

UMD LIBRARY CONNECTION

Director Bill Sozansky Retires



Bill speaks at his retirement celebration on August 7 in Malosky Stadium.

Bill Sozansky, who has served as Director of the UMD Library for the past 18 years, retired on August 7, 2012. Prior to coming to UMD, he spent 20 years with the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Libraries.

In Bill’s tenure at UMD, he oversaw numerous changes, including the building and transition to a new campus library, the migration from print to digital resources, and the ongoing development of a learning commons. Liz Benson Johnson will serve as Interim Director until a permanent director can be hired.

When Bill was selected as Interim Director in 1993 and subsequently Director at UMD Library in 1994, he brought impressive credentials and experience to the position. He earned his bachelor’s degree at the University of Missouri, majoring in Soviet Studies, and two master’s degrees from the University of Minnesota, one in Library Science and one in Business Administration.

While a student at the University of Missouri, Bill landed his first library job. This was in 1967, and he remembers that back then “everything was paper.” His tasks included indexing and searching, and also working in Circulation. Bill was inspired by the example of

Gordon Burke, a Technical Services employee involved with library automation at the University of Missouri Library, and it was there that Bill first considered pursuing a career as a library professional.

Before starting graduate school, Bill served in the Air Force as a language specialist during the Vietnam era, stationed for part of that time in Japan.

As a graduate student at the University of Minnesota Library School and later as a staff member, Bill worked in many different departments of the University Libraries, including the Pharmacy Library, Wilson Library, and Acquisitions. His duties ranged from public services and reference help in the Periodicals Room to handling orders and receipts.

Bill’s decision to pursue an MBA was helpful in sparking his early interest in computers and in the possibilities for online research and electronic processes for libraries. He recalls having to type 13-part carbon forms while supervising order typing in Book Acquisitions. While working in Central Technical Services (CTS) as Assistant to the Head of Serials Management, he helped to set up all of the computers in the division.

Continued on page 2

CONTENTS

Library Director Bill Sozansky Retires	1
Stress-less Week @ UMD Library	3
Interim Director’s Memo	4
Tutoring Center Moves to the Library ...	5
Lake Superior Libraries Unsymposium .	5
L 410: Active Learning Classroom	6
Call for NEMBA Nominations	7
Library Hours	8

Director Retires

Continued from page 1

After a national search, he was selected to be head of the CTS Serials Management Division at Wilson Library, a tenure-track position. In this job, he managed 26 people and gained experience in negotiating contracts and implementing edi (electronic data interchange) with distributors, including Faxon and Blackwell.

Sozansky was appointed Library Director at UMD in 1994, and he was asked to concentrate on staff morale, budgeting, and helping to build a new library building.

In addition to focusing on these areas, he pushed to add the Dewey collection to the online catalog and convert those records to the Library of Congress system so that patrons could find like materials in one book area.

He also put energy into negotiating favorable contract fees for periodicals and into making more and more databases available to UMD students and faculty.

Bill has vivid memories of helping with planning the new UMD Library and of the effort it took to acquire planning money in 1996 and then funds for constructing and opening the new facility in 2000. Although the final amount allocated was less than originally requested, "we were able to create an aesthetically appealing space without spending so much, making the most of the available resources."

Reflecting back on his accomplishments as Director, Bill credits much of his success to the fact that he

had contacts on the Twin Cities campus to help make things happen. He stresses how important relationship building is for leaders.

Sozansky was active in the Minnesota Library Association and served as its President in the mid 2000s.

His advice to the new director would be to "be engaged with the University of Minnesota Libraries as a system, with the profession, and with the people on the UMD campus."

He feels that this is an excellent time for a new director to begin, since we have many administrators at UMD who are also new, and effective relationships take time to develop.

When asked if he had other advice to share, Bill mentioned something his orchestra director said to him back in high school when Bill played the viola: "You're playing a note, why not play the right one?" Sozansky has applied that philosophy many times during his career, always remembering that if you're going to do something, try to do it the right way.

Bill and his wife, Marty, plan to stay in the Duluth area. They hope to travel in the winters and to enjoy their home and hobbies. Bill is an avid bridge player and is also known as a sports fan, with a special interest in baseball. His gift from UMD colleagues was a certificate for tickets to attend Minnesota Twins games.





