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## NEMO News, Volume 2, Issue 4

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

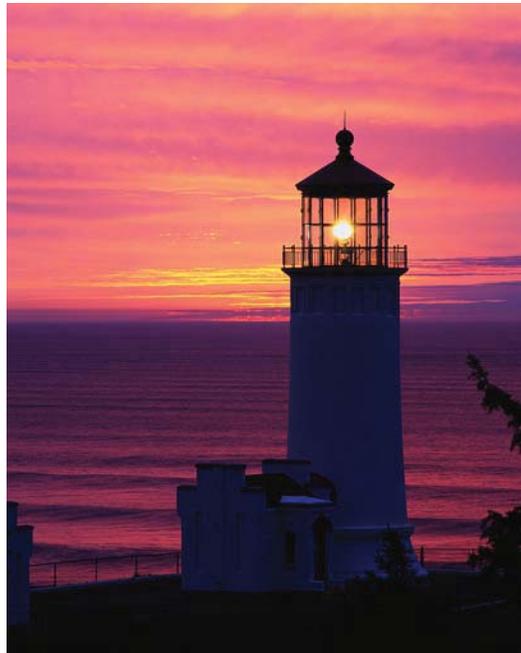
JANUARY 16, 2006

Winter Semester 2005

Volume 2, Number 4

*"It's never too late  
to be what you  
might have been."*

*~ Anonymous*



*Happy  
New Year!*

I hope you have had a chance to recharge your batteries over the holidays and are ready to persevere towards your desired goals.

Perseverance is a valuable character trait worth developing. It is what makes you get up when you've been knocked down....every time! It is being able to find the light, in even the dimmest of situations. It is the ability to look at life with a positive attitude. As Vince Lombardi once said, "We never lost a game, we just ran out of time." Stay focused on your light, whatever its source may be.

## *Congratulations to the 2005 Fall Semester Graduates.*

*Lisa Anderson  
Ruth Carlock  
Evonne Edgington  
Sherri Hausmann*

*Ben Brick  
Diane Downer  
Karen Frizzell  
Nicole Koborg*



Sherri Hausmann, Nicole Koborg, Dr. Pasco, Evonne Edgington, Lisa Anderson at graduation reception in Columbia, Missouri. Dec. 16, 2006.

Missouri students who plan on attending graduation ceremonies in Columbia for May 12, 2006:

It is **urgent you make hotel reservations NOW!!** Most hotels in Columbia are sold out by the end of this month. Follow this link for more information on hotels in the Columbia area:

<http://hotel-guides.us/missouri/columbia-mo-hotels.html>

## ***Student Spotlight***

**Jason Kaspar** is in the spotlight for this month. Thanks, Jason for sharing with us!

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

In 1999 I graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. I have worked for the Omaha Public Library since 1996, first as a page and then, since 1999, as a library specialist. (In non-OPL speak a library specialist is a library assistant or library para-professional.) I have been taking LIS classes through Missouri since Fall 2002 and should graduate Spring or Summer 2007.

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

Non-fiction books that I have read recently include *The Ancestor's Tale* by Richard Dawkins (a history of the evolution of life on Earth that is modeled on Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*), *Last Chance to See* by Douglas Adams (a book about the conservation of endangered species written by the author of the *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* books), *The Penguin History of the USA* by Hugh Brogan (a very engaging general history of our country), and three or four books about Elizabethan England (part of a joint school/work project). On the fiction front I recently read *The Book of Illusions* by Paul Auster and *The Light of Day* by Graham Swift, and next up will be something by Ian McEwan and *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (the book chosen for the 2006 Omaha Reads program)

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

I watch a lot of movies – three or four a week. I listen to a lot of music – mostly alternative music, although I have been on a jazz kick for the past week or two. When the weather is warm enough I like to go for long walks.

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

Ah, but if I shared it then it would no longer be a deep, dark secret - it would be a deep, dark widely known fact, and who needs that?

