Beyond the Stacks

a glimpse behind the scenes of the Department of Library Science

This issue:
Cool things are happening!

East Carolina University
Beyond the Stacks

Volume I Issue II

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About Beyond the Stacks

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Karen Mathis – Co-Editor
David C. Vinciguerra – Co-Editor
Jennifer L. Vinciguerra – Graphic Design and Layout
Charlene Clement – Research Assistant
Dear Students,

Change is in the air for advising. These changes are coming about because of a change of policy within the Graduate School. Beginning with the upcoming summer and fall registration, all students will be assigned a faculty advisor. You will work through your advisor to plan your schedule. Once you and your advisor decide upon your schedule, your advisor (not you) will email me with your planned schedule and I will take care of registering you. Your assigned advisor will be in contact with you in early March. Please work through your advisor and address any questions you might have to him/her. Remember - all schedules must be approved by your advisor and I must receive an email from your advisor before you can be registered for courses.

I will miss the contact I have had with you over the years. I hope you will still email me with any concerns or problems you encounter outside of the advising arena. I will still be working with the students with reminders about graduation, incompletes, licensure, etc.

Karen Mathis
Office Space

The Department of Library Science faculty has volunteered to be guinea pigs for an experiment involving office space.

As student enrollment has continued to increase, the need for faculty has also increased. With limited office space available on campus, the Department of Library Science has agreed to be the first department at East Carolina University to move some faculty members off campus to home offices.

Half of the faculty will continue to have offices on campus while the other half will experiment with home offices. Those with home offices will continue to have access to meeting rooms on campus should they need to meet with students or conduct research on campus.

The department opted to participate in this experiment at this time because Joyner Library is currently in the advanced planning stages of renovating the entire first floor of the library. The first floor of Joyner Library is where the Department of Library Science is currently housed; making a move another building necessary.

During January of this year, the first of several phases of office moves occurred. Faculty choosing to remain on campus will be moving to the first floor of the Umstead Building. The faculty that have chosen to work from home will be setting up their home offices.

Updated contact information will be posted at this address when made available:  
www.ecu.edu/educ/libs/faculty.cfm

Mailing address effective March 1st:  
Department of Library Science  
Mail Stop 172  
East Carolina University  
Greenville, NC 27858

Road Tour - MLS program Stakeholder Sessions

We will host three field visits to portions of the state again this semester. These sessions allow students and faculty to exchange information and for the students to provide us with feedback on the program and their needs. We encourage all students who are able to come the feedback sessions, the first of which will be held:

- February 28, 2009 at ECU, Joyner Library 2409, 10am-1pm
- More dates will be announced soon.
Now Showing!

The Department of Library Science now has an online video gallery under the “Community” section of the department website.

Various LIBS events, such as recent graduation celebrations and student feedback sessions, are now available for online viewing.

To view the videos, visit: www.ecu.edu/educ/libs/community.cfm and click “Department Videos.”

Website Redesign

Due to these tough economic times we have had to pinch our pennies and remove the gold coins from our website. Fortunately, libraries still have books which we can use for free, so we have replaced our pirate motif with books.
Update

The Department of Library Science has received the latest news on our accreditation efforts. As you know, the Department is pursuing the ALA accreditation to help our public and academic students in their employment pursuits. While the public library pathway students are able to obtain certification in North Carolina, both public and academic pathway students wanting to work outside of North Carolina would benefit from the ALA accreditation. Our school media specialists are already covered by our accreditation, and licensure from NCATE / AASL, and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, therefore they are already provided the maximum employment opportunities through this accreditation.

The Committee on Accreditation has decided to decline the candidacy request of ECU and has requested additional information from the program on the following:

- the mission of the department (based on the creation of our new autonomous department)
- research support for the faculty
- the hiring process of a permanent chair for the department
- salary of senior faculty members
- student participation in the decision making of the program
- social interaction tools and opportunities for students

Based on this response, the University and College of Education have indicated their continued support to our program in achieving the accreditation. As a commitment to this process, the College of Education has engaged outside resources to provide the department with assistance in preparing and planning future responses. As a next step, our department will be requesting a pre-candidacy extension in April 2009 while the department addresses the questions posed by the Committee on Accreditation.

Our planned timeline from here is based on the extension of pre-candidacy in April and then seek to request candidacy sometime in 2010 to provide sufficient time to address the concerns raised by COA. If candidacy is awarded, then we plan on the next and final step, the two year site visit in 2012. So our best timeline is 3-4 years before initial accreditation can be achieved. During this time, we will continue to need your support and participation in the process.

We are trying to communicate this to you so you can assess your career needs and options and we will support you in any career decisions you make regarding this development. Please remember that out of all of the universities in North America, only 60 or so have been accredited and it is an exclusive status to receive. Again, the public library pathway students are able to obtain certification in North Carolina and our school media specialist are already covered by our accreditation, and licensure from NCATE / AASL, and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, therefore they are already provided the maximum employment opportunities through this accreditation.

