Personal Narrative: Cass Kvenild 2009

Librarianship & Instruction
As the distance learning librarian, I focus my teaching and reference goals primarily on UW's off-campus learners. During 2008-2009 these goals included a busy schedule of library instruction offered to distance courses from numerous departments online and via video. This fall I met my goal of visiting every University Studies information literacy ("L") course taught through the Outreach School. For these "L" courses and other online research courses, I created a presence in threaded discussions within the eCollege course management system where students could ask questions of me and of each other about how best to utilize library resources. In the course of their library research, Outreach students contacted me for one-on-one research help over 180 times this year, either in the course management system, by email, or by phone. When the library catalog was upgraded this summer, I created new versions of video podcasts introducing Outreach students to the libraries' online services and published the videos to YouTube.com as well as to iTunesU. While my primary focus is to provide library services from a distance, I continue to offer library instruction on campus to freshmen students and to staff the Coe Library reference desk each week.

In the Fall 2008, Spring 2009 and Summer 2009 semesters, I taught the one credit "L" course "Research from a Distance" online (LBRY 3010). This course offers a chance for incoming transfer students to acquire the "L" credit and to learn more about online research skills. I plan to continue to teach LBRY 3010, as it allows me to work in-depth with online students and to learn more about how they seek information while also providing one of the only chances for transfer and Outreach students to achieve the "L" credit required for graduation. A new event I participated in this year was the UW/Casper College student orientation in Casper this August. The orientation was a huge success; a large percentage of incoming UW/Casper College students attended to learn more about their transition from community college to university coursework. The two 40-minute library instruction sessions I taught with Casper College librarian Michelle DeSalvo at the orientation were well received and I heard from many students afterward seeking more information about library research. The orientation allowed students to see a face for the online librarian and also allowed me to spend hands-on time with them after the orientation exploring the UW Libraries' online services and setting up their library accounts.

Another new teaching opportunity this year was the Get on the Bus program, a five-week introduction to Web 2.0 technologies for librarians and library staff across Wyoming. I was pleased to be involved in planning the program and to present the "social networking" unit. The weekly sessions were offered via live video up-link each of the five weeks, and later archived online where they were viewed by hundreds of librarians in the state. School librarians who completed the program received continued education credits for attending.

I continue to write the UW Libraries' blog, Dusty Shelves, and this year the blog received a positive mention in a national library publication. Walt Crawford, author of *Cites and Insights,*
listed the UW Libraries' blog as one of the 19 freshest and most visible academic library blogs.

Scholarship
In my scholarship goals, I am excited about two long-term projects that began to take shape this year. My colleague Kajsa Calkins and I submitted a proposal for an edited book, "Embedded Librarianship", to the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) press this fall and it was accepted for publication. We will now issue a call for chapters and begin work on the book. The book reflects my continued research interest in embedded librarianship, or the practice of joining a course as a librarian for an extended time rather than for one or two instruction sessions. Kajsa and I presented on embedded librarianship at a regional conference in Colorado, which resulted in an invitation to publish an article in the Colorado state library journal. I also presented at the OnlineNW Conference in Oregon about my experiences embedding in online courses. This spring, I presented a poster on embedding librarians in course management systems at the ACRL annual conference. I look forward to exploring the subject in book-length form.

In the second long-term project, my colleague Melissa Bowles-Terry and I are conducting a needs assessment of Outreach School faculty to determine how well the libraries provide services to distance instructors. We received clearance from the Institutional Review Board and from the Outreach School to survey the faculty, and interviews with Outreach faculty began in October 2009. The project relates directly to my goals of supplying excellent library services to our distance learners and instructors and supporting the mission of the Outreach School. We hope to present our findings at conferences and via publishing opportunities. We also hope to adapt the needs assessment model to other departments on campus.

My scholarly achievements this year reflect my commitment to distance learning and online delivery options for library services. In addition to the regional presentations and the conference poster about embedded librarianship, I published an article with my colleagues Mike Nelson and Mary Ann Harlow in Online about implementing federated search at UW. The article resulted in inquiries from librarians outside Wyoming about how our online resources at UW are managed. I also presented a session to instructors at the Wyoming Distance Education Consortia conference about techniques for incorporating information literacy into a distance course.

Service
My service in 2008-2009 also reflected my interest in online technology and distance services. In October, I presented at the "e-Volution" technology forum on using Google Docs for Teaching. The presentation was broadcast to instructors throughout the state and to a capacity audience in-person. After the presentation I was invited to serve on a UW Information Technology task force about collaboration software. While planning the technology forum, I was also invited to serve on the new UW eLearn group devoted to exploring Web 2.0 and instructional technologies.

I continue to serve on the libraries' Tutorial for Information Power (TIP) committee, the group
that oversees the online tutorial and quiz required for every UW student to meet the information literacy graduation requirement. This year the TIP committee solicited faculty input about the expanded quiz we created in 2008. In response to their feedback, we re-organized the quiz and re-wrote a large percentage of the 150 questions in the quiz.

This year I was asked to renew my membership on the UW Faculty Development Committee for three more years. I was also asked to serve on the pre-conference planning committee of the Association of College and Research Libraries. I look forward to continued service to the University and to library profession.

Respectfully submitted,

Cass Kvenild