



University of Nebraska Omaha  
DigitalCommons@UNO

NEMO Newsletter

Department of Teacher Education Publications

3-2007

## NEMO News, Volume 3, Issue 5

UNO Library Science Education  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/nemo>

 Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), [Library and Information Science Commons](#), and the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

### Recommended Citation

Education, UNO Library Science, "NEMO News, Volume 3, Issue 5" (2007). *NEMO Newsletter*. Book 17.  
<http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/nemo/17>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Department of Teacher Education Publications at DigitalCommons@UNO. It has been accepted for inclusion in NEMO Newsletter by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UNO. For more information, please contact [unodigitalcommons@unomaha.edu](mailto:unodigitalcommons@unomaha.edu).





Inside this issue:

Announcements 1

Advice from the Front-  
lines -Dr. Kochtanek 2

Alumni Spotlight –  
Casey Kralik 3

Student Spotlight –  
Jill Owens 4

Important Miscella-  
neous Information 5

Contact Information 6

**MISSOURI MEETING THIS SUNDAY!!**

Sunday, March 4, 1:00 p.m., Missouri faculty Professor Adkins, Professor Raber, and Professor Esser will be at UNO's Criss Library to discuss Missouri's library program with prospective students and to meet and answer questions for current students. If you know someone who would benefit from the program -invite them to this informative meeting. This is also a great opportunity for current students to meet with their advisors or just to put a face to the name of some of your professors. ALL ARE WELCOME. Please join us at **1:00 p.m. in Room 100, in the Criss Library at UNO.** See you there!

**RESUME MEETING NEXT WEEK!!**

Join us **Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. in room 204 in UNO's Criss library** for some tips on writing fantastic library resumes and what to expect in an interview. Dr. Pasco will demonstrate how to put together eye-catching resumes and she has invited school, academic, and public library directors to speak with our students about what they are looking for in a resume and potential employees. Don't miss out –this is a great opportunity to get the inside scoop. As always, come with an appetite. We don't like you to go away hungry.

If you are planning to attend the meeting please RSVP to Erica Rose at [nemogradassitant@gmail.com](mailto:nemogradassitant@gmail.com) by March 5 if you have not already done so.

**Even Winter Blues can be beautiful...**



**But just in case you're still cold, remember that spring will come eventually.**



**SUMMER SEMESTER 2007 AND FALL SEMESTER 2007 REGISTRATION: Opens Monday, March 5!**

It's that time again. Registration opens up in a few days. Check out your plan of study and get ready to register ASAP.

Remember, our program is growing and so are the waiting lists for some classes. DO NOT wait to register, or you may be wait-listed or have to wait until the next term that the course is offered.

Set aside some time this weekend to visit <http://mudirect.missouri.edu/> and view the 2007 Summer and Fall Semester courses. Select Course Catalog and then search for courses by selecting Summer (or Fall) Semester 2007 and Department Listing-School of Information Science and Learning Technology. Click on the course link to enroll.

If you have questions or concerns about this process feel free to contact Erica Rose at [nemogradassitant@gmail.com](mailto:nemogradassitant@gmail.com).

**NOTE: If you have taken 4 or more classes you need to make an appointment with Dr. Pasco to discuss your plan of study.**  
([rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu) 402-554-2119)

## *Advice from the Frontlines -Dr. Tom Kochtanek, University of Missouri -Columbia*

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

Since I am not a professional librarian, rather an educator, I will redirect the question to focus on educating professional librarians in an academic setting. For the first two decades of my career, I truly enjoyed working with students struggling to learn how to harness technology and implement those solutions in the professional setting. This was mostly “administrative” and “decision making”, as earlier systems and solutions were primarily vendor-based, and not custom made for the desktop environment. With the advent of PCs, and a movement to the Client-Server software model currently exhibited by the Internet and Web applications, we are now in a position to create our own information sources and services. These past ten years have been totally different, in that we now work with students and student learning at a distance, supported by the same technologies that we are trying to gain a better understanding of. This is truly exciting, and challenging as well!

