

**The University of North Carolina at Greensboro**  
**University Libraries - Post MLS Diversity Residency**  
**Two Year Residency Report**  
**LaTasha Velez, 2010-2012**

**Introduction**

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) University Libraries has established a two-year diversity residency in order to guide and develop a new librarian's professional growth while investing in the libraries' commitment to diversity within the field of librarianship. In the first year of the program, the resident rotates between different functional areas of Jackson Library gaining valuable experience in multiple service areas of academic librarianship. The resident also participates in diversity initiatives and outreach activities for both the library and the university. The second year of the residency is designed to be spent in one department getting more in-depth experience in this area of the academic library profession.

**LaTasha Velez: 2010-2012**

LaTasha Velez was selected as the second Diversity Resident Librarian at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) from July 2010-July 2012. This report details each of the two years of her residency.

**Year One Summary**

During her first year at UNCG, LaTasha rotated between four departments within Jackson Library: Reference and Instructional Services, July 2010-November 2010; Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA), December 2010-April 2011; The Music Library, April 2011-July 2011; and Electronic Resources & Information Technology (ERIT) on August 2011 – December 2011. Her rotation highlights include:

- While working in the Reference Department LaTasha created several LibGuides including one on bullying that was shared with other University units, received compliments from the Provost among others, and was noted as being a heavily-used resource. She also assisted with several collection development projects including evaluating CREDO and Gale reference sources and recommending which of their titles to purchase and assisting in a nursing journal weeding project.
- While working with SCUA LaTasha Velez completed processing the archival records from 1907-2004 for the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and created the finding aid for those records. She also used NoteTab to write HTML/EAD codes to create finding aids for the records of University of North Carolina, Greensboro Chancellors Julius Isaac Foust, Edward Kidder Graham, and James Sharbrough Ferguson.

- While working in the Music Library LaTasha led a print journal weeding project by checking for reliable online access for journals; coordinating with the Cataloging department to de-accession print journals; measuring the amount of space that would be freed, and managing the removal of weeded items. She also wrote a planning report which included recommendations about how to best utilize the spaces in two rooms located in the Music Library basement and how to turn those rooms into useable student spaces, a budget, and recommended financing options.
- While working in ERIT, LaTasha assisted in a Tutorial Testing Assessment project. She also worked on finding ways to make UNCG's digital collections more discoverable by doing things such as linking to them off of Wikipedia pages and researching other options such as bookmarking them on Delicious or adding Facebook and Twitter badges to UNCG Libraries' webpages. She assisted with the integration of "The Carolinian" index into the "Carolinian Digital Collection" by evaluating and normalizing data already entered into the index. She also collaborated with staff members to ; write data entry procedures; determine ways to automate the addition of subject tags into issues currently online and issues to be added during 2012; and make recommendations about how lessons learned might be applied to the Coraddi and Alumni News indexing projects.

In addition to her work for each department, LaTasha was actively involved in several committees such as the Diversity Committee and the Government Documents Task Force. Other highlights of LaTasha's first year as a Resident include:

- LaTasha's involvement in the continued planning, organizing, promotion, and hosting of a Friday night concert series in the Music Library.
- LaTasha, along with Kathy Bradshaw, led a workshop during the Central Piedmont Community College Library 2011 ShareAcademy and has been selected to give both a panel presentation and poster session during the 2011 North Carolina Library Association (NCLA) Conference.
- She assisted in planning and facilitating the 2011 Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians sponsored by the libraries of Wake Forest University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the 2010 Information, Diversity, Engagement, Access and Libraries (iDEAL) Summit sponsored by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of Library and Information Studies.
- During the summer of 2011 she completed two training programs sponsored by the UNCG Human Resources Department: the Supervisory/Management Program and the Diversity Program. LaTasha was awarded a Reach21 Scholarship in June 2011 which paid for travel, registration, and a three night stay in New Orleans, LA to attend the 2011 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference where she also attended the Spectrum Leadership Institute and an Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) 2011 Librarian Scholarship which is awarded to new librarians. The scholarship covered her conference registration expenses and provided a stipend for the 2011 ACRL conference, which was held in Philadelphia, PA.

## Year Two Summary

The second year of the residency is designed to be spent in one department getting more in-depth experience in this area of the academic library profession. Due to LaTasha's interests and UNCG Libraries' desire for this residency to remain flexible so it can best prepare the resident to be successful in the library profession, UNCG Libraries altered the second year of her residency. LaTasha spent five months in Electronic Resources & Information Technology (ERIT) and finished her residency with a rotation in Administration from January 1, 2012 to July 30, 2012.

- During the last months in her ERIT rotation, LaTasha offered suggestions for improving the "Find a book by keyword", "Find a book by title", "Find a book by author", "Limit your search by format tutorials" and suggested adding a "Find a movie" tutorial to the Libraries' website. She then recorded new "Find a book by keyword", "Find a book by title", "Find a book by author", "Find a court case using LexisNexis" and "Find a movie tutorials" using Camtasia. LaTasha also made suggestions for additions/improvements to LIS LibGuide, made additions to LIS LibGuide, made suggestions for additions to new e-book LibGuide, and made additions to e-book LibGuide.
- During her rotation in Administration, LaTasha added entries to the New Faculty Publications blog and created a poster for the New Faculty Publications Reception. She also worked on several assessment projects including a survey about diversity in the libraries and surveys about how library usage relates to student GPAs as well as student retention and persistence. LaTasha's work on these assessment projects included performing literature reviews, revising surveys, analyzing the data, coding open ended questions, and creating graphs to illustrate the survey findings. She also benchmarked UNCG's Friends of the Library group against peer institutions and created a summary report based on her findings. LaTasha assisted in the design of an orientation guide for future diversity residents and served on the Diversity Resident Librarian search committee. She was part of the Music Library Technician search committee. LaTasha was also involved in curating an art exhibit to be held as part of UNCG's recognition of Veteran's Day.

Other highlights of LaTasha's second year as a Resident include:

- LaTasha remained involved in the continued planning, organizing, promotion, and hosting of a Friday night concert series in the Music Library.
- LaTasha continued to provide interview assistance to former UNCG ACE Scholars as they explored employment opportunities.
- LaTasha presented a poster at the 2012 ALISE conference.
- LaTasha became a copy editor for the Journal of Learning Spaces.
- LaTasha took advantage of the UNCG Faculty and Staff Tuition Waiver Program to take an intermediate statistics class and then applied what she learned to analyzing University Libraries surveys.
- LaTasha was officially inducted into Beta Phi Mu, the International Library and Information Studies Honor Society.

- LaTasha completed a survey she conceived as a graduate student at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) with the help of Dr. EunYoung Yoo-Lee, an Associate Professor of the School of Library and Information Sciences at NCCU. LaTasha is also assisting in writing an article regarding the findings of that survey.
- LaTasha presented at three doctoral recruitment webinars hosted by ALA's Office for Diversity.

LaTasha hoped to begin a PhD program at the completion of her residency. She was accepted into three programs with full funding at each. LaTasha has chosen the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and will begin her doctoral program Fall 2012.