

MONDAY MUSINGS

Colleagues,

This day brings a special edition of Monday Musings, with news regarding a new grant and the Organizational Review Team, staffing changes and a few important event reminders.

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IMLS GRANT

KU Libraries and Information Technology, in partnership with the Greater Western Library Alliance and the Great Plains Network, have been awarded a \$48,480 grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Studies to explore and plan a shared regional approach to help researchers manage data collected during research.

This award enables an interdisciplinary project team to collect and analyze information about research data practices at regional institutions; to develop a two-day regional workshop to consider and discuss issues, policies and practices for managing research data; and to develop a plan and a funding strategy for a data management "test bed" within a regional academic consortium that includes members of the Great Plains Network and the Greater Western Library Alliance. Together, these two organizations represent 47 universities in 20 Midwest and Western states.

I'd like to congratulate members of the grant team, including Deborah Ludwig and Scott McEathron. Also on the team are KU Chief Information Officer Bob Lim; Joni Blake, Executive Director of the Greater Western Library Alliance; and Greg Monaco, Director of the Great Plains Network.

We plan to announce this grant publically this afternoon, and we will share a copy of that news release as soon as it is available.

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ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEW TEAM

Monica Claassen recently accepted an offer from the Johnson County Public Library. Along with Mike, Monica has provided significant and effective leadership as co-chair and project manager of ORT.

Monica's departure (in December 2012) has prompted me to appoint a new co-chair to ensure that ORT accomplishes its goals in a timely manner. I am pleased to report that John Stratton has accepted my invitation to serve as co-chair.

Kristin Caton, runner-up in the election for ORT, has joined to represent USS (Sharon Riley has been reclassified from USS to unclassified professional).

The full committee now includes:

Mike Broadwell and John Stratton (co-chairs)

Erin Ellis

Brian Rosenbloom

Sharon Riley, Courtney Foat and Bayliss Harsh (unclassified professionals)

Meredith Huff, Kristin Caton and Erika Dickey (USS)

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KEN LOHRENTZ RETURNS TO KU LIBRARIES

Ken Lohrentz has returned to International Area Studies on a part-time, temporary basis. Ken retired from KU Libraries in 2007 as the librarian for African Studies. He brings a wealth of knowledge about the diverse regions of Africa and will be a tremendous help to faculty and students who study the continent.

In his new capacity, Ken will manage African Studies collections, provide reference and instruction services,

serve as liaison to the African Studies Center, and represent KU on the Africana Librarians Council. In the coming weeks, please stop by IAS when you get a chance to welcome Ken back to the libraries. Ken will be working from mid-morning to mid-afternoon.

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CELEBRATING THE ART & ARCHITECTURE LIBRARY

Please join me in celebrating the reopening of the Murphy Art & Architecture Library. Not only will we be able to explore the newly reopened facility, but we will also have the opportunity to thank all of those who worked so diligently to save the collection.

Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2012
4 to 5:30 p.m.
Murphy Art & Architecture Library

Light refreshments and snacks will be provided, and you are welcome to stop by anytime you can make it between 4 and 5:30 p.m. I look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday.

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RESEARCH CORNER TALK

The inaugural Research Corner Talk will be held on Wednesday, October 3 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. in Watson Third Floor West. This new series will provide an opportunity for KU faculty, graduate students and librarians to gather for informal conversations about scholarly research.

The initiative directly supports Strategy 2.B. of our new strategic plan: “Engage researchers systematically to understand and support their changing needs,” and provides a means of increasing awareness of library resources and services, cultivating academic inquiry and fostering collaboration. The event on the 3rd will bring together several guest speakers who will discuss research-based creative writing in this new series.

I hope you can attend!

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STRATEGIC PLANNING PUBLICATION

Printed copies of the libraries’ new strategic plan are available in the administrative office. You can also access the plan online at <http://www.lib.ku.edu/strategicplan>.

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STAFF RECOGNITION

I’d like to thank Deborah Dandridge, Nikhat Ghouse, Keith Russell and Mike Broadwell for their presentations at the recent Joint Conference of Librarians of Color in Kansas City.

Also, many thanks to our volunteers from last month’s IDRH Forum events:

Sean Barker
Arienne Dwyer
Jeremy Fiest
Patrick Flor
Wade Garrison
Sarah Goodwin Thiel
Tyra Grant
Labeeba Hameed
Scott Hanrath
Bayliss Harsh
Doug Hatton
DaMaris Hill
Jeremy Horkman
Rachel Karwas

Micki Lubbers
Brian Moss
Marianne Reed
Brian Rosenblum
Katie Sparks
John Stratton

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OCTOBER ALL-STAFF

The October All-Staff meeting will be held this Friday, October 5. An agenda will be distributed shortly, but please note the extended time (10-11:30 am).

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FACULTY AND STAFF SCHOLARSHIP

Please forward news of published papers and conference presentations/poster sessions or other scholarly activities for the second quarter of the academic year (October through December 2012) to Rebecca Smith at rasmith@ku.edu for inclusion in future issues of Monday Musings.

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That's all for this week – Monday Musings will return to its regular schedule on Oct. 8th.

Thanks!

lorraine