

2-20-2006

## NEMO News, Volume 2, Issue 5

UNO Library Science Education  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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### Recommended Citation

Education, UNO Library Science, "NEMO News, Volume 2, Issue 5" (2006). *NEMO Newsletter*. Book 9.  
<http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/nemo/9>

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# NEMO News

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

FEBRUARY 20, 2006

Winter Semester 2006

Volume 2, Number 5

*In the confrontation  
between the river  
and the rock, the  
river always wins –  
not through  
strength, but by  
perseverance.  
~Unknown*



## Time

We never seem to have enough. We all are given the same amount on a daily basis, but doesn't it seem like some always have more than others? What is their secret? Time management.

It is up to each of us to decide what to do with the time we are given. What will you do?

*The strongest of all warriors are these two - - Time & Patience.  
– Leo Tolstoi.*

## Student Spotlight

**Ramona Ratliff** is in the spotlight for this month.

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

B.A. – Psychology / Sociology

When I was 18 I worked full-time one summer in the York College library, and always dreamed of working in a library again some day. After working in the college business office and campus post office I had an opportunity to work in the library, and so I have been working in York College Levitt Library for five years.

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

Psychology books such as Shadow Syndromes.

Lately – C.S. Lewis books such as The Chronicles of Narnia, Through the Shadowlands, and Surprised by Joy: The Shape of My Early Life

I also enjoy Louis L'Amour novels

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

College & Research Libraries and College & Research Libraries News because sometimes they have articles relevant to my work with periodicals, reserves, or reference work in an academic library.

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

Reading, traveling, shopping, watching good movies

**"Optimism is essential to achievement and it is also the foundation of courage and true progress."**

**~Nicholas Murray Butler**



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

I like to watch "What Not To Wear" on TLC channel and see what awful outfits people wear, and how they are "made over" by Stacey and Clinton.

**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 just hope to serve well those patrons I am privileged to work with.

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

Invest in a good comprehensive dictionary, thesaurus, and the current edition of the APA manual, and as Dr. Linda Esser said one time, keep some chocolate close to your computer as you work !!

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

In my job, the trend for print journals to start migrating more and more to electronic access, so I need to learn more about setting up access to electronic journals.

Marketing the library's value to the patrons and administrators or board will become more and more vital, I believe, for the survival of our budgets so that they will not be cut to smaller and smaller amounts.

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

My legacy will probably be just to do the best job I can do in my own library, and hopefully network some and share mutual helpfulness with any other librarians I come in contact with.

**Q: Any Last Words?**

If you are just beginning grad school, take it one assignment or class at a time, so you do not get overwhelmed.

## **Alumni Annotations**

Thanks to **Nicole Koborg** for her time and thoughts.

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

My undergraduate degree from UNO was in elementary education with a K-12 endorsement in educational media. After graduating, I took a detour working in city government before returning to the library world starting with LaVista Public Library. I've been in my current position as Resource Librarian at Clarkson College for the past five years and enjoy it immensely.

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

My all-time favorite book is *Watership Down* by Richard Adams which was recommended to me by my school librarian back in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. A compulsive list-maker, I actually have a list of all those I've read (going back to 1990) plus those I'd like to read. Over the years I notice that my preference has shifted from fiction to non-fiction. I most recently finished biographies about Nick Drake and Bob Dylan with *Every Second Counts* by Lance Armstrong up to bat next.

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

I try to read or at least browse through every issue of *Library Journal* and *American Libraries* for current news and articles of interest since they usually apply to all types of libraries. Once out of school, it's especially important to keep up on your own with what is happening in the field.

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

*"There are powers inside of you which, if you could discover and use, would make of you everything you ever dreamed or imagined you could become."*

*~Orison Swett Marden { 1850-1924 Founder of Success Magazine }*



It's so nice to finally have some "downtime" again! Since graduation in December, my niece was born so I've been enjoying all the benefits of being a first-time aunt in addition to spending more time with other family and friends. I've also appreciated the extra time to read for fun and watch films, completely guilt-free. This spring I hope to start walking dogs as a volunteer at the Nebraska Humane Society again, especially since my own dog recently passed away.

