

Donovan Pete  
11/05/10  
IRLS 550

### Service Log 1

The branch library I chose to do my service learning is part of the Pima County Public Library system. The Martha Cooper Branch Library was opened on November 18, 2006, and provides a 7,000 square foot library to residents in Midtown area. The \$2.6 million facility was funded with County and City bonds funds and by a Community Development Block grant.

The Martha Cooper library houses a collection of 20,000 items with the focus on materials on children and teens. The library provides the community with a two meeting rooms, two study rooms, and computers with Internet access. The patrons are allowed to check out 25 items and many times are not due in a 2 month time period.

The library serves a very diverse population and nearly half of their patrons are immigrants who live in the community and attend many of their programs that would teach them how to learn English & related programs. The ethnic groups who inhabited the library ranged from Arabic, Swahili, Nepali, French, Latino and Caucasian. The library is very proud of serving such a diverse population, my concern was them not having much of a Native American population to serve but I was assured that that the population was focused at the Valencia Branch Library.

I started my first day of service learning on Friday November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010, from 2 pm to 5 pm. I had made contact with the library manager, Margaret, who was more than delighted to have an extra person to help with their activities. We decided on meeting at 3 pm would be a good time that would work for both the manager and myself. When I first entered the library I was greeted by 2 individuals who were working reference desk and were helping patrons as I approached the desk.

Margaret had scheduled my 3 hours at the library by having one of the workers show me around and show me what they do at the desk, they wanted me to meet with Mary, who was promoted to as manager to another library, and talk with her about her programming with children, young adults & teens, and lastly, I would spend the rest of the time speaking with Margaret about servicing, programming, overall information about what they and the other branch libraries do in collaborations.

Adrianna who was more than happy to give me a tour the library, the library is divided into 4 sections: the expressway, children's section, young adults/teens section, adult section and the express computers & computer lab. She explained that the children & young adults/teens have computers of their own and are strictly for their use, she said they do their best to make sure that those particular age groups do have access & are free to use it as they wish. She told me

they allow the patrons to use the laptops for up to 2 hours and if they are job searching, studying, doing assignments or doing anything school/job hunting related, they allow their users to use it the whole day. After the tour, I shadowed the librarians until the 2<sup>nd</sup> hour where I would be able to speak with Mary who specializes with children, young adults and teens.

Mary worked in the back where she was cleaning her workspace and leaving logs for other librarians to follow. She asked if I have every in the library and told me that it is a wonderful field to get into. As she spoke she brought up her work with children, young adults and teens. She told that at times he has some difficulty getting teens into their programming because how much they think they know. She laughed and continued that usually they are the ones who are involved with the library activities. She told me of the wide programs that they offer to those age groups: teen lounge, chess club, tutoring, story time in English and various languages, language tutoring and arts & crafts.

My last hour was with Margaret, when I finished talking with Mary, I went out to the desk to continue shadowing the librarians and I was called into Margaret's office. I told her in brief what my plan was after I have received my degree and I told her about 550 & she was delighted to hear about a class that focuses on the information environment of Native American and Latino communities. She went over programming, outreach, community involvement, she emphasis the face to face interaction whereas many libraries are going virtual but the human connection would be missing, she was very optimistic about the future of libraries & she talked about how the roles of librarians are changing but that is the great part about an evolving field.