



**Thirteenth Annual LIS Symposium**  
**The Catholic University of America**  
**Friday, February 19, 2021**

**2021 Symposium Schedule**

9:00AM-9:20AM EST	<b>Opening session</b>		
9:20AM-10:20AM EST	<b>Keynote Address by Richard Reyes-Gavilan</b>		
10:20AM-10:30AM EST	<b>Break</b>		<b>Social Lounge</b>
10:30AM-12 Noon EST	<b>Session 1 (Briefing)</b> <b>Innovative Library Services - Responding to COVID-19</b>	<b>Session 2 (Briefing)</b> <b>Archives and Special Collections</b>	
Noon-1:00PM EST	<b>Lunch and Poster Lightning Talk Presentations</b>		
	<b>Poster Q&amp;A Session (12:30PM-1PM)</b> <b>Talk with the Sponsor (LAC Group)</b>		
1:00PM-2:30PM EST	<b>Session 3 (Panel)</b> <b>The Virtual Programming Pivot: DMV Public Libraries and Rapid Changes in Programming During COVID-19</b>	<b>Session 4 (Briefing)</b> <b>Academic Libraries and Research Support</b>	
2:30PM-2:45PM EST	<b>Break</b>		
2:45PM-4:30PM EST	<b>Session 5 (Briefing)</b> <b>Social Justice and Librarianship: Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethics</b>	<b>Session 5 (Briefing)</b> <b>Special and Federal Libraries: Serving Specific Needs</b>	

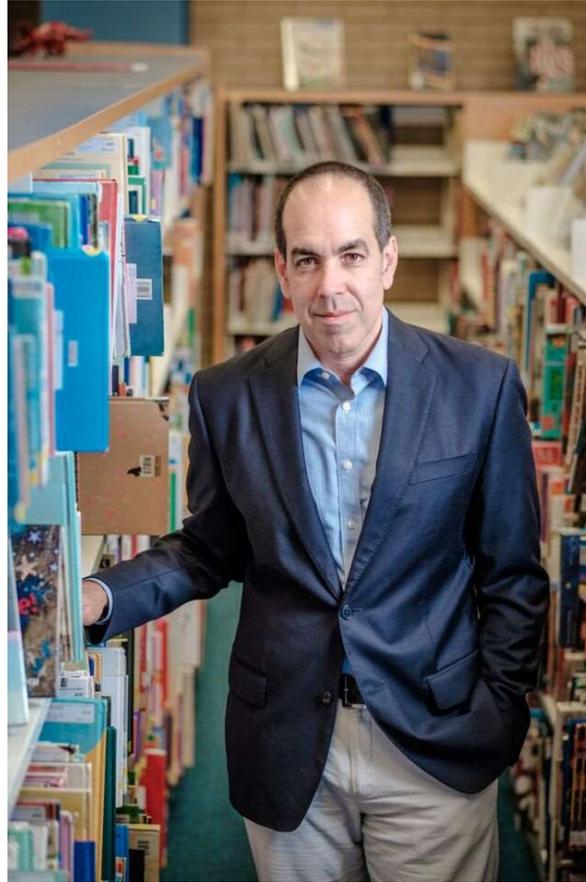
## **General Information**

As the 2021 Bridging the Spectrum Symposium will be a virtual meeting, we are adapting a Code of Conduct to reflect the virtual environment. We value your attendance and contribution, and want to make sure your experience is positive and productive during your participation in the Symposium.

1. In order to attend this virtual conference, you must have registered online through the registration system (check [symposium website](#)). You will receive a Zoom link to join the conference. Please DO NOT share or forward the links to other people.
2. Please change your name label in zoom sessions to “*Your Name, Affiliation*” as a way to get engaged and network with others. For example, “Sue Yeon Syn, CUA DLIS.” You can change your name in the session by clicking “...” that is at the bottom right of your video/image.
3. Symposium presentations are Zoom-based and listen- and view-only mode. We encourage audiences to use the chat box to raise questions. Session moderators will compile the questions for the presenters to address them.
4. The keynote address will be recorded. Breakout sessions will not be recorded unless there are any accommodation-related requests.
5. Poster sessions are scheduled during lunch time. The lightning talk recordings will be played during lunch time in the symposium main room for you to explore what poster presentations are shared. A number of poster presenters will be assigned to a Zoom room for Q&A from 12:30pm to 1pm. We strongly encourage attendees to review the program for the abstract to find posters of interest, and check which Zoom meeting room they will be available to answer questions.
6. Unacceptable behaviors may result in immediate removal from accessing the online meeting. Unacceptable behaviors include, but are not limited to:
  1. Harmful or prejudicial verbal or written comments or visual images
  2. Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form
  3. Disruption of presentations during sessions
  4. Recording of sessions without permission
  5. Distribution of promotion materials, special offers, or any for-profit product announcements from non-sponsors of the Symposium.