Please let me know if you have any questions,
Dr. White whitel@ecu.edu
Student & Alumni News

Jill Whitson (Student) ECU's ALA Student Chapter Vice President has published an article on the great success of the Christmas Book Drive. The ALA's Student Chapter’s efforts were well rewarded as over 1,300 books were collected! The adult books were donated to the Greenville Family Violence Center, and the 700 children books were donated to the Building Hope Community Life Center after school library. To view the article follow the link: http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/cro/studentchapters/studentchapterpages/studentchapterprojects.cfm.

Paul Goodson (Student) published an article titled 'Male Librarians: Gender Issues and Stereotypes', in the October 2008 issue of Library Student Journal. To view the article follow the link: http://www.librarystudentjournal.org/index.php/lsj/article/view/100/187.

Martin Tschetter has created a short video on the genealogy resources available at the Sheppard Memorial Public Library in Greenville. The vintage images came from ECU's digital archives. To view the video follow the link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Drp61e-nkrg.

Welcome to the Profession

The following students from the library science program have been hired in library/media positions:

- Patsy Fulcher Crawford – Swansboro High School, Onslow County Schools
- Michele Croteau Handy – Clear Creek Elementary School, Henderson County Schools
- Audrey Curles – Tyrrell Elementary School, Tyrrell County Schools
- Summer Dail – Chocowinity Elementary School, Beaufort County Schools
- Lisa Denning – North Harnett Primary School, Harnett County Schools
- Annette M. DiBiona – Fuqua-Y-Varina Elementary School, Wake County Schools
- Alyssa Hamrick-Dodd – Gardner-Webb University Library
- Sarah E. Mowery – Pine Forest Middle School, Cumberland County Schools
- Eileen Schnur – Naval Postgraduate School
- Nikki Walker – Edgewood Elementary School, Whiteville City Schools
- Tracey Webb – Green Ridge Elementary School, Montgomery County Schools
- Adrienna Pannell-Williams – Brentwood Elementary School, Cumberland County Schools
- Heather Campbell Woody – Supply Elementary School, Brunswick County Schools

What is the ALA Student Chapter?

The ALA Student Chapter at ECU is the 53rd Student Chapter. Former chapter president Kevin Vickers tells us “the ALA Student Chapter was created to inform all interested Master of Library Science and Instructional Technology students.” The ECU ALASC, which is completely online, hosts a website that provides students with a central location to find out about chapter activities, as well as a place to sell textbooks. The chapter sends out an electronic newsletter in the fall and spring, which discusses various issues in library science. If you are an MLS student and would like to join the chapter or find more out about it, please go to http://www.ecu.edu/org/alasc/
Dear Karen,

It is currently midnight and dreary and I write this feeling weak and weary. I would rather be napping, but my fingers are tapping, tapping on my old keyboard. I remember it was in the bleak December, someone told me - oh I must remember - it may have been my friend Lenore. She told me about the old portfolio way, the method which keeps me up night and day, she told me that it will be no more. Never to return - nevermore. Oh please tell me that this is true, and if so what must I do, to qualify for this method, for...I want to use this new method and nothing more. FTP - nevermore.

Many Thanks,
Raven

Dear Raven,

Students that started during the summer and fall 2008 are using the new SETS system. Students that have entered before summer 2008, but who haven’t completed 18 hours by fall 2008 will be contacted by the department chair on their eligibility of using SETS. All new students starting spring 2009 will be using the SETS system.

Sagaciously yours,
Karen

Dear Karen,

I’m trying to find some books on vampires that I can share with my girlfriend Bella. Unfortunately I haven’t been able to find anything at my local library that I can really sink my teeth into. Any suggestions?
Forever Yours,
Edward

Hello Edward,

You may wish to ask your local library about the interlibrary loan which is a service in which your library can borrow books that are owned by another library. You can then check out the books from your library and return them to your library. Your library will in turn return the books to the library they belong to.

Sagaciously yours,
Karen

Dear Karen,

I once dropped down a very deep well after a rabbit, and I was hoping that dropping a course will be a little less frightening. Could you explain the process of dropping a course for me?

Thanks,
Alice

Hello Alice,

I should think that dropping a course would be a little less frightening than dropping down a well. All you have to do is send an e-mail from your ECU e-mail account to this address: DEdrops@ecu.edu.

Make sure to include your full name, the course number and section of the course you wish to drop, and the reason you are dropping the course.

Sagaciously yours,
Karen
Match the names below with the correct photos. Stuck? Find the answers at www.ecu.edu/educ/libs/faculty.cfm

Ms. Elizabeth Briggs
Dr. Kaye Dotson
Dr. Larry White
Ms. Karen Mathis
Dr. Patrick Valentine
Dr. Jami Jones
Dr. Gail Munde
Mr. David Vinciguerra
Dr. Ruth Clark
Ms. Lil Gervasi
Mr. Gregg Lowe
Dr. John Harer
Dr. Al Jones
Dr. Diane Kester
Dr. Veronica Pantelidis
Dr. Barbara Marson
Dr. Plummer Alston “Al” Jones

Plummer Alston “Al” Jones, Jr. was born in Washington, North Carolina, the son of Plummer Alston Jones, Sr. and Elva Lucille (Pridgen) Wright. In 1970, he received his Bachelor of Music degree in music education from East Carolina University, where he was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, national honor society, and Pi Kappa Lambda, national honor society in music. From 1970 to 1974, he taught strings and string orchestra in the Norfolk (VA) City Schools. He attended Drexel University from 1974 to 1976, receiving his Master of Science degree in library science in 1977, when he was elected to membership in Beta Phi Mu, national honor society in library science.

