

VITA

Karen Dana Sobel
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Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-Chapel Hill)
Master of Science, Library Science, December 2007

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-Chapel Hill)
Master of Arts, English, May 2004
Concentrations in Twentieth-Century British, Irish, and Post-Colonial Literatures

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus
Bachelor of Arts, with Honors, English, May 2002
Minor in Psychology
Member of Phi Beta Kappa, Lambda Chapter of Pennsylvania

Professional Experience

Research & Instruction Librarian
Auraria Library, University of Colorado Denver
January 2008-present
Rank: Assistant Professor (Tenure Track)

Graduate Assistant
Instructional Services Department, University Library, UNC-Chapel Hill
May 2006-December 2007

Field Experiences
Instructional Services, UNC-Chapel Hill Libraries
Summer 2007
Creating subject-specific portals to the Libraries

Collection Development Department, Davis Library, UNC-Chapel Hill
Spring Semester 2007
Researching, selecting, and purchasing a collection of Latino literature and related works.

Cataloging Student Assistant
Latin American and Iberian Records Cataloging Department, Davis Library, UNC-Chapel Hill
January 2006-May 2006

Information Services Intern
CATO Research, Ltd., Durham, NC

July 2004-August 2005

Foreign Language Titles Cataloging Assistant

Cataloging Department, Davis Library, UNC-Chapel Hill
August 2003-June 2004

Teaching Fellow

Department of English, UNC-Chapel Hill
August 2003-May 2004

Publications

Book (Monograph)

(Forthcoming) Sobel, Karen. *Information Basics for College Students*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO. Projected publication date: May 2012. ISBN: 9781598849585.

Refereed Articles (National and International)

(Forthcoming) Roper, Kristin Grabarek and Karen Sobel. "Anonymity versus Perceived Patron Identity in Virtual Reference Transcripts." *Public Services Quarterly* 8.3(Summer 2012).

(Forthcoming) Grotti, Margaret G. and Karen Sobel. "WorldCat Local and Information Literacy Instruction: An Exploration of Emerging Teaching Practice." *Public Services Quarterly*. 8.1(2012).

Sobel, Karen and Jeffrey Beall. "Humanities Research, Book Digitization, and the Problem of Linguistic Change." *Journal of Library Innovation* 2.2(2011): 3-15.

Ferrer-Vinent, Ignacio J. and Karen Sobel. "A Study of Master of Library Science Candidates and Librarians at a Practicum Site Library." *New Library World* 112.7/8(July 2011): 365-376.

Sobel, Karen and Kenneth Wolf. "Enhancement of Existing Tools for Assessment of Learning during Library Instruction." *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, 50.3 (Spring 2011): 245-258.

Brown-Sica, Margaret and Karen Sobel. "Participatory Action Research in Learning Commons Design," *New Library World* 111.7/8 (2010): 302-319.

Brown-Sica, Margaret, Karen Sobel, and Denise Pan. "Learning for All: Teaching Students, Faculty and Staff with Screencasting," *Public Services Quarterly* 5.2(April-June 2009), 81-97.

Sobel, Karen. "Promoting Library Reference Services to First-Year Undergraduate Students: What Works?" *Reference and User Services Quarterly* 48.4(Summer 2009), 362-371.

Refereed Articles (State-Level)

Sobel, Karen. "Evaluating and Enhancing the Latino Literature Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill." *North Carolina Libraries* 67:1/2 (Spring/Summer 2009), 22-23.

Book Chapters

(Forthcoming) Sobel, Karen and Josiah Drewry. "Succession Planning for Library Instruction." In *Succession Planning and Implementation in Libraries: Practices and Resources*, ed. Kiyomi Diane Deards and Gene R. Springs. Hershey, PA: IGI Global, 2012.

(Forthcoming) Avery, Beth, Elizabeth Brodak, Julie Fronmueller, Nancy Huling, Paul M. Mascareñas, Erin McCaffrey, Sylvia Owens, and Karen Sobel. "Virtual Reference: Variations on a Theme in Academic Librarians." In *Leading the Reference Renaissance: Today's Ideas for Tomorrow's Cutting-Edge Services*, ed. Marie Radford. New York: Neal-Schuman, 2011: 181-194.

(Forthcoming) Grotti, Margaret G. and Karen Sobel. "Teaching with WorldCat Local: What's Different?" Library Orientation Series No. 44. Ann Arbor, MI: Published for the University Library, Eastern Michigan University by Pierian Press, 2011.

