

# Survival Skills for New School Librarians

From Alice Yucht

## Seek guidance

- friendly faculty
- professional groups
- advisors AND mentors

## Have a life

- Super(wo)man isn't real
- Lunch is more than food
- Time = money

## Anticipate chaos

- Paperwork
- Plan books / logs
- Policies and procedures
  - Target audience(s)

## Read and reconnoiter

- Listen and learn
- Know your collections
- Professional resources

## Extend yourself

- The Favor Bank
- Expectations vs realities
- Courses and conferences
- Say with me. . . .

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**LM\_Net :** [http://www.eduref.org/lm\\_net/](http://www.eduref.org/lm_net/)

## Strategies for keeping up with LM\_Net:

1. Use a separate web-based email address for your subscription.
2. Access this subscription only once a day, or every other day.
3. First sort all messages by subject, and immediately delete any that don't interest you.
4. Then read what's left, and decide what you want to do with the info. (folders, tags, c&p into text files, etc.)
5. Wait at least 1 day before responding to any simple data requests -- usually someone else will have supplied the answer by that time.

Note: After a while, you'll figure out whose posts to always read, and whose to delete immediately, no matter what the subject.

If the thought of getting all that mail every day is overwhelming, consider these alternatives:

- Sign up for the Digest version, which clumps every 10 or so messages into one big one.
- Sign up for LM\_Net Select, which sends you a weekly summary of the highlights, with hotlinks to assorted posts.
- Join LM\_Net, but set your subscription to NO MAIL. You'll need to go to the archives to read posts (usually 2 days late), but you can respond to posts, or even post your own comments, without having a filled mailbox.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

My sites:

<http://www.aliceinfo.org>

<http://aliceinfo.squarespace.com>

<http://www.backflip.com/members/SLMPS>

and:

**Ten Graces for New Librarians**, by GraceAnne DeCandido

<http://www.well.com/user/ladyhawk/albany.html>