KUDOS

Eric A. Kidwell, Professor, Library Director, and Title IX Coordinator at Huntingdon College, presented a talk at the annual meeting of the Alabama Library Association titled “Title IX and the Academic Library: What’s the Connection and Why Should I Care?”

Spencer Brayton, Director of Lumpkin Learning Commons at Blackburn College, was featured in the NPR article “Five Ways Teachers are Fighting Fake News.”

The Strategic Communications and Marketing Department at the Library at Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) in Alabama was recently featured on the University’s Warhawk Spotlight, “Warhawk Spotlight: Library Has AUM Covered.”


FROM THE CLS CHAIR

At ALA Midwinter, the CLS Executive Committee and the CLS committees review their first six months of activities and plan their programs and activities for the next six months leading up to ALA Annual. While recognizing the value of this mid-year deadline to both the committees and the Section, the CLS Executive Committee was wondering whether the expectation to attend two meetings a year, Midwinter and Annual, was a deterrent keeping many college librarians from participating more substantially in the Section’s work?

A number of other sections have changed their Midwinter meetings to be online with just a representative set of the Section’s leadership attending Midwinter. In-person professional meetings provide value that cannot always be replicated in the online environment, but online meetings can open up new opportunities for participation and engagement. This spring, the Executive Committee would like to start a discussion about moving to a fully online Midwinter meeting.

As a Section, we need to consider the issues carefully. The conclusions we reach should be driven by our collective vision of what the Section should accomplish in the next three to five years. What do we want the Section to be and do for college librarianship, and how can we best engage college librarians widely in that work?

Please watch ALA Connect and the CLS listserv for further discussion of this issue and ways for everyone to help shape the Section’s priorities, meeting structures, and goals for the future.

Pat Kreitz
Dean, Library & Academic Resources
Saint Mary’s College of California
CALL FOR PEER REVIEWERS

Resources for College Libraries (RCL), a copublication of CHOICE, a publishing unit of ACRL, together with ProQuest, is currently seeking subject specialists to participate as peer reviewers. RCL provides a list of 85,000+ core titles across 61 subjects that are essential for academic libraries and is available online at http://rclweb.net.

We are currently seeking experienced bibliographers to serve as referees in the following arts and humanities subject disciplines:

* American Literature
* British Literature
* Classical Languages and Literatures
* Dance
* Drama and Theater
* French Language and Literature
* General Language and Literature
* Germanic Languages and Literatures
* Italian Language and Literature
* Music
* Other Literatures in English
* Philosophy
* Religion
* Russian and Eastern European Languages and Literatures
* Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures
* Visual Arts

Referees will be responsible for comprehensively evaluating the RCL subject’s bibliographic content, along with its taxonomic organization. All referee work is scheduled for completion by August 15, 2017. Referees will receive access to the RCL database and supporting materials to complete the review.

Please consider submitting your name to participate in this one-time professional service opportunity. A past referee tells us: "I have found this peer review process for RCL to be thoroughly rewarding. I have gained valuable insight into a wealth of new and existing titles that would be an asset to any academic library collection."

To volunteer as a reviewer, send an email to Anne Doherty at adoherty@ala-choice.org with your contact information, CV/resume, and a brief description of your qualifications, particularly any experience maintaining or assessing core collections or teaching in the subject area. For more information, visit: http://rclinfo.net.

Anne Doherty
Project Editor, Resources for College Libraries
CHOICE/ACRL
UPCOMING PROGRAM AT ALA ANNUAL

Mind the Gap: Are We Finding the Skills We Need?
Sunday, June 25
8:30-10 am
Location TBD

