

BIBLIO-NOTES

ACRL Literatures in English Newsletter

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Dear LES members,

Greetings! Spring is in the air, and for many of us, the semester is beginning to wind down, offering a moment of calm and reflection before summer projects reorient our energies.

This past winter, LES had a productive LibLearnX, filled with engaging conversations from our Discussion Groups. Co-Chairs of the Reference Discussion Group, Carla Baricz and Stacy Reardon, facilitated a multimodal discussion focused on changes in analog reference (both physical reference materials and staffing physical reference desks) as well as the use of social media to promote reference services. And, Co-Chairs Erin Durham Wright and Alexis Pavenick of the Collections Discussion Group led a merry discussion on outreach for collections, deselecting famous works, and strategies for keeping abreast of digital humanities websites and projects.

In March, the 2023 ACRL Conference was held in the City of Bridges, and I was delighted to run into and share stories (as well as laughs) with fellow LES members in conference halls and at the dine-around. Sessions and posters focused on generative AI, open educational practices, and the wellbeing of students (as well as library workers) offered new ways for me to consider my own instructional and outreach practices. LES also had a presence at the First-Time Attendee Orientation and Engagement Fair (shout-out to Liana Bayne!), meeting first-time attendees and highlighting opportunities for getting involved.

As I reported back in the fall, LES sponsored two named scholarships for the ACRL Conference, dedicated in memory of longtime LES member David Oberhelman. The scholarships were awarded to first-time ACRL Conference attendees Ruth Xing, MLIS student at Syracuse University, and Stephanie Sandoval, MLIS student at San Jose State University, who also works as the Circulation and Reserves Coordinator at Mount Saint Mary's University, Los Angeles. Both Ruth and Stephanie are active LES members.

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Kristina De Voe

Work by LES committees this year has included migrating older LES documents and documentation from an unused wiki to ALA Connect. Kudos to LES Webmaster Jenny Dale for taking the lead on this effort! The Planning Committee, led by Eric Jeitner, has been hard at work drafting a Membership Handbook to aid in onboarding new LES committee members. And, a working group chaired by LES Past-Chair Glenda Insua has drafted a charge for a new Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee to help ensure that strategies from the section's Anti-Racist Action Plan are implemented.

These are just some of the initiatives that LES is engaged in, and you can take part as well as volunteer! If you are interested in volunteering on a LES committee, contact Vice-Chair Leslie Madden (lmadden@gsu.edu) to find out if there are remaining slots to be filled or keep an eye for next year's call for volunteers!

Looking ahead to summer, LES will have a full schedule of virtual and in-person events for the 2023 ALA Annual Conference in June. The Discussion Groups will meet virtually again, so be on the lookout for calls for discussion topics from our Discussion Group Co-Chairs!

The Membership Committee, led by Nancy Dennis, will offer a virtual program centered on how LES members are using the ACRL Framework Companion Document, Research Competencies in Writing and Literature. The Membership Committee will also host a virtual social following their program, and I understand that there may be a raffle for gift cards to independent bookstores located near the Annual Conference site in Chicago.

I'm especially excited about our in-person conference program, "Interdisciplinarity and Humanities Librarianship: Are Librarians (and Libraries) Keeping Pace, and What's Next?," which will take place on Monday, June 26th at 9:00AM CT in Chicago. The program, which is in partnership with Ithaka S&R, will feature panelists Dylan Ruediger (Ithaka S&R), Glenda Insua (University of Illinois at Chicago), and Trishula Patel (University of Denver) highlighting research that sheds light on how libraries can support interdisciplinary humanities scholars, and how it can help shape librarian roles in the future. The panelists will also consider the way forward by examining how libraries have already adapted, and where (and why) movement has been slow. Congratulations to the Conference Program Planning Committee, chaired by Ava Brillat, for putting together such a compelling proposal and shepherding it through an extremely competitive selection process!

Thank you to everyone who voted in the recent elections! Please join me in congratulating our newly elected officers: Vice-Chair/Chair Elect: Stacy Reardon; Secretary: Virginia (Ginny) Moran; and Member-at-Large: Jenny Dale. After Annual, Leslie Madden will be taking over as Chair of LES. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your Chair over the past year, and I would like to thank the LES Executive Committee for all of their hard work. I look forward to seeing how LES continues to make a more equitable and inclusive environment for its members.

Kristina De Voe is English & Communication Librarian at Temple University. She can be reached at devoek@temple.edu.



