

Jennifer Nicole Sias

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EDUCATION

- [M. A. MARSHALL UNIVERSITY](#), Huntington, WV. M.A. in Humanities. May 2003. Summa Cum Laude. Concentration in literature and writing.
- [M.S.L.S. UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY](#), Lexington, KY. Master of Science in Library Science. August 1996. Summa Cum Laude. Concentration on public services, academic libraries, general reference sources, online/CD-ROM searching.
- [B.A. MARSHALL UNIVERSITY](#), Huntington, WV. May 1992. Language Arts (5-12) and Journalism Education (9-12) / News-Editorial. Magna Cum Laude. Outstanding Student Teacher of the Year 1992. President, Omicron Delta Kappa. Vice-President, Sigma Tau Delta.

EXPERIENCE

- Associate Professor, Digital & Information Literacy Librarian - Marshall University, Huntington, WV 25755. June 2008 to present.

As part of the new [Digital Learning Team](#) under the supervision of Dr. Monica Brooks, work with librarians Floyd Csir and Sabrina Thomason a number of information and digital literacy initiatives, including developing online instructional modules, embedded librarianship programs and embedded-lite (not a semester-long commitment like our embedded program but more extensive than traditional one-shot library orientation sessions). Serve as embedded librarian in all sections of JMC 102: Information Seeking and Gathering. Serve as resident embedded librarian with the Marshall University Writing Project. With Csir and Thomas, worked on three major initiatives in the summer and fall of 2008: embedded librarianship, online information literacy modules and library roadshows. Continue to participate in Drinko Library Reference Desk service on weekends. Continue to maintain [Journalism Research Guide](#). Serve as library liaison to the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Serve on numerous library and university-wide committees, including the Library Faculty Review Committee and Faculty Senate. Serve as Secretary of Faculty Senate August 2008-current. With Carroll Wilkinson, Director of Instruction and Information Literacy at WVU, developed the blog [Information Literacy in West Virginia](#) and continue to serve as blog administrator. Continue to pursue new and diverse applications of [vodcasting](#) and [podcasting](#).

- Associate Professor, Information Literacy Librarian - Marshall University, Huntington, WV 25755. August 2006 to June 2008.

Developed, implemented and led information literacy efforts for Marshall University. Participated in library instruction program and taught a majority of the library's instruction sessions, including information literacy sessions for

MCTC. Developed the embedded librarian initiative and served as an embedded librarian in various courses, including LAS 280 with Dr. Donna Donathan and JMC 102 with Sandy Savage-York. Served as a library liaison to the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications and to the Department of English. Offered reference assistance to students and other patrons in person at the Drinko Library Reference desk and throughout library. Answered reference queries by phone, email and instant messenger. Developed and regularly updated [Journalism Research Guide](#). Served on numerous library and university committees, including serving as Secretary of the Library Faculty Organization, Secretary of the University Functions Committee and prior to that Secretary and Chair of Academic Planning.

- Associate Professor, Instruction/Reference Librarian - Marshall University, Huntington, WV 25755. January 1998 to August 2006.

Hired in January 1998 at Assistant Professor level as User Education/Reference Librarian. Over the years, title changed to Instruction/Reference Librarian. Spring 2003 - promoted to Associate Professor level. Led and coordinated the user education program, provided traditional and electronic reference services, served as liaison to the College of Education and Human Services and Department of English, provided curriculum development, created/edited print and online subject guides and multimedia library modules, served as webmaster for the user education webpage, administered the user education schedule, and assisted peers in teaching methods and content. Provided direct service to library patrons in locating library resources, conducting research, searching the Internet, web databases and CD-ROM databases as well as traditional paper sources. Assisted in reference collection development, database searching, and participated in the evening/weekend rotation.

- Adjunct Faculty/School Library Media Program - College of Education and Human Services, Marshall University. Team-taught ITL 401/501: History of Libraries and Informational Retrieval Systems. Fall 2001 to 2002.
- Adjunct Faculty/Internet Specialization Program, Marshall University Community and Technical College. Taught CT 109, Research on the Internet. Spring 1999 to spring 2000.
- Assistant Reference and Instructional Materials Center Librarian - Drain-Jordan Library, West Virginia State University, Institute, WV 25112. August 1996 to January 1998.

Managed the Instructional Materials Center, which serves education students and faculty. Participated in collection development. Offered instruction in locating library resources, conducting research, searching the Internet, web databases and CD-ROM databases. Prepared handouts and instructional aids. Served as a liaison to the Departments of Education and English. Provided reference services to undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff, and community members. Supervised para-professionals and student workers.

