

# Celebration of Service

## 5 Years

*John Henry Adams*

***In five years, John Henry has taught hundreds of students, answered hundreds of research questions, curated several digital exhibitions, collaborated on a podcast, video tutorials, and a YouTube series, and has contributed his skills and efforts to many other projects as well. On top of all that, John Henry is a great team member who supports his colleagues by helping wherever he is needed. He can always be counted on to lend a hand and a sense of humor in the face of challenges. Many thanks to John Henry for the enthusiasm, energy, and expertise he brings to his work!***

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KELLI HANSEN

# Celebration of Service

## 5 Years

*Rachel Alexander*

***We are so grateful to have Rachel as our Research Support Librarian. Since this was a new position, we needed to create and refine it on the fly. To be successful required a lot of flexibility and creativity which many people lack, but she has thrived. I think that's particularly extraordinary for someone this early in their career. She is always up for a new challenge, and takes every opportunity that comes her way to increase her knowledge to better serve our researchers. She ably supports researchers at all training and skill levels, from students embarking on research for the first time to principal investigators of multimillion dollar NIH grants, and has a long list of repeat customers that seek her help time and again, and recommend her to their colleagues. I suspect that not many new library school graduates could have taken on a position like this, and that even if they could, they would not have achieved such a high level of competence and productivity as quickly as Rachel did. She is a remarkable young professional.***

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DIANE JOHNSON

# Celebration of Service

## 20 Years

*Michelle Baggett*

***Michelle Baggett is the heart of the Engineering Library and Technology Commons. She comes in early, volunteers to work weekends, and keeps her temper when our student workers swap shifts over and over. She brings in treats, she keeps in touch with students after they graduate, and she is the best shelf-reader and course-reserves assembler around. She has our library's collection memorized and can take patrons to the exact place on the shelves where the book they're asking about lives. When the library closed during the pandemic, she was our rock, and came up with creative ways to deliver book chapters and articles to our students all over the country. She checks in my books for me so I don't make mistakes. She gives great presents, and when I feel a little down she says to me, "you're the LIBRARIAN!" in all capital letters, and I laugh and feel better. This is a very condensed list of Michelle's excellences, but most of all, I feel very grateful that I work with someone as dedicated and fun to be around as Michelle.***

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NOEL KOPRIVA

# Celebration of Service

## 25 Years

*Rachel Brekhus*

***Congratulations to Rachel on 25 years with the MU Libraries! This time is defined by Rachel's deep commitment to the libraries, our users, and our community. She is a passionate advocate for the libraries as a diverse, supportive environment for all and strives to identify and work for ways to ensure this. She continually seeks out new ways to engage students and to share what she has learned with her colleagues. Her work with Paula Roper on Black History Month Trivia Night has created a highly successful annual event for our community. As a colleague and a friend, she is supportive and always willing to help.***

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RHONDA WHITHAUS

# Celebration of Service

35 Years

*Marie Concannon*

**Marie is an outstanding government information services librarian. Marie is also highly valued for supporting the government document community in Missouri. Marie asks important questions that often lead to her next project or initiative. During the pandemic she asked, "How can I help keep people connected with the libraries?" and then spearheaded our partnership with the University of Missouri Press to present virtual author talks. Asking, "How can I leverage my role as exhibits coordinator to bring more people into the library?" led to working with campus partners on collaborative exhibits and well-attended programs. After thinking about the question, "How can I support Edward McCain's advocacy for saving born digital news?" Marie responded by sponsoring a "Sunshine and Barbecue" statewide conference. When mapping out next steps on her guide to historical price and wage data, Marie asked, "How can this guide that is highly valued by users around the world bring positive recognition to the University of Missouri Libraries and the University of Missouri?" As her recent awards, grants, and recognitions attest, Marie succeeds at making MU Libraries and the University of Missouri shine. Congratulations, Marie, on your recognition as the 2024 James Bennett Childs Award recipient in recognition of your lifetime and significant contribution to the field of documents librarianship.**