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ACRL

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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Greetings, LES Members,

As the 2022-23 academic year draws to a close, I'd like to take this opportunity to provide a belated introduction as the new **Biblio-Notes** editor. I took over from past editor and now Vice-Chair/Chair Elect Stacy Reardon last fall, and hers were definitely big shoes to fill. Stacy served for four years as editor, along with Matthew Roberts, and her efforts are evident in the excellent past issues. For me, serving as editor has provided an opportunity to learn more about the work of literature librarians country-wide and beyond. Learning about other librarians and all of the inspiring LES initiatives helps me continue to grow as an information professional. Before you read on about the work of LES members and committees in the spring issue, I'll take a moment to give a little background about me.

I am Associate Professor and Coordinator of Instruction and Undergraduate Learning at the University of San Diego's Copley Library, where I was first hired as a Reference librarian in 2008 with the subject specialties of English, Communication, and Theater. I later added French and Film Studies to my areas. I am a member of the LES Publications Committee and previously served on the LES Virtual Participation Committee. An abiding passion for language and literature has guided my career. Prior to my career in librarianship, I was a middle and high school English teacher. I am also a published writer of short fiction whose work has appeared in literary journals.

I hope you enjoy reading the Spring issue of the LES newsletter! I look forward to reading future articles, news items, and other submissions from members that highlight the important work we do.

All the best,
Hugh Burkhart



The Three Sisters suspension bridges in Pittsburgh, PA.

Photo by Kristina De Voe taken at ACRL 2023.

Member News

Have you landed a new position? Are you transitioning to retirement? Have you received a grant or published something? We want to hear from you! Send your updates to biblionotes@gmail.com for the next newsletter.

PLANNING COMMITTEE DRAFTING NEW HANDBOOK

by Eric Jeitner, User Experience Librarian at Richard E. Bjork Library, Stockton University

An exciting and useful new initiative is coming from the LES Planning Committee! This year, the committee members decided to re-envision, revise, and reconstitute the section's governance documents into a new LES Membership Handbook.

Previously, these materials were stored across the LES website, many existing as separate documents or pages. The Membership Handbook brings together these historically siloed guides in a single document that will be easy to navigate and is aimed at onboarding new committee members. Aside from general best practices to orient those who join LES, it covers topics such as committee membership, committee and discussion group leadership, and ACRL liaisonship. It is the Planning Committee's hope that, by using clear, direct language and a scaffolded approach that walks step-by-step through the hierarchy of the organization, new members will start with a greater understanding of how the section operates and what it takes to get involved in a straightforward and meaningful way.

This project comes at a time when LES is already taking steps to better organize and archive documentation from each of its committees and discussion groups through the use of ALA Connect. These efforts also support goals set forth in the 2021 LES Anti-Racist Action Plan, supporting greater transparency and equitable community practices. The Planning Committee aims to have the new Membership Handbook through the editing process and finalized for release by July of this year.

2023 MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION CONVENTION REPORT

by Arianne Hartsell-Gundy, Librarian for Literature, Duke University

I am currently the ACRL LES/ESS liaison to the Modern Language Association. As part of that role, I attended the 2023 MLA Convention in January. This year's theme was "Working Conditions." This year the conference had some sessions taking place in person in San Francisco, and some taking place virtually. I decided to attend virtually. One nice feature was that many sessions were recorded, so I was able to watch some that I missed after the conference ended. Though I was grateful for these options, I wish MLA would consider being more truly hybrid, with options to livestream some of the sessions taking place in person and giving speakers option to be in in-person or virtual on a panel. I recently attend the virtual ACRL conference, and they were able to successfully offer hybrid sessions.

I felt like some of the major themes this year were public humanities, alternate forms of scholarship (such as podcasts), how Covid-19 is changing how people teach and do their work, and recovering alternate archives. I attended a variety of sessions, including 12 Remaking and Rereading Poetry, 76 How the Pandemic Permanently Changed Teaching, 366 New Evidence for Recovering Histories and Texts, 413 More of a Comment than a Question, 549 (Re)Covering Precarious Archives, and 643 Women and Book History, among others.

Though I attended many sessions, I want to highlight two that I found valuable to my work as a librarian. One was a Just in Time session called New Directions for the Dissertation Update. Some of the presenters are part of a forthcoming volume called Getting to the Finish Line: New Directions for the Dissertation Process (edited by Gretchen Busl, Kristina Reardon, and Courtney Ferriter). The fundamental questions they asked were whether the dissertation must always be a "proto-book," if the dissertation can actually be used to engage the public, and what the afterlives of a non-monograph dissertation can be. There is the potential to reach a larger audience when creating a dissertation in a non-traditional format. They also discussed how these kinds of projects can still include intellectual rigor and strong citation practices. Speakers had created dissertations in the forms of podcasts, digital humanities projects, and websites. There was a reference to the Next-Generation Dissertations project, which includes details about how to plan and evaluate these kinds of dissertations. I think these new directions have implications both for how we support our current graduate students with their research and also in terms of what we might expect from this next generation of scholars.