Libraries are faced with increasing need to diversify and enhance the skills that librarians offer their constituency. This is reflected in a review of job descriptions that have been updated and renamed to better reflect new skills and competencies (services) requested by patrons, be it community stakeholders, students, faculty and researchers. Library leaders must also be aware of these changing needs in order to strategically position staffing requirements toward new skills and functionalities. Library educators recognize the need to update curriculum objectives but don't always have the feedback or information needed to appropriately make those changes. This presentation will be a panel discussion with hiring managers from different library types and LIS educators to consider the gaps in competencies and skills needed for successful employment in libraries. This discussion will address the changing needs in the workplace, as well as the profession and how library schools can adapt to meet those needs. Another goal is to highlight how practitioners can give ongoing feedback to LIS education to help transition needed modifications. At the end of the discussion, we hope that attendees will recognize the changes occurring in the skills and competencies needed by librarians and library staff in the future, and learn the related leadership skills and competencies needed from an organizational development perspective to influence future staffing needs and solutions, Identify problems within organizations regarding staffing configurations, such as generational differences, diversity and cultural blending and technical skill development and consider solutions for strengthening overall organizational staffing. Panelists for this event include Lisa O’Connor, Department Chair for Library and Information Studies Program at University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Sue Pober, Head of Information Services at Millburn Free Public Library, Aisha Conner-Gaten, former staff member and hiring supervisor at the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, and Wanda Brown, Director of O'Kelly Library, Winston-Salem State University with moderation by Michael Crumpton, Assistant Dean for Administrative Services, University Libraries at The University of North Carolina Greensboro, and Doug Diesenhaus, Interim Director of Library Human Resources at UNC Chapel Hill.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CLS MEMBER BLOG

We'd love to get to know you! Consider nominating yourself—or a colleague—to the Day in the Life of a CLS Member blog. Learn more at https://acrlcls.wordpress.com/nominate-yourself-or-a-colleague/
THREE LIBRARIANS, THREE TIME ZONES: PREPARING A PANEL SESSION FOR ACRL 2017

Librarians from Massachusetts, Kansas, and California recently collaborated on a panel presentation for ACRL 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland. Their panel, “Take the Helm, Ensign: Becoming a Campus Leader with Information Literacy Assessment,” focused on the use of the Project SAILS instrument at their institutions for course-level, program-level, and institutional-level IL assessment. Cynthia Kane, Professor and Director of Instruction and Assessment at Emporia State University Libraries and Archives, described her use of SAILS for a core skill course in the general education curriculum. Colleen Mullally, now Elementary Library Media Specialist at North Andover Public Schools, used SAILS while at Pepperdine University for a research study of student athletes enrolled in a life skills course, as well as for institutional-level assessment tied to reaccreditation. Carolyn Radcliff, Chair of Public Services at Chapman University Leatherby Libraries, touched on her library's use of SAILS for a psychology program review and reaccreditation review.

“Even though we didn't know each other ahead of time, we were able to quickly develop an effective collaboration based on respect and trust,” noted Cynthia. “We used Zoom for our preliminary planning sessions and Google Docs for sharing and adding to our materials. By the time we met in person at ACRL, we were already comfortable with one another's expertise.”

When it came to planning how to use the scheduled hour, Carolyn explained their approach. “We decided to handle the presentation as a joint venture. We wanted to break away from the structure of each person presenting about their situation, then taking questions at the end. Instead, we organized the panel around themes. For example, Cynthia and Colleen talked about developing campus relationships. Then we had attendees work on guiding questions related to that theme.”

Colleen described some of the challenges of the project. First, we had to figure out when we could all meet by video conference, which was important in developing our collaborative relationships. Being in three different time zones was a challenge, but we were able to make it work by being flexible. The second major challenge was that Carolyn was not able to speak for a portion of her remarks - a presenter's nightmare! But we had agreed to write detailed notes, so we were able to cover for her; she was able to join in again before the end.”

The panel members talked about their use of the Project SAILS assessments and touched on assessment goals, campus partnerships, working with results, and connecting with stakeholders. They developed a simple worksheet for attendees to use for planning assessment projects. All their materials -- PowerPoint, worksheet, and information sheets about SAILS and other assessments -- are available on the ACRL 2017 conference web site. Just search for "Take the Helm" in the conference schedule, or contact Carolyn Radcliff at carolyn.radcliff@gmail.com.

Left to right: Carolyn Radcliff, Cynthia Kane, and Colleen Mullally

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