Kim Armstrong Named Executive Director of Orbis Cascade Alliance

The Orbis Cascade Alliance is pleased to announce that Kim Armstrong has been named the Executive Director, starting January 8, 2020. The Alliance is a cooperative, library consortium made up of 38 private and public colleges and universities in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Kim holds a bachelor’s degree in music education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a master’s degree in music from Appalachian State University, and an M.S. in Library Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Kim has more than twenty five years’ experience working in academic libraries and consortia, the most recent four years as Director for Library Initiatives at the Big Ten Academic Alliance, where she was a 2015 University of Illinois’ Chancellor's Academic Professional Excellence Award winner. Kim has led and managed collections, licensing and public service units and programs, and is a frequent speaker and writer on open access, scholarly communication, and large-scale collaboration.

“We’re thrilled about the opportunity to work with Kim,” said Natalie Beach, Dean, Library & Learning Resources at Chemeketa and Chair of the Orbis Cascade Alliance.

“I am honored to be selected to lead an organization with such a rich collaborative history. With the launch of a new strategic plan, The Alliance has many ambitions for deep engagement going forward,” said Armstrong. “At a time of such significant change in academic libraries, The Alliance members demonstrate that, by acting together, they are making strategic decisions that support a wide array of services and programs.”

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The Orbis Cascade Alliance (www.orbiscascade.org) is a library consortium serving academic libraries in the Pacific Northwest of the United States. The Alliance runs a shared library management system and discovery interface, supports collective purchasing agreements, facilitates access to unique and local collections, and coordinates resource sharing for its members. Formed in 2003 through the merger of Orbis and Cascade, two academic library consortia founded in the early 1990s, the consortium serves the equivalent of more than 281,000 full-time students at its 38 member institutions.

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