



## EBSS Chair Report

*Robin Ewing, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN  
EBSS Chair 2025 - 2026*

Hello, EBSS colleagues!

I hope your fall semester is going well. I'm excited that fall is here because it's the start of the holiday candy season. Pumpkin Reese's for the win!

I am delighted to tell you all about our section in this issue of our newsletter. EBSS members and committees continue to work on exciting and interest projects to support EBSS members and the wider academic library community.

To start, I want to highlight section work that has been accomplished since the spring newsletter. At the 2025 ALA Annual Conference, we hosted two well-received discussions. On Saturday morning, Charlene Loope, chair of the Membership and Orientation Committee facilitated EBSS: Hot Topics in Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarianship. That afternoon, Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott, chair of the Education Committee, facilitated EBSS: Education Librarians Discussion. EBSS members are looking for opportunities to exchange ideas in informal settings and we are committed to providing those opportunities.

In June, the EBSS Executive Committee approved a revision to our Honorarium Guidelines. Speakers can now be offered up to \$100 and EBSS members are eligible for honorariums. Also in June, the Executive Committee worked with our ACRL Board Liaison at the time, Kara Whatley, to request a statement from ACRL on ERIC. In August, ACRL published a Statement of Support for the ERIC Database (<https://acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/statement-of-support-for-the-eric-database/>).

At our September meeting, the Executive Committee approved the revised criteria for the EBSS Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award. ACRL has finished its review of awards and the awards portal will open for nominations later this year. On behalf of EBSS, I want to extend our appreciation of the Awards Committee's work to review and revise the criteria.

The 2026 Conference Program Planning Committee submitted an ALA conference proposal titled, "Preparing Students for College: Insights on Generative AI from School and Academic Librarians." If accepted, this program will be an educational program at the 2026 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

I also want to thank the Nominating Committee for their work in presenting us with a new slate of outstanding candidates for EBSS officer positions. EBSS will be in excellent hands.

If you are interested in contributing to the work of EBSS, keep in mind that on December 1, 2025, the ACRL volunteer form used for section level committee appointments will open. All committee appointments will be made by EBSS Vice Chair, Stephen Maher. If you have questions about volunteering, please reach out to Stephen at [Stephen.maher@nyu.edu](mailto:Stephen.maher@nyu.edu).

Thanks,

Robin

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## Announcements, Updates, & Events

### *Stay Connected with EBSS on Social Media*

*Mrs. Melissa Kempski, Oakland University, Publications and Communications Committee*

Follow [@ebss.acrl](https://twitter.com/ebss.acrl) to stay current on EBSS news, member spotlights, conference and webinar announcements, and committee highlights.

Along with our Facebook page, Instagram is a space where we share and celebrate member contributions while informing you about opportunities for professional growth and community engagement.

Committees are encouraged to share their news. If you'd like something posted, please use our [Social Media Request Form](#).

For questions, contact Melissa Kempski at [kempski@oakland.edu](mailto:kempski@oakland.edu).

## *In the Know: EBSS Education Committee's Webinar Series*

*Dr. Lesley Farmer, California State University Long Beach*

Since 2019, EBSS Education Committee has provided a free monthly webinar on topics that interest education librarians as the core, but is applicable to other academic librarians and other librarians associated with education. The webinar series was established in 2015 by the Special Libraries Association Education Division, and then EBSS's Education Committee was added as co-sponsor. Our speakers—who present gratis--include librarians, researchers, and experts in other disciplines who have information that can benefit the attendees.

Representative webinar topics have addressed collection development (e.g., children's literature, graphic novels, indigenous materials), services to under-represented populations (e.g., LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, blind, incarcerated), publishing (e.g., repositories, scholarly presses, videos, podcasts), literacies (e.g., health, visual, media, digital), programming (e.g., escape rooms, high school outreach), management (e.g., risk management, mentoring, environmental scanning, advocacy), instruction (e.g., flipped classes, digital badges, Teaching-Book), and technology (e.g., tools, digital reading, AI). The webinars have been archived to some extent with SLA, but future archiving has not been determined.

The webinars are held the second Friday of each month from 12:30-1:30 Eastern time. To The remaining 2025 webinars include: Sept. 12 AI and academic integrity, Oct. 10 cybersecurity, Nov. 14 customized videos, Dec. 12 programming and nurturing communities. Click this link to join the webinar: <http://csulb.zoom.us/j//5629854509>. Registration is not required.

