

Kate Sheehan will join Darien Library as Head of Knowledge and Innovation Services on March 1, 2008. She is currently Coordinator of Library Automation at Danbury Library, blogs at loosecannonlibrarian.net, is an active speaker on Library 2.0 and social software initiatives, and has gained national recognition for implementing the first LibraryThing plug-in to a library catalog.

“We’ve known Kate for nearly three years,” said Louise Berry, Darien Library’s Director, “and have watched in admiration and respect as she’s taken a leadership role in advancing libraries’ ability to serve their patrons. She’s intelligent, passionate about library services, and communicates her ideas fluently and effectively. As we began planning for information services initiatives in the New Darien Library, we immediately thought of her, and are pleased that she shares our goal of providing extraordinary service to our patrons, in both traditional and groundbreaking ways. We’re excited she’s going to be providing the leadership in a number of critical areas as we build on the strength of Darien Library’s commitment to exceeding our customers’ expectations every day.”

Kate Sheehan received a B.A. (Major: Geology) from Smith College in May 2000, where she was elected to Sigma Xi, and received her M.S. in Library Information Science from Simmons College in December 2003, where she became a member of Beta Phi Mu. Prior to her work at Danbury Library, she held progressively more senior responsibilities for information services, technology and technical services at Ferguson Library and Hamden Public Library.

“I’m honored to join such a passionate, groundbreaking community and thrilled to work with the dedicated Library staff,” Ms. Sheehan said. “Louise Berry’s amazing vision for the Library and her drive to make the New Darien Library the best in the country have always been inspiring; when Darien hired John Blyberg as their Head of Technology, it was clear to me they would let nothing stand in their way. I am delighted to be joining the team and I look forward to the chance to contribute to the success of the Library’s goal.”

John Blyberg adds, “I’ve presented with Kate several times, and come to know her as a thoughtful, forward-thinking librarian with a practical and enthusiastic approach to her craft. She fundamentally *gets* what we’re doing at Darien Library and we are incredibly lucky to now have her part of it.”

Ms. Sheehan is scheduled to present at OCLC Capcon on March 20, 2008, on her experience with LibraryThing for Libraries, as well as at Computers in Libraries in April 2008, on Next Generation Catalogs.