

## EDUCATION

2006 Master of Library and Information Science, University of Southern Mississippi, Thesis:  
Intellectual Freedom and Mississippi Academic Libraries: An OPAC Study of Books  
Challenged or Banned in 2003-2004

2002 Bachelor of Arts, University of MS Major: English Minor: Business Administration

## EMPLOYMENT

### Head of Research & Instruction Services and Associate Professor

University of MS, Nov. 2015 – Present

- Directly responsible for supervision, administration, and management of the department of Research and Instruction Services including: training, developing, and evaluating librarians and staff to succeed in their positions and grow as professionals
- Directly responsible for planning, implementing, and coordinating the delivery of research, outreach and instruction services to UM faculty, staff, students, and other library patrons with appropriate library teams and campus partners
- Provides vision, develops goals, oversees projects, and sets priorities for the department in concert with the Library's overall strategic plans and initiatives
- Maintains and fosters awareness of research, instruction, scholarship, publishing, and technology trends and developments, and integrates these into activities and objectives of the department
- Assesses new resources and develops new services to meet existing or anticipated institutional initiatives as well as emerging patron needs in teaching, learning, and research
- Shares the responsibility for providing research and instruction assistance to all members of the University community and library patrons
- Evaluates the evolving needs of library users, the effectiveness of the department services using statistical and other types of analysis, and is responsible for continuous improvements to user services and programs
- Responsible for collection management decisions and online/in person instruction for assigned subject areas and reference collections; Supports initiatives that expand collection management to embrace technology and e-learning
- Serves on departmental, library, and university-wide committees and task forces as well as providing service to the profession on local, regional, and national levels

### Outreach & Instruction Librarian and Associate Professor

University of MS, Jan. 2011 – Nov. 2015

- Management: Supervised one graduate student assistant in the department 20 hours/week and one undergraduate student assistant 8 hours/week; Supervised a staff member during the summer; Administrator for the department for 3 months in 201; Created library

internship policies for library science graduate students and supervised program for one student.

- Outreach: Chaired the library outreach committee and served on various committees for the library, campus, and profession; Designed print and digital marketing materials to promote the library brand and image on and off campus including social networking activities, publicity, and events for students; Faculty advisor for Library Ambassador student group; Organized library orientation events at all UM campuses for students, parents, and faculty; Worked with public services to support distance services; Supervised library tours; Received \$22,739 in grants to support library initiatives
- Instruction & Reference: Held a leadership role in library instruction initiatives including supervision of instruction classrooms; team leader for hundreds of first year experience courses for a team of 7 librarians, 2 staff members, and 1 graduate student; Developed, taught, and assessed course instruction; Developed instructional materials in various formats (print, web, multimedia & social media); Created instruction opportunities for assigned subject areas; Worked with reference librarians to schedule and promote workshops; Provided research assistance in person, chat, email, phone, and at a reference desk. Taught 2 sections of EDHE105 First Year Experience.
- Collection Development: Responsible for collection management decisions and online/in person instruction for assigned subject areas; Supported initiatives that expand collection management to embrace technology and e-learning
- Professional Development: Remained current on relevant trends in library outreach, marketing, instruction and reference, including serving distance education students; Active in professional committees; Attended conferences and workshops online and in person; Mentored peers through MLA, SELA, and ALA; Collaborated with outreach coordinators in the region; Published in peer reviewed publications

### **Outreach/Reference Librarian and Assistant Professor**

University of MS, Jan. 2008 – Jan. 2011

- Supervised a graduate student assistant 20 hours/week
- Developed, promoted, and provided creative programs and activities to market the collections and services to our students and faculty/staff
- Created and managed online activities that promote the library, including web pages, podcasts, tutorials, and promotion sites
- Created and maintained the library's social media presence
- Led outreach and instruction presentations to diverse groups on and off campus
- Created ads, brochures, and other promotional materials
- Provided reference services at a general reference desk including evenings, and virtual reference services with a team of 6 librarians and 1 staff member
- Managed collection development in assigned areas of responsibility: Family & Consumer Science; Library Science; Health, Exercise Science, & Recreation Management; and Communication Sciences & Disorders.
- Spearheaded campus-wide common reading program

### **Reference/Instruction Librarian and Assistant Professor of Library Services**

Delta State University, June 2006 – Dec. 2007

- Library liaison for the Accountancy & Business Administration departments, responsible for teaching and collection development in these areas

