Curriculum Connection: connecting the Alice Hagar Curriculum Center with the UW-L School of Education. This is the first newsletter from the Curriculum Center. Find out what is happening in the center, the latest news, new books and resources, events coming up, services offered, a few historical fun facts, and especially what we can do to better serve and work with you, your students and anyone interested in education resources.

Changes for 2013!

There are changes in the library! People, space and things!

People: John Jax has been our interim director since Anita Evans retired last summer. He keeps us afloat with his steady and constant leadership. The new director, Catherine Lavallée-Welch, arrives later this spring (see page 2).

Space: Change is imminent, they say! We have three big changes happening on the 2nd floor of the library. The Learning Center is expanding across from the Curriculum Center. If you stick your head upstairs, it is a work in progress, but soon to be an open and welcoming center for all students. The School of Ed is creating a 21st century state-of-the-art learning technology space in room 273. We will see more students and instructors walk through the library on their way to class--it’s just a tiny detour to stop and check out new books in the Curriculum Center! The final space update on the 2nd floor is a plan to build more group study rooms, which students place as priority #1. We are in the midst of some creative brainstorming and negotiation at the moment.

Things: The children’s and YA book awards were announced recently. It’s always an exciting moment for us. Karen is busy ordering these award winners for our expanding and outstanding collection.

What can we do for you? A reminder!

Help select books, create guides and children’s literature book lists on subjects and themes for easy access, teach literacy skills, how to find research resources, introduce specific web sites and databases, collaborate for collection development that reflects teaching faculty's needs and research, provide programming for classes and the greater education community and give tours of the center. We are, of course, enthusiastic and open to your suggestions too!

Don’t hesitate to contact us: Teri Talpe, Curriculum Librarian: ttalpe@uwlax.edu office phone 5-8944 and Karen Lange: Library Advanced Curriculum Assistant klange@uwlax.edu office 5-8509.
Our annual STEMSS workshop day for students, instructors and area teachers is coming up! Save the date: Monday, March 11 in the Alice Hagar Curriculum Center, Murphy Library from 2:00 pm-5:30 p.m. As usual, Tim Gerber is the mastermind behind the new award-winning books that we order. This is your chance to peruse the best of the best and introduce your teacher candidates to these amazing books. Take a minute to watch this video of how UW-L creates bridges with the community and public schools to prepare children and young adults for the 21st century. The collection is unique, expanding and fascinating!

Another annual event in the Alice Hagar Curriculum Center that showcases our growing multicultural collection is the Multicultural Children’s Literature program, co-sponsored by the School of Ed. In its 7th year, 2013 will feature a collaboration with Northwoods International Elementary and focus on North America. Thomas Peacock, a member of the Ojibwa Tribe, professor at Winona State and author of numerous books for children and young adults, will be our guest. The event is scheduled for April 16-17. Details are in the works--it will be a grand event, as usual!

Catherine Lavallée-Welch will arrive on May 1st to assume her duties as our new Murphy Library Director. Catherine is originally from Montreal and is currently the library director at the University of South Florida in Lakeland. She built that library from the ground up and therefore has great creative ideas and experience to bring to Murphy Library. We are all looking forward to working with her. Our interim director, John Jax, has been doing a fabulous job and we are extremely grateful for his calm and friendly presence during this time of change in the library.