Thomas, Lisa Carlucci and Karen Sobel. "Stuck in the Middle with You," *The Generation X Librarian: Essays on Leadership, Technology, Pop Culture, Social Responsibility and Professional Identity*, ed. Martin K. Wallace, Rebecca Tolley-Stokes, and Erik Sean Estep. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2010: 49-57.

Evans, Lorrie, Nina McHale, and Karen Sobel. "Apples and Oranges: Creating A Hybrid Virtual Reference Service with Proprietary Chat Reference Software and Free Instant Messaging Services." In *Reference Renaissance: Current and Future Trends*. Ed. Marie L. Radford and L. David Lankes. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2010: 163-173.

Refereed Product Review Articles

Evans, Lorrie, Nina McHale, and Karen Sobel. "Review: LibraryH3lp." *The Charleston Advisor* 10.4(April 2009), 25-29.

Evans, Lorrie, Nina McHale, and Karen Sobel. "Review: LibGuides." *The Charleston Advisor* 10.3(January 2009), 47-49.

Non-Refereed Articles

Sobel, Karen. "Guest Editor's Intro: Great Librarians in the Making." *Colorado Libraries* 35.4(2011). Web. 15 September 2011.

Sobel, Karen and Ignacio J. Ferrer-Vinent. "Academic Reference Serving a Diverse Student Body Thrives at the Auraria Library: A Case Report." *Colorado Libraries* 35.1 (2010). Web. 7 July 2010.

Sobel, Karen. "Bringing Freshmen to the Reference Desk." *Marketing Library Services* 22.3(May/June 2008): 1+.

Book Reviews in Print

Sobel, Karen. Rev. of *India: A Portrait*, by Patrick French. *Library Journal* 136.12 (2011): 91.

Sobel, Karen. Rev. of *The Indonesia Reader*, ed. Tineke Hellwig and Eric Tagliacozzo. *Library Journal*, 1 April 2009.

Sobel, Karen. Rev. of *Married to a Bedouin*, by Marguerite van Geldermalsen. *Library Journal*, 1 October 2008.

Sobel, Karen. Rev. of *Marrying Anita: A Quest for Love in the New India*, by Anita Jain. *Library Journal* 1 May 2008.

Book Reviews Online

Sobel, Karen. Rev. of *Library Blogging*, by Karen A. Coombs and Jason Griffey. Published online by *Colorado Libraries*, October 2008.

Sobel, Karen. Rev. of *Access to East European and Eurasian Culture: Publishing, Acquisitions, Digitization, Metadata*, ed. Miranda Remnek. Published online by *Colorado Libraries*, June 2008.

Sobel, Karen. Rev. of *Virtual Reference on a Budget: Case Studies*, ed. Teresa Dalston and Michael Pullin. Published online by *Colorado Libraries*, May 2008.

Citations

Reiner, Laura and Leslie Stebbins. "The JAL Guide to the Professional Literature." *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 35.6 (2009), 609-619.

Contributions.

Brown-Sica, Margaret. "User-Centered Design of Learning Spaces on a Diverse, Urban, Commuter Campus." National Diversity in Libraries Conference. July 2010. Credited as a co-researcher.

Interviewed for article: Kasowitz-Scheer, Abby. "Instruction and the Commons." *College Connection*. Interview conducted 26 March 2009. Listed as a Contributor. <http://www.sosspotlight.com/site_creator/view/421>

Presentations and Poster Sessions

Refereed

Presentation, Library Orientation Exchange (LOEX) Annual Conference, 7 May 2011, Fort Worth, TX: "Teaching with WorldCat Local: What's Different?" (With Margaret G. Grotti.)

Presentation, Computers in Libraries, April 2010, Washington, DC: "Gen X Librarians: Leading from the Middle." (With Nina McHale and Lisa Carlucci Thomas.)

Presentation, American Library Association New Members' Round Table, 11 July 2009, Chicago, IL: "Starting Out? Start With You: What Every New Librarian Needs to Know." (With Lisa Carlucci Thomas.)

Presentation, Reference Renaissance, 5 August 2008: "Apples & Oranges: A Comparison of Proprietary Chat Reference Software Versus Free Instant Messenger Services." (With Nina McHale and Lorrie Evans.)

Poster session, American Library Association Annual Conference, 28 June 2008: "Working Smarter, Not Harder: Teaching Students and Staff with Screencasting."

Poster session, Colorado Academic Library Consortium, 23 May 2008: "Why Do Freshmen Visit the Reference Desk?"

Presentation, Fourth Annual Conference on Colonialism, 3 June 2004, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland: "Golden Age Mythology and Women in Yeats and Tagore's Nationalistic Writing." Included in session titled "India and the Irish Literary Revival."

