Library welcomes Michael Sutherland as Web Services Librarian
by Jon Ritterbush, Electronic Resources Librarian

In October 2010, the faculty and staff at Calvin T. Ryan Library welcomed Michael Sutherland to its faculty ranks as its first Web Services Librarian. In this role, Michael is primarily responsible for managing the development and maintenance of the library’s website and related services, such as the online catalog interface and the library’s social networking presence. Michael and his wife, Karen, have three children. He holds a master’s degree in history from Colorado State University, and a master’s and specialist degrees in library and information science from Indiana University. Michael joins UNK, having previously served at the Renne Library at Montana State University.

Michael’s first work experience in libraries began during his undergraduate studies at Colorado State University, as a work-study position in Interlibrary Loan. Michael learned to search OCLC in locating materials for library users, and applied these search skills to his own research in history. These research skills won the notice of his professors and academic advisor, who suggested he attend library school.

With the exponential growth of information available on the Web, Michael notes that the expectations of library users are higher than ever. “Patrons want high-quality information and services to be available to them whenever and wherever they are, be it via their desktop, mobile device or social media channels,” he said. “What intrigues me the most is this explosion of information and how users discover and interact with that information. It will be interesting to see changes in technology and how that will determine the ways we access information in the future, and how it will affect our research, teaching and learning behavior”.

Beyond libraries and before college, Michael has had a number of unique life experiences, including his service in the U.S. Navy as an aircraft mechanic working on F-14 fighter jet engines, and as a welder in a Denver-area metal shop. He enjoys hiking and camping in the mountains as well as Web surfing, gaming, and being with his children at the playground. Please join us in welcoming Michael and his family to UNK!
From concept to creation!
by Janet Stoeger Wilke, Dean of the Library

The Learning Commons space is a reality! Late Spring 2011 brought completion of the physical renovation of the south-east portion of the library’s second floor to provide enhanced space for the Division of Student Life’s Academic Success programs: Writing Center and Academic Peer Tutoring. Students coming to campus for the Fall 2011 semester will be the first to truly benefit from the partnering effort between the library and Academic Success to provide seamless academic support for all UNK students. Now the truly hard work begins, as Henry Ford said, “Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

Before...

and after!

TO SUPPORT CALVIN T. RYAN LIBRARY

Financial
Private financial support is vital to creating a margin of excellence at the Calvin T. Ryan Library. Your gifts can assist in bringing valuable collections of information to the library on paper and electronically, as well as creating a physical environment which complements learning by UNK students and other library users. Gifts supporting the library are tax deductible and are handled by the University of Nebraska Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation. For more information, please contact the University of Nebraska Foundation’s Kearney office at P.O. Box 2678, 214 W. 39th St., Kearney, NE 68848; or call 308-698-5270; or give online at http://bit.ly/UNKLibraryFund. Thank you for your support.

Collections
Books and other resources that are no longer needed may be just what we can use to enhance a library collection. We are especially interested in items with a UNK, Nebraska, or Great Plains connection. See this site for details: http://bit.ly/UNKLibraryGifts.

library.unk.edu
Jeanne Schultz, UNK library cataloger, receives KUDOS Award
by Jon Ritterbush, Electronic Resources Librarian

On March 11, 2011, the University of Nebraska Board of Regents presented a KUDOS Award to Jeanne Schultz, the Cataloging Associate at the Calvin T. Ryan Library. These awards recognize staff members who go “above and beyond” in their service to the university.

The following statement was read at the March 11 presentation:

Jeanne has been a member of UNK’s C.T. Ryan Library staff since May of 1979 and, during that time, has seen a multitude of policy and position changes. In her early years at UNK, for example, she typed individual library call numbers on a selin typewriter. She was part of the card catalog era that required the manual separation of cards into subject, author, title and shelf lists. … Today, her primary responsibilities include copy cataloging and database maintenance and supervision of student workers in the Collection Services group. Some of the library’s major resources are the materials collected and accessed in this division: books, periodicals and media, both in printed and electronic format. Jeanne is the primary person who maintains the database which is the library’s catalog. She makes certain that all pertinent details that allow users to search the catalog and find materials are accurate. To assist her is a mix of student workers whom she trains and supervises. “She is a delightful, caring person,” says her direct supervisor, Susan Mueller. “I appreciate her dedication to her work and her work ethic in performing her duties.”

The faculty and staff of Calvin T. Ryan Library join in thanking Jeanne Schultz for her diligence and friendship in the workplace, and join in congratulating her for this well-deserved award.

PERSONNEL NOTES

• Autumn Bartak, transferred from Access Services to become a Technical Services Assistant in December 2010.
• Lacey Rogers was hired as an Access Services Assistant in December 2010.
• On March 10, 2011, the library hosted a professional development day for faculty in the College of Education.
• Glenda Wilson, Library Systems Coordinator, also attended the April 2011 IUG meeting.
• Jon Ritterbush, Electronic Resources Librarian, published reviews of three databases in recent issues of Reference Reviews.
Myra Biggerstaff (1905-1999)

Visit the MONA website on Myra Biggerstaff:
http://monet.unk.edu/modern/biggerstaff.shtml

Nets at Sunset
watercolor
Gift of the Artist

Poppies
watercolor
Gift of the Artist

Fire Island Fences I, The Maze
watercolor
Gift of Myra Biggerstaff Estate

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