- Library Intern -Lexington Public Library, Lexington, KY 40507. August 1995 to August 1996.

Worked in Reference for five months and on the reference desk on a daily basis. Conducted reference interviews in person and via telephone reference. Worked for three months in Technical Services. Ordered children's materials, processed serials, catalogued and processed materials. Worked in a branch of Lexington Public Library for three months and gained additional experience in reference, worked in circulation and in the children's department. Presented children's programs and conducted story hours.

- Professional Field Experience -Research and Information Services, Margaret I. King Library, Lexington, KY 40506. January 1996 to May 1996.

Worked in reference and completed training for graduate assistants including orientation to the LC/Dewey collections, NOTIS, desk and ready reference materials, OPAC, and maps. Developed a competency with InfoTrac, Silverplatter sources, OCLC FirstSearch, ERIC, and Netscape.

Offered bibliographic instruction, staffed the reference desk and telephone reference, conducted reference interviews, assisted end-users in locating desired information, and consulted professional staff in problem-solving techniques.

- Teacher - Paul G. Blazer High School, Ashland, KY 41102. August 1993 to May 1995.

Teacher of English/Language Arts: Taught literature and composition to freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Designed and taught specialized units involving the writing process, African American literature, and journalism. Served as advisor to the National Honor Society. Represented the English Department and played an integral role in designing the high school's Transformation Plan. Served as the liaison between Ashland Independent Schools and the Marshall University Writing Project. Judged regional academic writing competitions. Presented writing across the curriculum workshops to the faculty.

- Teacher - Lawrence County High School, Louisa, KY 41230. August 1992 to May 1993.

Teacher of English/Language Arts: Taught literature and composition to freshmen, sophomores and juniors. Designed and taught specialized units involving the writing process, poetry, creative writing, and short stories. Served as advisor to The Bulldog, the school's student newspaper. Developed a parts of speech unit involving a puppet theater and facilitated plays. Served as the school's Writing Across the Curriculum coordinator. Functioned as the liaison between Lawrence County High School and the Marshall University Writing Project.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT

- UNI 101: University 101. Fall 2004 to Fall 2007.
- PLT 281. Floyd Csir and I were recruited to develop this introductory information literacy online course for MCTC. Fall 2008.
- HON 396: Tell Me a Tale: The Culture of Storytelling in Oral History, Narrative Journalism and Literature. Developed and team-taught honors course with Dr. Karl Winton. Spring 2005.
- ITL 401/501: History of Libraries and Informational Retrieval Systems. Developed and team-taught with Judith Arnold. Fall 2001 to 2002.
- CT 109: Research on the Internet. Spring 1999 to spring 2000.

PRESENTATIONS

- "[Information Literacy in West Virginia: The Conversation Continues](#)" with Carroll Wilkinson, Director of Information Literacy and Instruction at WVU, at the West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference on Dec. 5, 2008.
- "YouLearn: Podcasts and Vodcasts in Education" with Dr. Laura Little at the 2008 West Virginia Higher Education Technology Conference in Morgantown, West Virginia, September 2008.
- "Library Resources and Services - a Presentation for New Faculty" with Dr. Brooks in August 2008.
- "From Passion to Practice: Creating a Common Reading Program to Unite Campus and Community and the Lessons We Learned" with Christine Lewis at the Appalachian Studies Association Annual Conference, March 30, 2008.
- "Common Reading Programs" with Michelle Duncan and Judi McIntyre at the West Virginia College Student Retention Conference, March 18, 2008.
- "Law & Order: The Embedded Librarian, the College Professor and Information Literacy." Marshall University Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, February 8, 2008.
- "Marshall University Libraries Information Literacy Plan Draft" presented to Information Literacy Committee, Library Faculty and Dean of Libraries. November and December 2007.
- "Assignment Design and Information Literacy" with Sabrina Thomas on Feb. 23, 2007 for the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning.
- Created the blog "Information Literacy at Marshall University," later renamed "Information Literacy in West Virginia" when WVU counterpart Carroll Wilkinson agreed to collaborate and share ideas related to information literacy at Marshall University and West Virginia University and in higher education. <http://stockard02.edublogs.org/> With Carroll Wilkinson, presented a session at the WVLA Annual Conference highlighting collaboration and experimentation through the blog.
- "Digitizing Appalachia: Creating Family and Community Memoirs through Digital Technology" at the March 2007 Appalachian Studies Conference in Tennessee.
- "[Videotaping Your Family History](#)" on three different dates for Kanawha County Public Libraries in March 2007.
- Filmed by the West Virginia Library Commission while presenting "[Videotaping Your Family History](#)." The Commission turned presentation into a DVD and distributed copies to every public library in the state of West Virginia. Commission used presentation and video to promote and complement Ken Burns' documentary *The War* which aired on PBS in fall 2007.
- Coordinate the yearly New Faculty Orientation to MU Libraries 2001 to present.