\* The General Information is drafted based on the [2020 Bibliometrics & Research Assessment Symposium Code of Conduct](#).

## Keynote Speaker



### **Richard Reyes-Gavilan**

Executive Director of the DC Public Library

## **What's in a Name? Rebuilding a Library Named after Martin Luther King Jr.**

### **Description:**

Among the dominant topics in the news over the past few years is the intense focus on the significance of memorials and their namesakes. Beginning in 2014, DC Public Library was charged with fully modernizing Washington D.C.'s first memorial to Martin Luther King Jr., the new central library dedicated shortly after his assassination. This talk will explore how the Library's approach to design was rooted in Dr. King's vision of opportunity for all. Also, given the renewed spirit of activism and protest that has proliferated in the city and around the country following a summer of deep racial unrest, what role should a reimagined MLK Library play in amplifying Dr. King's message?

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**About the Speaker:**

**Richard Reyes-Gavilan** was appointed the Executive Director of the DC Public Library in March 2014, having previously worked for almost twenty years at both the New York and Brooklyn public libraries.

He was lured to Washington D.C. primarily to oversee the \$211 million modernization of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, the city's only building designed by legendary architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. The library is expected to open in 2020 and will serve as an inspirational destination for innovation, civic empowerment, and delight. Reyes-Gavilan is also aggressively building and renovating neighborhood libraries all over the District of Columbia. Two new libraries in the West End and Cleveland Park neighborhoods were awarded the American Institute of Architect's D.C. Chapter Design and Urban Catalyst awards, respectively. Mr. Reyes-Gavilan holds a bachelor's degree in English from the State University of New York at Albany, where he was recently recognized with the 2019 Excellence in Public Service award, and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Texas at Austin.

## **Morning Breakout Sessions, 10:30 a.m.-12 noon**

### **Session 1: Innovative Library Services – Responding to COVID-19**

**Moderator: Dr. Sue Yeon Syn**

#### **Navigating the Flood of Information: Cognitive Biases, Management, and Information Literacy for the COVID-19 Infodemic**

Rajesh Singh and Amanda Delisi, St. John's University

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about a new problem for information professionals in the form of an infodemic due to the need for someone to manage the staggering quantity of information, both accurate and inaccurate, that circulates during public health crises (Rothkopf, 2003). This presentation will inform the audience on the types of misinformation and fake news that have spread as a result of the infodemic surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. It explores several cognitive barriers, such as information overload (Pentina & Tarafdar, 2014), confirmation bias (Wason, 1968), information avoidance (Golman, Hagmann, & Lowenstein, 2017), and information groupishness (Haidt, 2012). We explore ways how information professionals can utilize the techniques of infodemiology in facilitating information literacy and empowering people with potential strategies to overcome their cognitive biases during infodemics (WHO, 2020).

#### **Pivoting Absentee Ballot Day in the Library during the Pandemic**

Gwendolyn Reece, American University

Mary Evangeliste, Fearless Future

Kristina Alayan, Howard University

In 2018, American University Library offered its first “Absentee Ballot Day in the Library” and assisted 1005 students in requesting absentee ballots. Since that time, Gwendolyn Reece from AU and Mary Evangeliste from Fearless Future have been gathering other interested librarians to organize for the 2020 election. Kristina Alayan of Howard University joined effort and Howard offered an Absentee Ballot Day for the 2020 Primary. And then--COVID struck. Not to be discouraged, we pivoted Absentee Ballot Day in the library to become Request a Ballot week. Coordinating through a listserv, we provided a Libguide with all of the state-by-state materials, letter templates, graphics for advertising and social media, and concocted a plan that allowed us to provide assistance to our students so that they can vote, even though we did not meet in person. We are already committing to working again together for 2022 and invite others to join us. This briefing talks about the pivot to an online initiative and discusses ways to keep the momentum moving.

