



# Utah Libraries News

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## ULA President's Message

*By Dustin Fife, ULA President*

### ***I Have a Mentor and So Should You!***

The Utah Library Association is here to help with your professional development (that is exactly what you are paying for). Nothing has helped me more since becoming a librarian than mentors. Mentors can take many shapes and forms, some formal and others informal, but more than anything they should be people who care about you and are willing to tell you the truth. I became a library director without much experience, if it wasn't for mentors I would have left the profession pretty quickly. I have had many mentors since starting this career path, many of whom I met through the Utah Library Association and Utah State Library. Librarians at the Utah State Library took interest in me and taught me what it meant to be a librarian. Trish Hull and Pamela Martin helped me get to know the state better and not be a total mess (yet) as President of the Utah Library Association. Adriane Herrick Juarez mentored me through graduate school and has helped me refine numerous job applications. So many people have helped me, be they friends, colleagues, or traditional mentors, that I am always looking for ways to help others in this profession. I want to tell you about one of those relationships more specifically and ask you to think about being (or finding) a mentor.

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Last year, through the Utah Library Association Mentor Exchange, Catherine Soehner—Associate Dean for Research and Learning Services at the Marriott Library—agreed to be my mentor. This has not been a Herculean task for her (I assume), but it has been incredibly fulfilling and helpful for me. We meet once a month for breakfast at a *Dunkin' Donuts* and talk about our jobs and lives (because professional and personal are definitely not completely separate). We talk about the library profession and where we see ourselves in ten years. She has helped me define goals for myself and settle into a new job at Utah Valley University. She asks me for topics I want to discuss and every now and again assigns me a little reading. Catherine is someone I look up to, but more importantly, someone I trust. I know that I can turn to her for professional perspective and advice. Everyone needs a mentor. If you do not have one, think about who can help you. Mentors are part of a safety net that help when you fail and give perspective when it is difficult to see your way. If you do not have a mentor and need help finding one, ULA can help: <http://ula.org/activities/mentoring/>



## You are nothing without your staff

By Natalie Gregory, Logan Public Library

Melvil Dewey (1876) believed that “The best librarians are...positive, aggressive characters standing in the front rank of the educators of their communities, side by side with the preachers and the teachers” (p. 5). It seems that somewhere along the way, aggressive characteristics faded in what we considered traditional librarianship. Sometimes aggressive characteristics, especially in communication, can enrich our library in ways we couldn’t imagine.

About eight months ago, my public library realized that the Mayor and City Council were unaware of the activities we are consistently hosting; they generally learned about only a few of them after the fact. The Director decided we should BCC the Mayor and the City Council to EVERY press release we send out. They still haven’t complained about the sheer volume of emails they receive on a weekly basis, and in fact, they approved a temporary library page (whose primary role is to shelve books) and raises for *all* staff (which was a big win on the part-time staff side, since they hadn’t received a raise in about 8 years).

In his article, Dewey places an emphasis on our standing in the community, What a pillar we are to the people we serve. Steven Bell (2009) put it this way “Our future may depend on our ability to differentiate what libraries have to offer and what library workers contribute to communities” (p. 51). Libraries and library workers are vital to the educational lifeblood of their communities, especially in an information saturated world. The education, now, is less about what books, movies or articles we can provide, and more about the experience people have (Bell). If you are interested in focusing on user experience, consider these five major areas mentioned in Wharton University’s article (2008), which are all things information centers can focus on:

being engaging and genuine; knowledge of available materials and the ability to recommend or retrieve them easily; creating and maintaining a brand; making user time a valuable resource; solving problems quickly and well, and offering restitution where able. Remember, the collection is good, but without the staff to back it up, and to build it up, libraries wouldn’t be adapting and flourishing like they are.

### Resources:

Bell, S. (2009). From gatekeepers to gate-openers. *American Libraries*, 40(8/9), 50-53.

Dewey, M. (1876). The profession. *The American Library Journal*, 1, 5-6.

Marketing, North America. (2009, July 8). Getting to “wow”: Consumers describe what makes a great shopping experience. *Knowledge @ Wharton*. Retrieved from: <http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/article/getting-to-wow-consumers-describe-what-makes-a-great-shopping-experience/>

### WHAT’S ON AT YOUR LIBRARY?

The staff of *Utah Libraries News* are happy to publish announcements of library-related exhibits, lectures, open houses, tours, and other events.

