



NOTSL NEWS

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A Message from Sharon L. Riennerth, NOTSL Chairperson



This year's fall program is titled "Go figure: Statistical jousting in the Technical Services arena" Ah, yes, statistics. That wonderful, confusing, useful, time consuming bane of my existence. I know I'm always counting – how many books did we catalog, and which ones were copy, which ones were original? How many copies did we add? How many DVDs did we catalog? Our Acquisitions department is always looking at how many titles and copies did we order? How many did we receive? How much money have we spent, and what do we have left? Why? Why do we do this?

I remember my class on statistics at the Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science. It was like watching a train wreck – fascinating yet terrifying at the same time. How do I know I'm using the right formula? What do I do if the numbers don't look good? We all need to use statistics in some way to monitor or modify workflow, keep track of what we're spending our money on, and have some idea of how those resources, that we buy and catalog, are being used. And, we need to be able to put a spin on our stats, without resorting to subterfuge. Skewing numbers to fit certain scenarios just doesn't seem "right"

Join us this December 2, 2005, to hear all about statistics – how to collect the data, how to use the data, and how to report the data.

Technical Services 2006: Charting a Course

You may have heard technical services librarians speak about the wonderful "Mohican technical services retreat that took place at Mohican State Park in May, 2003. The powerful program has had a long lasting impact on Ohio libraries and technical services librarians have been asking "When will the next one be?"

Technical Services 2006: Charting a Course will be held on April 25 & 26, 2006. Shiela Intner, the well-respected technical services advocate and library educator will provide the keynote address and compose the closing synthesis as she attends the conference. Breakout sessions will feature George Needham (OCLC), Louise Sevold (CCPL), Glen Patton (OCLC), and Carolyn Sturtevant (LC).

Be sure to set aside the dates and plan to join other technical services librarians for this informative

NOTSL Fall meeting:

"Go figure: Statistical jousting in the Technical Services arena"

The Fall 2005 NOTSL meeting is all about statistics. The program will be held on Friday, December 2, 2005 at the Cuyahoga County Public Library Administration building in Parma from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

We have three speakers presenting that day. Jeffrey Trimble, currently Collections Services Dept. Manager at Youngstown State University's Maag Library, will present the morning program.

In the afternoon, we will have a short business meeting, and then the two remaining speakers: Kathy Schnell, Web Developer, Cuyahoga County Public Library and Corey Seeman, Systems Librarian and Assistant Dean for Resource and System Management at the University of Toledo.

Join us as we explore keeping and using statistics in Technical Services.



NOTSL Scholarship Changes in Effect

Each year the Northern Ohio Technical Services Librarians (NOTSL) awards scholarships to persons currently working in a professional, para-professional, or support position in a technical services area in an Ohio library, or to persons currently taking coursework in librarianship.

Scholarships have traditionally been awarded for activities that take place between July 1 and June 30 of the following year, but that is now changing. For the 2006 award year, the scholarship will be applied for the calendar year, from January to December of 2006. NOTSL is *now* accepting applications for scholarships to fund activities taking place anytime during 2006. The deadline for the 2006 award is December 10th and the recipients will receive the scholarship award notification in early January.

Applications can be printed from the NOTSL website at www.notsl.org.

For additional information, contact Jennifer Bull, NOTSL Past Chair at jbull@ashland.lib.oh.us or 419-289-8188 ext. 19.

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