Invited

Presentation, University of Colorado Denver Master of Science in Recording Arts program, 16 November 2011, Denver, Colorado: "Preparing for Scholarly Publication." Presentation given to Lorrie Evans and Linda D. Tietjen's graduate course titled Introduction to Graduate Studies.

Presentation, Indiana University School of Library and Information Science, 28 February 2011, Bloomington, Indiana: "Assessment of Library Instruction." Presentation given to Dr. Cassidy Sugimoto's graduate course titled Evaluation of Resources and Services.

Panel Discussion, Reference Renaissance, 8-10 August 2010, Denver, CO: Untitled presentation on options for providing virtual reference. Panel of four librarians from across the United States.

Online Presentation, American Library Association Virtual Conference, 7 July 2010: "Starting Out? Start With You: What Every New Librarian Needs to Know." Reprise of our presentation from the American Library Association's Annual Conference. (With Lisa Carlucci Thomas.)

Attendance: 185.

Presentation, American Library Association Annual Conference, 26 June 2010, Washington, DC: "Starting Out? Start With You: What Every New Librarian Needs to Know." (With Lisa Carlucci Thomas.)

Attendance: 230.

Panel Discussion, American Library Association, 24 January 2009, Denver, CO: RUSA Hot Topics in Frontline Reference Services: "Beyond Meebo: New Alternatives in Instant and Text Messaging Reference Services." Panel of Denver librarians.

Campus-Wide

Panel session. "Turning the First Year Experience into an Informed Learning Journey." With Hilary Hughes, Carole Basile, John Lanning, et al. Part of the Auraria Library's Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence program. 26 April 2011.

Poster session. Evans, Lorrie, Ignacio J. Ferrer-Vinent, Karen Sobel, Diane Turner, William Tietjen, and Christy Carello. "Your Teaching Library: Partners in Mapping Source Literacy into the Metro Curriculum." Metro Spring Forum. Auraria Campus, 1 April 2011.

Connections Faculty Seminar Series: "WorldCat Local." Auraria Library, 30 October 2009. With Lorrie Evans.

Connections Faculty Seminar Series, 28 August 2009, WorldCat Local. Co-taught with Lorrie Evans.

Denver Transfer Initiative: "Where is Your Future Without the Library?" Auraria Campus, 15 May 2009. With Lorrie Evans, Orlando Archibeque, Diane Turner, and Linda Tietjen.

Connections Faculty Seminar Series: "Resources in Literature." Auraria Library, 24 April 2009. With Nikki McCaslin.

Connections Faculty Seminar Series: "What to do when your students say, 'There's nothing on my topic!'" Auraria Library, 20 March 2009. With Lorrie Evans.

Other Indicators of Scholarship

Guest editor, *Colorado Libraries* issue 35.4 (September 2011).

Reviewing and editing manuscripts for the *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*, beginning April 2010

- One manuscript edited May 2010

Reviewing and editing manuscripts for the *Journal of Web Librarianship*, beginning January 2010

- One manuscript edited January 2010

Reviewing and editing manuscripts for *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, beginning September 2009

- One manuscript reviewed and edited June 2011
- One manuscript reviewed and edited April 2011
- One manuscript reviewed and edited February 2010
- One manuscript reviewed and edited September 2009

Teaching

Semester-Long, Non-Credit

Navigating Library Research. Offered online to students at the University of Colorado Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver, and the Community College of Denver via ECollege and Blackboard. Co-taught with Lorrie Evans, Gayle Bradbeer, and Eric Baker. Offered every semester from Fall 2008 to the present.

Single-Session Library Instruction Sessions

Fall 2011

Total 31 sessions, 484 students.

Courses: Four levels of Freshman Composition, Developmental English, First-Year Seminar, Landscape Architecture (graduate level), Social Work (graduate level), Public Speaking, Asian American History, Psychological Research Methods (graduate level), Senior Seminar in American History, Recording Arts (graduate level; visiting speaker).

Summer 2011

Total 2 sessions, 43 students.

Courses: Freshman Composition, Psychological Research Methods (graduate level).

Summer 2011

Total 2 sessions, 43 students.

Courses: Freshman Composition, Psychological Research Methods (graduate and undergraduate levels),

Spring 2011

Total 20 sessions, 370 students.

Courses: Five levels of Freshman Composition, Psychological Research Methods (graduate level), Public Administration (graduate level), Senior Seminar in Women's Studies, Introduction to Psychology, Child Psychology, Multiple sessions for Denver Public Schools students with special needs.

Fall 2010

Total: 27 sessions, 325 students.