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

Sometimes I call my house in the middle of the day, just to make sure it's still there. But doesn't everyone do this?

**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'm not really one comfortable with tooting my own horn but I'd have to say that I possess strong organizational skills and those who know me best, know that this is true. This is a good skill to have in a profession that in part revolves around organizing information and making it easily available to the end user. Yes, I'm one of those rare birds who actually likes cataloging! My director frequently praises me on my tactfulness in dealing with people, also an important skill to have.

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

When things get frustrating, keep plugging away and don't give up. Remember that everyone else is pretty much in the same boat. Also, if you have questions, don't be afraid to ask your instructors – they want you to succeed and are there to help. Stressing over the comp exam was worse than the actual event but careful preparation proved invaluable (at least for me). Now that it's over, I can't believe how fast the time went!

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

Like a double-edged sword, electronic resources have made our lives easier yet have also complicated things considerably. There are so many issues regarding them involving access, copyright and longevity, to name a few. Also, though we know 'tis not the case, public perception suggests that most worthwhile information can be found on the internet. I'm currently gaining some practical experience in this area as the project manager for implementation of our catalog to the web (finally!) and hope to make our online resources easier for students to use by integrating them together.

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

Hmmm, this is a difficult one! Having just graduated, I'm still enjoying the feeling of being out of school and haven't thought that far into the future. I am currently involved in several new projects at my library which I'm very enthusiastic about and hope will eventually make our resources easier for students to use. If I can assist our users in becoming better independent information seekers, then I will have served my purpose.

**Q: Any Last Words?**

Good luck to everyone pursuing this degree! It's a very worthwhile endeavor and I'm still very grateful to UNO and Mizzou for bringing it to Nebraska residents. This is something that I really wanted to do and the NEMO alliance made it possible.

**Faculty Focus**

Thanks to **Doug Raber** for taking time to answer these questions.

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

I was a librarian for 13 years before completing my PhD and starting a career in academe. I've been a political science subject specialist at SUNY/Buffalo, the

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

*~E.P. Whipple*



director of a rural public library in Harvard, Illinois and the Head of Reference at the Monroe County Public Library in Bloomington, Indiana. In addition to a MALS and a PhD in Library and Information Science, I have a MA in political science.

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

Habermas and the Public Sphere, edited by Craig Calhoun, Multicultural Citizenship by Will Kymlicka and Why Dogs Chase Cars by George Singleton are on my reading table at the moment.

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

Library Quarterly, because of its subtle presentation of theoretical and practical issues in LIS.

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

What's "down time"? When I can I like to play drums. I prefer rock and roll, loud and driving enough to, as we used to describe our goal at a gig, yank 'em out of their shorts. Most of the time I just read a good novel or take in a movie.

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

None. That's why they are deep and dark.

**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 can't possibly answer this one. Besides, I'm suspicious of the motives of anyone who *claims* leadership. That's something earned.

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

Be prepared for uncertainty and ambiguity.

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

LIS as an academic discipline will have to determine how to educate librarians and provide the research necessary for them to cope with the cultural changes associated with the multiple sources of information made possible by the development of ICT's. Public librarians especially must confront a question of whether libraries are to be cultural or information institutions, as well as the nature of the relationship between information and culture.

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

Who knows? In any case, it's not my call.

**Q: Any Last Words?**

Nope

## **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/>

Registration begins March 6th so get ready to go!  
Two excellent courses will be offered this summer:

1) The 7313 Managing Collection course will be taught by Melissa Cast on 3 Saturdays in July and August (see <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/1828.html> for specific dates and times). 7313 is a core required course - so take it now!

*They say that time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself.*

*~Andy Warhol*



2) The 9445 Special Libraries course will be taught by Dr. Pasco on 4 Saturdays in May and June (see <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/1828.html> for specific dates and times). This is an excellent elective - a student favorite usually offered only every other year - so jump on this chance to get an insider's view of law libraries, medical libraries, museums/archives, church libraries, art and science libraries, and more. The best field trips you'll take in your entire life!

