

Nebraska Chapter

Value of Academic Libraries: Academic libraries demonstrate alignment with and impact on institutional outcomes.

1. Leverage existing research to articulate and promote the value of academic and research libraries.

During the annual conference of the Nebraska Library Association, two presentations developed the idea of the value of Academic Libraries. One was titled "Librarians as Master Gardeners" presented by Joyce Neujahr and Emily Keston. Joyce and Emily presented their information dashboard that is used by the library at the University of Nebraska at Omaha to visually connect departments within the library and the wider community using data and statistics. A second presentation during the 2011 conference was on the Institutional Repository running at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. Paul Royster gave a short history of the development and progress of institutional repositories with special emphasis on the history of the UNL DigitalCommons, the nation's 2nd largest IR.

Student Learning: Librarians transform student learning, pedagogy, and instructional practices through creative and innovative collaborations.

1. Build librarian capacity to create new learning environments (physical and virtual) and instructional practices.

The C&U Section of the Nebraska Libraries Association sponsored a presentation during the annual conference titled "Learning Commons". Ronald Wirtz, Keri Person and Jon Ritterbush presented on the University of Kearney Learning Commons, its programs and services offered, plus a description of how the project developed over two years.

Enabling Programs and Services

1. Education

Two presentations, totaling unrelated, helped to educate librarians. The first was titled "Into the Flames." Bob Nash presented on the destruction of books by fire that has been carried out throughout the world for over 2000 years. Bob discussed who burns books and why and listed titles that have been burned, past and present. Another presentation by Sue Ann Gardner titled "Need to Write a Paper" informed the group on the value of literature reviews and how to prepare one.