- Created print subject guides on various topics and database tutorials
- Supervisor for 3 student assistants in the Reference Department
- Created and submitted all Reference Department reports
- First and only librarian to teach LIB 101 as a one credit online summer course
- Led instruction sessions for a wide variety of grad/undergrad classes, including Business, Biology, Education, and Literature
- Organized library tours and workshops with a team of 3 librarians

### **Circulation Manager**

Belhaven University, June 2003 – June 2006

- Supervisor for 13 undergraduate student assistants
- Served as public services team member with 2 librarians
- Manager of maintenance and circulation of 100,000 item library collection
- Assisted patrons with research help

### **RESEARCH**

Dennis, M. & Dees, A. S. (2015). It's SO Boring: Improving library orientation sessions for first-year students. *The Southeastern Librarian*, 63(2): 2-10.

Dennis, M. R., Greenwood, J. K., & Watson, A. P. (2013). LibQUAL revisited: Further analysis of qualitative and quantitative survey results at the University of Mississippi. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 39(6): 512-516.

Dennis, M. (2012). Library outreach through one book one community. Conference proceedings for the 12th Annual Brick and Click Libraries: An Academic Library Symposium, Maryville, MO.

Dennis, M. (2012). Outreach initiatives in academic libraries, 2009 – 2011. *Reference Services Review*, 40(3): 368-383.

Cantagallo, C., Dennis, M., & Reeg-Steidinger, J. (2011). Examining virtual reference assistance in support of distributed learning. In S. Almquist (Ed.), *Distributed Learning and Virtual Librarianship*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.

Dennis, M., Murphey, R., & Rogers, K. (2011). Assessing information literacy comprehension in firstyear students. *Practical Academic Librarianship: The International Journal of the SLA Academic Division*, 1(1).

Greenwood, J., Watson, A., & Dennis, M. (2011). Ten years of LibQual: A qualitative study of comments at the University of Mississippi 2001-2010. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 37(4).

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- Dennis, M. (2015). The fault in our fifty shades of ew: Using pop culture in library instruction. SELA/Alabama Library Association Conference, Point Clear, AL.
- Dennis, M., Kathuria, S., Richardson, H., & Williams, S. (2014). Created equal: Civil rights outreach @ Mississippi academic libraries. MS Library Association Conference, Vicksburg, MS.
- Dennis, M. (2013). Library surveys: Hits and misses. MS Library Association Conference, Biloxi, MS.
- Dennis, M., Powell, R., and Pittman, G. (2012). Outreach initiatives in Mississippi libraries. Poster presentation for the MS Library Association Conference, Natchez, MS.
- Dennis, M. (2012). Library outreach through one book one community. Paper presented at the 12th Annual Brick and Click Libraries: An Academic Library Symposium, Maryville, MO.
- Dennis, M. (2009). The clicker project: Pros and cons of active learning techniques in the library classroom. The 6th Annual Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, Savannah, GA.
- Dennis, M. (2007). Finding fun in orientations through the multi-faceted scavenger hunt. Poster session presented at the MS Library Association Conference, Vicksburg, MS.

## **SERVICE**

### **American Library Association**

- LLAMA Mentorship Program, 2015
- Library Leadership and Management Association, 2010 - present
- Public Relations and Marketing Section, 2010 – present
- New Members Round Table, 2007 – 2012
- PRXchange Committee Member – Public Relations and Marketing Section, 2010 – 2012
- New Member’s Round Table Student Reception Committee Member, 2010 - 2012

### **Association of College and Research Libraries**

- Distance Learning, 2010 – present
- Instruction, 2008 - present

### **Southeastern Library Association**

- Mississippi chapter representative, 2013 - present
- Membership and Mentoring Committee, 2013 – 2014

### **Mississippi Library Association**

- MLA Executive Board Member, 2012 - present
- Long Range Planning Committee Co-Chair, 2014 - 2015
- Publicity Committee Member, 2014 - present
- SELA Representative, 2013 - present
- Membership Committee, 2013 – 2014
- Information Literacy Committee Member, 2010 – 2012

- ACRL– Mississippi Chapter President, 2012
- ACRL– Mississippi Chapter Vice-President, 2011
- ACRL– Mississippi Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, 2010
- ACRL– Mississippi Chapter Member, 2006 – present

#### **Association of Library Communications and Outreach Professionals**

- Member, 2013 – present
- Selected to write an article in the first issue of the official publication

#### **HONORS**

- Mississippi Library Leadership Institute: Selected to participate in a year-long state-wide program with 25 librarians from Mississippi.
- Awarded \$5,980 to pilot technology-lending initiatives at our library with Judy Greenwood and outside partners.