### **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.**

This is one of those question were I have to respond by saying goods things about myself, which always makes me feel uncomfortable. Let me just say that many of my co-workers have told me that I am very dependable and that I have an unusual amount of patience when dealing with other people.

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

Don't let your assignments wait until the last minute. (This is something I have been slowly improving at, and this past semester I actually turned in an assignment a full two days before it was due – a huge breakthrough for a dawdling slacker like me.) Take your class work seriously enough that you do a good job but not so seriously

*"It's not the distance of travel but the direction that counts."*

*~ Anonymous*



*"If we encounter a man of great intellect, we should ask him what books he reads."*

*~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*



that you have a nervous breakdown. (I'm working on this one too – I've had slightly smaller breakdowns the last couple semesters.) And finally, stay with it – you will graduate.

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

There is the perennial challenge of the lack of respect accorded to the profession of librarianship, as witnessed by the high numbers of people who do not realize that it is a profession. Shrinking library budgets are a problem, and I don't know when, if ever, that trend will be reversed. Keeping up with new information technology is a challenge, albeit one that I personally find to be quite fun and rewarding - my only technophobic tendency is an instinctive dislike of cell phones.

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

At a minimum I want people to be able to look back and say "Well, at least the library wasn't hit by a giant meteor while he was here."

**Q: Any Last Words?**

Always do the best that you can but don't tear yourself apart when the real inevitably falls short of the ideal.

## **Alumni Annotations**

Thanks to **Marty Magee** for her inspiring words.

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

Education

B.S. Speech Communications and English– University of Nebraska at Lincoln

M.S. in Administration – University of Notre Dame

Computer Information Technology certificate program – College of St. Mary

M.A. School of Information Science and Learning Technologies – University of Missouri – Columbia

Professional Background

Long mixed corporate and academic background until 2001.

Media Specialist – Omaha Public Schools – 2001-2002

Solo librarian at Veterans Affairs Medical Center library – 2002-2003

National Network/Libraries of Medicine – 2003 to present.

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

Lately, I've been moved by "When Rivers Change Direction," by Mark Spragg. It was the Wyoming state book last year. It's downright lyrical – and speaks to the survivorship in all of us.

From a professional standpoint, I'd recommend two: "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt, Stephen J. Dubner and "The World is Flat," by Thomas L. Friedman. While neither is really a library-centered book, both address interesting global issues.

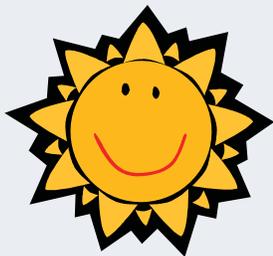
Books I want to read? Too numerous to mention. I keep a list and it's about three pages long!

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

On one of the many blogs or e-mail lists to which I subscribe, I came across this one....a must read for anybody in the library field: "A Global Imperative – The Report of the 21st Century Literacy Summit." <http://www.adobe.com/education/pdf/globalimperative.pdf>. Our roles as librarians are changing. No one can argue that. This document helps identify some of the trends we may see in upcoming generations, their need for multi-media and multi-tasking as they seek information. It will change us as well, since we'll need to learn new technologies and new modes of delivering our information. I think it's one of the exciting things about our profession. It demands change. Remaining open to the possibilities is half the fun!

*"Here is where people, One frequently finds, Lower their voices And raise their minds."*

*~Richard Armour, "Library"*



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

It seems like I have a lot less “down time,” than I once expected at this stage of my life. I think part of that is keeping up with the volumes of information to which we are now exposed! Reading/listening to books (Thank you – Omaha Public Library!) is an obvious choice. Walking is and should be a more-used choice! Part of my lack of “down time” can be attributed to commitments I make to organizations that I consider to be a priority in my life, a networking group, a library friends group, an investment club, a book club, a woman’s group that supports educational opportunities, and groups of friends that I like to entertain. If truth be known, my favorite activity is to reorganize a closet. I’m not sure – this may be a trait that many librarians share!