If you are interested in presenting, please contact [Lesley.Farmer@csulb.edu](mailto:Lesley.Farmer@csulb.edu).

# Committee and Task Force Reports

## *Awards Committee*

*Nancy O'Brien, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Chair*

Members of the EBSS Awards Committee will spend 2025/2026 implementing the nomination and selection process for the Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award. Nominations will be submitted through a central ACRL awards portal. Nominations will open in October with a December 5, 2025 deadline for submission. A single ACRL division-wide awards ceremony will be held online in spring 2026. Information about the criteria and submission process for the EBSS award can be found on the webpage at <https://www.ala.org/acrl/awards/achievementawards/acrlebssaward>.

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## *Evidence Synthesis Committee*

*Mrs. Amy Burnett James, Baylor University Libraries, Chair*

The newly established EBSS Evidence Synthesis Committee has begun its work. In our initial meetings, we have focused on articulating the committee's goals and aims, with particular attention to fostering a space for librarians to share experiences and build expertise around evidence synthesis in education and the behavioral sciences. Our charge is to provide a forum for librarians to cultivate skills in conducting and supporting evidence syntheses (e.g., systematic reviews, scoping reviews) both as primary researchers and as advisors within their institutions. This includes sponsoring networking and professional development opportunities, sharing best practices, and supporting colleagues in developing and enhancing evidence synthesis services.

The committee is currently planning its first event: a virtual discussion session that will feature roundtable-style Zoom rooms. This format will allow participants to join conversations on common challenges and questions related to evidence synthesis, while also providing space to exchange strategies and insights. The event will be open to all levels of experience, from those new to evidence synthesis to those with extensive involvement in this type of research.

Additional details regarding the date and registration will be shared in the near future. We look forward to engaging with the EBSS community through this inaugural program.

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## *Instruction for Educators Committee*



*Christina M. Jones,  
Indiana University, Co-Chair*



*Eric Silberberg, Queens College CUNY,  
Co-Chair*

The IFE committee added a section on assessment to the [Companion Document to the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education: Instruction for Educators](#). The new section features tools and techniques to assess student learning within the recommended activities embedded in the [Companion LibGuide](#). In addition to assessment, IFE added new activities to the LibGuide that integrate AI literacy skills with each Frame. The ongoing work to keep our Companion Document current and relevant to librarians serving teacher education programs continues to invigorate the IFE committee.

New for this year: IFE committee members will present lightning talks during a portion of our monthly meeting! Committee members have volunteered to give a talk about an instruction practice they use, based on the Framework, which provides real world examples and lively discussions. The first presentation, offered by Christina Jones, featured highlights from an instruction session on Authority is Constructed and Contextual given to a cohort of education students participating in a living and learning center on campus. Look for future IFE member presentations announced in our meeting reminders on ALA Connect.

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## *Social Work Committee*

*Ms. Laurel Scheinfeld, Stony Brook University, Chair  
Jessica L. Rardin, University of Wyoming, Vice-Chair*

The Social Work Committee had a busy academic year and is looking forward to another great term.

In May 2025, the committee hosted a webinar called "Finding Grey Literature: Weathering the Storm of Disappearing Data." The recording is available to view on the ACRL YouTube channel: [https://youtu.be/\\_DO9z7mTj0s](https://youtu.be/_DO9z7mTj0s). The webinar featured a panel of experts on searching for grey literature, using grey literature, and managing a grey literature database. There was a lively chat and Q&A. The committee plans to host more events in the future.

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE (cont)

The committee revised the original ACRL Framework for Information Literacy companion document (published in 2021) to reflect changes made to the National Association of Social Workers' Code of Ethics and Council for Social Work Education's Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards. At this stage in the revision process, the committee is collecting feedback via survey about the [current draft of the revised document](#) through the end of the calendar year 2025.

This survey allows you to choose which frame(s) you would like to review and/or 3 open ended questions for general feedback. The committee will use survey responses to update the document before submitting it for approval through the proper ACRL channels. Please feel free to share widely with library colleagues and social work colleagues (faculty, practitioners, students). If you have questions, please contact Maureen Barry ([mebarry@bgsu.edu](mailto:mebarry@bgsu.edu)) or Jessica Rardin ([jessica.rardin@uwyo.edu](mailto:jessica.rardin@uwyo.edu)).