Stress-less Week @ UMD Library December 10-14

As the semester winds down, the Library isn't just a place where students can study for finals and finish up papers. It's also a place to unwind and de-stress. For the second semester in a row, the Library will be hosting a series of stress-relief events and activities for students during the week before finals, December 10-14.

On **Monday**, the week will kick off with **free yoga** in the Library Rotunda from 1 to 2 p.m. Instructor Bonnie Ambrosi will provide students with a variety of simple strategies for reducing stress, including stress-reducing stretches, breathing techniques, and guided relaxation.

On **Tuesday**, massage therapist Nancy Schwerdt will offer free ten-minute **chair massages** for students from 1 to 3 p.m. in Library 119.

On **Wednesday**, Jean Baribeau-Thoennes from Health Services will lead a 50-minute workshop for students on **managing test anxiety**. This event will be held in Library 116 at 1 p.m.

After a week of all-nighters, students will need some extra caffeine. On **Thursday and Friday** mornings from 8:30 to 10 a.m., library staff will team up with Champ, UMD's favorite bulldog, to hand out **free coffee** to students near the library entrance.

Throughout the week, students can take a study break with board games and arts & crafts in the library's first-floor lounge area. Students can make their own stress balls or relax with a coloring sheet and crayons.

Additional details will be announced soon: watch for updates on our Facebook and Twitter feeds! We also have information on this web page: <http://z.umn.edu/stressless>



Memo from the Interim Director

Library staff members are busy planning and preparing for the future. The search for a new library director started in September. Staff members on the search committee include Tom Ambrosi, Head of Reference Services; Mags David, Special Collections and Archives; Judd Dudgeon, Circulation Services Lead Student Worker; Heather McLean, Associate Administrator; and me, Liz Benson Johnson, Interim Library Director. We will review applications starting in mid-January. The goal is to have a new director on board by early summer.



Liz Benson Johnson

The Library Management Team is actively preparing for the new director. We have reviewed our internal communication processes (e.g., where we make library documents available to staff, where we store our “master” documents, who has access, etc.) and are in the midst of reviewing our current strategic plan. We have completed a significant number of projects listed under the primary goals in *Strategic Directions: July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2013*. Yet LMT members realize many of our main goals, such as the goal of utilizing technology to improve delivery of library services, are ongoing.

“Library as place” is one of the major themes in our strategic plan. Librarians around the world have been discussing how the changes in technology and learning environments impact how libraries are used. In our strategic plan, we emphasized the importance of the library being a place “that meets the changing learning styles and information needs of the undergraduate learner” and that facilitates “study collaboration, social interaction, and intellectual and creative exploration.” The move of Supportive Services Programs and the Tutoring Service into the UMD Library is a major step toward the realization of establishing a learning commons in the library. Coupled with the transformation of L410 into an active learning classroom (see page 6), it might even be appropriate to refer to the library as the learning place on campus.

STAFF NEWS

Electronic Resources and Reference Librarian **Sunshine Carter** has been promoted to the rank of Associate Librarian.

Reference & Government Documents Librarian **Jodi Carlson Grebinoski** attended the annual Minnesota Library Association conference at the St. Paul RiverCentre in early October and presented “The Census at Your Fingertips” with Kirsten Clark, Government Information and Regional Depository Librarian, University of Minnesota; and Melissa Gray, Government Documents Coordinator, St. Paul Public Library.

Other UMD Library staff who attended MLA 2012 included **Gabriel Gardner**, **Kim Pittman**, and **Sunshine Carter**.

Jodi also attended the annual Depository Library Council Meeting & Federal Depository Library Conference: “Celebrating the Past, Building the Future Together,” October 15-18, in Arlington, Virginia.

Alyssa Carlson has been hired to fill the evening Circulation Supervisor position, and she will also manage lead student employees.

Tutoring Center Moves to the Library

The UMD Library has been developing a “learning commons” area on its first and second floors for the past several years to better serve the needs of students. The vision of providing integrated services under one roof will be furthered by the move of the Tutoring Center into the library as of fall semester 2013.

The library is already a popular location for students seeking multiple support services in a comfortable and productive learning environment.