Send announcements to [paul@northloganlibrary.org](mailto:paul@northloganlibrary.org) or [zachary.allred@snow.edu](mailto:zachary.allred@snow.edu). We publish issues in September, November, February, and April (Annual Conference Issue).

## National Library of Medicine Exhibition Program

By John Bramble, Eccles Health Sciences Library

Ever thought of participating in the Traveling Exhibits from the National Library of Medicine? This is a low-cost, easy way to bring quality exhibitions into your library. The topics are many and varied, covering issues from the distant past to present day and into the world of fantasy. There are exhibitions of interest for everyone! Examples of such programs are:

- “And There’s the Humor of It: Shakespeare and the four humors”
- “Against the Odds: making a Difference in Global Health”
- “Do Mandrakes Really Scream?: Magic and Medicine in Harry Potter”

Take a look at libraries in Utah that have scheduled upcoming exhibits:

“Pick Your Poison: Intoxicating Pleasures & Medical Prescriptions” <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/pickyourpoison>

- Weber County Library – Pleasant Valley Branch Now through February 20, 2016
- University of Utah – Eccles Health Sciences Library September 18, 2017 – October 28, 2017

“And There’s the Humor of It: Shakespeare and the four humors” <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/shakespeare.html>

- University of Utah – Eccles Health Sciences Library July 25, 2016 – September 3, 2016

“From DNA to Beer: Harnessing Nature in Medicine and Industry” <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/fromdnatobeer.html>

- Weber County Library – Pleasant Valley Branch November 21, 2016 – December 2016

Did this bring up some questions? We have answers. Take a look at the FAQ’s for “Book a Traveling Exhibition:” <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/booktraveling-faqs.html>

Then move right on to the “Book a Traveling Exhibition” page for a description and availability of exhibits: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/booktraveling.html>

This is a great low-cost way to bring some attention to your library!



*The photo shows an example of the “Life and Limb: The Toll of the American Civil War” exhibit just finishing up its tour at the University of Utah Eccles Health Sciences Library.*

## Online Resources from the National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine Collection

By John Bramble, Eccles Health Sciences Library

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) houses one of the world's largest history of medicine collections. The *History of Medicine* collection documents health and disease in all time periods and cultures through manuscripts, books, photographs, and films. There are a variety of materials available online, here are a few highlights:

### Images from the History of Medicine (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/ihm/index.html>)



There are some 70,000 images in the History of Medicine collection – including portraits, photographs, caricatures, genre scenes, posters, and graphic art illustrating the social and historical aspects of medicine dated from the 15th to 21st century from around the world. It's a fantastic

resource for private study, scholarship and research. Some images protected under U.S. or foreign copyright laws.

### Turning the Pages (<https://ceb.nlm.nih.gov/projects/tp/books.htm>)

Using advanced 3D computer generated imagery and innovative software programming you can enjoy rare works of antiquity at home or in the classroom. Explore the beauty of the world's oldest surviving surgical text; travel back in time to view the world from 13<sup>th</sup> century Islamic perspective, and peruse one of the most influential anatomy works in Western medicine. Select titles are available for iPad viewing (<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/turning-the-pages-ttp/id423830194?mt=8>).

### Online Exhibitions and Digital Projects <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/onlineexhibitions.html>

There are numerous exhibitions that are available virtually with instructional resources for middle and high school students and teachers. Learn about communities around the world working in collaboration with scientists, government leaders and international organizations to address disease; explore the history of forensic medicine and the science behind unexplained or suspicious death fact-finding; discover the many contributions women have made to the practice of medicine; and explore the human body beneath the skin, in all its anatomical glory. For teachers and educators, there is a brochure with lesson plans, learning games and career information (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/pdf/Exhibition-Educational-Resources.pdf>).

### Profiles in Science <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/>

Explore the leaders in biomedical research and public health. Each scientific profile contains significant life and work documents – including text, audiotapes, video clips, photographs and scientific papers. Discover leaders in cellular biology, genetic, and biochemistry, and understand issues of research policy, science education, and the impact of computers on compiling and analyzing data.

For more information visit the History of Medicine website at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/>.

