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## Library Education and Development Newsletter, Volume 5, Issue 2

UNO Library Science Education  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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# L.E.A.D.

## Library Education and Development Newsletter

### *Inside This Issue:*

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### *Advice from the Frontlines:*

***Nick Kaiser***

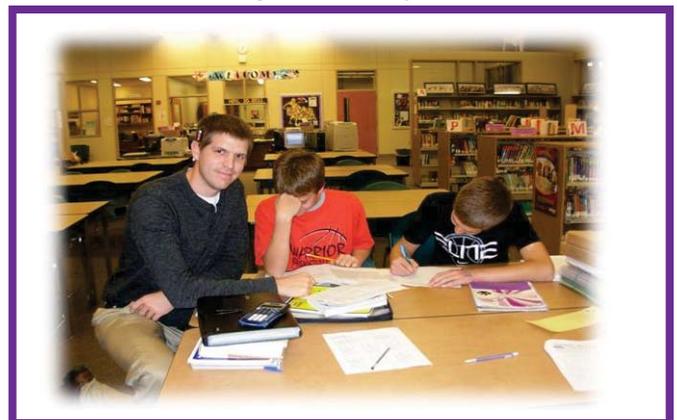
*School Librarian  
Beadle Middle School  
Millard Public Schools*

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

While there are several things about my job that I enjoy and that bring me satisfaction (collaborating with teachers, sharing great books, etc.) the thing that has always brought me the most joy is working with students. Nothing else really compares.

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*(continued on page 2)*

*(Kaiser continued)*

***Please discuss one personal characteristic that you feel has contributed to your success as a School Librarian.***

If you are going to be successful as a school librarian, you need to be flexible. Let's face it, plans change, servers go down, things get lost, your job pulls you different directions, and people can be frustrating. If you aren't willing to roll with the punches and adjust when things don't go as planned, you are just going to end up frustrated and unhappy. Adapt to the situation that you find yourself in and things will tend to work themselves out.

***The AASL Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup> 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.***

One example would be a Latin America research project where I work with seventh grade Social Studies classes. I start by working with students to help them find up-to-date information about different aspects of a Latin American country. This includes helping them think critically about the resources they are using, encouraging them to use a variety of sources to validate their findings, and explaining how to cite things correctly. After finding the information, students must compare their country to the United States and explain how the two are related and dependent on each other. This step forces them to think

critically and move "beyond cut-and-paste" as they work to make sense of their findings. They finish by presenting their findings to their classmates. It is fun to see them make sense of the information and make connections with a different culture as the project unfolds.

***Please share a favorite book you have read recently.***

How about two? I just finished reading *The Death Collector* by Justin Richards. I like to think of it as Sherlock Holmes meets Frankenstein with a little Jurassic Park thrown in for good measure. I thoroughly enjoyed it. Currently, my favorite series is Patrick Carmen's *Skeleton Creek*. These books are paired with online videos that help tell the story. This innovative fusion of technology and text makes for a thrilling mystery experience.

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

I am an Animoto junkie. Last year I used it to make digital book trailers to use for book talks. I've also had several classes use it to make videos for book reports or other various presentations and each time both students and teachers rave about the results. The website is user friendly and with an education account, free!

***Thank you, Nick, for sharing your professional insights!***

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***Student Spotlight: Kim Steinbrink***  
***University of Nebraska at Omaha School Library***  
***Undergraduate Student***

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***What is your education /  
library/experience background?***

Currently, I am working towards my undergraduate degree in Elementary Education with an endorsement in K-12 Library Media. I have not had very much "library" experience, unless you count staying in at recess throughout elementary school to help the librarian check in books and shelve. I have worked at a locally-owned bookstore, The Bookworm, which has kept me current in children's books and continued to keep me passionate about reading.

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

The books that are on my reading list...hmm, what reading list is that? No, of course there is a reading list, there is just not much time lately. I am student teaching and so a lot of my reading lately has been reading and writing instructional strategy books. I did take time out when the new Percy Jackson book, *Son of Neptune*, came out to read the whole book. I just got done reading the first book in the Humphrey series out loud to my students, *The World According to Humphrey*. We were laughing on every single page, I enjoyed it just as much as they did! At home I have a teetering stack of books by

my bedside, but the book on top that I cannot wait to get to is the book *Crossed* by Ally Condie.

