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SPACES, LENDING, & ACCESS

Led by the LAUC-SD Mentoring Committee, Librarian Profiles offer background information and career-related advice from UC San Diego librarians to MLIS students and graduates.

**Which institution did you earn your MLIS or other graduate degree?**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1998)

**Do you currently or did you ever hold a professional library position related to the focus you pursued in graduate school?**

Yes

**Did you have work experience at any level in a library of any type prior to attending library school?**

No

**Do you have another advanced degree(s) in addition to any MLIS?**

No

**Did you focus on a particular area of librarianship while earning your MLIS?**

Yes, Reference and Research Services

**Beyond the MLIS, do you feel that any additional advanced degree is essential to success in your current position?**

No

### **What are some of your current tasks and responsibilities?**

- Supervision of 30-40 staff employees
- Managerial oversight of roughly a dozen services/processes/units
- Assessment and accountability for operations within program purview
- Communication and collaboration with individuals, teams, and programs across the library and on campus
- Visioning and strategic planning for program offerings

### **What do you like best about working in an academic or university setting?**

I love the collective focus on learning within the campus environment, the energy and activity of the campus community, the excitement among students for learning, and the varied pace of the academic year.

### **What are some skills or core competencies you feel are essential to success in your current position?**

- Supervision
- Strategic and operational planning
- Evaluation and decision-making
- Time-management
- Communication

### **What is something that you think contributed to you getting your first professional job following graduate school for your MLIS?**

- Working in the field while in library school
- Prior management and customer service roles
- Enthusiasm, interest, and open-mindedness

### **What do you like best about being a librarian or about your current role or responsibilities?**

- Interacting with students and other library users
- Supporting staff to be successful in their roles
- Implementing changes, setting or modifying policies, or developing new offerings to directly support user needs

### **What is your advice to MLIS students seeking or entering their first professional library position?**

Excitement for the position and/or institution matters and should be apparent to others during your interview; research the institution adequately prior to your interview, including their current or forthcoming strategic plan/initiatives and vision; and focus on transferable skills to fill any gaps in your work history or library experience

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Please contact me to further discuss my work or background.

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