

MONDAY MUSINGS

Good morning, everyone,

Yesterday's commencement ceremony provided a perfect capstone to the 2013 academic year, and further reminded me of our vital role here on campus. I hope you have enjoyed seeing the photos of our newly-minted KU alumni as they celebrated their walk down the hill, and that you, too, feel a renewed commitment to teaching, research and learning here at KU.

We have had a remarkably productive semester, and this summer will bring continued transformation as we work through our new organizational restructuring. I encourage you to keep the lines of communications open, sharing your thoughts, ideas and concerns with your supervisor. We rely on each of you to ensure this process is moving as smoothly as possible.

Today's issue of Monday Musings brings an IT update, a few reminders and other news. I invite you to reply with questions or feedback.

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FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

Nominations are now being accepted for all faculty and staff awards, including the new Sanders Scholar award. Learn more at www.lib.ku.edu/awards.

All nominations are due to Kim Anderson via email by June 19th.

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UPDATED ORG CHART

A slightly revised organizational chart – the one I shared at All-Staff on Friday – is now online at www.lib.ku.edu/orgstructure.

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IT UPDATE

As Kent and Mary reported in Friday's All-Staff meeting, Scott Hanrath is engaged in on-going discussions with IT staff about the Changing for Excellence IT proposal for the Libraries. The group is taking a thorough look at our current work and our needs for the immediate future to map out where roles and responsibilities fall within the libraries and IT organizations. Our vision is to put structures and agreements in place to fully support the significant technology needs of the Libraries and that allow us to make the best use of the specific strengths, skills, and experience of our libraries' staff. It's very important for us to get this right so that we can meet goals of our strategic plan.

The next step is to launch searches for four new, dedicated libraries positions within IT, reporting through a new Departmental Development and Applications unit. Scott is currently drafting position descriptions, using existing descriptions from IT and the libraries as starting points. Once those positions are filled, staff will be physically located in the Libraries, probably on the fourth floor in Watson. We will keep you apprised of progress along the way.

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STRENGTHS SPEAKER TO VISIT KU LIBRARIES

As part of the Libraries Organizational & Staff Development Council (LOSDC) Strengths initiative, Dr. Sondra Cave will speak about the benefits of utilizing Strengths in team-based environments and how applying individual Strengths can assist you during times of change. The event, which is part of the H.W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant, will be held on **Tuesday, May 21st from 1:30 – 2:30 pm in Watson 3 West.**

Dr. Cave is a Higher Education Consultant with the Gallup Organization. As a consultant, she trains faculty, staff and students at Colleges/Universities to discover their strengths and also helps them to use the strengths-oriented approach to education using StrengthsQuest. She has been involved with the Gallup Organization and strengths development since 2001 and Gallup has named her one of the top 20 national “strengths educators”.

In addition to her work in higher education, she also facilitates strengths training for managers, leaders and teams in corporate settings, for pastors, staff and board members of churches, and has worked with human resources to establish a strengths approach to performance management and evaluation.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for this timely and engaging presentation. Refreshments will be served.

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STRATEGIC SHARING FORUM

The second Strategic Sharing Forum will be on **Wednesday, May 22nd at 10:00 in Room 455.** The forum was formed in an effort to address our strategic plan charge to *“create formal and informal venues where faculty and staff can share their research and expertise with colleagues.”*

At this event, Tami Albin and John Stratton will present part two of our sessions on embedded librarians and will speak about their experiences developing departmental relationships. We look for these forums to provide a venue where library faculty and staff can share their knowledge and expertise in a collaborative, supportive environment, so we hope to see you there. Refreshments will be served. Click [here to add the event to your Outlook calendar](#).

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Each Friday in June will bring an opportunity for us to come together and celebrate KU Libraries in honor of Robert Vosper’s 100th birthday. From 4-5 pm on June 7, 14, 21, and 28, we will host a gathering in the Library Gallery. The short programs will focus on our organization’s values, and we will have time for libations, snacks and camaraderie. More information will be available soon.

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KUDOS

Carmen Orth-Alfie, the April Jayhawk of the Month winner, presented the May award to Jennifer Roach at last week’s All-Staff Meeting. You can read more about the award at <http://www.lib.ku.edu/pressroom/jayhawk/index.shtml>. Congratulations, Jennifer!

KU Libraries’ event coordinator Rachel Karwas has recently earned the title of Mrs. Kansas United States 2013. She will compete in the Mrs. United States pageant in July in Las Vegas. Congratulations, Rachel!

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That’s all for today – have a great week!

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