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

One of the new professional journals that I discovered you can access online is the Teacher Librarian: The Journal for School Library Professionals. The journal can be accessed online through a viewer called PageSuite. It is neat! I enjoy the journal because it includes many resources each week. There are professional books recommended with reviews, new web wonders, and articles about different targeted audiences.

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

I just moved, but until recently my favorite "down time" activity was to make some coffee or a steaming mug of hot chocolate, pop a bowl of popcorn with M & M's, find a soft blanket and curl up on my couch and read in front of the fireplace. Unfortunately, I no longer have a fireplace. I still enjoy the rest of it all, but now I curl up on my bed. Some of my hobbies include baking and cooking. If I get the time and money to buy all the ingredients,

I love to try new recipes. I especially love baking and watching the cake and cupcake shows on television and attempting my best to repeat some of the awesome things I see. They never quite work out, but I have come up with some pretty neat alternatives.



**Kim Steinbrink**

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

It is not much of a secret, but many people do not know this fact about me. As my friends and family constantly remind me, I eat SLOW. You're probably thinking, wow, big deal. If you are sitting down to dinner or lunch with me, yes, it would be a big deal. When I say slowly, I mean about 3 times slower than the normal person. I don't even sit down at dinner tables anymore, because it would just take too much of my precious time that I do not have. When we go out to eat, some of my friends will make bets on how big of a bite I will take or how long it will take me to finish my meal. I just enjoy savoring my food and taking my time.

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

One of my personal and professional qualities that I think will help me as a leader is that I am not much of a leader in many areas of my life. I don't barge into things in control. I am a fantastic listener and I know that I do not always have the best ideas, in fact, most of the time someone else has a better idea. I am more than willing to admit that and help them to allow their idea to shine. I enjoy helping others and I learn a lot from other's ideas that later help to spark my own ideas.

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

As I am nearing the end of the road for my undergraduate degree, my advice is to just hang in there! More importantly, my advice is to network in your classes. I have found that having a few really good friends from my library classes has been what has helped me most as I am moving on through the years of school and getting close to graduating. These educators and future librarians that you are in class with are going to be the same librarians that will be out in the field, working alongside of you. It is important to develop relationships of support and a community environment where you can share ideas and collaborate.

*(continued pg. 3)*

*(Steinbrink continued)*

“Nothing can do what a book can do. Lifts you out of your life... to a whole new world, whole new perspective. A book is like a dream you are borrowing from your friend.”

-David Kellet

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

The future trends and challenges that I see for library information specialists is to advocate for ourselves and community that we are needed. Right now all over the U.S. schools and cities have been wondering, what do our library information specialists do and do we really need them? Librarians are going to have a tough road ahead of themselves to make sure that we are not stuck behind a desk or back in the shelves shelving books. This is not what the future job of a librarian is. Our job is to seek out where we can help. We need to be all over our schools and communities!

Another challenge is the technology trend we have been already facing. Technology cannot replace libraries, but there are some who think it can. Technology cannot replace library information specialists, but there are some who think it can. So, as library information specialists we need to be showing our schools and communities what our job is and how technology supports learning and information but cannot replace what libraries offer – which is the friendly service, community/school support, learning, help and resources.

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

I don't think I could ever answer this question. I could only hope that I would leave a legacy in this profession. If I was able to leave a legacy, I would hope that it would be to help students be curious and learn and to give them the tools they need for lifelong learning.

***Thank you,  
Kimberly, for  
taking the time to  
share your talents  
and your ideas!***

# ***Announcements:***

## ***Scholarships, Registration, Comprehensive Exams, Graduation***

### ***Scholarship Opportunities:***

#### **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](#).

#### **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 or contact Robin Bernstein at [robin.bernstein@bellevue.edu](mailto:robin.bernstein@bellevue.edu)

#### **Nebraska Library Commission**

The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to announce the third cycle of its 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarian Scholarship program for Nebraska residents. Scholarships may be used for tuition (for coursework contributing toward a certificate or degree), course-required materials, and school-assessed fees.

**Online applications are due March 1 (some documentation due Feb 18).**

See <http://nlc1.nlc.state.ne.us/nowhiring/scholarships.asp> for details and to learn how to apply.

Questions? Contact Kathryn Brockmeier, Grant Program Manager, by e-mail ([kathryn.brockmeier@nebraska.gov](mailto: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](#).