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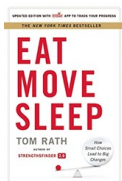
## Droppin' Knowledge, Librarian Style

By Stacy Vincent, Salt Lake County Library

Every workplace has one of those super annoying, kale-salad-eating, exercise-loving health nuts, right? You know the type. The one who brings oranges instead of donuts to a breakfast meeting; or the one who goes for walks on her breaks; or, horror of horrors, the one who tries to foist her granola-munching ways onto her coworkers, *amiright?*

Well ladies and gents, if you know me personally then you are probably already laughing. If you don't know me, let me introduce myself. Hi, I'm Miss Granola Muncher. My 20's were plagued with injury and illness, and because of that I've become passionate about living a healthy lifestyle, and especially about promoting a healthy work environment since that is where we spend so much of our lives. I'm far from perfect, but I do try. Now don't get me wrong, a lot of my colleagues also care about their health and wellness, but I'm definitely the most annoyingly evangelistic about it. Luckily most of my coworkers still like me. Or, at least I think they do. Hmmm, they did seem very keen to know "how I was feeling" the last time I was out sick. Was that genuine concern, or were they having a sugar orgy in my absence? Hmmm....

Anyhoo, moving along now. For this first ULA newsletter of the year I decided to combine two of my favorite things: preaching a healthy lifestyle and droppin' knowledge, librarian style (also known as reader's advisory, if you want to get technical about it). Below is a list of some of my favorite books and DVDs related to staying fit and healthy on the job and beyond. All of these items are available through Salt Lake County Library Services or Amazon.com. I hope you find them helpful, either for yourself or for your patrons. If you have a favorite, please shoot me an email because I'd love to hear about it!



Eat, Move, Sleep: How Small Choices Lead to Big Changes  
by Tom Rath

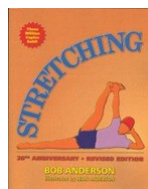
I love this book because it is written in bite-

sized, no-nonsense chunks of solidly researched facts and tips. If you've enjoyed other books by this author, such as his famous *Strengths Finder*, you'll enjoy this one, too.



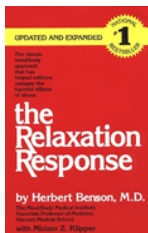
Nano Workouts: Get in Shape and Lose Weight During Everyday Activities  
by Joakim Christoffersson

This is another great, straight-to-the-point title that demonstrates how to squeeze in a little exercise while going about your regular day. Also check out the website [www.nanoworkout.com](http://www.nanoworkout.com)



Stretching: 20th Anniversary  
by Bob Anderson and Jean Anderson

I highly recommend anything by this author. His books show as simply as possible and with as many visuals as possible how to move, stretch, and get fit. Sadly, many of his titles are out of print, but happily, if you do a Google image search, you can find a lot of his material.



The Relaxation Response  
by Herbert Benson

If traditional meditation seems to woo-woo for you but you're still interested in its benefits, give this book a gander. It's a quick read and gives some simple techniques to help you elicit your body's natural relaxation response.



Yoga for Morning, Noon & Night with Jason Crandell

This DVD has three short, 20 minute yoga practices tailored to the time of day. You can do them all together for a total yoga workout, or do them one at a time for a little pick me up or relaxation.

## Knowledge River Cohort 15 for Academic Year 2016-2017 is Now Open



### KNOWLEDGE RIVER

It is a pleasure to announce that Knowledge River is now accepting applications for the 15th Cohort. The priority deadline for Cohort 15 is March 1, 2016. Knowledge River is an educational experience within the University of Arizona School of Information that focuses on educating information professionals who have experience with and are committed to Latino and Native American populations. Knowledge River also fosters understanding of library and information issues from the perspectives of Latino and Native Americans and advocates for culturally sensitive library and information services to these communities. Since its inception, Knowledge River has become the foremost

graduate program for training librarians and information specialists with a focus on Latino and Native American cultural issues. To date, over 170+ scholars have graduated from this program.

The Knowledge River package may include:

- Financial Aid covering tuition and fees
- Work Experience in a graduate assistantship
- Cohort Support
- Mentorship
- Professional Development with support for professional development events
- Enhanced Curriculum from Latino and Native American perspectives.

To find out more about the program, please view our online VoiceThread presentation at <https://voicethread.com/share/7017243/> which discusses the U of A iSchool and offers two videos about what KR scholars do while working on their Master of Arts degree. Or visit our website at <http://si.arizona.edu/knowledge-river-0> to find out more about how to apply.

## Take a Stand

By Erin Wimmer, Eccles Health Sciences Library

Libraries tout neutrality. A place where folks can come to gain information, free of judgement, and with a friendly information professional at their side to guide them. But how true is this?

