



NOTSL NEWS

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Message from Jennifer Bull, NOTSL Chairperson



Our program in June will present information about value added services that vendors can provide. In our program announcements I made the statement that this program would provide information of value. This prompted me to pause and think about what value means.

I asked my staff how they would define value and their answers boiled down to the realization that value is relative. What I consider to be of value may not be what you consider valuable. Yet, some things of value might be overlooked.

For instance, time has a value, but the essence of that worth might be difficult to calculate. We cannot hold time in our hands, yet it passes through our hands moment by moment and at the end of our day what are we left holding? What we do throughout our work day is measurable monetarily and also measured against our end results.

When we transfer the work of our hands into the hands of others, such as vendors, how can we best communicate our expectations for completion of the task? How do we resolve any problems that arise when those expectations are not met? And how do we verify that our attempts to receive a fair exchange for goods or services performed are actually cost effective?

It is our attempt, as we offer the program, "Putting Your Vendors to Work for You," to address some of these questions and explore the potential value of this topic. Join us in June.

Jennifer Bull

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"Putting Your Vendors to Work for You"

Friday, June 3, 2005

9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Administration Building
Cuyahoga County Public Library
Parma OH

New Hudson Library & Historical Society

Grand opening for the new Hudson Library & Historical Society will be June 11th. This new building was designed by Meehan Architects.

Constuction photos are available at:
<http://www.hudson.lib.oh.us>

Times are tight. Libraries of all sizes face budget cuts and it is increasingly harder to defend the need for new staff and supplies. Staff have a responsibility to manage funds with wisdom and insight. But how to best manage this? And at what cost? One solution is to put the vendors to work. From the order process, to cataloging, to physical processing of items in both the public and academic realms, the four segments of this day-long program will provide information of value.



CETRC Mentoring Program Needs Mentors

Margaret Maurer

Head, Catalog & Metadata, Kent State University Libraries and Media Services

The ALCTS/CSS Committee on Education Training and Recruitment for Cataloging's Mentoring Program Subcommittee (CETRC) has organized a mentorship program for new catalogers. This valuable program pairs experienced technical services professionals and catalogers with novice catalogers, creating a mentorship opportunity.

It is based on the idea that "more contact between practicing catalog librarians and library graduate students would provide the students with a realistic view of the work and responsibilities of catalog librarians."

Within the program, mentors are matched with mentees by liaisons based on mutual interests, with the mentor making the initial contact. The mentor and mentee then determine the shape of their mentoring relationship, with the mentor aiming to introduce the mentee "to the social, political and professional requirements of the cataloging specialty." A program liaison is available for assistance, and program guidelines and a mentoring bibliography are available on the Mentoring Program web site.

This program fills an important niche in the work to attract and retain high quality catalogers for the future. Studies have shown that the best recruiters to any profession are the practitioners themselves. We who love cataloging are therefore great advertisements for cataloging careers. Experience within the mentorship program has also shown that a time commitment of as little as one hour per month may be all that is needed to make a difference in the work of a new cataloger. "Unfortunately the ratio of mentees to mentors is about 3:1, so the demand can't be satisfied," according to Norm Medeiros at Haverford College, who helps coordinate the program

I highly recommend participation in this program. For more information, or to register as a mentor, just visit <http://library.ucsc.edu/mentoring>.

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