3) As always - there are online electives to consider - Check <http://mudirect.missouri.edu/degrees/LSneb.htm> for online course information.

Questions about coursework, plans of study, etc. should be directed to Dr. Pasco!

## **Important Dates**

**An informational meeting about the Missouri/UNO Cooperative Masters in Library Science program will be held from 3-5pm on Friday, March 3rd in room 100 in the UNO library building.**

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.

## **SISLT Calendar**

Mar 3 2006	Missouri/UNO Cooperative Masters in Library Science informational meeting.	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	UNO, 238 Kayser Hall
Mar 6 – Mar 24, 2006	Early Registration for Summer Semester and Fall Semester 2006		
Mar 25 thru April 3, 2006	Spring Recess begins at close of day		
April 8 – April 16, 2006	Winter Comps		
May 5 2006	Winter Semester 2006 classwork ends		
May 8 2006	Final examinations begin		
May 12 2006	Winter Semester 2006 ends		

May 12 2006	Commencement	8:00pm	Mizzou Arena
Jun 13 2006	Summer Semester 2006 begins		



## 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.

*"As a general rule, the most successful man in life is the man who has the best information."  
- Benjamin*

*Disraeli*



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 [jkm84@mizzou.edu](mailto:jkm84@mizzou.edu) if you have any questions about the practicum process.*

## Scholarships

**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.

**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.



**NLA Scholarships**

**Louise A Nixon Scholarship**



Louise A. Nixon (1897-1989) worked constantly to enlighten the legislature about the state’s libraries’ needs. She served as Assistant Director of the Nebraska Legislative Reference Bureau, and as Legislative Council Librarian. She was head of the Nebraska Library Commission from 1950 to 1969. When federal funds became available, she initiated bookmobile demonstration projects; public library construction; extension services; services to institutional residents and the blind and the physically handicapped; and an inter-library communication network. Our lives have been enriched by her open-minded, conscientious dedication to building library service.

The *Lincoln Journal* had this to say about Nixon on reflecting on her life, "There is no single figure of greater 20th century significance in developing Nebraska’s contemporary system of community libraries— facilities, collections, trained personnel, cooperative networking."

This scholarship was established to help each recipient reach for Nixon’s goals of dedication and vision.

Application deadline is April 15th of the current year  
New scholarship recipients will be announced in May



**Criteria and Purpose**

**Purpose**

The Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund has been established to support students who pursue graduate level library education on a full or part-time basis. Applicants must meet these Nebraska Library Association guidelines.

**Applicant Requirements**

Applicant must be accepted by an ALA- accredited graduate school of library/information science; OR Applicant must be accepted by a graduate library media program that meets the ALA/AASL curriculum guidelines within a unit accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

1. Applicant must meet one of the following criteria:
  1. resident of Nebraska for at least one year
  2. member of NLA for at least one year
  3. employee, past or present, of a Nebraska library for at least one year.
2. Applicant will submit an official copy of his/her college transcript.
3. Applicant will submit two letters of recommendation.
4. Applicant will write a statement explaining his/her employment history; his/her employment expectations after graduation; and his/her expected graduation date.
5. Applicant will provide estimated expenses.
6. A personal interview may be requested by the Scholarship Committee.

### Conditions of Scholarship

1. Preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate the best potential for employment in Nebraska libraries after graduation.
2. Generally, one award per person is given. Scholarship applicants must be deserving: scholarships will not be awarded automatically if only one person applies.
3. Applications must be received by the NLA Scholarship Committee on or before April 15th of the current year.
4. Scholarships will be paid directly to the library school. If the award exceeds remaining tuition, money can be used for school related expenses.

Application: To obtain an application, go to [www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm)



## NEMO NEWS CONTACT INFORMATION

Joyce Keber  
NEMO Graduate Assistant  
[jkm84@mizzou.edu](mailto:jkm84@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