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

I haven’t told very many people this, but I’d like to learn to fly. Really, get my pilot’s license. It’s a goal, and I think we all need one. Now, I’ve spilled the beans and I need to put some action into this goal! Perhaps in 2006!

**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.**

When I worked in the corporate environment, we focused on three things, which have stuck with me. See, I couldn’t stop at just one! Knowledge – This is your ability to gather or find information. As librarians, we have the edge on this one. I like to think of myself as a “lifelong learner.” Each of my degrees has had a shorter half-life. I find myself going back to school for more information more frequently than I ever thought! Attitude – The older I get, the more important I see attitude is to life. Everybody wants to be surrounded by people with good attitudes, who like their jobs, who make the commitment to come to work everyday and live with the desire to leave it a better place than they found it. Networking – We learn more by talking to people, by getting out of our “box” and thinking about what goes on in the world around us. The contacts you make today will make your job and your life more interesting tomorrow.

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

Persevere. Those who finish the degree are those that have stayed the course. Literally. The opportunities that await you with degree in-hand are more interesting that you could possibly imagine!

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

With the advent of more databases and information available online, we’ll need to be more technically savvy, and strive to stay ahead of the curve. That in turn leads to the challenge of being able to fund those things which we find valuable for our libraries, and to advocate for our libraries every chance we get, showing our administrative management our “value-add,” – what we as librarians bring to the table.

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

Because of my unique background in both academic and corporate environments, I think I have the ability to look at life in a library a little differently. I hope I can share that experience with others, and convey my enthusiasm for our collective future with students and librarians, alike.

**Q: Any Last Words?**

Let’s end with the paragraph above. I think I’ve covered all the bases!

**Faculty Focus**

Thanks to **Corrine Jacox** for taking time away from her busy schedule to answer these questions.

*"There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration."*

*~Andrew Carnegie*



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

I received my BA degree from Midland Lutheran College, in Fremont, Nebraska, with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in Library Science. My original plans were to be a school librarian. My MLS is from Emporia State University, in Emporia, Kansas.

My first job out of college was teaching 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in Snyder, Nebraska, a small town of only 400 people. I also taught elementary music while I was there. I began my library career as a library assistant in technical services at the UNL Law Library. During that time, I was working on my MLS. After receiving my MLS, I became a serials cataloging librarian at UNL. This position also included working on the Nebraska Newspaper Project, which was very interesting and I'm glad I had the opportunity to participate in that project. I was then offered my dream job as Head of Technical Services at a new law school, University of Orlando School of Law, in Orlando. Since it was a brand new library, it required building the department from scratch. It also meant that we had a catalog with no records in it of any kind. It was very rewarding watching the catalog grow as we completed cataloging the collection. Although I loved the job in Orlando, my family missed Nebraska, so when the opportunity came along for a job in Omaha, I jumped at the chance and now am the Catalog/Reference Librarian at Creighton School of Law.

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

Generally, I like reading historical fiction and mysteries. My favorite authors are James Michener and John Grisham. I also enjoy the Harry Potter books.

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

Turvey, T. (2006, January). A perspective on Google Book Search. Information Today, 23, 1, 25.

I would recommend this article because it gives both the Association of American Publishers' and Google's viewpoints about Google's new product, Google Book Search. The article begins with, "Google's mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful." Is this new product the best way to do that and what does it mean for libraries?

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

My hobbies include reading, jigsaw puzzles, and needlework.

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

When I first started my current position at Creighton, I was very apprehensive about working at the Reference desk as all of my previous experience had been in technical services. However, I have come to enjoy that aspect of my job and appreciate the perspective it gives me as I work on cataloging materials for the library.

**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.**

Flexibility and a willingness to learn new things.

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

As you start in your new jobs, remember that you're there to serve the library users and to make the library's resources easier for them to find and use, even if it means

*"Librarian is a service occupation. Gas station attendant of the mind."*

*~Richard Powers*



more work for you.