#### **Paddling Upstream: Navigating Pandemic Pandemonium as Instruction Librarians and What We Learned**

Maria Koshute and Kelly Durkin Ruth, United States Naval Academy

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Nimitz Librarians of the United States Naval Academy faced a unique challenge in the spring of 2020: moving instruction and reference services online at an institution where historically all classes are held face-to-face and all midshipmen live on campus. When this situation persisted into the academic year of 2020-2021 it propelled Nimitz librarians to find new and creative ways to provide outreach and instruction in the midst of social distancing measures and pandemic precautions. In this presentation, Maria Koshute (CUA MSLIS '09) and Kelly Durkin Ruth will discuss initiatives launched to build connections with incoming first year students when in-person interactions were impossible. Initiating a personal librarian program and re-envisioning the traditional in-person one-shots for core first year courses enabled librarians to reach incoming students in intentional and empathetic ways. The instruction team gave special attention to creating more personalized learning opportunities through the use of previously untapped technologies.

**Instructional Design within Reach: A Collaborative Approach to Creating Meaningful Library Instruction Online**

Leah Richardson, Shira Loev Eller and Jesse Gershuny, George Washington University

At the George Washington University, instructional designers and librarians are part of the same unit, allowing for greater collaboration between groups supporting teaching and learning throughout the university. In order to prepare for a fully virtual Fall semester, instructional designers and librarians worked together over the summer of 2020 to transition courses and library information literacy instruction online.

Content in this briefing will include:

- An introduction to key instructional design principles, technologies, and pedagogies with an emphasis on alignment, interactivity, and accessibility for online instruction.
- Practical applications of these principles for online information literacy instruction.
- Designing and deploying high-quality asynchronous information literacy learning modules.
- Tips for engaging students in the virtual classroom.
- Strategies for assessment and gathering feedback from students and other stakeholders.
- Approaches to building organizational knowledge.

Virtual instruction is here to stay in some shape or form, and applying instructional design principles to your teaching is within reach.

**Session 2: Archives and Special Collections**  
**Moderator: Dr. Jane Zhang**

**Taking the Archives Out of the Basement: Creative Outreach at Rutgers University Special Collections and University Archives**

Tara Maharjan, Rutgers University Libraries - Special Collections and University Archives

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This presentation will look at the ways that the Rutgers University Special Collections and University Archives has used outreach to engage with the university and public communities. Such outreach has included pop-up exhibits, creating games based on our collections and recreating games from our collections, zines, and button making. The talk will discuss how outreach has enabled the discovery of collections and educated people about special collections and archives.

**Collecting and Curating COVID-19: One Historical Society's Online Approach**

Shane MacDonald, The Catholic University of America

In spring of 2020, as COVID-19 closed most libraries and cultural heritage institutions, these institutions turned to online platforms to stay in touch with patrons. In addition, many of these same institutions announced efforts to collect pandemic-related stories and artifacts from their constituents. History Nebraska - the official historical society of the state of Nebraska - was one such institution. Through a use of various online information systems, History Nebraska announced, collected, curated, and shared COVID-19 objects/stories throughout 2020. While not unusual among cultural heritage institutions in this regard, History Nebraska does offer a case study of how one local historical society worked to channel their collecting and curating processes through publicly-available online platforms. This COVID-19 collecting project provides an example of the challenges, opportunities, and local/institutional factors that can shape such a project.

**Processing the Multi-language Papers of a Scholar: A Finding Aid for the Rev. Paulinus Bellet O.S.B. Papers of the Semitics/ICOR Library**

Katherine DeFonzo, The Catholic University of America

The Papers of Rev. Paulinus, O.S.B. (1913-1987), monk of the Abbey of Montserrat and distinguished Coptic scholar, are housed in the Semitics/ICOR Library at The Catholic University of America. Through an agreement between CUA and the Abbey, Fr. Bellet taught Coptic, Ethiopic and Hebrew in the Department of Semitic and Egyptian Languages and Literatures between 1962 and 1978.

The Bellet Papers include teaching materials; facsimile copies and transcriptions of Coptic mss from European collections; lexical and other card indexes; and twelve copper mezzotint plates. These materials provide insight into Father Bellet's work as Coptic editor of the Biblia polyglotta Matritensia (1957- ) as well his unfinished work on an edition of the Middle-Egyptian Coptic text of the Acts of the Apostles in Coptic Glazier Codex (G67).