My fondest times are those spent in the laboratory setting with students, working hands on to advance their knowledge and understanding of content design using HTML and assorted content development tools. Since 1996 I have been working to develop “distributed learning environments” at first using proprietary software tools, now using Blackboard and WebCT as course management tools. If I’m not mistaken, my course in Library Information Systems was the first ever at Mizzou to be offered as a fully webbed class, back in 1996. I’ve spent the past decade learning from these mistakes! Teaching in this distributed environment is challenging in that the Instructor must engage the student in a facilitative fashion, not the “old school” approach of “Sage on the Stage”. This is something that instructors in these environments may not have experienced before, and we need to master this environment to be able to draw on the experiences of students as a whole. I find the sharing of student’s experiences to be a powerful teaching opportunity.

**Please discuss one personal characteris-**

### **tic that you feel has contributed to your success as an Information Professional.**

I see myself as a bit of a “jack of all trades” when it comes to the Information Profession. At one time I fancied myself as a very good (IMHO) programmer at both the systems and the applications levels, but I have since broadened that to include a more complete picture of the information systems sequence from Source to Destination. This includes a better understanding of the end user, of the user interface, the organization of information, of search & retrieve, and most importantly how to craft applications that are fully functional and can be used by a wide variety of end users. I believe that Content is King, not the technology behind it. Earlier in my career I focused on the isolated areas of the technologies themselves, and thought that was all one needed to know. I was quite wrong! The big picture includes Information Transfer, not just Technology.

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

Prepare yourself for change. Keep yourself constantly educated. Strive to be inquisitive. Develop your management skills and your ability to communicate with your colleagues. I guess that’s more than a single issue, but as the profession moves forward, we as professionals need to stay on top as leaders in the services that support information transfer.

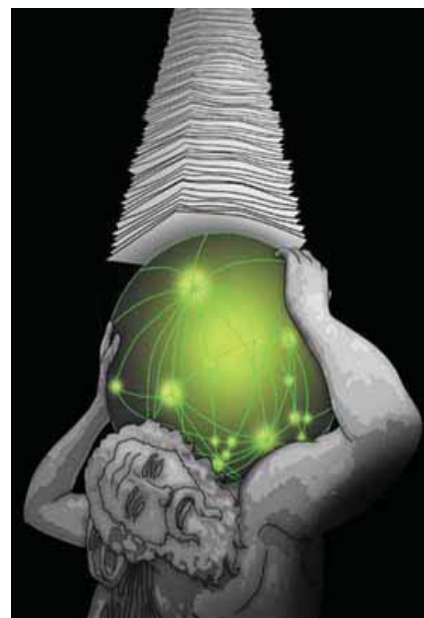
### **In our coursework we often discuss the importance of collaboration. Can you share an instance of successful collaboration with a group?**

Without a doubt the most successful collaboration I have had with students has been the ongoing development of Project iDLR, a sort of pointer DL that focuses on education for Digital Libraries. While the effort and contributions have diminished these past few years, the initial design, development and populating of that resource, accomplished at a distance, was the most rewarding experience for myself, and I hope for those students who participated in the creation of that resource. Here’s the link: <http://www.coe.missouri.edu/~DL/iDLR/index.php> We’re always looking for leaders and volunteers :-).

### **On a lighter note: When the work day is over, what do you read?**

I just finished reading John Grisham’s “The Innocent Man”. Prior to that I finished “The Millionaire Next Door” by Stanley and Danko (at my son’s request) and before that “The Standard Catalog of American Muscle Cars” by John Gunnell. My hobby is restoring older “muscle cars” from 1961-2-3 and I am always adding to that collection, much to my lovely wife’s dismay. Over Christmas I re-read Norman Vincent Peale’s “The Power of Positive Thinking”. I read the local paper everyday from cover to cover and then move to several of the more popular news-worthy magazines (Time, Fortune, Forbes). Over half my day is spent reading and writing.

