Calling All Mad Hatters

Oh, my ears and whiskers, I nearly forgot!

The New Staff “Mad Hatter’s” Tea will be held August 31st, 2006, from 2:30 until 4 pm, in Ellis Staff Lounge.

I don't want to miss the chance to meet all the new staff who’ve joined the team since last year’s event! There'll be coffee and tea and lemonade, and lots of yummy treats provided by MULSA. And Ruthe & friends are going to put on such a lovely display of hats too.

I’d better mark my calendar, set an outlook reminder notice, and synchronize my pocket watch. I wouldn’t want to be late for this very important date!

SAC Appointment

Please join us in congratulating Alan Jones, of the Catalog Department, on his appointment to Staff Advisory Council’s Staff Development Awards Program Committee for the next two years. Committee members evaluate fellow MU staff members’ applications for Staff Development Awards offered through the SAC. Mary Hainen, also of the Catalog Department, continues to serve on this committee.

The Staff Development Award is open to MU staff who have worked for more than six months at the University. The awards are given three times per year and are intended primarily to assist in personal and professional development through funding for conferences, workshops, short courses, or other appropriate short-term experiences. The funds may not be used for college tuition or books. The award limit is $3,500 per individual and $7,000 per group.

Several library staff members’ applications have been funded over the years. Most recently, Cindy Dudenhoffer was chosen to attend the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

The deadline for the next round of applications is April 19, 2007. The application form is available at: http://www.missouri.edu/~musacwww/awards/sdaonweb.htm.

More Staff Articles...

Both Deb Ward and Kate Anderson have recently published articles in the latest Mid-Continental Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MCMLA) Express Newsletter. Deb's article on p.7 is on the Missouri Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) Digital Library. Kate's article appears on p. 8 in the Stepping Out column, where she reports on her role of Specialized Services Librarian in the Department of Child Health.

A link to the publication is provided as follows: http://www.mcmla.org/express/Express-August2006.pdf

~Wayne A. Sanders
Head, Monograph Cataloging Unit
Salary Letters Update

Salary Letters for FY07 will be mailed to library employees this week. As in the past, they will be mailed to the home address of library employees. The effective date of salary adjustments will be August 28th for non-exempt employees (those paid bi-weekly), and September 1st for exempt employees (those paid monthly).

~Leo Agnew
Personnel Coordinator

- It is not the answer than enlightens, but the question. ~Eugene Ionescu
- Not to know is bad; not to wish to know is worse. ~Nigerian proverb
- It is a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted. ~Bertrand Russell
- The unexamined life is not worth living. ~Socrates
- This is the essence of science: Ask an impertinent question, and you are on the way to a pertinent answer. ~Jacob Bronowski
- How can we improve this? ~Walt Disney
- Sometimes, the question is more important than the answer. ~Plato

**Employee Updates**

Hello to Renee Ratna, LIS I, HSL-Interlibrary Loan. Renee has a bachelors in library sciences from MU. Renee comes to us from the St. Louis County Library where she worked as a Library Assistant III, first in cataloging and then in special collections.

Welcome to Sharon Gaughan, LIA, HSL-Technical Services. Sharon has an Associates degree from Ozarks Technical Community College and a Bachelors in Computer Information Systems from Southwest Missouri State University. Her work experience includes appointments at SMSU as a registration/records assistant and as a computer lab assistant.

Justion Rio transferred from his full-time LIA position in Ellis Shelving to a part-time LIA position in Ellis Circulation, to allow him time to finish up his class work this semester. Justin's duties include late-supervisor of the Circulation desk.

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**Assistant Director for Technical Services Update**

The search committee for the position of Assistant Director for Technical Services has identified four candidates to interview:

- Susan Mueller will interview September 5-6. Ms. Mueller currently works at the University of Idaho Library as the Head of the Technical Services department. She has been in this position since July of 2004. Ms. Mueller received her MLS from Emporia State University (1975).

- Dr. Richard Smith will interview September 26-27. Dr. Smith currently serves as the Director of the Wolfler Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Missouri State Library, a position he has held since 2000. He received both his MLS (1978) and Ph.D. (1995) in Library and Information Sciences from the University of Pittsburgh.

- Ann Riley will interview September 28-29. Ms. Riley currently serves as Director of Technical and Access Services at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, a position she has held since 2004. She received her MSL from the University of Illinois Urbana (1977).

- Karen Darling will interview October 2-3. Ms. Darling currently serves as Head, Acquisitions Department, MU Libraries, a position she has held since 2000. She received a Post-graduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies from the University of London (MLS equivalent) (1975).

All candidates will give a presentation followed by a question and answer session. The topic will be "What important trends do you see facing academic research libraries in the next five years? What changes would need to occur in Technical Services?"

The time and location of the presentations are to be determined. The candidates’ resumes, cover letters, interview itineraries, and evaluation forms will be distributed to staff closer to the interview period.

~Leo Agnew
Personnel Coordinator
Free Laptop Anti-Theft Registration and Wireless Key Upgrade

MUPD will be providing a **FREE** laptop registration and engraving session in Ellis Library for the Fall Semester on **Tuesday, August 29th from 10 am to 2 pm**, and on **Tuesday, September 12th from 1 pm to 5 pm**, in the James B. Nutter Family Information Commons. Library Technical Services Staff will also be on hand to help patrons update the Wireless Equivalent Privacy Key (WEP) on their laptops.

*All students, employees and departments are encouraged to attend.*

Upcoming Webcast

**“Accessibility and the Open Source Content Management Movement”**

**Time:** August 30th at 1:00 PM MDT  
**Place:** Ellis Library Instruction Room 1 (4th floor)

The Staff Development Committee is pleased to sponsor a webcast titled "Accessiblity and the Open Source Content Management Movement" on August 30th, hosted by the National Center on Access and Education (NCDAE).

A panel will discuss the strengths and limitations of accessibility in the open source movement and the future of these tools with accessibility in mind.

Alexander Limi, one of the founders of Plone, will be the featured panelist for this webcast. According to NCDAE information, Plone is a very accessible CMS and Alexander Limi is a well-known expert in the field.

This webcast will be of interest to those selecting content management systems or those involved in development within the open source movement. Time for questions to the panel will be included. The webcast will be captioned simultaneously for the deaf and hard of hearing. More information is available at [http://ncdae.org/webcasts](http://ncdae.org/webcasts).

Please come and join us. RSVPs are not required. Release time is available with supervisory approval.

Annex to Subtera Working Group

Those who will be involved in planning for and participating in the move of materials from the Library Annex to UMLD 2 in Subtera on north Stadium Boulevard have formed a working group to share ideas and make plans. Each member of this group will have a hands-on role of some type in moving approximately 300,000 volumes as efficiently as possible while continuing to provide service to patrons.

The working group consists of the following members:

- Bob Almony, co-leader  
- June DeWeese, co-leader  
- James Keyzer-Andre  
- Ryan Bish  
- John Meyer  
- Vic Myers  
- Suzy Bent  
- Dan Dodd  
- Ruthe Morse  
- Michaelle Dorsey  
- Michael Bland  
- Ellen Blair

We will keep everyone informed of the work we are doing, including timelines and other details as they become available. Questions may be directed to June at deweesej@missouri.edu, or by phone at 882-7315.
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“Our society must make it right and possible for old people not to fear the young or be deserted by them, for the test of a civilization is the way that it cares for its helpless members.”

~Pearl S. Buck

Please submit articles to News Notes editor, Kathy Lowery (loweryka@missouri.edu), by noon on Thursdays.