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JEANNETTE PIERCE

# Celebration of Service

## 30 Years

*Michaëlle Dorsey*

***Michaëlle's deep knowledge of preservation, disaster recovery, and book repair techniques have been invaluable to the Libraries throughout her career here. She has accomplished a remarkable array of preservation projects, from repairing individual materials to working with outside conservators on treatment, and we are lucky to have a preservation expert of her caliber. She is a stellar supervisor and organizer, and her exceptional communication and facilitation skills ensure that projects run smoothly. Her dedication to excellence always shines through in the work she does, and she is always ready to support her colleagues with help, advice, and a smile. Thank you, Michaëlle, for being resourceful, inventive, and fun to work with!***

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KELLI HANSEN

# Celebration of Service

## 40 Years

*Tammy Green*

***Tammy Green from I-L-L Lending  
Receives requests and puts in pending  
Books from our stacks to prepare for sending  
And frequent requests for date-due extending.***

***Tammy's patrons in Resource Sharing,  
Include many libraries near and far,  
Tammy's work shows genuine caring,  
She's a 40-year library superstar!***

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CINDY COTNER

# Celebration of Service

## 10 Years

*Noel Kepriwa*

***Noel's commitment and passion for the Libraries, the University, and to the profession embodies the service and excellence we pride ourselves on at the University of Missouri. Noel is always looking for ways to make a difference and provide support for all library users and her staff in the Engineering Library. In addition, Noel is determined to further the university's understanding of the importance of the librarians' roles as NTT faculty which led her to be recognized as a co-recipient of the Faculty Council Executive Committee's 2022-2023 Shared Governance Award for her role as co-chair of the NTT Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee. Noel is an enthusiastic advocate for the libraries and the roles we play across campus. Congratulations Noel on 10 great years with the Libraries!***

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CHRIS PRYOR



# Celebration of Service

## 5 Years

*Joel Kramer*

***Overseeing the Physical Processing Unit at the University Libraries requires someone who can work with a wide range of stakeholders and problem solve in the moment. Joel Kramer brings both abilities and more to the position. Joel is an excellent listener and meets people where they are. He is equally capable of interacting with student workers as he is consulting with preservationists or investigating options with vendors. He makes sound judgement calls. Joel is a pleasure to work with and an important part of the Library Team. Cheers to five years!***

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JENNIFER THOMPSON

# Celebration of Service

## 20 Years

*Susan McCormack*

***For over 20 years, the University of Missouri System Libraries have benefited from Susan McCormack's contributions to Consortial Services. Susan has worked through multiple iterations of the E-Resources Cooperative Office and patiently trained many team-members along the way. She is training one now! Susan is kind, creative, calm, and intuitive. Her communication skills and genuine interest in others keep the human aspect of library-work front and center. She has a keen ability to share helpful words at just the right moment. Susan is one in a million. Congratulations, Susan!***

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JENNIFER THOMPSON

# Celebration of Service

## 10 Years

*Erin Merrill*

***Erin works in the ACTS Serials department, where she receives print serials. I have only been her supervisor for two years, but in that time, she skillfully navigated the transition to FOLIO, finding creative ways to check in serials on a platform that doesn't have a serials app! She is always up for a new learning opportunity, whether in her area or cross-training in Acquisitions. Congratulations on your ten years with the libraries, Erin!***

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JENNIFER WALKER

# Celebration of Service

## 25 Years

*Caryn Scoville*

***Caryn works closely with the Dean's office on tracking the scholarly output of our faculty, producing a monthly list and coordinating a massive annual project tracking the publications and impact of about 850 medical school faculty. Caryn is always quick to respond with clear and precise answers, often on a very short deadline. Caryn has a special talent for analyzing complicated data to turn it into useful and actionable information, as she demonstrated yet again in the Assessment Committee analysis of the Spring 2023 Library User survey. Using information from her report, we were able to make a case for securing a \$50,000 student success grant to buy more ebooks for the university libraries. Whenever we roll out a new service, I always seek out Caryn's opinion and advice at the design and testing phases, since she always has great suggestions to improve both clarity and usability. Serving as our webmaster, we all benefit from her user centered approach. Thanks, Caryn, for all you do. 25 years is quite a milestone!***