Libraries may appear to be neutral, but this is almost certainly untrue. In his latest [Evil Librarians podcast](#), [ULA President Dustin Fife interviewed Kristin Pekoll](#), Assistant Director of the Office of Intellectual Freedom at ALA, and discussed the fact that libraries take a stand on all kinds of issues, that make them inherently not neutral.

Let's look at a few examples.

**Net Neutrality:** There was a big push for Net Neutrality last year. A push supported by libraries generally, and ULA specifically. Our ULA Executive Board wrote [an open letter](#) to legislators in support of Net Neutrality, indicating that it is critical for information to be freely accessible and not limited by "arbitrary blocking, throttling, and prioritizing" by a few internet and cable monoliths.

**Intellectual Freedom:** We like being a bit contrarian. When calls ring out to keep specific books or general topics out of our libraries, we scoff and buy another copy! We even celebrate books that have been banned or challenged with a whole week of events, readings, and awareness campaigns. Being strong proponents of intellectual freedom, and equitable access to information is, perhaps, one of the most amazing parts of librarianship.

**Privacy:** Think about how libraries responded to the Patriot Act. Rather than being subject to inquiries about a patron's activity, libraries stopped keeping checkout records. So integral is recognition of the right to privacy that librarians went against their

very nature (to catalog and preserve!) in order to ensure patrons would continue seeking information without fear of surveillance.

We may like to give patrons the impression that we are neutral, but we shouldn't be. In fact, we would violate the [ALA Code of Ethics](#) if we were, in fact, neutral. The Code of Ethics requires us to take a stand in favor of privacy, in favor of universal access, in favor of intellectual property protection, in favor of the greater good. These positions are decidedly partisan and we as librarians should be proud to hold them.

### WANTED: SCHOOL LIBRARY SECTION EDITOR

Do you have your pulse on all the happenings in Utah's school libraries? Then we have just the job for you!

The Utah Library News is looking for a School Library Section Editor to join our writing staff. Responsibilities include:

- Submitting bi-monthly stories to be published in the *ULN Newsletter*.
- Help collect stories from around the state regarding School Libraries.

Send an email to [paul@northloganlibrary.org](mailto:paul@northloganlibrary.org) or [zachary.allred@snow.edu](mailto:zachary.allred@snow.edu) if you are interested in applying. We publish issues in September, November, February, and April (Annual Conference Issue).



# Collaboration and Filling the Gap

*By Paul Daybell, North Logan City Library*

Libraries are constantly looking for ways to engage with their communities and this can often lead to collaborative efforts with local businesses, community groups, volunteers, etc. While it is important to actively seek out these relationships, I have recently learned that it is just as important to be open and flexible enough to engage when opportunities seek you out.

The teen program at my library recently had an opportunity to collaborate with a community organization I would have never thought to reach out to myself, the Utah State University English Department.

We were approached by a professor who was teaching a Young Adult Literature course. He shared that one of the main feedbacks they received from student surveys was a desire to get to interact with secondary school students before year four of their education program when they would start their student teaching.

The professor is a local patron of our library, and had heard tell about our very successful teen program and Teen Advisory Board. His idea was that he could bring his class to the library and interact with our teens and to pick their brains about what their ideal teacher would be.

We thought this was an interesting idea, so we decided to run with it. We decided that the best approach would be to hold a special panel discussion at our monthly advisory board meeting that would facilitate an open discussion between both our teens and the USU students.

After the panel discussion, we invited the USU students to join us in our regularly scheduled weekly teen activity. We ended up pitting the USU students against our teens in a heated game of YA Literature Jeopardy. We followed these robust games with pizza, snacks, and mingling.

The evening ended up being a HUGE success. There was universal praise from both USU and our teens. It was such a success that we did the same program the following semester with the next USU class.

So if an out of the box collaboration presents itself, take a chance...what's the worst that can happen?



*Panel Discussion between USU Students and the NL Teen Advisory Board*

## ABOUT THE UTAH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Utah Library Association is to serve the professional development and educational needs of its members and to provide leadership and direction in developing and improving library and information services in the state. In order to accomplish these goals, ULA supports and provides continuing education programs for Utah librarians and library employees, especially at its annual spring conference. ULA also offers members a number of opportunities for library leadership, professional growth, networking, and community service. We hope you find the Utah Library Association to be an organization that makes a difference for you, for Utah librarians, for Utah Libraries, and for the citizens of Utah.



Utah Library  
Association

[www.ula.org](http://www.ula.org)

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