This project examines the steps taken to process this collection and create a finding aid. Approaches to organizing correspondence and selecting periodicals for retention will be considered. Challenges related to processing collections with non-English material will also be discussed, especially as descriptions were created with DACS (Describing Archives: A Content Standard) standards in mind.

**Materiality Assumes the Mantle of Intrinsic Value**

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Amanda Bernard, The Catholic University of America

The archival concept of intrinsic value — originally devised in 1979 as a defense against the large-scale replacement of paper records with microfilm surrogates — has lately morphed into a broader set of considerations revolving around materiality. Interestingly, whereas appeals to intrinsic value once aspired to objectivity, more recent archival literature has given expression to unabashedly subjective musings on materiality. Such musings often appear to be the product of nostalgia for physical, in-person research in an era of increasing digitization.

## Poster Presentations and Q&A, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

### Group 1

#### **The Gatekeeper Project: Obtaining Social Justice**

Rhea Ballard Thrower, Howard University

Tiffany Simmons, American University

“Defund the police!” In recent months, this phrase has been shouted from city streets throughout America. But, what does it really mean? In fall 2020, professors from American University and Howard University School of Law joined to create courses involving law enforcement, students, legislators, and returning citizens (formerly incarcerated). For the fall academic term, American University students in the Police, Law & Society class worked in teams with Howard University School of Law Students who took the Advanced Legal Research class. Advised by a law enforcement officer, the students worked in groups to perform research on the topic of defunding the police. Learning to use new research techniques, the students accessed various sources to develop action plans and policy papers. Their project proposals were later presented to local legislators who offered guidance on how to move forward. The faculty, students, and collaborators bridged the spectrum by working together to address social justice.

#### **RDA Implementation in Public Libraries: Challenges Faced and Lessons Learned**

Emily Swain, The Catholic University of America

In 2013, most American public libraries adopted Resource Description and Access (RDA) as the new catalog standard replacing the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, second edition (AACR2). Despite forward thinking RDA objectives, including a linked data focus and desire for international application, concerned non-adopters remain. The poster will explore the efficacy of RDA, discuss evaluative efforts, and investigate the rationale of non-adopters.

Both theoretical and practical influences play a role in this discussion. RDA aimed to solve some of the heavier concerns with AACR2 as well as shift focus to a FRBR-based standard. There have been mixed responses to this shift. Lack of resources, both budgetary and personnel based, also play a part in adoption. Some of this concern could be addressed through formal evaluation of RDA of which the field, to an extent, lacks. The poster strives to prompt discussion of lessons learned over RDA’s application in the last few years.

#### **The Legacy of Medieval Libraries: an exploration of the long-lasting societal values shared between medieval and modern libraries**

Benjamin Turnbull, The Catholic University of America

Despite the chronological separation between the medieval period and our own time, certain aspects of modern libraries are visible in the libraries of the middle ages. This

poster presentation explores how medieval libraries were innovative within their own historical context and how these medieval innovations have contributed to modern libraries. It discusses how medieval libraries represent a well-documented turning point for library institutions compared to the libraries of the ancient world and it describes how medieval libraries served communities of users. It also provides a detailed account of how medieval libraries organized their collections in order to provide their users with access to information. Throughout these sections, the presentation will include brief but sufficient comparisons to modern libraries. By comparing aspects of medieval libraries to aspects of modern libraries, we will not only see differences, but we can also discern some similarities between the modern library and its medieval counterpart.

## **Group 2**

### **The Creative Potential of Interdisciplinary Conversations**

Siobhan Dannaher, Bishop O'Connell High School

Why is teacher collaboration important? What immediate gains do teachers obtain from sharing their time and ideas?

Ideally, it is to make the most of our collective resources & gifts. We can rely on our colleagues to support us in exploring teaching dilemmas, expanding our repertoire of solutions, and implementing innovative plans. We can consider and solve problems collectively instead of individually. Various research also shows that student learning improves when teachers are communicating and sharing among themselves.

This idea was inspired by how our library is utilized in a very different way this year. Instead of being a space for students, it's a space for teachers to come together and work in harmony. In the library, we are always looking for ways to foster collaboration and community among the faculty especially this year as distance teaching can be very isolating. The overall goal is to unite teachers in ongoing, face-to-face dialogue that translates into more engaging, multidisciplinary projects.