- "Plagiarism and the Internet" - Presentation with Judith Arnold for new faculty. October 17, 2004.
- "The Next Step: Building a Center for Online Library Assistance" - Presentation with Judith Arnold at the West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference. December 2003.
- "Detecting Plagiarism" - Presentation with Judith Arnold for all faculty. February 28, 2003.
- "Detecting Plagiarism" - Presentation with Judith Arnold, Bradley Ridpath and Janet Badia for new faculty on the topic of plagiarism. November 8, 2002.
- "What Are We Going to Teach Them This Fall?" Presentation with Judith Arnold for librarians and library staff, who participate in offering library instruction for University and Honors 101.
- "Library Instruction for University and Honors 101 for fall 2002." Presentation with Judith Arnold for new University and Honors 101 instructors. May 2002.
- "Bringing the Library to the Students: Using Technology to Deliver Instruction & Resources for Research." Presented with Judith Arnold and Jingping Zhang at the Tenth Off Campus Library Services Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio in April 2002.
- "Bringing the Library to the Patron." Co-presented with Judith Arnold at Kanawha County Public Library's Professional Development Day, November 2001.
- "Privacy Issues in the Library." Moderated session with Judith Arnold for Cabell County Public Library's Staff Development Day, November 2001.
- "Censorship in the Classroom: Presenting, Talking and Writing About Controversial Art." Presentation for the Marshall University Writing Project, June 2001.
- "Bringing the Library to the Patron." Co-presented with Judith Arnold at WVLA's Spring Fling Conference in Flatwoods, West Virginia, April 2001.
- "Activating Students by Cross-Cutting Departments: A Librarian and a Writing Instructor Collaborate." Co-presented with English instructor Marcia Booth at the Two-Year College English Association Southeast Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in March 2001.
- "Technology Cross-Cutting Departments: A Librarian and a Writing Instructor Collaborate." Co-presented with English instructor Marcia Booth at the WVNET 2000 Conference (November 2000) in Morgantown, West Virginia. Paper published in WVNET Conference Proceedings.
- "Searching Traditional and Electronic Library Resources." Presentation for the Marshall University Writing Project. Summer 2000.
- "Teaching Toni Morrison's The Bluest Eye." Co-presented with Dr. Shirley Lumpkin for future teachers of English, Marshall University. Spring 2000.
- "Basic Library Research." Multi-media presentation taped and made available for broadcast via Web-CT. Spring 2000.
- "VTLS Search Tricks." Presentation for Marshall University Libraries staff development. June 1999.
- "Searching Traditional and Electronic Library Resources." Presentation for the Marshall University Writing Project. June 1999.
- "Developing the John Marshall Webliography." Presentation at the John Marshall Planning Conference, April 1999.

- "Basic Library Research." Presentations for Cammack Middle School. Spring 1999.
- "Teaching the Information Explosion: Moving from Lecture to Lab," co-presented with Dr. Celene Seymour, Associate Director of Marshall University Libraries. Presentation/Workshop. December 1998.
- "Active Listening, Oral and Written Communication Skills." West Virginia Libraries' Academic Libraries Division. August 1998.
- "Active Listening and Communication." Marshall University Writing Project. June 1998.
- "Library Communication Skills." Marshall University Libraries' Spring Break Workshops. March, 1998.
- "Plagiarism and the Internet." Panel Discussion. West Virginia Library Association's Spring Fling. March 1998.

