

MARY ABDONEY

902 OAK HOLLOW PLACE
BRANDON, FLORIDA 33510
813.653.9294 (VOICE) 813.643.1344 (FAX)
MARYABDONEY@YAHOO.COM

19 August 2005

Leyburn Library
Washington & Lee University
Lexington, VA 24450

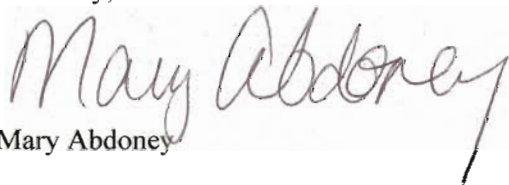
Dear Ms. O'Callaghan:

I am writing to apply for the position of Science Librarian at Washington and Lee University's Telford Library. I was delighted to discover this position on the ACRL website, because I am looking for a fulfilling place to develop my career as a science librarian. I have always admired Washington and Lee as a distinguished institution, and I would be proud to lead the science library. Of course, I have always adored the state of Virginia and would love a chance to live there.

Librarianship is my passion, especially in the sciences. I am a very driven and creative person, which makes me an ideal candidate for this position. I thrive in hectic environments, which are common in academic libraries, and I have a talent for identifying problems and solving them in an efficient manner. At my previous appointment, I maintained close relationships with the science faculty and students, and used their input to make changes in the library and in services. This communication created a continuous dialogue on current science and technology library issues, such as subscription pricing, open access publishing, and information literacy. I also found myself mentoring several students, which was a very rewarding experience. Teaching is also my passion, and I make every reference interview a teachable moment for the student. My teaching evaluations, which can be provided at your request, also prove my talent as a teacher. In addition, I have a strong interest in scholarly research and publishing, and hope to have an opportunity to continue developing my skills as a librarian.

You will find my resume and references included in this package. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



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OBJECTIVE

As Science Librarian at Washington and Lee University's Telford Library, I will provide superb service to the science students and faculty in the areas of reference, collection development, instruction, and outreach. I will also participate in campus activities, such as committee work and academic research. Communication will be a key factor in creating a dialogue among the Washington and Lee community about the importance of information literacy, technological proficiency, and the library's role in academe.

EDUCATION

1994-1999	University of Florida	Gainesville, Florida
	Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology	
2000-2001	University of South Florida	Tampa, Florida
	Master of Arts, Library and Information Science	

EXPERIENCE

2001: USGS Center for Coastal Geology Saint Petersburg, Florida
Graduate Intern: As graduate intern, organized specialized scientific materials into a usable library, including a web-based catalog. Created a specialized classification system for a collection with a very specific subject range, and created a searchable database for users to quickly locate library materials. Also performed reference and instructional duties.

2001: Tampa Bay Library Consortium Tampa, Florida
Assistant Cataloger: Worked from home on a cataloging project for academic and public libraries in the Tampa Bay area, using OCLC software.

2001-2005: Eckerd College Library Saint Petersburg, Florida
Science Reference/Interlibrary Loan Librarian: Took on many different roles as librarian, including regular reference hours, formal instruction of science students and faculty, collection development in the sciences, scholarly research, and participation in internal and external committees. Supervised staff and students in the Interlibrary Loan department, including a graduate intern from the local university. Used daily experiences to advise library policymakers on reference and collection issues. Served as a faculty member, teaching regularly in General Education program, participating in faculty committees, and serving as an evaluator on the Writing Committee.

2001-Present: E-Streams.com
Reviewer: Review science and technology reference books for an e-zine designed for collection development librarians. Reviews submitted via Internet.

SKILLS

- Proficient in database searching, especially SciFinder Scholar, WilsonWeb, GEOBASE, MEDLINE, AGRICOLA, Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts, BasicBIOSIS, PubMed, MathSciNet, and SPINWeb
- Strong knowledge of major scientific print reference sources
- Excellent teaching and supervisory skills
- Natural team leader and participant
- Strong interest in professional research and publication
- Moderate understanding of German and French

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CONFERENCES AND PUBLICATIONS

- ACRL Immersion 2002
- International Conference on Learning 2003
 - Resulted in monograph publication *Approaches to Information Literacy: Accommodating Student Needs in Higher Education*, available at <http://infolit.cgpublisher.com/product/pub.37/prod.167>
- American Library Association National Conference 2004

COMMITTEES

Member of American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, Library Instruction Section, Science and Technology Section, College Libraries Section, Alpha Xi Delta Alumnae Association