*Thank you, Dr. K., for all that you do to contribute to the Information Profession, and for your guidance in our professional journeys!*



*“The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called truth.” -Dan Rather*

## *Alumni Spotlight - Casey Kralik, Bellevue University Library*

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

I attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln where I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree in History. Upon graduation and getting married, I began work in Creighton University's Law Library as an Interlibrary Loan Assistant/Night Circulation Supervisor. After a couple of years in this position, I switched to a day-time position and became their Acquisitions Assistant. While pursuing a Master of Arts in Library Science degree from the University of Missouri at Columbia, I took a position as Library Director at the Joslyn Art Museum Library. This position, however, posed many difficulties and did not draw as much support as I had hoped. Consequently, I left after one year and began working at the Bellevue University Library as Technical Services Librarian. It has been over two years and I couldn't see myself anywhere else. Sometimes you have to try out a few places before you find your niche. To keep up my library education, I attend conferences and workshops.

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

Mostly, I read fiction which includes mystery, suspense, and some science fiction and fantasy. I just finished a book, *The Fourth Bear*, by one of my favorite authors, Jasper Fforde. I am currently listening to *Olive's Ocean* by Kevin Henkes and reading

*Lost in the Forest* by Sue Miller. My reading list seems to grow exponentially and I am always finding books on my own bookshelf to read, like *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield. Besides Jasper Fforde, I am a big fan of Laurie R. King, Tracy Chevalier, Alice Sebold, and Audrey Niffenegger (to name a few). Next on my list are *Case Histories: a Novel* by Kate Atkinson and *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen.

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

*Computers in Libraries* is always good to keep up with new technologies and innovations in libraries. I, also, like to read *Library Journal* and *American Libraries* for their articles and book reviews. Since our library puts out a quarterly newsletter and holds an annual professional growth day, I have found it beneficial to read journals such as these to get my own ideas on what to present and write.

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

In my "down time", I like to read, listen to music, crochet or knit, cook, garden and play golf with my husband. We, also, have a Border collie mix which keeps us very busy. Lastly, my husband and I have just recently started the adoption process so our life has been filled with

paperwork, attending classes and getting fingerprinted by the Nebraska State Patrol.

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

As a cataloger, it is my job to apply semblance and order to our library. Keeping our catalog and shelves "clean" (as I like to put it) is something I work very hard at our library. However, unlike some librarians I know, I do not apply a single ounce of cataloging to my home bookshelves. There is no order, rhyme or reason. In fact, I'm lucky if I can remember to put the book back on the shelf and not on the floor.

### **Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21<sup>st</sup> century library and information centers.**

To be a leader in this day and age, I believe that you need have a willingness to be open to new technologies and change. While our patron's expectation of wanting or needing information remains the same, the way in which they get the information is changing. Librarians need to exemplify diversity and learn how to go beyond the traditional means of providing a patron what they want or need.

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

Get involved! Broaden your library-related activities and meet new people. I would suggest attending the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute held every other year or find something similar in your area. As a student, you have a great opportunity to join associations for a reduced cost. Don't be

afraid to run for an office in your local library system or association. The Nebraska Library Association has several round tables and sections where members participate, lead and have fun. Inquire with local libraries about volunteering opportunities or get involved with a mentoring program. Remember you don't have to do it all but pick one and run with it.

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

Something to keep an eye on is the evolution of federated searchers and portals. Also, many of the integrated library systems are merging and/or forging partnerships with other major companies. This alliance brings about opportunities as well as difficulties which affects their services and products. Lastly, the prospect of open source technology allows many libraries the opportunity for more choice and diversity.

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

I have a strong interest in cataloging and web development. The progress and projects of the two and their integration has grown considerably over the years and I have a goal of being involved somehow in its development.

### **Any Last Words?**

Stay connected with trends, make new friends and connections and give back what you learn.

*Thank you for your encouragement and all your hard work, Casey. We're proud of you!*



## *Student Spotlight -Jill Owens*

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

When we moved to Nebraska I was in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and we lived right next door to the town's library. The librarian told my parents I was her "best customer" and I only got more enthusiastic about libraries after that. I started as a library volunteer at the grade school my boys (now 23 & 26) attended a couple of decades ago and am still there! I also volunteer at Immaculata Monastery's library about once a month. The librarian I worked with at St. Isidore grade school (and who is now at Immaculata) had always told me I should go to library school, so about three years ago I did. I am now in my last semester of the MU program. About a year and a half ago I started working at Columbus Public Library part-time as a circulation clerk and cataloging aide to get my foot in the door. In January I went full-time in the Reference Department.