The other session was 678 Bamboozled: Rhetorics and Writing of Disinformation. It was sponsored by the RCWS History and Theory of Composition. I am glad to see that scholars immersed in rhetoric and writing fields share our concerns about the rise of disinformation. There was a presentation about the rhetoric being used to criticize Critical Race Theory and how that impacts scholarship and our students. Another talk looked at how disinformation has been used to discourage people from voting and perpetuate myths about voter fraud. The last talk looked at how disinformation, specifically on YouTube, contributed to the Capitol Insurrection.

Last year was my last year on the Advisory Committee on the MLA International Bibliography. While still a member, I had submitted a proposal to be on this year's program, "273 Advocating for Library Resources." When the original facilitator had to step away due to a new position, he asked me to step in since we had known each other while serving on the committee. I took over the planning and working with the speakers who participated in this panel, which included librarians and faculty. We had sixteen people in the audience, and it led to a lot of great conversations on how faculty can help us advocate. I am currently a member of the TM Libraries and Research Forum Executive Committee. This year's program was "750 Moving to Libraryland: Working Conditions for Literary Scholars in Academic Libraries." Though I wasn't able to attend since it was an in-person session, I helped with the planning of the session. We had a great mix of speakers from different backgrounds doing different kinds of work in libraries.

I would definitely recommend to both LES/ESS members that they consider getting involved with an MLA committee or forum. As always, I would love to hear from you if you have suggestions on topics related to MLA that you would like me to address in the future!

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"Doing Hope in Desperate Times" at CCCC, Chicago, February 2023

by Christine Fena, Undergraduate Success Librarian, Stony Brook University

The Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) held its annual convention in Chicago from February 15-18, 2023. I attended as the ACRL LES/IS liaison to CCCC and am happy to share the following observations and opportunities.

One of the highlights of the Opening General Session was the "Chair's Address," which was delivered by Staci M. Perryman-Clark, Professor of English at Western Michigan University. Her lecture, "I'm So Glad Trouble Don't Last Always: Reclaiming Our Discipline's Influence on Higher Education," focused on the importance of substance over lip service in supporting antiracist pedagogy and how essential it is to support BIPOC communities—both students and faculty/staff—in order to sustain higher ed institutions. Stunningly, she concluded her talk by singing the spiritual "I'm So Glad Trouble Don't Last Always," which earned her a standing ovation and jumpstarted the conference with a strong connection to the overarching conference theme, "Doing Hope in Desperate Times."

Many panels and presentations overlapped with library-related topics. Conference tracks included "Information Literacy and Technology," "First Year Writing," "Antiracism and Social Justice," "Inclusion and Access," "Community, Civic, and Public Contexts of Writing," "College Writing and Reading," and "Language, Literacy, and Culture." Although only about nine of the 3000+ attendees listed in the conference app were listed as being affiliated with the library at their institution, I found the conference to be a librarian-friendly space, with many opportunities for librarians to present and engage with the CCCC community, and two different "newcomers" events

that were welcoming and well-attended. I attended in-person, but there was a virtual option as well, with over 70 on-demand sessions available via the conference app.

Here are some examples of sessions that either exemplified collaborations with librarians or had substantial overlap with the mission and goals of ACRL. With the exception of the Generative AI sessions, most of these were somewhat sparsely attended, but rich with discussion amongst those present:

● **Collaboration, Community, and Curiosity: Partnerships between Writing Programs and University Archives:** a roundtable session featuring the Curator of Special Collections and Archives, Exhibits Librarian, and English faculty from the University of Denver showcased the potential of long term partnerships. Some takeaways:

- Value of archives in helping students connect to a sense of place
- Recovering voices and stories in archival documents & artifacts
- Showcasing student work in a library space
- Student work consisting of short exhibit descriptions rather than lengthy papers
- It's a long and slow process to build archival work into learning outcomes
- Creation of a new library position - the Exhibits Librarian, who among other responsibilities supports students' curation of their chosen artifacts in both digital and physical exhibits on campus

● **Information Access, Power, and Privilege: How Librarians, Faculty, and Students Navigate Wikipedian Tensions as Creators and Consumers:** a team of writing teachers and librarians from UCSB discussed the ways they navigate editing and creating Wikipedia, whether through Wiki Education with students, or as expert editors. For those who are interested, there is a CCCC Wiki Initiative, which strives to create more content across Wikipedia on topics related to writing and rhetoric studies.

● **An Exploratory Study of the Attribution Patterns in Videos for Academic Purposes:** a PhD candidate in Writing and Rhetoric from Arizona State University presented an analysis of the different ways speakers attribute their sources in their videos within the framework of studying "citing performances."