### **Systematic Review on the Effectiveness of Library Instruction in Business Programs**

Celine Gareau-Brennan and Janice Kung, University of Alberta

There are many ways to approach library instruction but it is unclear what are the most effective strategies for post-secondary business programs. By conducting a systematic review, this study investigates the effectiveness of library instruction (with a focus on pedagogy) in business undergraduate and graduate programs. The quality of included studies will be evaluated based on a modified instrument designed to critically appraise educational interventions. As this work is ongoing, the authors will describe how they are framing this systematic review, what they have done so far, and their next steps in this research. Preliminary themes will be shared including content coverage, mode of instruction (in-person vs virtual), challenges, assessment strategies, and library educational interventions proven to be effective in teaching business students.

**MaRS: a Materials Request System for faculty**

James Parrigin, Salisbury University Libraries

Subject librarians at a medium-sized public university have developed an online application that enhances collection development collaborations between librarians and department faculty. Our subject librarians strive to develop collections that support academic programs without subject expertise in assigned areas. Consequently, we rely upon faculty colleagues to assist with ordering. Faculty recommendations help librarians to keep library collection quality and relevance high. However, encouraging department faculty to contribute remains a challenge. National library services survey reports corroborate this ongoing challenge, further indicating that communication is confined to email and spur-of-the-moment in-person interactions.

To streamline this process, a subject librarian and Technology Librarian developed the Materials Request System. The web-hosted MaRS platform allows departments and their faculty to view and plan requests around budgetary information, submit requests for materials that faculty will use for teaching and research, submit “rush” orders and place materials on Course Reserve, view inter-departmental requests, and more.

**UDC Library Syllabus Review Project**

Donna Welles, The Catholic University of America

The University of the District of Columbia Library is conducting a literature review and will undertake a syllabus review project to identify opportunities for expanding information literacy instruction and assess library collections. Meghan Kowalski, the Outreach and Reference Librarian, Cathy Meals, Assessment Librarian, and Donna Welles have investigated models for reviewing course syllabi. A syllabus analysis study might look for (1) the presence of library use, and (2) information literacy learning outcomes. The first step in any syllabus review is to determine if any library use is required. The syllabi can be scaled for more and less library use. The syllabi are coded for the presence of six themes using a three-indicator scale, not present, implied, or explicitly stated. Reviewers have options about either creating codes from the text of the syllabi, or they can create a rubric and assess each syllabus with the rubric.

### **Group 3**

**Knitting up history: Creating a small-scale digital collection using CONTENTdm**

Emily Brahler, The Catholic University of America

The prevalence of digital collections, and even larger-scale digital libraries, has increased over time. Constructing a successful digital collection ultimately requires attention to factors like purpose, audience, chosen materials, metadata, user services, and sustainability during preliminary planning, implementation, and subsequent collection maintenance.

This presentation illustrates the creation process of Knitting With a Purpose: 20th

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Century Wartime Knitting, a digital collection made using CONTENTdm. This collection features thirty-one items depicting historically significant knitting-related charity work chosen from the Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC). This presentation details important considerations during the planning and execution of this small-scale digital collection built from resources within the public domain.

This presentation is based on a digital collection project completed during the Summer 2020 semester for LSC612 Foundations of Digital Libraries, a course offered by the Department of Library and Information Science at The Catholic University of America.

**Resurrecting a Hidden Treasure: The Rare Books Room at the Dominican House of Studies**

Hannah Jones, Dominican Theological Library

The Rare Books Room at the Dominican Theological Library contains a wealth of resources that, sadly, remain unknown to many of the library's patrons and unfamiliar to its staff. My ongoing project aims to increase exposure of the library's rare and special collections via a three-pronged approach that addresses the needs of staff, students, and the wider community.

My presentation will focus mainly on phase one, which uses statistical analysis and network mapping to create a visual snapshot of the collections that can identify correlations between subject matter and other metadata points, in order to familiarize staff with the collections.

I will also discuss my plans for the completion of phases two and three, which will produce research guides to support student research and a digital exhibit to engage the wider community. Finally, I will touch on the benefits of using a three-pronged approach to bolster rare books usage.