### ***Elementary Capstone, Secondary Education and Reading Comprehensive Exams:***

#### **Comprehensive Exam Deadlines**

Selective Retention must be submitted and approved before students can register for comprehensive exams. Please make note of the following registration deadlines.

#### **Spring 2012:**

**Elementary Education Majors:** TED 8700 Elementary Capstone will replace the comprehensive exam. A grade of B or better must be received in TED 8700 to show satisfactory completion of the course and for program completion. **Spring 2012 class dates Friday January 13<sup>th</sup>, February 10<sup>th</sup>, March, 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 30<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 8pm. This course is by permission only** please contact Dr. Kathy Danielson at [kdanielson@unomaha.edu](mailto:kdanielson@unomaha.edu) or contact Dr. Rebecca Pasco at [rpasco@unomaha.edu](mailto:rpasco@unomaha.edu).

**Reading Majors:** The registration deadline is **January 13<sup>th</sup>** for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Spring 2012** semester. **Reading graduates** are encouraged to attend a **Comprehensive Exam meeting Mid January**. Reading Masters comprehensive exam is a take home exam. The approximate due date is **March 5<sup>th</sup>**.

**Secondary Education Majors:** The registration deadline is **January 20<sup>th</sup>** for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Spring 2012** semester. The **Secondary Exam** will be given on **March 3<sup>rd</sup>** in Roskens Hall.

#### **Summer 2012:**

**Reading Majors:** The registration deadline is **April 18<sup>th</sup>** for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Summer 2012** semester. **Reading graduates** must attend a **Comprehensive Exam meeting April 26<sup>th</sup>**. Reading Masters comprehensive exam is a take home exam. The approximate due date, **June 18<sup>th</sup>**.

**Secondary Education Majors:** The registration deadline is **May 4<sup>th</sup>** for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the **Summer 2012** semester. The **Secondary Exam** will be given on **June 30<sup>th</sup>** in Roskens Hall.

To register, contact Joyce Jones in the Department of Teacher Education; Phone: 402-554-2212 or 1-800-858-8648, ext. 2212 Email: [jjones@unomaha.edu](mailto:jjones@unomaha.edu)

### ***Graduation:***

**The deadline is March 2<sup>nd</sup> for students planning to graduate during the Spring 2012 semester. The commencement ceremony is scheduled for May 5, 2012 at the Fieldhouse. (All Graduation information is subject to change).**

## *Upcoming Conferences, Professional Development and More!*

### **Good IDEAS!**

Wendy Grojean

*Innovation. Design. Experiences. Activities. Synergy*

Welcome to the IDEAS Room!  
Roskens Hall 412  
Join us to create and collaborate.

#### **Cell phones in the library?!**



Believe it or not, cell phones can be more than just a nuisance in the library. They can be used to engage your students during lessons or for informal pre or post assessments. So, if you're open to trying out cell phones in your library or if your staff is ready to give it a try, take a look at the following sites.

For beginners:

-[textthemob.com](http://textthemob.com)

-[polleverywhere.com](http://polleverywhere.com)

More advanced:

[voki.com](http://voki.com)-Create custom avatars and attach voice for students to access lessons or to create their own avatar to turn in homework.

[cel.ly](http://cel.ly)-Create your own instant mobile network with your students to send out and gather information easily through cell phones.

*For more information about the IDEAS room contact:*

Wendy Grojean  
IDEAS Room Coordinator  
College of Education  
402-554-3653  
[wgrojean@unomaha.edu](mailto:wgrojean@unomaha.edu)

#### **Literacy Conference April 2012**

**Donalyn Miller will offer a keynote session based on her book *The Book Whisperer: Awakening the Inner Reader in Every Child*.**

**The conference will be held in Roskens Hall (morning sessions) and the Alumni House (lunch and keynote session) at UNO on Saturday, April 14, 2012. The registration deadline is March 16, 2012**

## AASL Conference Highlights



**Jennifer Misbach**

When I got on the bus and left Omaha for my first AASL Conference, I had no idea what I was getting myself into. I had no expectations and no idea what it would be like. I was told it might be overwhelming and that I would learn a lot. While both of those things were true, it turned out to be much more than that. One thing for certain, I should have packed lighter and I should have taken an extra suitcase for all that I would bring back! I enjoyed the variety of the sessions I attended at the conference, but the highlight for me was meeting people and experiencing the Exhibitors. I LOVE books and what could be better than getting nearly 100 free books to take back to my classroom? Why, nothing! It was awesome. So many publishers were handing out their books, advanced copies and already published. It was great to meet some of the authors, have them sign their books and ask them where they got their ideas for their story. Along with all of the great books I acquired, I met so many other librarians and gained so many useful ideas to use when I become a school librarian. I will definitely go back to AASL and would recommend the experience to anyone.