● **The Open Movement: Faculty and Student Experiences Using Open-Educational Resources (OER) in a First-Year Composition Program:** a large team including instructors, a librarian and a student from Elmhurst University shared their experiences implementing OER texts. Group discussions encouraged the sharing of many OER resources and texts across the writing curriculum.

● **Teaching with AI: Using Writing Generators in the Classroom:** The presentation by Anna Mills from the College of Marin had attendees sitting on the floor and out the door! She gave a well-informed presentation on generative AI, and shared a number of valuable resources she has been curating including her website, AI Text Generators and Teaching Writing: Starting Points for Inquiry, and this ever-changing list of resources to stimulate discussion among teachers.

● **ChatGPT, Magical Thinking, and the Discourse of Crisis:** yo a full ballroom of attendees, this special session - added at the last minute - featured five panelists: Antonion Byrd, Harry Denny, Gavin Johnson, Aimee Morrison, and Charles Woods. The discussion reflected a wide range of concerns and opportunities related to ChatGPT in higher education and of high interest to the library

community. Key points included the need to trust students, avoid the impulse to surveillance, the difference between policy and pedagogy, the difference between writing as a process and a product, privacy concerns in using AI software, and the long-term consequences of scaling up of edu-tech within the education sector as a whole.

● **Undergraduate Research Standing Group Meeting:** this group of writing teachers facilitates undergraduate researchers and their mentors. Any librarians interested in supporting undergraduate research in the field of writing and rhetoric are welcome to join the group!

● **Beyond Essays and One-Shots: Embedded Librarianship in First-Year Composition:** I sadly missed this presentation, but it's another example of CCCC supporting the librarian-writing teacher collaboration at the conference.

In addition, there were several sessions on plagiarism, going beyond UDL, supporting neurodiverse students, inclusive citation, instruction modalities, food justice, scholarly publishing, digital reading, and multimodal communication. The conference also supported undergraduate researchers with an Undergraduate Researcher Poster Session. Finally, there were opportunities to attend book talks, performances and readings, workshops, special interest groups, a walk-in writing center, and a vendor space that included not only publisher promotion, but also local crafts.

CCCC 2024 will be in Spokane, WA, April 3-6, 2024, with the theme of Writing Abundance: Celebrating 75 Years of Conversations about Rhetoric, Composition, Technical Communication, and Literacy. If you are interested in attending or have questions about CCCC, please feel free to reach out to me - I'm happy to connect!

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

RBMS 2023: A New Kind of Professional

Indiana University Bloomington

June 27 - 30, 2023

REGISTER TO ATTEND IN-PERSON OR VIRTUALLY!



RBMS 2023 will address not only questions of how to welcome, prepare, and retain new workers for the increasingly complex demands of GLAMS (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums, and Special Collections) professions, but one that addresses continuing education framed around changes in critical library theory and new approaches to our collections and careers. The program agenda is available as well as housing options and transportation information. We look forward to seeing you in Bloomington and/or online!

<https://web.event.com/event/b791062c-3515-4046-a752-1d4265488923/summary>

ALA Annual Conference



Join your colleagues for the 2023 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition in Chicago Illinois, June 22-27, 2023! The world's largest library event brings together thousands of librarians and library staff, educators, authors, publishers, friends of libraries, trustees, special guests, and exhibitors! Register today! <https://2023.alaannual.org/registration/rates-and-registration>

CALL FOR REVIEWERS

Resources for College Libraries (RCL), the Choice/ACRL bibliography of essential titles for undergraduate teaching and research, seeks experienced library subject selectors and academic faculty to serve as peer reviewers. We are currently seeking referees for the RCL Arts and Humanities subjects, including:

American Literature • British Literature • Classical Languages and Literatures • Drama and Theater • French Language and Literature • General Language and Literature • Germanic Languages and Literatures • Italian Language and Literature • Other Literatures in English • Russian and Eastern European Languages and Literatures • Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures

Reviewers are tasked with assessing the subject collection comprehensively, providing feedback and recommendations for editorial improvement. Peer reviewers evaluate how well the core title lists support the college curriculum, including collection assessment considerations centered on diverse publications, emerging scholarship, and historically underrepresented voices or perspectives. The RCL peer review is a one-time professional service opportunity that can strengthen collection development skills, inform local projects, and build subject expertise. See the full subject list and FAQs at: <https://www.choice360.org/blog-post/rcl-call-for-reviewers-2023/>

To apply: Submit a current CV and a brief description of your qualifications, particularly developing or evaluating core collections and/or teaching in the subject area to Anne Doherty, RCL Project Editor (adoherty@ala-choice.org). Preference will be given to those who apply by May 20, 2023. The RCL editorial board is committed to pursuing equity and inclusion and seeks reviewers with diverse racial, ethnic, gender, sexual, and disability experiences. Learn more about RCL at: <http://www.choice360.org/products/rcl>.