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People Profile: Barbara Pope

Editor

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Other libraries, such as **Massachusetts College of Pharmacy**, have eliminated some or all print journal holdings. Computer savvy patrons like the convenience of obtaining articles where they are, indicating electronic journals eliminate barriers that existed with print. However, critics fear that electronic resources signal the end of the library and the librarian. Whereas **F. W. Lancaster** predicted a paperless society, others take a rational approach, emphasizing the need for balance. "The choice is not between ancient and modern, technology and books, [...] or any of the other dichotomies that bedevil us. It is, rather, about how to balance these factors and create something that has the best of each" (**Gorman**, 5). Most academic libraries have both print and electronic journals, providing a balance, but the academic library's desire to expand access must be tempered with knowledge, not assumptions, of users' needs. Electronic journals are not for all academic libraries; as with all library resources, they have advantages and disadvantages and, unlike print serials, require the efforts of all staff to make them a successful venture.

Peggy Johnson begins her text with a description of collection development as the "selection of materials in all formats" (2). Traditionally, this involved selection of serials and books in print format, and later, included microforms and media. While print serials collection development requires significant staff time, electronic journals have different demands for staff time. The increased presence of electronic journals has changed the notion of a serials collection and the collection development process, affecting all areas of the academic library and causing the need for changes in procedures, training, budgeting, duties, and need for integration of staff efforts. I have observed changes at **Pittsburg State University (PSU)**, including reallocating Periodicals funds to Databases to keep up with electronic resources costs. Instead of just calculating in-house use, we also download use data from Websites. In addition, we began using an open URL resolver about four years ago and just recently began setting up an ERM. We have also experienced a decreased need for student workers. **PSU** librarians communicate through email and blogs about electronic journal problems so that they may be resolved. Additionally, I communicate with the systems department about new resources so that implementation goes smoothly.

Due to the increasing amount of information being available electronically, the notion of a library is changing from "the brick-and-mortar library model into a virtual model" where patrons have access to material (*ARL Statistics 2004-2005*, 23). The effect has trickled down and affected the serials collection. For example, in the pre-digital world, the library was a storage place for journals. Access was limited because patrons had to come to the library to use them or make interlibrary loan requests. While some academic libraries have eliminated print subscriptions and holdings

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Barbara M. Pope, MALS

BORN & LIVED: I was born in Fort Hood, Texas. I have lived in Kansas, Missouri, Texas, and Colorado.

EARLY LIFE: When I was three weeks old, I moved from Fort Hood, Texas to Missouri. I moved again to Colorado when I was about two years old. I moved back to Missouri when I was four years old. I spent the rest of my childhood in Missouri and since then, have bounced back and forth between Kansas and Missouri.

FAMILY: I live with my husband, **Vernon**. I have a father-in-law, **Clyve Pope**, and mother-in-law, **Helen Pope**, who live in Cherokee, Kansas. My brother, **David**, nephew, **Dustin**, and niece, **Danielle**, live in Springfield, Missouri. My nephew, **Matthew**, is in college in Rolla, Missouri.

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Arts, English, **Drury College**, Springfield, Missouri, 1993; Master of Arts, Library Science, **University of Missouri-Columbia**, Columbia, Missouri, 1995.

FIRST JOB: My first professional librarian job was at **Pratt Community College** in Pratt, Kansas where I worked from July 1997 to February 2000. I did reference, circulation, cataloging, processing, acquisition, Webpage design, and supervising student workers. I also had a host of other library jobs, like volunteering in Technical Services at **Bruce C. Clarke Community Library at Fort Leonard Wood**, Missouri, and being a practicum student in **Stafford Library at Columbia College**, Columbia, Missouri.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: I am a member of **Kansas Library Association**, **CULS (College and University Section of Kansas Library Association)**, **American Library Association**, Treasurer on the **Friends of Axe Library** Board of Trustees, and member of the **Historical Information Committee on Colonial Fox Theater Foundation**.

IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: I like to watch movies and tv series on dvd, read, surf the Internet, and blog.

FAVORITE BOOKS: *The Color Purple*, *Go Down*, *Moses*, *Native Son*, and many others.

PET PEEVES/WHAT MAKES ME MAD: Ignorance, apathy, and those who don't see value in doing a good job.

PHILOSOPHY: Never give up.

MOST MEANINGFUL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: My most meaningful career achievement was becoming a supervisor of 15 student workers at my current position. I had never supervised that many students before, so it was quite an undertaking.

GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW: I hope to publish a book on electronic journals management.

HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: I see libraries heading into being more and more electronic with more resources having electronic access as an option or possibly even electronic-only. Patrons are used to having information when and where they need it and I think the industry is going to move in that direction. As librarians, I think we have to make up our minds whether we will be scared of what technology will do to the entire concept of a library and our jobs as librarians or we can figure out a way to reinvent ourselves and our jobs. 🍀

in favor of electronic access, most academic libraries, like **PSU**, are "hybrids" of digital and print journals. Collection development in the pre-digital world was often compartmentalized and emphasized ownership, place, control, and permanence (**Casserly**, 579-580). Specifically, many academic libraries divided up collection

development by discipline, type of resource, or one person selected all materials. After serials were acquired, catalogers cataloged them and the periodicals staff checked them in; while the process required significant staff time, responsibilities were clear. There was no need

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