April 2000

Bryan M. Carson-Coordinator of Reference and Instructional Services-Western Kentucky University

Barbara Dean
Arlington County Public Library

Jack W. Montgomery
Western Kentucky University, jack.montgomery@wkyu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>

Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Dean, Barbara and Montgomery, Jack W. (2000) "Bryan M. Carson-Coordinator of Reference and Instructional Services-Western Kentucky University," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 12: Iss. 2, Article 17.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.3067>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

ProfilesEncouraged

Bryan M. Carson
Coordinator of Reference and
Instructional Services
Western Kentucky University

Born when and where: I was born July 8, 1965, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and grew up 50 miles north in Big Rapids, where my parents were teaching at Ferris State University.

Current residence: My wife and I are currently residing in Bowling Green, Kentucky. I am the Coordinator of Reference and Instructional Services at Western Kentucky University Libraries, and work with the Philosophy, Religion, and Slavic Studies departments.

Education: I started at **Ferris State**, then finished my BA in Economics at **Adrian College** in Adrian, Michigan. I earned my Juris Doctor from the **University of Toledo**, and obtained my Master's degree in library science at the **University of Michigan**.

Family: I am the youngest of three baby-boomer children. I have been married to the most wonderful woman since December 29 of this past year.

Summary of job experience: I started working in the law library during law school, and I was hooked! After a year of private law practice, I earned my library degree. My first professional library position was in the History and Social Sciences Department of the **Mid-Manhattan Library** (the central library of the **New York Public Library** branch system). Within the **NYPL** I also worked in Telephone Reference, as the Assistant Branch Librarian of the Castle Hill Branch, and as Electronic Resources Librarian for the General Research Division of the Center for the Humanities and Social Sciences (formerly known as the Research Library, the building with the lions). I also worked at **Hamline University School of Law Library** in St. Paul, Minnesota.

First job: Washing dishes and bussing tables at Casey McNabb's Restaurant in Big Rapids.

Fondest memory: Growing up in a small town with a loving family.

Favorite pastime: Reading, without a doubt.

Hobbies: Shopping for antiques, visiting museums, eating (my wife will agree with that one).

Last book read: *Nothing is the number when you die*, by **Joan Fleming**.

What would you like to be doing five years from now? I would like to be enjoying my job, learning more every day, and still being an effective librarian. It wouldn't hurt also if I got tenure!

Had I but world enough and time: I would become an architect. There is only one thing that prevents me from doing this: I can't draw a straight line to save my life!

Single most important piece of advice: Enjoy your job. If you don't enjoy what you are doing, find something else to do. Money doesn't matter as much as being able to get up in the morning and enjoy going to work.

Op Ed from page 36

the broker or agent, someone who knows how to facilitate smaller numbers of larger transactions.

But wait, isn't that what an organization like **netLibrary** already does? Yes it is, of course, and perhaps we will end up with two separate types of book vendors, one for print and one for e-books. Or, there will be two types but the lines will blur, as they learn to cooperate with one another, with the e-book vendor drawing upon what is the real expertise of today's traditional book vendor, the intimate knowledge of library customs, cultures, routines, and workflows, and the personal and organizational relationships and credibility hard-earned by the book vendor over the years. Or, perhaps these separate vendors will merge into one. We might see a significant level of production and demand for free e-books, where there won't necessarily be a commercial transaction at all. Perhaps the dominant model on campus will be departmental purchase of e-books, without library involvement. Or perhaps it will be consortial buying.

Or, perhaps all of these things will happen, maybe all at once, maybe in some kind of disordered sequence. Perhaps this will be a brand new area of publishing chaos.

We in the business of being vendors can't promise, today, to succeed at any of those more attractive possibilities, but I do know that all of us will be working as well as we know how to avoid that last one.

Book Pricing Update from page 34

ownership. The ebook providers have the least amount of influence over how subrights' questions are addressed. However, there is a need in the market for rights to all kinds of publications, including those with graphics or photos owned by third parties. Publishers will have to agree to cooperate and be fair in pricing for subrights. While the ebook companies are willing to work with publishers to iron out this question, it is our belief that publishers will have to lead the way.

There has been some concern amongst publishers that customers will demand cheaper prices for ebook editions. So far, this has not been an issue, perhaps because the increased utility of ebooks makes them every bit as valuable as the printed versions. An ebook arrives "shelf-ready" and is not capable of being lost, damaged, or stolen. Additionally, it provides a level of convenience and accessibility not previously seen in printed texts. Therefore, librarians have found the same price for the physical and ebooks to be a fair proposition.

We end by noting that customer demand will, ultimately, drive sales of ebooks. According to **Dennis Dillon** of the **University of Texas, Austin**, "The speed with which libraries are signing up with netLibrary speaks to the value libraries see in ebooks. The key to making ebooks work for all of us in the traditional publisher/library market is to find the middle ground that meets all of our needs."

(The author would like to thank **Dennis Dillon**, University of Texas, Austin; **Miriam Gilbert**, netLibrary; **Dan Miller**, Blackwell's; **John Pershing**, Hackett Publishing; and **Bob Rooney**, Taylor & Francis, for their generous help in writing this article.)