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

One challenge will be preparing for the exponential growth of electronic resources and libraries becoming more virtual. This affects all areas of library service.

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

I hope that it will be that I did my job well and did it in a way that best served my co-workers and the library users.

**Q: Any Last Words?**

Don't be afraid to take risks.

## **Important Dates**

**Winter 2006 Comprehensive Exam Participants** There will be a pre-comps meeting held at UNO in Allwine Hall 308, February 10th from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and is a must attend for students who are taking winter comps. If you plan on graduating and taking comps this semester and have not yet notified Amy Adam, please do so immediately. A pre-Comps meeting will be held on Friday, February 10th. If you are unable to attend, the information will be made available for viewing on the Comps Blackboard site following the meeting. The only sites hosting the webcast will be Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield and Columbia. A letter from Amy Adam will be going out next week with additional details.

If you have any further questions or concerns contact Amy Adam:

Amy Adam, Student Coordinator  
MU School of Information Science & Learning Technologies  
304 Townsend Hall  
Columbia, MO 65211  
Email: [adamae@missouri.edu](mailto:adamae@missouri.edu) <<mailto:adamae@missouri.edu>>  
Phone: (573) 884-1391  
Toll Free: (877) 747-5868  
Fax: (573) 884-0122

### WEBCAST LOCATION

OMAHA - Room 308 Allwine Hall (campus map:  
<http://www.unomaha.edu/pages/map.html>)

**An information meeting about the Missouri/UNO Cooperative** Masters in Library Science program will be held from 3-5pm on Friday, March 3rd in Kayser Hall 238 on the UNO campus.

Those interested in pursuing this degree will get good information from a variety of Missouri faculty who will be in attendance!

Students currently in the program who would like to have discussions with their advisors should make appointments via email to meet directly after the information session.

Jan 17  
2006 Winter Semester 2006 begins

Feb 10  
2006 Pre-Comps Webcast for spring comps 3:00 – UNO, 308  
5:00 p.m. Allwine Hall

Mar 1  
2006 Summer Semester 2006 application  
deadline for Masters in Library Science

Mar 3  
2006 Missouri/UNO Cooperative Masters in 3:00 – UNO, 238  
Library Science informational meeting. 5:00 p.m. Kayser Hall

Mar 6  
– Mar Early Registration for Summer  
24, Semester and Fall Semester 2006  
2006

Mar 25  
thru  
April Spring Recess begins at close of day  
3,  
2006

April 8  
– April Winter Comps  
16,  
2006

May 1  
2006 Fall Semester 2006 application deadline  
for Masters in Library Science

May 5  
2006 Winter Semester 2006 classwork ends

May 8  
2006 Final examinations begin

May  
12 Winter Semester 2006 ends  
2006

May  
12 Commencement 8:00pm Mizzou Arena  
2006

Jun 13  
2006 Summer Semester 2006 begins

### **Registration for Summer classes**

The Summer 06 class schedule is now posted on the Nebraska Library  
Commission (NLC) website.  
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/>



## 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.

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 [jskm84@mizzou.edu](mailto:jskm84@mizzou.edu) if you have any questions about the practicum process.*

## Scholarships

### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: LOUISE A. NIXON SCHOLARSHIP

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm>

**DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2005**

BASIC REQUIREMENTS (*see complete list on the scholarship web site*):

1. Accepted into an ALA accredited graduate school of library/information science
2. Must meet one of the following criteria:
  - a) Resident of Nebraska for at least one year.
  - b) Member of NLA for at least one year.
  - c) Employee, past or present, of a Nebraska library for at least one year.

### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: DUANE MUNSON SCHOLARSHIP

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm>

**DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2005**

BASIC REQUIREMENTS (*see complete requirements on the scholarship site*):

1. Applicant will offer proof of acceptance for study.
2. Must meet BOTH of the following criteria:
  - a) Employee of a NE library or educational unit for at least one year.
  - b) Member of NLA for at least one year.



**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



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1-800-858-8648, ext. 2119