**Visualizing Historical Changes to the Bacteriological Analytical Manual (BAM)**

Pamela Mesite, U.S. Food & Drug Administration

This pilot project started with a request from the BAM Council Chair, whose "primary interest is to eventually have access to older versions to understand historical changes that have occurred between methods in earlier editions of BAM and current versions of the methods."

Using tools and software that facilitate the recognition, extraction, cleaning, and transforming of print data, all eight editions of the Bacteriological Analytical Manual (BAM) were digitized for further analysis. The digitized PDFs were OCR'd and are searchable.

The digitized manuals were added to the FDA Library's repository and are discoverable in FindIT, the FDA Library's Ex Libris Primo instance. The record was enhanced with MeSH headings based on the Tables of Contents which provide metadata for researchers

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wishing to explore using text mining or natural language processing. The FindIT catalog record brings together access to all digital editions, the current online edition, Excel spreadsheets, and Tableau Viz.

**Migrating into the 21st Century**

Emily Somach and Catherine Mayfield, Maryland Center for History and Culture

In 2019, the H. Furlong Baldwin Library at the Maryland Center for History and Culture began two large-scale migration projects to increase accessibility of collections and improve collection management and digital preservation. One project centered on the implementation of ArchivesSpace and required staff to migrate all existing finding aids, container lists, agents, and subject terms into this system. Simultaneously, staff migrated all previously digitized material and accompanying metadata into a newly implemented digital asset management system (DAMS). While these projects were underway, the organization as a whole was rebranding and preparing to launch a new website, so staff also had the opportunity to design an online Digital Collections portal for the public display of DAMS content. This poster includes the general workflows and procedures for all three projects; example records from each system involved; details about ongoing work required for each project; and next steps and plans for the future.

## **Group 4**

**Consider Health Sciences Librarianship!**

Stacy Brody, Sara Hoover and Brian McDonald, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, George Washington University

Have you considered a career in health sciences librarianship?

2020 saw a dramatic rise in interest in publications associated with the health sciences, medical research, and consumer health information. With this growth came an increased awareness of the roles of information professionals. Health sciences librarians support medical professionals in providing care, researchers in advancing knowledge, faculty and students in furthering their education, and consumers in meeting their personal information needs.

This poster aims to provide the insider perspective on the skills needed to succeed as a health sciences librarian - and they might not be what you expect! The authors also describe the unique benefits and opportunities of health sciences librarianship, from the hospital librarian to the community outreach librarian to the academic reference and instruction librarian.

The poster concludes with next steps to explore the profession and to refine the skills needed to succeed as a health sciences librarian.

**Bridging Readership: Using an Institutional Repository (IR) to Promote COVID-19 Related Faculty Research**

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Sara Hoover and Brittany Smith, Himmelfarb Library, The George Washington University

How can medical librarians utilize emerging technologies to promote readership of Covid-19 related research from their institution?

This poster shows how librarians and staff at the Himmelfarb Library at George Washington University (GW) used the Digital Commons institutional repository (IR) platform to develop a subject-specific collection designed to collocate and promote COVID-19-related faculty research. In June 2020, we established a collection entitled “COVID-19 Publications by GW Authors” and since that time we have archived citations to over 100 publications. By utilizing a Google-indexed IR, we have increased awareness of local scholarship and utilize the built-in PlumX dashboard to provide authors and institutional stakeholders with metrics that can be an asset for professional advancement. This poster concludes that emerging technologies can help to reconceptualize information organization in light of recent trends in scholarly communications.

**Implementing a Health Literacy Initiative During COVID-19**

Semhar Yohannes and Aimee Plaisance, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

UMBC’s Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery is exploring how best to use its resources to respond to the current public health crisis. In this poster, we present our newly formed health literacy working group. The working group’s mission is to improve the health of library employees and patrons by making health information easy to understand and use.

Learn about the initiatives implemented by the working group: creating a charter, co-sponsoring a health literacy article discussion, publishing an online semesterly newsletter and implementing a health literacy lecture series. We also discuss our reasons for creating an in-house working group rather than depending on campus resources, our experiences after the first semester of this working group being active, and our plans for the future.