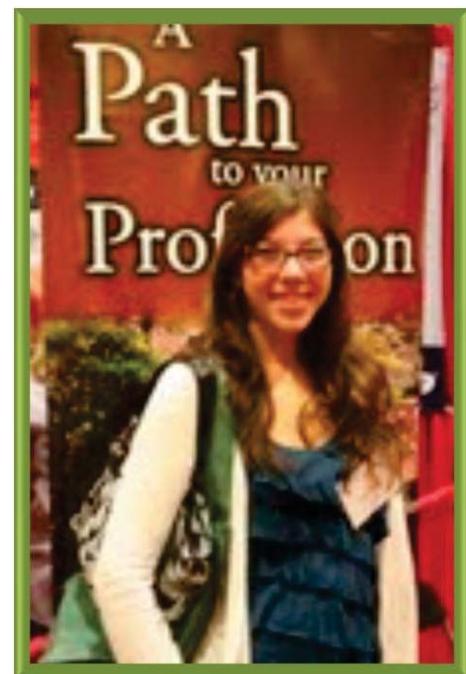
Jennifer Misbach  
Council Bluffs Public Schools

My most enjoyable experience was hearing Pat Mora, Andrea Davis Pinkney and Joan Bauer's entertaining and insightful talks at the Author Banquet Friday evening. The bus trip provided a great opportunity to get better acquainted with other Nebraska school librarians, and I was energized by all the new acquaintances I made during the conference.

Karen Buckley  
St. Pius X High School  
Lincoln, NE

It's refreshing to hear ideas from other places, to see what other librarians do that might improve my library.

Alyx Knight  
North Star High School  
Lincoln, NE



**Jennifer Flegle**  
UNO Undergraduate School Library Student

*(AASL Conference Highlights continued)*

I learned a lot at the AASL Conference and think the biggest thing all librarians need to stay on top of is the eBook issue. Publishers are changing the rules daily and it is an issue that needs to be monitored. First, the rule was that librarians could download an eBook to five devices, but NOT now. Institutions (such as public and school libraries) that check eBooks out on Kindles, Nooks, or iPads can only download one eBook per device. This is a major change. Another major change that started with Harper & Row is if a library purchases an eBook, the library is only allowed 26 checkouts and then the book disappears from their eBook book collection. I think what Jamie LaRue, keynote speaker at the NLA/NEMA Conference, said is true. Publishers are running scared with the new eBook environment, and they are doing everything possible to continue to make publishing profitable. Librarians need to keep current on this. (In fact what I have written may already be outdated.) I also want to say the ride on the NEMA bus to Minneapolis with 30 other Nebraska school librarians provided a lot of professional development. The fellowship and exchange of ideas that occurred was amazing. NEMA, UNK and UNO made donations to make the bus trip a reality and affordable to the participants. A big THANK YOU goes out to these groups!

Judy Henning  
Kearney Public Schools  
Kearney, NE



**UNO Faculty at the 2011 NLA/NEMA Conference**

AASL is by far the most valuable conference experience I have ever had.

How in the world do I sum it up?

- ❖ Met and shared information with SCHOOL librarians from across the country
- ❖ Learned a new way to involve the entire staff in a fun & self-directed technology program
- ❖ Heard about eBooks, web 2.0, professional development, plagiarism, research, character education, social media...all relevant to MY job!
- ❖ Discovered that what I do is good, learned ways to make it GREAT!

My batteries are recharged!

Carrie Turner  
Westside Public Schools  
Omaha, NE

## *Things To Consider:*

### **School Library Media Research: Research Articles for School Librarians**

Find some of the best research and research-based publications available to the school library media community. This resource provides online access to full-text articles and includes a key-term index linked directly by author's name.

**<http://www.ala.org/aasl/aaslpubsandjournals/sl mrb/keywordindex/keyword>**

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



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