When the boys were young I went into teaching only for the reason that my schedule would match theirs. Growing up in the time and place that I did, I did not realize that school librarian was an option. Maybe one reason I still volunteer at St. Isidore is because I haven't quite gotten schools and teaching out of my system. However I do like my present job, so by doing volunteer work in one, and having a paid position in the other, I am getting to enjoy both types of libraries.

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

I am a big Nelson DeMille fan. I also plan to catch up with Jeffery Deaver's latest novels as soon as I can. But for quick, light no-brainer entertainment I read Janet Evanovich between semesters. I think I tend toward fiction out of habit, but I am going to try to widen my selection. Our library is using "Marley & Me" for the One Book, One Columbus promotion. I'd really like to read that this summer. I have enjoyed some biographies in the past as well.

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

Ok...this also could answer the deep dark secret question, because I know it is a no-no. I do not set aside any time to read professional journals right now except as related

to current assignments. My library does get several professional journals which I will definitely begin reading.

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

I volunteer weekly at a grade school library, and monthly at a monastery library. Sometimes my husband and I go see my son's band play. It is pretty fun and transports me back in time a few decades. We moved outside of town last year and I'm looking forward to planning and putting in some flower beds. I'm also looking forward to the summer weather when I can read outside.

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

I realize that leadership means guiding and motivating, not just barking orders. There are people I can think of who think they are leaders, but they are really just bosses. A leader sets the direction and brings people with her. People who are truly led shouldn't have to be coerced.

Also, I am tenacious and do not give up. When I see something that needs to be done or changed, I work hard to get it done and to get others on board with the change. Once I get an idea, I just don't rest until it is accomplished. At times there may have to be some strategic retreat or round-about methods, but always with the final goal in mind.

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

Everything is possible no matter how old you are when you start after your dreams. Enjoy the people you meet. Finally -- don't procrastinate; you'll avoid a lot of stress and enjoy your classes more.

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

Technological advances are both a gift and a challenge. Technology is something that libraries need to keep up with, but in a small stand alone library without the budget for a tech person or money for system changes it is difficult. I worry that small rural libraries, or even medium-sized libraries will get left behind because of money. Both libraries where I volunteer still have card catalogs.

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

Eventually I hope to be in a position to make changes in my own library, and therefore in my own community. I already have some plans germinating -- Once my attention is no longer directed on school I plan to investigate ways to update our computer lab and make it more accessible. Once our library is where it needs to be, I will look around and see where I might chime in on the regional or state level.

### **Any Last Words?**

I am glad that professional and technical library programs are becoming more available. Except for the director, I am the only person on our staff who has any library education. Some of the staff attends an occasional workshop or short class, but for the most part working in a library is just a job to them and they are just putting in their time to get paid. When I went off to college back in the 70s I did not know that there was such a thing as a professional librarian. In our small school it was teachers with free periods and volunteers who watched the library. It is nice that kids growing up now can see that librarianship is a profession. Perhaps with the library programs becoming available, there will eventually be a new mindset among the people hired in libraries.

*Thanks for contributing, Jill. Best of luck the rest of the semester. We're proud of your perseverance and hard work!*



*"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." -Robert Collier.*

# More Announcements.....

## Changes in Required Coursework

SISLT is implementing changes in the required coursework for those admitted as of Fall 07. Dr. Pasco addressed these changes during a meeting last month. New course schedules were distributed. If you could not make it to the meeting and would like a new schedule please email Erica Rose ([nemogradassistant@gmail.com](mailto:nemogradassistant@gmail.com)).

**REMINDER:** If these curriculum changes effect your plan of study, you need to reevaluate and submit your changes using the substitution form or a new plan of study form. Below are the links to the new plan of study form and the substitution form.