PUBLICATIONS AND PROJECTS

- [Vodcasts](#) - video podcasts on various subjects created and published via YouTube.
- [Podcasts](#) - audio podcasts on various subjects created and published via Gcast.
- [Marshall University Libraries - YouTube Video Series](#) - Videos related to research at Marshall University Libraries.
- "Common Reading Program Gets Freshmen on the Same Page." *Marshall University Parent Resource Magazine*. Fall 2007.
- "Princess Butterfly Wins Cow Crown; Great-Granddaughter of Manchin's Teacher Shows Best-Dressed Bovine at State Fair." *The Charleston Daily Mail*. August 21, 2007. Photo also published.
- "MU Freshmen, President Kopp to March on Sunday, Event Will Mark the Beginning of Innovative 'One Book' Program." *The Charleston Daily Mail*. August 17, 2007.
- "Kids Raising Kids: Caring for and Showing Goats a Great Experience for Youngsters." *The Herald Dispatch*. July 27, 2007. Five photos also published.
- "Community Education: MCTC Offers New Woodworking Class." *The Herald Dispatch*, date. Two photos also published.
- "Laymen Get Taste of Boot Camp, Recruiters Hope Visit Will Help Those Who Guide Young People in Choice of Career Paths." *The Charleston Daily Mail*, December 22, 2006. Photo also published.
- "Training Exercises Made Big Impression on Group." *The Charleston Daily Mail*, December 22, 2006.
- "MU Faculty, Staff Spend Day with 130th Airlift Wing." *The Herald-Dispatch*, October 29, 2006. Photo also published.
- Two articles related to the West Virginia Library Association published (one about author Jeannette Walls and one about librarian Nancy Pearl, inspiration for Librarian Action Figure). *The Herald-Dispatch*, October 2006.
- "Three Times a Nanny." *The Herald-Dispatch*, July 2006. Photo also published.
- "Does Anyone Need Help Out There? Lessons from Designing Online Help." *Internet Reference Services Quarterly*. 9.3/4(2004): 115-134. Authored article with Judith Arnold, Floyd Csir and Jingping Zhang.
- Master's Thesis: "Telling God's Sanction: Storytelling in the Narrative Journalism, Memoirs and Creative Nonfiction of Rick Bragg." Thesis defended

- April 23, 2003. Published: <http://www.marshall.edu/etd/masters/sias-jennifer-2003-ma.pdf>
- Coordinated the [SAILS](#) assessment (assessment of college students' information literacy skills) for Marshall University Libraries. 2003-2004.
 - Arnold, Judith, Jennifer Sias, and Jingping Zhang, "Bringing the Library to the Students: Using Technology to Deliver Instruction & Resources for Research." *Journal of Library Administration* 37(2002): 27-37.
 - First John Marshall Webliographer. <http://www.marshall.edu/johnmarshall/>
 - Authorship of the User Education webpage for Marshall University Libraries. <http://www.marshall.edu/libedu/>
 - Authored and update numerous instruction plans, brochures, handouts, pathfinders and online subject and research guides. January 1998 to present.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Jennifer has continued to enhance her Web 2.0 knowledge and skills by learning about and experimenting with video and audio applications, including podcasting and vodcasting. Her work-related video and audio productions have been enhanced by lessons she learned in 2008 through her work as a vodcast volunteer for the Hillary Clinton campaign. Using her own time, equipment and her journalistic background, Sias attended several of Senator Clinton's campaign events in West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky where she interviewed voters, video taped the event and produced video podcasts, many of which were featured on Senator Clinton's website. Clinton's Internet Director was so impressed with Sias's work that she arranged for Jennifer to attend several of the senator's events as Press. The campaign arranged for Jennifer to have exclusive access for her video projects, and recently even granted Jennifer a one-on-one interview with Senator Clinton backstage. At this event, in Hazard, Kentucky, where [Senator Clinton campaigned on behalf of Barack Obama and Joe Biden](#) as well as for Bruce Lunsford, Clinton even talked with Jennifer about "the Thundering Herd!" Some of the vodcasts Sias produced, including exclusive interviews with [West Virginia Senator Jay Rockefeller and Governor Joe Manchin](#), presently can be viewed on Clinton's website (*update - archived copies available upon request in the event that Clinton, who has been nominated as Secretary of State, discontinues this website):

- <http://blog.hillaryclinton.com/blog/main/2008/11/03/231004>
 - <http://blog.hillaryclinton.com/blog/main/2008/10/11/000942>
 - Sias's vodcast channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/stockard02>
 - Sias's podcast channel: <http://www.gcast.com/u/stockard02/main>
- Jennifer's vodcasting also attracted the attention of West Virginia Public Radio, whose news director called her and asked her to do some freelance reporting on election night. Part of her interviews ([Huntington Women Reflect on Obama Election](#)) were featured on West Virginia Public Radio's "West Virginia Morning" on November 6, 2008 as well as on their website:
 - <http://www.wvpubcast.org/newsarticle.aspx?id=5972>
 - Full interviews here: <http://www.gcast.com/u/stockard02/main>
 - Pacifica Radio asked Jennifer to conduct interviews on-site during the September 20, 2008 "Race, Politics & Stereotypes in West Virginia Conference" at Marshall University. Part of her interviews were featured in Pacifica Radio's report "[Election Unspun.](#)" Complete interviews are available here: <http://www.gcast.com/u/stockard02/main>

