
About the Contributors

JANICE M. DEL NEGRO is the editor of *The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, a monthly review journal of books for youth published through the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois. Ms. Del Negro came to the University of Illinois from the State Library of North Carolina, where she was a consultant for children's and public libraries throughout the state. Prior to this she worked for fourteen years as a children's librarian for the Chicago Public Library, including five years as Assistant Director of Systemwide Children's Services. Ms. Del Negro has reviewed for *Booklist Magazine*, *School Library Journal*, and *Kirkus Reviews* and has served on both the Newbery and Caldecott committees. Her first picture book, *Lucy Dove*, published by DK Ink, was released in Fall 1998.

ELIZABETH GREMORE FIGA is a doctoral candidate in the Graduate School of Library and Information at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her areas of research specialization are health sciences librarianship, oral history/traditions, and qualitative research methodologies. She previously worked as the administrator of a health center library and consumer health information center and has degrees in library science, public health education, and nursing. She is a storyteller, a storywriter, a co-founder of Inner Voices Social Issues Theatre, and currently works in an academic professional position in the Graduate College, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

BETSY HEARNE teaches children's literature and storytelling in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A former children's book review editor for *Booklist* and *The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, she has lectured and written widely on children's books and folklore. Ms. Hearne's articles include

"Patterns of Sound, Sight, and Story: From Literature to Literacy," and "Disney Revisited: Or Jiminy Cricket, It's Musty Down Here!" She is the author of *Choosing Books for Children: A Commonsense Guide* and *Beauty and the Beast: Visions and Revisions of an Old Tale* and the editor of several other books. In addition, Hearne has published five novels for children, two collections of poetry for young adults, and the critically acclaimed picture book *Seven Brave Women*.

MELANIE A. KIMBALL is a second year doctoral student at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her areas of interest include the history of libraries, particularly children's services in public libraries, children's literature, and cataloging and classification. Ms. Kimball is also a research assistant at the Center for Children's Books at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

SARAI LASTRA is a third year doctoral student in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, a master's degree in quantitative psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a master's in library science from Dominican University. Her research interests are in the areas of individual difference, cognition, and information retrieval; cultural appropriation of technology; and the management and design of information retrieval systems for children.

LINNEA MARTIN is Assistant Director of Development in the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is enrolled in the Certificate of Advanced Study Program in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she received her M. S. in Spring 1997. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hiram College and an M. S. in art education from Pennsylvania State University.

CECELIA MERKEL is a Ph.D. student in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Ms. Merkel is a member of the LEEP Virtual Community Project that is studying a distance education program in the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois. Ms. Merkel has taught Internet skills to undergraduates at the University of Illinois and to low-income residents of the Champaign-Urbana community through the Community Networking Initiative (CNI). Her research interests include exploring the social context and practices surrounding technology use and training in educational settings.

LAURA J. NEUMANN is a doctoral student in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her interests include knowing how information work happens and how information is located, stored, circulated, and used in daily work. Ms. Neumann has worked for four years on the Illinois' Digital Library Initiative's Social Science Team and has co-authored several papers on that project. She is currently beginning her thesis research on the work practices of humanities scholars.

KEVIN POWELL is the Project Director of the Interspace Research project in the CANIS (Community Architectures for Network Information Systems) laboratory in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Interspace Research Project is developing a prototype environment for semantic indexing of multimedia information in a testbed of real collections. Additionally, he is a doctoral student in GSLIS, and his research interests include computer-supported cooperative work and human computer interaction as they relate to information retrieval systems.

BERNIE SLOAN is Senior Library Information Systems Consultant in the Office for Planning and Budgeting at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Mr. Sloan was instrumental in the establishment of the ILLINET Online network in Illinois. He is also a doctoral student at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

TONYIA J. TIDLINE is a doctoral student at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has an M.L.S. from the Kent State School of Library and Information Science and an M.A. in public administration from The Ohio State University. Her scholarly interests include research methodology and processes applicable to library and information science. She is also personally and professionally committed to encouraging dialogue between practitioners and scholars in the discipline. Her dissertation will focus on social network analysis of communication and planning operations of the Center for Library Initiatives, a program of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, headquartered at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.