

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas
January 20 - 24, 2012**

Topic: Report Regarding Research on Teen Spaces

Background: In June of 2010 YALSA agreed to receive periodic progress reports on the Institute of Library and Museum Services (IMLS) funded project, “Making Space for Young Adults in Public Libraries: Establishing a Research Foundation,” The research began in fall 2010. Anthony Bernier has submitted a report, which is included below.

Action Required: Information



**Periodic YALSA Board Progress Report
Institute of Library and Museum Services
Dr. Anthony Bernier, San Jose State University**

“Making Space for Young Adults in Public Libraries”

In June of 2010 YALSA leadership agreed to receive periodic progress reports on the Institute of Library and Museum Services (IMLS) funded research of Dr. Anthony Bernier at San Jose State University’s School of Library and Information Science. That agreement, signed by YALSA Executive Director, stated “YALSA looks forward to being appraised of the progress on this research, which I believe will apply scholarly findings to young adult service providers, as well as to library design.” The project, entitled, “Making Space for Young Adults in Public Libraries: Establishing a Research Foundation,” commenced in the Fall term 2010.

Progress completed (June 2011 through December 2011):

- Surveys distributed to 800 public libraries (both to library staff and young adults);
- Began preliminary analysis of survey data; Hired and oriented two additional graduate Research Assistants for Fall term 2011 (total now of 4 RAs on the project);
- Commenced building YA Space Lab in SecondLife for future “tours” and completed literature review of projects testing subjects within virtual environments;
- Three graduate research assistants served on an international panel [Bernier, A. (3 November 2011). Roles SLIS students play in producing original research. Libraries 2.0: The future of libraries in the digital age. San Jose State University, San Jose, CA.];
- Dr. Bernier presented preliminary research findings at the November 2011 California Library Association conference with principal architect and public library associate

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director. [Bernier, A. (November 2011). Teens welcome: Creating distinctive space for youth. California Library Association, Pasadena, CA.];

- Two additional principal investigators joined the research team: Dr. Jeremy Kemp, San Jose State University; and Dr. Denise Agosto, Drexel University

Next steps:

- Attain Institutional Review Board approval at San Jose State University to collect narrated video footage of 25 YA spaces in new library buildings (from library staff and youth);
- Commence mounting incoming survey data at YouthFacts.org;
- Draft manuscripts for publishing quantitative data analysis;
- Identify subjects and begin video data collection for replication of physical YA spaces in SecondLife.

Respectfully submitted,
20 December 2011
Anthony Bernier, Ph.D.
San Jose State University
Principal Investigator