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DIANE JOHNSON



# Celebration of Service

## 20 Years

*Ernest Shaw*

***Ernest is so competent, trustworthy, and dedicated to his work that he seems to be built into the very fabric of the MU Libraries. Most of us can't even think of working here without him at the helm of Library Technology Services. That doesn't mean that we take him for granted, though! Whatever he touches works because he will persist until it does! Today we celebrate his accomplishments and skill with gratitude and appreciation. We love your personal touch and optimism that mean so much to so many! Thank you, Ernest for your 20 years of service at the University of Missouri!***

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DEB WARD

# Celebration of Service

## 5 Years

*Donnie Spicer*

***Donnie is our lead driver and a friendly, energetic, and dependable member of our team. We give him varied tasks, and he always completes them with a smile and a skip in his step. His job allows him to interact with all departments, and he regular assists everyone with speed and good humor. The Libraries are thrilled to have him as part of our team.***

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SHEILA VOSS

# Celebration of Service

## 30 Years

*Stephen Stanton*

***It is hard to imagine the Geology Library without Stephen Stanton and for three decades he has served as an invaluable partner working with the Geology faculty, students, and staff. His commitment and passion to supporting the Geology department goes beyond the library space as he supports the research of the faculty and the academic endeavors of the students while fostering a sense of community within the Geology Library. I am grateful to Stephen for his ongoing efforts and to the unwavering support he provides for the folks in the Geology department. Congratulations Stephen on 30 great years with the Libraries!***

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CHRIS PRYOR

# Celebration of Service

## 20 Years

*Jennifer Walker*

***Congratulations to Jennifer Walker for 20 years at the University of Missouri. The magnitude of what Jennifer has accomplished at MU Libraries since joining just under five years ago is tremendous. Jennifer applied accounting expertise, innate smarts, and bottomless determination to build an acquisitions unit that functions smoothly and efficiently in FOLIO. In addition, Jennifer holds leadership roles on several library committees. Prior to working in libraries, Jennifer worked for Accounting Services where she was an essential contact for the libraries. One of her previous colleagues describes Jennifer as “dedicated and dependable, bright and bold.” We could not agree more and are very lucky to have her on the Library Team.***

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JENNIFER THOMPSON



# Celebration of Service

## 30 Years

*Rhonda Whithaus*

***There are so many words to describe Rhonda – smart, steady, capable, supportive, hardworking, innovative, respected, valued, etc. She ceaselessly contributes to improving our reference services and making information resources accessible to users. More importantly, Rhonda provides crucial support for librarians and staff in RAIS and across the libraries through advocacy, training, and providing organized, deliberative opportunities for crucial input on initiatives. Rhonda’s focus is always on how she can help ensure others are successful. Less visible are her efforts to ensure quality reference service through ongoing review and assessment, her provision of detailed statistics that help us understand and report on our work, and a myriad of other activities that we are not sure how she manages to get done. Our libraries are fortunate, indeed, that Rhonda is on our team. Thank you, Rhonda, for your thirty years of contributions and leadership.***

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JEANNETTE PIERCE

# Celebration of Service

## 25 Years

*Yasuyo Knoll*

***Yasuyo's dedication and commitment to serving the users of the Math Library is astounding. She tirelessly works with the persistent faculty but never loses sight of trying to also provide the best environment for the students which is often a difficult balancing act. Yasuyo is always contemplating how to improve the support for the Math Library by continuously evaluating the current and future needs of the Department while enhancing the Math Library space whenever possible. I have appreciated Yasuyo's insight to the department and I am grateful for her ongoing efforts to support these dedicated users. Although Yasuyo started at the Health Sciences Library, she has made her mark on the Math Library now and for years to come. Congratulations on 25 great years with the Libraries, Yasuyo!***

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CHRIS PRYOR