People in the News

Appointments

Mary M. Somerville is now university librarian at the University of the Pacific. Somerville



Mary M. Somerville

had served as university librarian and director of the Auraria Library at the University of Colorado-Denver since 2008. In her new role, Somerville will lead the vision and implementation of an integrated library system that serves faculty and students on

University of the Pacific's three campuses in Stockton, San Francisco, and Sacramento.

Evan Simpson has joined Northeastern University Libraries as associate dean for research and learning services.

Retirements

John Popko brings his 37-year academic library career to a close in July when he retires as university librarian emeritus for Seattle University. Since July 1994, he contributed to university planning and policy as a member of the Council of Deans, the Executive Council, the University Leadership Council, and a wide variety of committees. He counts among his most significant accomplishments his role in helping to design and build the nationally recognized Lemieux Library & McGoldrick Learning Commons, which opened in September 2010. He earned his professional credentials at the University of Kentucky in 1978 and for a year cataloged state documents for the Missouri State Library. He

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held several positions during his 15 years at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (1979–94), including assistant director for technical services, at which time he also managed the statewide Missouri Newspaper Project, a component of the U.S. Newspaper Program jointly administered by

the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Throughout his career, Popko has been actively involved in professional associations and with academic and multitype library consortia at the local, regional, and national levels. He has served



John Popko

in elected and appointed offices in a variety of professional associations, most notably the OCLC Users Council, ACRL, the Library Leadership and Management Association, the Missouri Library Network Corporation, and the Orbis Cascade Alliance. He served two terms as chair of the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee and as an ex-officio Board member, he was the inaugural chair of the ACRL Friends Fund Committee, and he was an unsuccessful candidate for ACRL President in 2002. He represented the Missouri Library Network Corporation on the OCLC Users Council, serving on its Executive Committee and as Users Council President in 1993/94.

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