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Library Education and Development Newsletter, Volume 7, Issue 1

UNO Library Science Education
University of Nebraska at Omaha
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

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Mark your calendars!!!
Spring 2014 Enrollment

Spring 2014 Enrollment Dates:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>Graduate students currently enrolled</td>
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Follow UNO Library Education Programs on your social networks:

https://www.facebook.com/unolibraryed
https://twitter.com/unolibraryed
https://pinterest.com/unolibraryed
In your capacity as a professional librarian, what aspects of your job bring you the most joy?

I get GREAT joy working with children and introducing them to the joy of reading. Nothing is better than reading a really good picture book and seeing how the children respond to it. I have older students who often say, “Remember when you read us…? I love that book!” Also, I love when a student comes to me and is excited that they finished a chapter book for the first time. They want to share and I feel rewarded by that, because we might just have created that life-long reader!

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

I would have to say one personal characteristic that has helped me, as a school librarian is my ability to be organized. As school librarians we wear several hats. Not only do we write lesson plans and teach, but we research and order materials that are specifically suited for our buildings (students and staff), we supervise our paraprofessionals, and balance the physical use of our facilities. While doing all of these things we need to keep a smile on our faces!

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.

I had a very good experience with a “Text Features” lesson I used with my 3rd and 4th graders. I adapted this lesson for my students, which I found at ReadWriteThink.org (http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/using-science-texts-teach-413.html?tab=4#tabs). This lesson allows the students work in groups and the members then plan, discuss, and agree on the details and format of a two-page
nonfiction spread. Each child has a job, for example, photographer, border designer, science writer, or illustrator. You can pair students to share a job if needed, so everyone succeeds. I love to see natural leaders emerge and the creativity of each student. I also like that this lesson can be used during NESA testing time when our laptop cart is being used or if you only have one computer available.

Please share a favorite book you have read recently.

Picking a single favorite book is very difficult for me, but I can say that I do love the Percy Jackson, Kane Chronicles, and Heroes of Olympus books (by Rick Riordan). You know these books are good when you suddenly have boys who “don’t like” fiction lining up to read these series. I can’t wait for new House of Hades to come out!

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

I have been teaching with www.PebbleGo.com, since 2011, on a regular basis. We subscribe to all four databases, Animals, Earth & Space, Biographies and Social Studies. It is not a free website, but it is an extremely good aid for helping teach nonfiction to students. You can use this with whole-groups; small-groups or student can use it independently.

YALSA’s Teens’ Top Ten Announced October 21st

See: http://www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten
What is your education / library/experience background?

I’m a graduate of Millard West High School. I initially went to college at St. Louis University and earned my bachelors degree in Marketing. After working in the corporate world for a few years, I decided to go back to school to become a teacher. I went through the TAP (Teacher Academy Project) at UNO to earn my secondary education certificate in Business. I was hired to teach business at Millard West in 2009, and have been there since. While teaching I finished my masters in Secondary Ed Improvement of Instruction. I am currently working on a K-12 graduate Library Sciences endorsement. I am planning on completing my classes in the near future and look forward to, very soon, being hired as a school librarian!

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

On my reading list:

*Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. I have waited way too long to read this series.

*Realer Than Real* by Ryan Wilkins. This is a memoir by a friend that I have known since childhood.

*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. I have heard great things about this book!

*Insurgent* by Veronica Roth. I loved Divergent and can’t wait to read this book!

Recommendations / Favorites:

*Divergent* by Veronica Roth. This YA lit book is the best assigned reading that I have ever been given! I can’t wait to find time to read Insurgent!

*A is for Musk Ox* by Erin Cabatingan. This book is the cutest ABC read that I have ever seen. I like it so much I bought it on my own Kindle.

(Continued page 5)
My Sister’s Keeper by Jodi Picoult. This book is one of my favorites, but you can’t go wrong with just about anything from this author!

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

I have a digital subscription to Advertising Age and Advertising Age Digital. Both of these publications are business focused and discuss topics such as industry trends and new things happening in the digital arena. While these publications focus mostly on business, they can be applied to many topics because they largely discuss industry trends, which apply to any consumer, and often cross over into technology and media. I find it pretty cool to learn what new innovative technologies are in use by businesses. It gets my wheels turning.