The second floor “talk zone” is served by the adjacent Reference desk and the Media Hub, while the library’s first floor offers computer labs, technological support, and the Writing Workshop (for students enrolled in the Introduction to College Writing course).

The addition of the Tutoring Center will be a major step forward in the learning commons project, adding tutoring to the suite of convenient services offered to students in the library.

Plans for the relocation are still being developed under the coordination of Liz Benson Johnson, Tom Ambrosi and Paul Treuer (lead). Other team members will make recommendations, focusing on Labs/Classrooms, the First Floor as Collaborative Space, and the Second Floor Commons.

Expect to see changes in individual and collaborative seating arrangements as the UMD Library continues to enhance its learning environment so that students have all the tools they need to be successful.

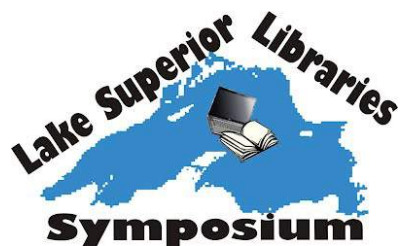
UMD Library Now Offers
Access to

*Foundation Directory
Online*

Foundation Directory Online offers full-text search capability across a comprehensive array of documents and data concerning U.S. grant making. Over 80,000 unique funder profiles organize the latest foundation news, RFPs, job openings, publications, and key staff affiliations. Program details and guidelines for funding applications are provided, as well as links to foundation Web sites.

Foundation Directory Online is updated weekly.

UMD Librarians Help to Organize Experimental Conference



Or Un-Symposium?

Friday, January 11, will mark the first Lake Superior Libraries Unsymposium. An exploration of the “unconference” model, this professional development event will be a participant-driven occasion aimed at avoiding traditional aspects of conferences such as high fees, vendor exhibitions, and a top-down agenda.

The event will kick off shortly after 1 p.m. at the Jim Dan Hill Library on the UWS campus. No attendance fees will be charged, and the mood will be conducive to casual yet serious conversation. Light refreshments and a “technology petting zoo” will be on hand for attendees to enjoy. A post-unsymposium social hour will start at 5 p.m. at the Thirsty Pagan, 1623 Broadway Street, Superior.

Kim Pittman and Gabriel Gardner are representing UMD Library on the organizing committee, and they invite library staff to register at <https://lakesuperiorlibrariesymposium.wordpress.com/register/>.

Library 410 to Be Converted to Active Learning Classroom

The Pharmacy program, Information Technology Systems and Services, and external consultants are redesigning Library 410 to offer active learning classroom features as well as video conferencing. Initial implementation will be complete by the beginning of spring semester.

Many universities have been working on classroom layout, technology, and user support models to try to make active learning more central to the classroom experience. Typical active learning classroom features include lots of whiteboard space, multiple display projection systems, round tables or "pods" that accommodate six to nine students each, a centered teaching station, and controls that allow display from any of the pods in the room.

The emerging "information commons" concept in the Library is a perfect context for the move into active learning classrooms. Funded by a grant from the Pharmacy program, L 410 will address the unique needs of a program split across the UMD and Twin Cities campuses. In addition to the typical components of an active learning classroom, the School of Pharmacy needed to have a strong video conferencing component.

The active learning classroom's ITV components will include multiple cameras and displays, motion tracking, acoustic wall panels and ceiling tiles for tailored audio, and support for traditional ITV as well as Google Hangouts.

CELEBRATE YOUR RIGHT TO READ

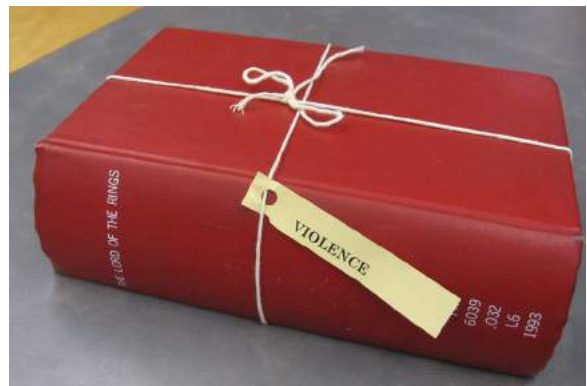
During the month of October, the library's concourse display celebrated Banned Books Week, an annual event highlighting the freedom to read. The books displayed were a small selection of those most frequently threatened with removal or restrictions in libraries and schools. Books in the display were bound with string and labeled with the reason they were challenged. Some were restricted because of language, violence, dark tone, or other reasons.

