

Curriculum Vitae

Allen C. Benson

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Education

Doctoral Student, 2008 to present
School of Information Sciences
University of Pittsburgh

University of Alabama
School of Library and Information Studies
Master of Library and Information Studies, 1993
Recipient, MLS Faculty Scholar Award

University of Minnesota
College of Liberal Arts
Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1974

Professional Experience

Washington & Jefferson College

Director of Library Services, U. Grant Miller Library (July 2002 to November 2007)

- Collaborated with faculty, staff, and students to articulate a vision for the future and to draft an aggressive strategic plan to carry the U. Grant Miller Library forward to 2007.
- Implemented new wage and salary administration resulting in increased salaries and the creation of four new positions.
- Developed new collection development and material selection policies and put into action a conspectus analysis of the collection.
- Oversaw development of new core collections in children's literature and music CDs.
- Oversaw development of planning documents in archives and special collections and information literacy.

- Project director: Creation of College's first digital library collection. Developed benchmarks for capturing digital images and digital audio clips. Extensive, hands-on experience converting LPs and reel-to-reel audiotapes to digital formats (archival quality and streaming formats), as well as converting the archive's 16mm films to digital video.
- Project director. Migration from *Classic DRA* to *Sirsi Unicorn*. Participated in raising funds to finance project, including securing grant for \$150,000 from George I. Alden Trust and private gift of \$100,000 from alumnus. Designed system to support federated searching, OpenURL link resolving, and enriched data.
- Secured \$25,000 grant from Knapp Foundation to fund proxy server and Mac design lab.
- Drafted planning documents for converting Library's collections from Dewey to LC classification. Negotiated contract with Backstage Library Works for physical reclassification. Helped secure \$100,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to finance the project.

Freelance

Writer, Composer (1974 - 2003)

Various publishers, including Schmidt, Hall & McCreary, Robert Goute, and Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc. Topics in music included onomatopoeic and coded field drumming notations and percussion solo and ensemble literature. Library-related topics have included integrating Internet-based resources and services into traditional library practices and PC security in libraries.

Arkansas State University Mountain Home

Library Director (January 1997 to June 2002)

- Served on master planning committee and assisted architects in designing new library. Actively participated in overseeing construction phase. Planned for and participated in moving library from old location to the new site.
- Project director. Migration from terminal-based ILS to Web-based *Endeavor* ILS.
- Developed new core collection in children's literature to support the B.S. degree program in elementary education.
- Codified policies and procedures for circulation, collection development, cataloging, and reference services.
- Implemented School's first Windows NT local area network; supervised the upgrade and redevelopment of the campus Website.
- Designed and directed the South Shore Memory Project, a partnership between Arkansas State University Mountain Home, public schools, and North Arkansas Telephone Company. This was a multimedia, oral history project enabling kids of all ages to document and preserve local history and culture of Ozark Mountains.

Saline County Library, Benton, Arkansas

Library Director (May 1993 to June 1996)

- Project director. Retrospective conversion, automating the main and branch libraries.
- Established one of the State's first public library Internet connections in 1993.
- Established Local Area Networks in main and branch libraries. Awarded state grant to attach LANs to Internet.
- Public serve work included monthly speaking engagements promoting new library resources and services to local, civic organizations.

School of Library and Information Studies, The University of Alabama

Graduate Research Assistant (August 1992 to May 1993)

- Supervised Information Processing Lab
- President, Student Advisory Committee.
- Editor of the library school's monthly newsletter.

Searcy County Library, Marshall, Arkansas

Library Director (February 1990 to March 1992)

- Directed daily operations of County Library.
- Responsible for budgeting, materials selection, children's programming, public relations, summer programming.

Musician, Artist in Residence

(1974-1983)

- Artist in residence, Percussionist. Augsburg College, 1974-79.
- Adjunct Instructor, Percussion. Carleton College, St. Olaf College, and University of Minnesota, Duluth, 1974-1979.
- Consultant for Columbia Studios (1982), production of "The Blue and the Gray."
- Toured with the United States Military Academy Band, West Point, New York, 1979-1982.
- Attended one semester at New York University Graduate School of Music, 1980.

Publications

- *Connecting Kids & the Web: A Handbook for Teaching Internet Use and Safety*. Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., New York, 2003.
- *Neal-Schuman Complete Internet Companion for Librarians*, Second Edition, Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., New York, 2001.
- "The South Shore Memory Project: Children Building Digital Libraries," *Arkansas Libraries* (April 2000): 14-20.
- *Connecting Kids and the Internet: A Handbook for Librarians, Teachers and Parents*. Second Edition. Co-authored with Linda M. Fodemski. Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc. 1999.
- "Building a Secure Library System," *Computers in Libraries* (March 1998): 24-29.
- *Securing PCs and Data in Libraries and Schools*. Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., New York, 1998.
- *The Complete Internet Companion for Librarians*, Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., New York, 1995.

Awards/Honors

- Awarded the Outstanding Academic Service Award, August 2000, Arkansas State University Mountain Home.
- *Library Journal* (June 15, 1998) ranked *The Complete Internet Companion for Librarians* as being one of the library profession's most outstanding pieces of literature.
- Awarded MLS Faculty Scholar Award 1993, University of Alabama.
- Awarded the Army Commendation Medal for composing original field-music marches for summer Retreat Review Ceremonies at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, 1982.

Speaking Experience

- "Challenges and Opportunities in Information Communications Technology (ICT)," Tashkent State University of Economics, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, December 30, 2003.
- "Multimedia: Applications in Education," East Arkansas Community College In-service, February 22, 2002, Forrest City, Arkansas. "
- "Digital Video Production for Libraries and Distance Education," Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges annual conference, October 15-17, 2001, Hot Springs, Arkansas.
- "Add impact to your school projects with digital sound, video, and still images," Arkansas Association of Instructional Media Convention, April 22, 2001, Hot Springs, AR.

- OzarkHistory.com: The South Shore Memory Project," Arkansas State University Mountain Home In-service, April 6, 2001, Mountain Home, AR.
- "Add impact to your digital library projects with digital sound, digital video and still images," Arkansas Library Association 2000 Annual Convention, October 9, 2000, Springdale, AR.
- "Connecting Kids and the Internet," 13th Pennsylvania Technology Conference, November 1, 1999, Harrisburg, PA.
- "Defending Against Sabotage: Security Solutions for Libraries," Computers in Libraries national convention, March 2-4, 1998, Arlington, VA.
- "Security Solutions for Libraries," Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges Annual Conference, October 15-17, 1997, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Professional Development

- *Animation*, Pittsburgh Filmmakers, 2006
- *Photographic and Filmmaking Principles*, Pittsburgh Filmmakers, 2005
- *Black & White Photography*, Pittsburgh Filmmakers, 2005
- *3M One Tag RFID System*, Columbus, OH 2004
- *Filmmaking*, Pittsburgh Filmmakers, 2004
- *XML and Libraries*, Harrisburg, PA 2004
- *Fundraising & Development*, Washington, PA, 2004
- *METADATA, an Overview: Making Sense of the Alphabet Soup*, Pittsburgh, 2004
- *Machine Learning for Text Classification and Information Organization*, Philadelphia, 2002
- *Internet Strategy and Architecture*, Philadelphia, 2002
- *Emergency Preparedness and Recovery*, Jonesboro, AR 1999
- *Preservation of New Technology/New Technology for Preservation*, Little Rock, AR 1997
- *Snowbird Leadership Institute for Librarians*, Snowbird, Utah, 1995