I also browse American Libraries Magazine. This is a great, very up-to-date publication that has to do with just about any topic that has an impact on libraries. This online publication has something new on an almost daily basis. American Libraries Magazine is a great place to get ideas and learn about industry news. I often go to this website when I am trying to get new ideas or come up with inspiration for homework.

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

Relax? What is that like? I’m actually not very good at relaxing, which is probably also half of the reason that I am so crazy! When I do get some down time, I really like to spend it with family and friends. I have enjoyed my garden this summer. That is a new passion of mine that I can’t wait to expand next year. I love to cook and create new recipes. I also like to stay active, whether that is walking my dogs or going to the gym. I am a much nicer person when I have time to exercise!

What deep dark secret would you like to share?

I am a huge animal lover. I have two dogs (Chuck and Izzy) that are both rescues. I make a conscious effort to give both dogs 100 kisses every day. When I am home alone, I can often be found carrying on conversations, sometimes lengthy, with my pups.... and I have no shame in this!

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

I think that I am very open to other people’s thoughts and ideas. I believe that the best products come from situations when people are empowered, take control and make something their own.

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

Have fun with the process. This is the most engaging program that I have been in.
I find that most of the assignments that are given can be applied to my current position or the position that I hope have in the future. Take advantage of that. Ask questions. Open your mind to new tools and ideas. Apply what you have learned. Step outside of your comfort zone.

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

I think that some of the challenges Library Information Specialists will face in the future are getting kids to think of the library as a fun and engaging place. As our lives become more digital, I see kids becoming less impressed with black and white text, more about multi-tasking and engaging a variety of senses. It seems that in this digital age, some kids expect the book to do tricks in order for them to be impressed. I think that it is going to become more and more important for Library Information Specialists to embrace the changing times and capture the students that are engaged in digital, while still recognizing the importance for other students to have a book in their hands and a quiet place to read.

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

I’m a very goofy person. I think I will be seen as someone that created a fun and inviting environment.

Did you know???

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. Just ask!

- 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.
October 2013
Volume 7, Issue 1

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 [NSLA](#).

**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.

**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](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](#).

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](mailto: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 February 10th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the Spring 2014 semester. The required review session will be held Monday, March 10th.

Reading Candidates: The registration deadline is January 17th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the Spring 2014 semester. The required review session will be held Thursday, January 23rd.

**Elementary Education Capstone**

Elementary Education School Library Candidates: TED 8700 Elementary Capstone has replaced the comprehensive exam. Spring 2014 class dates: Friday, January 17th, February 28th, April 11th, and May 2nd 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).

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**LiveText**

UNO College of Education is: Going Live with LiveText

**LiveText will be your:**

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

**Implementation begins in Spring 2013!**

- Look for LiveText training sessions later this fall.
- Contact your advisor for information regarding EDUC, TED & SPED courses requiring the purchase of LiveText.
Upcoming Conferences, Professional Development and More!

AASL 16th National Conference & Exhibition
NOVEMBER 14-17, 2013 | HARTFORD, CT

PHILADELPHIA
American Library Association
MIDWINTER MEETING & EXHIBITS
January 24-28, 2014

Metropolitan English Teacher Link
5th Annual Conference

Saturday, November 2, 2013
Keynote Speaker: Jeff Anderson
Good IDEAS!
Innovation, Design, Experiences, Activities, Synergy

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

Timelines, Anyone?

When I think back to my timeline experience as a student, I recall numerous, landscape-oriented, taped-together pieces of 8-1/2” X 11” paper. This masterpiece consisted of pictures and captions from events in my life, a famous person’s life, a historical event, or a book (depending on the task). While I genuinely enjoyed the cutting and pasting and creativity that this task required, I think the option of creating timelines online is a great way to differentiate assessments and engage students.