Current and former members of the Social Work Committee will present "Instilling essential information literacies in the artificial intelligence era: Faculty-librarian partnership" at the annual Council on Social Work Education annual conference in October 2025. The presentation incorporates the revisions of the companion document and how information literacy can be incorporated into social work education.

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# Feature Article

## *Communication Studies Committee Launches Practical Sharing Webinar Series*

*Kristin T. Peace, Occidental College, Chair*

On March 18, 2025, the Communication Studies Committee held its inaugural “Practical Sharing” webinar. The series is designed to be an informal monthly session, by Communication Studies and Social Sciences Librarians for Communication Studies and Social Sciences Librarians, to share resources, tools and tips that can be immediately put into use by attendees. The first session featured Stacy Gilbert, Associate Professor and Social Sciences Librarian at University of Colorado, Boulder, and Kyung Kim, Program Director for Social Sciences and Social Sciences Librarian at Florida State University Libraries. Gilbert and Kim, two of the authors of the [Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship](#) article “[Evaluation of six news aggregator databases: a comparison for researchers and librarians](#),” presented their research and recommendations, practical use cases for [their comparison guide](#). They focused on six news aggregators commonly used in higher education institutions: EBSCO Newspaper Source Plus, ProQuest U.S. Newsstream, Factiva, Nexis Uni, NewsBank Access World News and Gale OneFile. There was particularly lively, insightful discussion around discussion around API access, particularly when considering text and data mining projects as well as evidence syntheses or scoping reviews.

The April Practical Sharing webinar armed librarians of all types with actionable items for data rescue, especially timely after the March 14th Executive Order aimed at dismantling the Institute of Museum and Library Science (IMLS). Lynda Kellam, current Secretary of [IASSIST](#), the international data professionals organization, and the Snyder-Granader Director of [Research Data and Digital Scholarship](#) at the University of Pennsylvania, shared her experiences and insights as a principle organizer of the [Data Rescue Project](#). A recording of the session can be found on the [ACRL YouTube channel](#).

In May, Beth Farwell, Director of Arts & Special Collections Research Center at Baylor University, and Heidi Uhey, Health Sciences Librarian, Baylor University, shared four case studies on incorporating [Special Collections into Health Communication courses](#), including their experiences hosting Dr. Darian Stahl’s “[Book as a Body](#)” workshop.

The Practical Sharing series will continue this academic year with bimonthly webinars beginning in October. If you have ideas for a Practical Sharing and/or would like to be a featured speaker, please reach out to the [Communication Studies Committee chair](#). In the meantime, the [Library Resources for Communication Studies \(LRCS\) LibGuide](#) is full of resources, tools and ideas on a wide range of Communication Studies topics, from Media Law to Journalism, Visual Communication to Film Studies, and, you may have guessed, Newspaper Aggregators, Data & Statistics and Health Communication. The LRCS guide includes suggested keywords, databases, subject-specific journals, textbooks, Open Education Resources, websites and links to relevant associations for each topic. LRCS is meant to be an instructional toolkit with the hope librarians will copy, borrow and remix items for their own public facing guides.

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## Committee Member Highlights: New Officers, Liaisons, & Members

We recognize the following members as they began their new roles this past July and thank all new and returning committee members for their contributions to EBSS and beyond.

### Executive Committee

- Robin L. Ewing, Chair
- Mr. Stephen Maher, Vice-Chair
- Dr. Sabine Jean Dantus, Secretary
- Ashlynn Kogut, Past-Chair
- Ms. Caitlin Stewart, Member-at-Large
- Mrs. Melissa Kempfski, Ex-Officio
- Andrea M. Falcone, Board Liaison
- Megan R. Griffin, Staff Liaison

### Awards

- Christina M. Jones, Member
- Feng-Ru Sheu, Member

### Communication Studies

- Molly Blake, Member
- Ms. Ellen Hampton Filgo, Member

### Advisory Council

- Robin L. Ewing, Chair
- Mr. Stephen Maher, Vice-Chair
- Dr. Sabine Jean Dantus, Secretary
- Ashlynn Kogut, Past-Chair
- Jodie Borgerding, Member
- Yu-Hui Chen, Member
- Camielle Spring Crampsie, Member
- Carin Graves, Member
- Mrs. Amy Burnett James, Member
- Ms. Jenelle E. Jensen, Member
- Mrs. Melissa Kempfski, Member
- Charlene H. Loope, Member
- Shannon Nickle, Member
- Marilyn Reside, Member
- Ms. Laurel Scheinfeld, Member
- Eric Silberberg, Member
- Ms. Caitlin Stewart, Member-at-Large
- Dr. Thomas C. Weeks, Member