Courses: Four levels of Freshman Composition, Public Speaking, Human Development, Psychological Research Methods, Asian American Studies, Science Education, and numerous varied sessions of First-Year Experience courses.

Summer 2010

Total: 3 sessions, 32 students.

Courses: Two levels of Freshman Composition, resources for pre-doctoral students in Counseling

Spring 2010

Total: 16 sessions, 254 students.

Courses: Four levels of Freshman Composition, Child Development, Developmental English, Public Speaking, Asian American History, Introduction to Literary Studies (with a focus on poetry)

Fall 2009

Total: 21 sessions, 364 students

Courses: Developmental English, U.S. History I and II, two levels of Freshman Composition, urban planning, landscape architecture, public speaking, Asian American history, Psychology of Communication, and research and citation skills for international graduate students

Summer 2009

Total: 5 sessions, 68 students

Courses: Developmental English, two levels of Freshman Composition, Human Biology for Non-Majors

Spring 2009

Total: 15 sessions, 204 students

Courses: Developmental English, three levels of Freshman Composition, Research Methods in Psychology, Human Growth and Development

Fall 2008

Total: 20 sessions, 332 students

Courses: Developmental English, three levels of Freshman Composition, two Chicano Studies courses, Juvenile Justice, Introduction to International Relations, Psychological

Research Methods I, Public Speaking, Psychology of Communication, Introduction to the Study of [Spanish] Literature

Summer 2008

Total: 3 sessions, 51 students
Three levels of Freshman Composition

Spring 2008

Total: 21 sessions, 380 students
Developmental English, four levels of Freshman Composition, Introduction to Public Speaking, Statistics and Research Methods [in Psychology], Harlem Renaissance [Literature], Introduction to Literary Studies

Professional Organizations

American Library Association

2006-present
New Members' Round Table: Member

Association of College and Research Libraries

2008-present

University Libraries Section Technology in University Libraries Committee

Founding Member, 2010-present

Library Instruction Round Table: Member 2008-present

- Member of Transitions to College Committee, 2010-present
- Member of Adult Learners Committee, 2008-2010

Colorado Association of Libraries

Member 2008-present
Colorado Academic Library Association (division)

- Secretary, October 2010-present

Service

National Committees

Member, National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Working Group, Association of College and Research Libraries, November 2011-present.

College and University Committees

Member, Service Awards Committee, University of Colorado Denver, November 2010-present.

Member, Foundations of Excellence Subcommittee on Improvement, University of Colorado Denver, January 2009-December 2009

Member, Downtown Denver Campus Outcomes Assessment Committee (University-wide): 2008-present

Member, Educational Policy and Planning Committee, University of Colorado Denver, May 2008-present

Auraria Library Committees

Member, Auraria Library Informed Learning Blueprint Task Force, October 2010-present

Member, CIRCLe Initiative, October 2010-present

Member, Academic Support Subject Team, September 2010-present

Member, Web Migration Task Force, May 2010-October 2010

Member, Auraria Library Faculty Personnel Committee, May 2009-present

- Chair, May 2010-present
- Secretary, May 2009-April 2010

Member, Emerging Technologies Committee, March 2009-September 2009

Member, Learning Commons Task Force, March 2009-May 2010

Member, Service Task Force: 2008

Member, Tenure Research and Service Evaluation Committee: 2008-present

- Secretary, January 2010-present

Member, Faculty Assembly: 2008-present

- Secretary, May 2009-April 2010
- Chair, May 2008-April 2009

Member, Web Team (formerly the Web Advisory Committee): 2008-2010

Member, Auraria Library Next Generation Catalog Task Force: 2008-2009

Member, Resource Discovery and Delivery Small Group, November 2008

Alumni Groups

UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science Alumni Association.

- Director of Communications, 2010-present

Recognitions and Honors

Excellence in Librarianship Award, University of Colorado Denver, September 2011

- Received award at the Library level
- Received award at the campus level

Excellence in Service Award, Auraria Library, September 2010

- Received award at the Library level
- Nominated as candidate for university-wide Excellence in Service award

Association of College and Research Libraries, Member of the Week, 15-21 September 2008

Continuing Education

“Photoshop CS4, Level 1” course, offered by New Horizons Computer Learning Centers of Colorado, 4-5 June 2009.

“PHP Basics” course, offered by Amigos Library Services, September-October 2008.

Professional Development

Undergraduate Experiences Symposium, University of Colorado Denver, 7 October 2011. Served as a discussion leader.

Association of College and Research Libraries Immersion, Program Track, Eckerd, Florida, 26-31 July 2009.