A few of these free, online timeline creation tools are:
http://dipity.com/
The free account allows for three timelines and provides an embed code. Users can add Youtube and vimeo videos and pictures to timelines.
http://www.timetoast.com/
This has an easy interface but this is because users can only include links and images. No videos. No limit on how many timelines in your account. Free version provides embed codes to embed timelines on websites. Premium version allows for the creation of groups and collaboration on timelines.
http://www.tiki-toki.com/
Free account allows you to embed youtube and vimeo video and share timelines with others. The free version limits you to only one timeline on your account. However, only the paid option allows you to collaborate on a timeline and provides an embed code. The teacher account ($125/year) allows you to create 50 student accounts.

Teachers/librarians can…
- capture or keep these projects
- expand the audience beyond the school walls by embedding timelines in websites, blogs or simply emailing them.
- teach chronological order by creating a timeline for a story plot, historical event, or life

Students can…
- include multimedia (images, videos)
- explore topics deeper with no space constraints (no more taping additional paper together!)
- extend learning by including linking websites to their timeline
- cite their online resources by linking these resources
AASL’s Position Statement on Digital Content and E-books in School Library Collections

http://www.ala.org/aasl/advocacy/resources/position-statements/digital-content

Today’s twenty-first century students must be able to discover, analyze, evaluate, interpret, and communicate ideas, information and knowledge in a variety of ways. Because school library programs are instrumental in teaching these skills, their collections must include a wide variety of formats beyond printed books. These multiple formats, including e-books and other forms of digital content, should be accessible by the school community physically and virtually as indicated in the mission statement of AASL’s program guidelines, *Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Programs* (2009). School library programs should provide access to materials in all formats, provide students and staff with current resources, and anticipate changes in technology.

Presently, in 2013, there is no single device that will access all e-books. Consequently, school librarians face a confusing investment decision. Some e-books are included in subscription databases, others are available in lease-only contracts, and still others are available for direct purchase for the life of the school’s need for the title. Contributing to the confusion, some e-books may be read only by one person at a time while other titles can be purchased for simultaneous access by multiple readers. Many free e-books may be read on a variety of devices; however, the number of free quality titles is limited.

In this age of instant access to information and because the AASL school library program mission statement is to “ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information,” schools should begin to provide anytime/anywhere access to reliable digital content. This mission is accomplished by:

- Updating selection policies to encompass digital content and reader devices;
- Determining the best allocation of funding for digital content and reader devices by knowing the school community, recognizing early adopters and followers, and listening to all learning needs;
- Ensuring that access to portable electronic devices and digital content is available to all students, no matter their off-campus situations;
- Ensuring there are no financial barriers to electronic devices or resources;
-Buying portable electronic devices that will support the widest variety of e-book formats;
-Considering the age of the learners in selecting e-readers and/or other digital devices, remembering both hand sizes and content needs.
Recognizing that vendors may package groups of titles, subscription databases and/or e-book collections, together, perhaps including some titles less useful to the specific school curriculum, resulting in the need to purchase overlapping products;

- Recognizing that not all titles are yet available digitally and that schools still need to have printed books available;
- Selecting materials for the variety of challenged learners, offering auditory and visually supportive formats;
- Acknowledging that today’s digital reading devices may be outdated within two years and that funding will be needed to continually update devices and content formats;
- Accepting the use of student-owned devices on school networks;
- Guaranteeing the right to privacy when and if vendors collect data on what students read;
- Cataloging all digital content while developing ways to publicize the availability of these resources because budget expenditures are only justified when students and faculty are aware of the resources and actively use them;
- Developing and participating in cooperative purchasing agreements and consortia as a way to ease costs and share ownership;
- Exploring new business models for purchasing resources, including the use of credit cards noting that digital resources are not so easily purchased using traditional purchase order procedures.

Digital content, e-books, e-readers and other digital devices are essential components of school library collections. These collections will remain in a period of transition for some time while school librarians balance the selection of devices and formats, including print, e-book and digital materials. Schools and districts will need to provide funding and support for this powerful means to access information, and for the requisite experimentation in the face of ever-changing options. Librarians and administrators need a cooperative spirit of tolerance as we explore emerging digital devices and new ways of purchasing and lending materials. It is an exciting time as we move ever forward into the twenty-first century.