### **Curriculum Materials**

- Ms. Jenelle E. Jensen, Chair
- Mrs. Melissa Kempfski, Vice-Chair
- Melissa Hopkins, Secretary and Member
- Katherine Safiah Donaldson, Member
- Christina M. Jones, Member
- Mrs. Jennifer Woods, Member

### **Education**

- Melissa Beuoy, Member
- Casey Ruegger, Member
- Dr. Lesley S. J. Farmer, Ex-Officio

### **Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion**

- Jodie Borgerding, Chair
- Molly Blake, Member

### **Evidence Synthesis (New Committee as of July 2025)**

- Mrs. Amy Burnett James, Chair
- Andrea Kingston, Vice-Chair
- Elle Covington, Secretary
- Angie Gerrard, Member
- Scott Marsalis, Member

### **Instruction for Educators**

- Eric Silberberg, Co-Chair
- Eryn Bartlick, Member
- Alissa Droog, Member
- Emily Fornwald, Member
- Kelly R. Hangauer, Member
- Kasey Swords, Member

### **Membership and Orientation**

- Charlene H. Loope, Chair
- Kelly Marie Banyas, Secretary and Member
- Ms. Jennifer L. Muse, Member
- Jennifer Shimada, Member

### **Online Learning Research**

- Camielle Spring Crampsie, Chair
- Dr. Alex R. Hodges, Member
- Lisa Becksford Russell, Member
- Feng-Ru Sheu, Member

### **Psychology**

- Shannon Nickle, Co-Chair
- Marilyn Reside, Co-Chair
- Tricia Boucher, Member
- Joanne H elouvry, Member
- Melissa Hopkins, Member
- Aimee Sgourakis Jenkins, Member
- Abby Johnson, Member
- Andrea Kingston, Member
- Katherine Perry, Member
- Margie Ruppel, Member
- Ms. Monya D. Tomlinson, Member

### **Publications and Communications**

- Mrs. Melissa Kempfski, Chair
- Ms. V. L.E. Dozier, Secretary and Member
- Dr. Mary V. Lamothe, Member

### **Reference Sources and Services**

- Karlene T. Clark, Member
- Natalia Uma na, Member

### **Research**

- Dr. Thomas C. Weeks, Chair
- Shannon Delaney, Member
- Ms. Lauren Fralinger, Member

## Scholarly Communication

- Carin Graves, Chair
- Andrea Hebert, Member
- Jessica OToole, Member
- Miranda Phair, Member
- Brian A. Quinn, Member
- Whitney Rice, Member

## Social Work

- Ms. Laurel Scheinfeld, Chair
- Jessica L. Rardin, Vice-Chair and Member
- Dana Hettich, Secretary
- Erin K. Anderson, Member
- Jennifer Lynn Bowers, Member
- Marna Clowney-Robinson, Member
- Yali Feng, Member
- Brea E. Henson, Member
- Anita Chiodo Kuiken, Member

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# Items of Interest from ACRL

## ACRL Books

ACRL books provide timely and practical advice and thought-provoking research for academic library workers worldwide. Some recent titles:

- [Text and Data Mining Literacy for Librarians](#)
- [Making Values-Based Decisions in the Academic Library](#)
- [Valuing the Community College Library: Impactful Practices for Institutional Success](#)
- [Supporting Neurodiverse Students in Academic Libraries](#)
- [Legislative Advocacy and Public Policy Work for Academic and Research Library Workers](#)
- [The Small to Mid-Size Academic Library: Collaborations and Outreach](#)

Explore [ACRL's online catalog](#) for more great books, and [visit our site](#) to learn more about publishing your own. ACRL is the only not-for-profit publisher specifically for academic and research libraries and library workers. Purchases of ACRL books help fund advocacy, research, and continuing education programs for the academic library community worldwide.





