must complete an Application for Degree during the semester in which you plan to graduate. Log into E-BRUNO and fill out the application on or before the deadline for that Graduation Ceremony. The deadline is October 17th for students planning to graduate during the Fall 2008 semester. The commencement ceremony is scheduled for December 19th at 2:00 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium. There is a $25 Application for Degree Fee payable at the time the application is submitted.

After applying for your degree, visit the UNO Bookstore to order your cap, gown, and graduation announcements.

Fall 2008 Comprehensive Exams:
Selective Retention must be submitted and approved before students can register for comprehensive exams. The registration deadline is Friday, September 26th for those students taking comprehensive exams during the Fall 2008 semester!

To register, contact Joyce Jones in the Department of Teacher Education Phone: 402-554-2212 or 1-800-858-8648, ext. 2212 Email: jajones@mail.unomaha.edu

“Give thy mind to books and libraries, and the literature and lore of the ages will give thee the wisdom of sage and seer.”

~ Newell D. Hillis
Upcoming Conferences, Technology Tips, & Copyright Questions

Mark Your Calendar For These Upcoming Conferences!

**NLA/NEMA**
(Nebraska Library Association and Nebraska Educational Media Association)

NLA/NEMA Conference scheduled for October 15th-17th, 2008 in Lincoln. The theme this year is Nebraska Libraries: Vision for the Information Age.

**Thursday’s Keynote speaker will be Dr. Annette Lamb.** Annette Lamb has been a school library media specialist, computer teacher, and professor of education and library science. She is currently teaching online graduate courses for librarians and educators as a professor at Indiana University - Indianapolis (IUPUI), while continuing to write, speak, and conduct professional development workshops, presentations, and keynotes throughout North America. Dr. Lamb is well-known for her realistic approaches to technology integration and information inquiry.


Registration forms for the conference may be accessed by visiting the NLA/NEMA website:


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The ALA Annual Conference is scheduled for July 9th-15th, 2009 in Chicago, IL. For registration information, visit the ALA Events & Conferences webpage at:

http://www.alaweb.org/ala/events/alaregistration/regisration.cfm

Back by popular demand is the opportunity to **buy the registration for both** the 2009 Midwinter Meeting in Denver and 2009 Annual Conference in Chicago at the same time for a greatly reduced rate. This registration will be **available September 2nd-30th, 2008 only.** It’s a savings of 20% for ALA Members and ALA Division Members. There are equally great savings for non-members and students, too. To register, go to www.alaweb.org for more information and online registration forms.

Also, when you register for the Bundle you will be able to make your housing reservations for Midwinter immediately and be able to make your housing reservation for Annual on the first day housing is open on January 2, 2009. With the new registration system, an attendee has to be registered first before they are eligible to make their hotel reservation. So the sooner you register, the sooner you can get the hotel room of your choice.

**NLC Professional Development Opportunities!**

The Nebraska Library Commission offers numerous professional development opportunities every year. The NLC’s Library Development team provides coordination and support services to all Nebraska libraries and media centers. Library Development staff work regularly with local libraries, resource libraries, institutions, boards and citizen groups to develop improved library services and facilities. Please visit the NLC website calendar at:

http://www.nlcalstate.ne.us/scripts/libcal/calbr.pl for important registration dates and upcoming events for library training.

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Q: I often have to send the same e-mail to the same large group of people. Is there a way to create a distribution list in Outlook?

A: Yes. In Outlook go to Contacts, File, New, Distribution List, and type a descriptive name for the list, such as “Curriculum Committee.” Next, select contacts from your address book (s) or enter the e-mail addresses. When done, save the list. Now all you have to do is enter the descriptive name to send the e-mail to everyone on the distribution list.


**Copyright Question of the Month**

Q: Our Technology Coordinator is purchasing a DVD burner in order to make copies of classroom/library videos. She says we are not violating copyright because we are making archival copies, even though we would now be using the DVD version rather than the VHS version. **Is she correct?**

A: Your Technology Coordinator is right about one thing: she is making an archival copy. The problem is that archival copies of video are not permitted under current U.S. law. The only medium given automatic permission for archival (backup) copies is computer software. In fact, video producers routinely sell archival rights. The Technology Coordinator would also be changing format of the materials, and the reason she is changing the format is to avoid purchasing the program in the new medium (DVD). While a transfer might be justified if the materials weren’t available in digital format, any time you can purchase a DVD and you convert something from another format, you should hear all sorts of alarm bells going off.