RESEARCH

- Research in journalistic writing, narrative journalism, storytelling, memoir, journalism history, new journalism and all works by Rick Bragg, resulting in master's thesis: "Telling God's Sanction: Storytelling in the Narrative Journalism, Memoirs and Creative Nonfiction of Rick Bragg." Thesis defended April 23, 2003. Published: <http://www.marshall.edu/etd/masters/sias-jennifer-2003-ma.pdf>
- John Marshall Webliography. Webliographer, Webmaster and Researcher. March 1998 to August 2000.

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Possesses excellent oral and written communication skills. Speaks comfortably in front of groups. Possesses dynamic and creative classroom instructional skills. Functions comfortably in multiethnic/multicultural environments. Leads workshops proficiently.

PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPATION

Memberships and Committees

- Core Foundations Committee. Invited as visitor summer 2008. Voting member August 2008 to present.
- Faculty Senate Executive Committee fall 2008 to present.
- Faculty Senate. Fall 2008 to present
- First Year Experience Board. Spring 2008 to present
- University/Honors 101 Advisory Board. Spring 2002 to present
- University Functions Committee. 2003 to present. Secretary 2005 to present
- West Virginia Library Association, 1998 to present
- West Virginia Library Association Executive Board, 2000-2001
- College and University Division of the West Virginia Library Association, Chair 2000-2001
- Intellectual Freedom Committee of the West Virginia Library Association, 1999 to 2001
- Worked with the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the West Virginia Library Association to organize the 2000 WVLA pre-conference on Internet Filtering, at which Judith Krug served as the keynote speaker
- Marshall University Academic Planning Committee, 1998 to present, Secretary 1999-2000, Chair 2000-2001
- Marshall University Libraries Nominating Committee member, 2000 to present

Conference and Workshop Attendance

- West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference, December 2008.
- West Virginia Higher Education Technology Conference in Morgantown, West Virginia, September 2008.
- West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference, fall 2007.
- ALA/ACRL Intentional Teacher Immersion Program November 29 - December 3, 2006 in Chevy Chase, MD. Applied for this competitive program in spring 2006

- and was selected to participate in this ALA/ACRL first ever immersion program for veteran library instruction professionals who sought to examine their instruction assumptions and practices and engage in new teaching approaches.
- Marshall University's Writing Across the Curriculum weekend workshop at Cedar Lakes, Ripley. October 13-14, 2006.
 - Marshall University Fall 2006 Writing Project Digital Stories class and workshops, which took place on a series of Saturdays. Under the direction of Professor Karen McComas, learned and applied various approaches to developing digital stories and enhanced my knowledge of the software program Windows Movie Maker. Video selection available at YouTube site: <http://www.youtube.com/stockard02>
 - Respondus (WebCT) Training. July 2002.
 - Great Teachers' Institute. Selected as one of Marshall University's six faculty participants for this conference in June 2002.
 - ROPES Training. Participated in this training/workshop with other members of the Information Services Team. June 2002.
 - LOEX, May 2002 in Michigan.
 - Tenth Off Campus Library Services Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio in April 2002
 - West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference, October 2001 in Davis, West Virginia (Canaan).
 - Spring Fling, West Virginia Library Association Spring Conference, April 2001.
 - West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference, November 2000 in Charleston, West Virginia.
 - WVNET Annual Conference, November 2000 in Morgantown, West Virginia.
 - West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference, October 1999 in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.
 - Active Learning workshop sponsored by the Center for Teaching Excellence, March 2, 2000.
 - New Media Landscape. Seminar sponsored by the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism, March 9, 2000.
 - Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia (CSEGA) Conference, March 2000.
 - West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference, December 1998 in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

REFERENCES

- Dr. Monica Brooks, MU Online Director of Instructional Design, Skills, & Assessment. One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, West Virginia 25755. Phone: (304) 696-6613. E-mail: brooks@marshall.edu
- Dr. Shirley Lumpkin, Professor of English and Director of Writing Across the Curriculum, Marshall University. Corbly Hall 251, Department of English, One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, West Virginia 25755. Phone: (304) 696-2348. Email: lumpkin@marshall.edu
- Ms. Nedra Lowe, Professor of Communication, Marshall Community and Technical College. CTC 132. One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, West Virginia 25755. Phone: (304) 696-3017. Email: lowe@marshall.edu