# RoadShows

Professional Development Workshops from ACRL

## Professional Development RoadShows

Maximize your professional development budget with ACRL's RoadShows: affordable, high-quality workshops brought directly to your campus, chapter, or consortium. We offer in-person or virtual experiences on curated topics like strategic assessment, open educational resources, implementing the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education, and more. These interactive workshops are designed to enrich skillsets and strengthen competencies. Led by expert academic librarians and researchers, RoadShows can help you and your colleagues tackle the greatest challenges facing our profession today. Organizational Members of ACRL and ACRL Chapters receive a 10% workshop fee discount. See <https://www.ala.org/acrl/roadshows>.



## Consulting Services

ACRL is now accepting new clients for our comprehensive Consulting Services. Our team of experienced consultants will work with you to develop plans, reports, and trainings intentionally tailored for your academic library's unique needs. Our specialties include strategic planning, external reviews, stakeholder input, dean or director searches, and beyond. Our collaborative approach gives you custom recommendations and insights designed to help your library thrive. Organizational Members of ACRL receive a 10% discount on Consulting Services fees; returning clients also receive a 5% discount on Consulting Services fees from September 2025 to August 2026. Visit our website to learn about our sample projects or reach out to us to design a custom project. From accreditation to strategic planning, we're here to help you grow. See <https://www.ala.org/acrl/consulting>.



**RBMS 2026, Advocacy: Finding Your Voice, June 23 - 26, 2026 | Hyatt Regency, Milwaukee, WI** Special collections and archives are evolving fast—new technologies, new audiences, new challenges. How do we make our voices heard, tell our stories, and secure the support we need? This year's conference explores advocacy at every career stage, from speaking up as a newcomer to driving change as a leader. Join us to find inspiration, share strategies, and leave ready to amplify your impact. The call for proposals will be announced in October, and registration will open in March. Watch [rbms.info](https://rbms.info) for details.



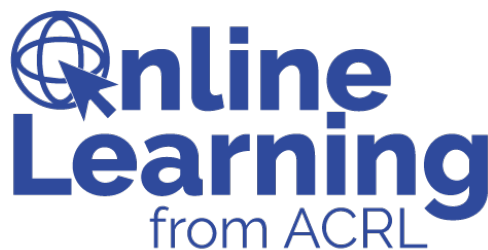
### Benchmark for Planning and Advocacy in Academic Libraries

[Benchmark](#) is ACRL's tool for data-driven planning and advocacy in academic libraries. With Benchmark, you can illustrate ongoing activities and usage in a compelling fashion for different audiences, as well as generate key metrics for strategic planning, budget justifications, annual reports, fundraising, and more! Benchmark is also where you can contribute your library's data to national surveys to further research and advocacy. [Login to your free account](#) today to complete the 2025 Academic Library Trends and Statistics Survey, which includes trends questions on AI in libraries.



### Project Outcome

Project Outcome is a FREE online toolkit designed to help libraries understand and share the impact of essential library programs and services by providing simple surveys and an easy-to-use process for measuring and analyzing outcomes. Participating libraries are also provided with the resources and training support needed to apply their results and confidently advocate for their library's future. Project Outcome's standardized surveys allow libraries to aggregate their outcome data and analyze trends by service topic, program type, and over time. Sign up today at <https://acrl.projectoutcome.org/>, and check out our new book, [Assessment and Advocacy: Using Project Outcome for Academic Libraries](#), for more ways to use the toolkit.



### ACRL Online Learning

ACRL's [live webcasts](#) and multi-week [online courses](#) are designed to meet the demands of your location, schedule, and budget. Learn more about these events on the [ACRL website](#).

- November 6, 13, and 20 – Supporting Neurodiverse Students in Libraries: A Three-Part Series
- November 12 - Engage, Enhance, and Empower through AI Pedagogy: Fostering Classroom Engagement and Innovative Library Services with Generative AI
- January 12-February 6 - Exploring AI with Critical Information Literacy



## *The Return of the ACRL Awards Program*

The ACRL Awards Coordinating Committee is pleased to announce that the ACRL Awards Program will restart in 2025-26. To streamline the awards process, a centralized nominations portal has been created for use by all ACRL awards committees. The portal is currently in its final beta testing phase and will launch later in October when calls for nominations are issued. Additionally, keep an eye out for the redesigned [ACRL Awards Program](#) website, which is also expected to be completed by October. The site will feature updated eligibility and nomination details for each ACRL division and section award.

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