

BIBLIOBIOS SOCIAL CAMPAIGN

lib.ku.edu/bibliobios

In 2023, KU Libraries launched a new digital media series, BiblioBios, to feature vignette profiles of new KU faculty. We conceived the effort as a way to introduce five newly hired librarians to help them build connections across campus with KU students and faculty. We paired a brief online profile article with a series of images and personal quotes across our social media platforms. The series proved to be popular and boosted our overall social media engagement to such a degree that we now plan to continue BiblioBios well beyond new hires, shining a spotlight on KU Libraries faculty and staff who support the academic success of KU students across all of our campus locations.



BiblioBios: Cecilia Zhang
BiblioBios shine a light on the people behind the collections, programs and services in KU Libraries.

Cecilia Zhang is a librarian specializing in Chinese Studies books, databases and journals, supporting faculty members in their teaching and research. Zhang came to KU in October 2022 after earning her two master's degrees in art history and information and her bachelor's degree in East Asian Studies, all at the University of Toronto.

Zhang participates in lectures and creates quizzes and class content that teaches research methods. Zhang also takes reference requests about dissertations, books, journals and databases from faculty members or students. She also helps KU Libraries grow the East Asian collection by buying new books and adding material.

"I hope there are more people that know we have an East Asian Collection and we have a lot of resources here."

- Cecilia Zhang, Chinese Studies Librarian



BiblioBios: Heather Mac Bean
BiblioBios shine a light on the people behind the collections, programs and services in KU Libraries.

From the city planner's office to the Shulenburg Office of Scholarly Communications & Copyright, Heather Mac Bean's positions may have changed drastically over the years, but the common goal of serving the public has remained the same. Mac Bean is KU Libraries' Open Education Librarian.

Mac Bean provides information and resources to the KU campus regarding open educational resources (OER), open education practices, Creative Commons licensing, and consultations on copyright. She's no stranger to KU Libraries as she spent over seven years as the Licensing & Rights Management Specialist in the Acquisitions & Resource Sharing Department. In her previous role, Heather reviewed licenses for electronic resources and helped negotiate deals with publishers, putting to use skills honed over 25 years in her previous career as a city planner in central Iowa.

"KU Libraries have been at the forefront of (the open access) movement across the country."

- Heather Mac Bean, Open Education Librarian



BiblioBios: April Friedl

BiblioBios shine a light on the people behind the collections, programs and services in KU Libraries.

What do KU basketball forward Jalen Wilson's shot chart, a COVID-19 outbreak dashboard, Snapchat's Snap Map and Douglas County's interactive property viewer have in common? They all utilize some sort of geographic information system (GIS) – a spatial system that creates, manages, analyzes, and maps all types of data – to highlight the intersection of data and location.

April Friedl joined KU Libraries last fall, bringing a wide range of experience in GIS, data management, cartography, programming, and spatial analysis to the services provided in Watson Library, specifically the GIS & Data Lab on the fourth floor. KU Libraries support mapping and geographic information systems (GIS) for teaching, learning, and research.



“If your data has a location component, we can map it. A lot of people don't realize that I'm here to help everyone on the KU campus – professors, students, researchers – with their GIS needs.”

- April Friedl, Senior GIS Analyst



BiblioBios: Gwen Geiger Wolfe

BiblioBios shine a light on the people behind the collections, programs and services in KU Libraries.

Gwen Geiger Wolfe is celebrating one year as KU Libraries' Science and Engineering Librarian, having joined the faculty in April 2022 as part of the Collections Strategy and Development unit. Her role is largely to develop the science collections, but also provide instruction and consultation for faculty and students.

Gwen came to KU after serving as an adjunct faculty librarian and health sciences liaison at Metropolitan Community College – Penn Valley. There she served in a variety of roles including reference service, information literacy instruction, collection development, and outreach and engagement. Her other roles in libraries include cataloging a 10,000-item children's school library and serving as the first Information Services and Health librarian at Lawrence Public Library.



“It's amazing to be able to support the transformative work of KU students, faculty, and staff, that will contribute to making our world a better place. Now more than ever, we need minds focused on the future and the ways that interdisciplinary science can help solve problems.”

- Gwen Geiger Wolfe, Science and Engineering Librarian



BiblioBios: Phil Cunningham

BiblioBios shine a light on the people behind the collections, programs and services in KU Libraries.

As new Kansas Collections Curator Phil Cunningham has familiarized himself with the holdings in Spencer Research Library, his discoveries have ranged from the lighthearted: Brown County awarding a high school diploma to a pony named Pansy in 1931; to the slightly more serious: the Agnes T. Frog Collection which highlights original concerns with the South Lawrence Trafficway and a county commission write-in campaign for a frog in 1986; to the deeply personal: collections related to the African American experience in the state.

Collectively, they provide one of the early highlights of his new post, “The joy of learning something new every day.”



“I work to support preservation and access to the collections held at Spencer, team up with instructors to connect students to the multitude of resources available here, and work with donors to help the Kansas Collection grow.”

- Phil Cunningham, Kansas Collections Curator