Challenged titles have included popular books such as the *Harry Potter* series as well as books assigned for school assignments, such as *To Kill A Mockingbird* and *1984*. Children's books, including *In the Night Kitchen* and *Captain Underpants*, have also been targeted for censorship. A more extensive list of frequently challenged books is available from the American Library Association at http://www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/frequently_challenged.

Banned Books Week is intended to spark conversation and debate about the impact of censorship and the role that libraries can play in

providing access to information and ideas, including those that may be controversial.

We hope that our display prompted members of the campus community to consider and discuss these topics. Take time today to celebrate your right to read!



The Lord of the Rings is on the list of most frequently challenged books (as compiled by the American Library Association).

25th Annual NEMBA Book Awards

Call for Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 25th annual Northeastern Minnesota Book Awards (NEMBA). The Awards will be presented at a public celebration on Thursday, May 23, 2013, in Kirby Ballroom on the University of Minnesota Duluth campus. The celebration will include a featured speaker, book fair, and refreshments.

NEMBA is a special book award contest designed to honor and celebrate books about northeastern Minnesota. The winning author in each category will receive a cash prize of \$200. The winning author and the honorable mention in each category will receive a glass plaque and 100 [book seals](#).

Nominations may be submitted in one of six categories:

(1) **General Nonfiction:** nonfiction works such as history, biography, guidebooks, cookbooks, books about science and nature, and scholarly works.

(2) **Fiction:** novels, short stories, plays, and other works of narrative fiction.

(3) **Art, Photography:** books that primarily serve to showcase (and annotate) the visual art contained in them.

(4) **Children's Literature:** books of any type intended for children and young adults.

(5) **Poetry:** collections of poetry or a single poem of book length.

(6) **Memoir and Creative Nonfiction:** books that examine some aspect of the world from a highly personal perspective whether in the form of a memoir, personal essay, or other work of creative nonfiction.

[Reading teams](#) will choose a winner and honorable mention in each category. If a book is nominated in more than one area, the UMD Library NEMBA Team will determine the category for the entry.

- **The subject matter of nominated books must substantially represent northeastern Minnesota** in the areas of history, culture, heritage, or lifestyle. For the purpose of the awards, northeastern Minnesota includes the following counties: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Pine, and St. Louis.
- Nominated books must have a 2012 **publishing** date. Books with a 2011 copyright that were not published and available until 2012 may be submitted in the 25th annual NEMBA. A written explanation for why a book with a 2011 copyright is eligible must be submitted along with the nomination form.
- Nominated books must have been written in English and published in bound paper format.
- One copy of each nominated book must be submitted along with an entry form.
- **A \$25 NON-REFUNDABLE entry fee** is required for *each* nominated book; checks or money orders only, **made payable to the UMD Library**.

See the NEMBA web page for an entry form and details for where to send nominations: <http://www.d.umn.edu/lib/nemba/>

Deadline for Entry: February 1, 2013

UMD Library Hours

Finals Week Hours

December 15-21, 2012

Saturday, Dec. 15	9:00 a.m. – midnight
Sunday, Dec. 16	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m.
Monday-Thursday, Dec. 17-20	7:30 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Friday, Dec. 21	7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Winter Break Hours

December 22, 2012 – January 21, 2013

Saturday-Tuesday, Dec. 22-Jan. 1	CLOSED
Wednesday-Friday, Jan. 2-4	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 5-6	CLOSED
Monday-Friday, Jan. 7-11	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 12-13	CLOSED
Monday-Friday, Jan. 14-18	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday-Monday, Jan. 19-21	CLOSED

Find more hours at <http://www.d.umn.edu/lib/admin/hours.htm>.

UMD Library
416 Library Drive
Duluth, MN 55812

Phone:
218-726-6120

Fax:
218-726-8019

We're on the Web!
www.d.umn.edu/lib/

See us on Facebook & Twitter



UMD LIBRARY

416 Library Drive
Duluth, MN 55812