

Vitae

George Boston

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Goals:

Develop and utilize innovative methods to deliver the benefits of electronic and other library resources to the User community (whether local or global) in a productive and economic manner.

Accomplishments:

Successfully coordinated or contributed to several projects which enhanced access to the users of the Western Michigan University Libraries. Reorganized and rewrote job descriptions to normalize and improve workflows within the Electronic Resources and Serials unit of the Technical Services Department. Coordinated the conversion of several journal subscriptions from print to online format. Coordinated the implementation and manage the continued maintenance of the Verde Electronic Resources Management System. Implement and manage the continued maintenance of the SFX OpenURL resolver system at Western Michigan University Libraries. Implemented and manage the continued maintenance of the EZproxy authentication system at Western Michigan University Libraries. Developed and created a Microsoft Access database system to act as an Electronic Resource Management System. Provide reports on demand using SQL to query the VOYAGER ORACLE database. Maintain and update a database of electronic resource links and descriptions in a web based content management system to provide a database A-Z list and provide resource links for various subject guides on the WMU Libraries web site. Set up, configured, and maintained access to a number of subscribed electronic databases and electronic journals. Collected and stored and analyzed electronic resources usage data from vendor / provider sites to assist in collection development decision-making. Implemented, configured and maintained the TDnet Electronic Journal Management system at Western Michigan University Libraries. Wrote and maintained a dBASE IV database of print subscription data to manage/track/report on subscriptions and payments. Experienced with the use of HTML, CSS, XML, XHTML, JavaScript, SQL, Web Services applications, and Voyager ILS Software. Also familiar with the use of Office Software, VI, LINUX, and simple application programming and troubleshooting.

Employment history:

Western Michigan University, Electronic Resources and Serials Librarian, 2006-date

I manage the Electronic Resources and Serials Unit, consisting of 5 FTE staff with the goal of analyzing, acquiring, organizing, and providing access to several thousand electronic journals, electronic books, databases, print and microform journals and serials.

Western Michigan University, Electronic Resource Specialist, 2000-2006

Administering, configuring, and troubleshooting access to several thousand electronic journals and databases. Provided various reports on usage of electronic resources.

Western Michigan University, Serials Assistant, 1991-2000

Assisted with the purchasing, configuration, and receiving of print serial materials.
Submitted claims for missing materials and initiated orders for replacement materials.
Assisted in the configuration of the Voyager ILS for serials receiving and management.

Western Michigan University, Acquisitions Receiving Assistant 1990-1991

Received print monographic materials. Submitted claims for missing materials.

Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative, Retrospective Conversion Data Entry, 1986-1989

Retrieved and edited MARC records for retrospective conversion.

Kalamazoo Public Library, Reference Assistant, 1986-1988

Assisted with the day-to-day operations of the History Collection at the Kalamazoo Public Library. Performed various duties for the Reference Department as assigned (Assisting at the Reference desk, computer data entry, shelving, etc.)

Western Michigan University Student Retrospective Conversion Data Entry, 1986-1989

Retrieved and edited MARC records for retrospective conversion.

Western Michigan University Student Reference Assistant, 1981-1983

Performed various duties for the Reference Department as assigned (Assisting at the Reference desk, computer data entry, shelving, etc.)

Education history:

Master of Arts, 1989, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Concentration: History

Master of Science in Librarianship (ALA accredited), 1983, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Bachelor of Science, 1978, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.
Major – Political Science; Minor – History

Associate in General Studies, 1976, Kellogg Community College, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Publications:

Boston, George, and Randle Gedeon. "Beyond OpenURL Technologies for Linking Library Resources". Electronic Resource Management in Libraries Research and Practice. Hershey, PA: IGI Global, 2008. 235-249.

Gedeon, Randle, and George Boston. "Western Michigan University Libraries' Electronic Journal Finder." The Acquisitions Librarian 17.33/34 (2005): 97-106.

Boston, George Arthur. A Doctrine Revised : The Venezuelan Crisis of 1902 and the Roosevelt Corollary. M.A., History. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 1989.

Conference Presentations:

"Harvesting from Many Silos at Web-Scale Makes eContent Truly Discoverable" co-written with Scott Garrison. Electronic resources and Libraries. February 3, 2010, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas.

"Creating Custom Verde reports using Access and Perl" presented with Deborah Mouw. Ex Libris Users of North America. May 8, 2009, Richmond, Virginia.

"Providing Print and Microform Holdings Information through the SFX Menu System" Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters. March 20, 2009, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan.

"An Improved OpenURL Resolver Menu System" presented with Deborah Mouw. Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters. March 7, 2008, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

"E-Resources Usage Data: Apples to Oranges and Fixing Holes" presented with Michael Whang. Electronic resources and Libraries. March 20, 2008, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia.

"Cooperation, Communication, and Collaboration: The 3 C's of Workflows at the WMU University Libraries Technical Services Department" presented with Sheila Bair and Randle Gedeon. Technical Services Conference, April 15, 2008, Michigan Library Association, Lansing Michigan.

"Collaboration: Meeting the Library User's Needs in a Digital Environment" presented with Julie Hayward, Dianna Sachs, and Michael Whang. Electronic resources and Libraries. February 24, 2007, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia.

Association Memberships:

American Library Association

Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALA Division)

New Members Round Table (ALA Division)

Michigan Library Association

Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters

References:

References available upon request.