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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

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

No

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

No

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

Yes, Master of Public Health

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?

- Supervise 8-10 librarians and staff
- Serve on my program's management team (AELS)
- Provide administrative and operational oversight for Research Advisory Services
- Develop and implement strategies for advancing diversity, inclusion, equity, and accessibility in research advisory services

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

- Leadership
- Critical thinking
- Diplomacy
- Understanding of the Library as a whole
- Understanding of the motivations of academic users

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

Librarianship allows you to be creative, collaborative, and a life-long learner. I really like building relationships with people and doing a variety of things in a job. My current position is great for that.

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

There is a sense of energy and exploration in an academic setting. I don't think you get that anywhere else.

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

I studied Anthropology in college. I got a job working for an Archaeologist in my home town over breaks. His wife was head of a library. I was able to get my first job through this connection. Being a good employee at 18 and a lot of luck got me my first library job at age 25!

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

This is a piece of advice given to me. Getting your first job is the hardest. Just get a position, even if not a perfect fit, and go from there!

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Please contact me to further discuss my work or background.
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