From 1976 to 1982, he was head librarian at North Carolina Wesleyan College. From 1982 to 1994, he was head librarian at Elon College (now University). While working there, he received his Ph.D. in Information and Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1991. In 1993, he received the first biennial Phyllis Dain Library History Dissertation Award from the ALA Library History Round Table for his dissertation, “American Public Library Services to the Immigrant Community, 1876-1948.”

From 1994 to 2001, he was head librarian at Catawba College. While at Catawba College, he taught on a part-time basis for the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. His book, Libraries, Immigrants, and the American Experience, was published in 1999 by Greenwood Press.

Since 2001, he has been associate professor of library science in the Department of Library Science in the College of Education at East Carolina University. He was awarded permanent tenure as of fall 2004. His book, Still Struggling for Equality: American Public Library Services with Minorities, was published later in 2004 by Libraries Unlimited. He served as Acting Chair of the department during the academic year 2004-05 and was appointed Permanent Chair for 2005-2006.


At the national level, he served on the executive boards of the American Library Association (ALA) Library History Round Table and the ALA Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT). Dr. Jones was the EMIERT chair for the biennium 2005-2007. He was presented the 2004 David Cohen/EMIERT Multicultural Award for his research and publications on multiculturalism in libraries. In 2005, he was elected EMIERT Chair. He is a member of the Association for Library and Information Science Education.

He is an avid collector of the books of Vita-Sackville West, Victorian Staffordshire figurines, the recorded music of Giacomo Meyerbeer and Camille St. Saens, and autographs of musicians, notably opera singers, and ballet dancers. He is a flutist and oboist and ardent supporter of all of the fine arts.
Dr. Veronica S. Pantelidis

Dr. Veronica Pantelidis is a Distinguished Professor in the College of Education, Department of Library Science, at East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina USA. She is co-director of the Virtual Reality and Education Laboratory. She is also co-editor of the refereed journal VR in the Schools.

She has taught courses on computer applications at East Carolina University since 1976. She teaches graduate courses on virtual reality, other computer applications courses, and a course on World Wide Web research. Dr. Pantelidis has taught all her classes online since 1998, using web-based textbooks she developed. She is Program Coordinator for the graduate Certificate in Virtual Reality in Education and Training program, a totally online certificate program.

Dr. Veronica Pantelidis began working with computers in 1958. Her Ph. D., from Florida State University, is in Instructional Design and Development, with a strong emphasis on computer-assisted instruction. She has master’s degrees in information science and adult education, also from Florida State University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Affairs from the University of Miami. Her publications include numerous journal articles and several books, the latest being Robotics in Education. She is currently co-editing with professors in Greece and Malaysia a book on virtual reality in education.

A number of Dr. Pantelidis’ publications on the use of virtual reality in education can be found at the Virtual Reality and Education Laboratory website at http://vr.coe.ecu.edu/vrel.htm

Dr. Pantelidis’ virtual reality activities have included workshops on virtual reality and education, international presentations, work with school groups and teachers, and co-moderator of the first Virtual Reality in Education and Training conference, VRET ‘97, in England, in June 1997.

Dr. Pantelidis received East Carolina University’s 1999 Max Ray Joyner Award for Faculty Service Through Continuing Education, and the 2000-2001 East Carolina University, College of Education, Distinguished Professor award.
Enter the contest to name this page!

About the Contest

Welcome to our letters page. The name of the page is—well, actually we do not have a name for it. That is where you come in. Since these letters are from you the readers, we feel it is only appropriate for you to name this letter page.

We are looking for creative suggestions that relate somehow to the department or field of library science. So if you are witty and can come with something better than The MLS Mailbag or Letters to the Librarians (and we are sure you can), please send them to this address: mathisk@ecu.edu.

The winner will be chosen by the editors and will receive nothing – but that’s not all. The winner’s name will be declared in the next issue on the newly named letters page. You may make as many suggestions as you wish. All suggestions must be in by April 1st.

Here is some student feedback following the first issue of Beyond the Stacks:

I am extremely excited about the newsletter, Beyond the Stacks. It is wonderful!
- Angela

I just had a chance to look at the newsletter. I think the newsletter format is a great way to get information out to students. The colors, photos, and font choices are pleasing to the eye and enjoyable to read. Of course, I love the "Ask Karen" page!
- Vickie

What an outstanding newsletter! I love Santa’s note.
- Kevin

I love the Beyond the Stacks newsletter!
- Joanna

I loved the newsletter! I especially liked the "sagaciously yours” section. I was interested to learn about the different awards people have won. Great job!
- Ellen

What a lovely publication! I especially like the section of “student” questions and answers from Karen! Very clever format for answering FAQs! Lots of care and planning go into such a publication as I well know. – Debbie