

Bio

Jim Niessen is World History Librarian at Rutgers University's Alexander Library in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He earned his Ph.D in East European history from Indiana University and his MLIS from the University of Texas at Austin. He came to Rutgers after seven years as Librarian for History and Foreign Languages at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. At Rutgers his varied responsibilities include liaison and collection development for Slavic studies and European history and general reference. He has been an active member of the libraries' scholarly communication team and of the New Brunswick Faculty Council.

In the American Library Association (ALA) he has chaired the History Section and served on the Board of Directors of the Reference and User Services Association, and in the American Historical Association (AHA) he is chair of the committee for the Feis Award that recognizes achievement in the area of public history. He served from 2000 to 2006 as Vice President for Research and Publications of H-Net: Humanities & Social Sciences OnLine, and is chairman for 2006-2008 of the German-North American Resources Partnership of the Global Resources Network. He is a life member of the ALA, AHA, and the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.

Niessen has published widely in the fields of East European history and library collections work. His most recent research involves library history in Hungary and Romania and an historical dictionary of the Habsburg Monarchy. He signs his formal publications with his cataloging authority name, James P. Niessen.