Substitution Form:

[http://sislt.missouri.edu/Documents/substitution\\_form.pdf](http://sislt.missouri.edu/Documents/substitution_form.pdf)

Program of Study Form:

<http://sislt.missouri.edu/Doc>

**“Think of yourself as on the threshold of unparalleled success. A whole clear, glorious life lies before you. Achieve! Achieve!” -Andrew Carnegie**

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

There is funding available for students pursuing library studies. Please take advantage of these opportunities. These scholarships are waiting to be snapped up by deserving students like you. Please make the decision to apply. Your educational journey is worthwhile, but it is not free. Let NLC, NLA and NEMA help!

### Nebraska Library Commission:

**21st Century Librarian Scholarships** - The NLC offers \$1000.00 for students pursuing their Bachelor’s in Library Science and \$2500.00 for students pursuing a Master’s in Library Science. See

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nowhiring/Scholarships.asp> for more information concerning the application process as well as various deadlines. Get busy! The next deadline is March 15, 2007...

### Nebraska Library Association:

#### **Louise A. Nixon Scholarship**

This \$1000.00 scholarship is available to any Nebraska student in pursuit of a Master’s Degree in Library Science. (Deadline: April 15, 2007)

#### **Duane Munson Scholarship**

This \$250.00 scholarship is available to help practicing librarians pay for continuing education. (Deadline: April 15, 2007)

See <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.html> for more information.

### Nebraska Educational Media Association:

#### **Continuing Education Scholarship**

NEMA awards two \$800.00 scholarships to practicing school library media specialists and paraprofessionals each year. (Deadline: March 15, 2007)

#### **Duane Munson Scholarship**

This \$250.00 scholarship is available to help practicing school library media specialists pay for continuing education. (Deadline: August 15, 2007)

See [http://nema.k12.ne.us/mem.dir/award\\_scholar.html](http://nema.k12.ne.us/mem.dir/award_scholar.html) for more information.

## **DON’T FORGET MIZZOU!**

As Missouri students you are eligible to apply for a Missouri Graduate Scholarship. The deadline for this year has already passed, but keep it in mind for next year! For more information and to download the application form access

## **DO YOU NEED TO TAKE THE GRE? SEE NEBRASKA TEST INFORMATION BELOW.**

### **Test Locations:**

- Columbus
- Grand Island
- Kearney
- Lincoln
- Omaha

Most locations offer the test multiple times per week. For more information on test preparation, registration, and scheduling a test visit the GRE website at [www.ets.org/](http://www.ets.org/).

Once on the site select GRE and then REGISTER FOR TEST. This will provide you with information on locations and test times. The site also contains information about acquiring practice materials, as well as links practice tests (see Test Takers –Prepare for the Test-GRE-GRE Practice General Test).

Email Erica Rose at [nemogradassistant@gmail.com](mailto:nemogradassistant@gmail.com) with questions.



**Stop worrying! A good review and a few practice tests and you’ll be ready to go.**

Dr. R. J. (Becky) Pasco  
Associate Professor, College of Education  
Coordinator, Library Science Education  
University of Nebraska at Omaha  
Kayser Hall 514G

Phone: 402-554-2119  
E-mail: [rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu)

---

Erica Rose –NEMO Graduate Assistant  
[nemogradassistant@gmail.com](mailto:nemogradassistant@gmail.com)

---



The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man. Nothing else that he builds ever lasts. Monuments fall, nations perish, civilizations grow old and die out, and after an era new races build others. But in the world of books are volumes that have seen this happen again and again and yet live on, still young, still as fresh as the day they were written, still telling men's hearts of the heart of men centuries dead.

- Clarence Day

---

## One last thing.....

### SPRING 2007 COMPS!!

This spring's comps will take place April 7-15.

If you are planning on graduating in May and you need to take the comps, you must contact Rebecca Whiting at SISLT as soon as possible.

Rebecca Whiting 573-882-4546

[whiting@missouri.edu](mailto:whiting@missouri.edu)

If you missed the review session it is archived at  
<http://lisradio.missouri.edu/archive.php>.

# THE END!

("Great is the art of beginning, but greater is the art of ending." -Lazarus Long)