**Designing a Holistic Research Appointment Service: Utilizing an Online Feedback Form to Create Best Practices for Research Appointments**

Semhar Yohannes and Katy Sullivan, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Research appointments between librarians and students serve the space between in-class instruction and traditional reference interactions. Subject librarians at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) examined their library’s research appointment service from the perspectives of the patron and the librarian in order to improve the quality of experience for both participants. The project included creating and deploying a patron feedback form, developing shared best practices, and having ongoing guided discussions within the department about these private interactions. This poster explains the process, timeline, and tools used to conduct the project. It provides the feedback form questions and describes how the form was implemented into the scheduling process. The

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finalized best practices, now used for training, preparation, and reflection, are included. Next steps for the project are discussed.

## **Afternoon Breakout Sessions, 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.**

### **Session 3: The Virtual Programming Pivot: DMV Public Libraries and Rapid Changes in Programming During COVID-19**

**Panel Moderator: Mr. Nicholas A. Brown, COO for Communication and Outreach, Prince George's County Memorial Library System**

Panelists:

David Quick, Adult Programs & Partnerships Coordinator, DCPL

Tracy Dimond, Adult Services Coordinator, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Robyn Truslow, Public Relations Coordinator, Calvert Library

Pamela Hamlin, Family Literacy Specialist, Prince George's County Memorial Library System

Programming and outreach/communications experts from DMV-area public libraries discuss ways their teams adapted programs to the virtual environment during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Panelists will discuss lessons learned, surprising outcomes, technical considerations, copyright and licensing challenges, and how virtual programs will continue to evolve through 2021 and beyond. Special programming topics will be examined, including consortium-based programming, considerations for booking authors and artists for virtual events, the impact of staffing and organizational structures on the rapid development of virtual programs, and sustainability.

### **Session 4: Academic Libraries and Research Support**

**Moderator: Dr. Sung Un Kim**

#### **Measuring Student Success in Academic Libraries with the Kirkpatrick Model**

Jeff Prater, George Mason University

Library management must balance the rising collection and labor costs against the decreasing amount of money available for academic libraries in shrinking university budgets. In this environment, academic library management must justify every expense against other needs of the institution. The Kirkpatrick Model provides a simple, but thorough framework to assist academic libraries in this quest. Private industry has utilized The Kirkpatrick Model to evaluate its training in all four steps (Reaction, Learning, Behavior, Results) for over 70 years. The intent is to find evidence-based proof meeting The Kirkpatrick Model's third level of training evaluation in proving "the degree to which participants apply what they learned during training." For academic libraries, proving application of library instruction involves reviewing final products and looking for evidence. This presentation will address evaluating student learning from academic information literacy instruction. Furthermore, this presentation will assist in developing a

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thorough evaluation and assessment plan with the instructional design approach of backward design.

**W&L Law Journal Rankings: Measuring Scholarly Impact in the Legal Field**

Andrew Christensen and Alex Zhang, Washington and Lee University

As the only journal ranking tool exclusively in the legal field, the Washington and Lee Law Journal Rankings ("Rankings"; <https://go.wlu.edu/lawjournals>) provide important metrics for assessing scholarly publications' impact in both legal academia and American courts. The project was launched in 2004 by librarians at the W&L School of Law and has since undergone several significant improvements. Most recently, in 2019, we conducted a comprehensive review of the project in terms of its goals, workflow, and ranking methodology, and have implemented some significant changes to the project and its interface on the open web.

This Briefing intends to discuss the Rankings' value, methodology, workflow to minimize bias and maintain quality control, as well as challenges and opportunities with the project. We hope that presenting the Rankings to information professionals and scholars outside the legal community will provide opportunities for feedback, ideas, and connections that will benefit the project in terms of its reach and future improvements.

**Launching LACLI: Project of open access resources for Latin American, Caribbean, U.S. Latinx, and Iberian studies**

Flora Lindsay-Herrera, Dumbarton Oaks

Jesús Alonso-Regalado, University at Albany, SUNY

In this briefing, representatives of the Latin American North East Libraries Consortium (LANE) will present the LACLI (Latin American, Caribbean, U.S. Latinx, and Iberian Online Free E-Resources) project. The widespread closure of physical library spaces due to COVID-19 compelled educators and libraries to rely heavily on electronic resources to meet users' research needs. Launched in 2020 in response to the demand for e-resources, LACLI is a collective effort to create a warehouse of online free e-resources with Latin American, Caribbean, U.S. Latinx, and Iberian full content across research disciplines. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License, to allow anyone to reuse LACLI to create their own guides or any other material for non-commercial purposes. This briefing will discuss LACLI's origins, vision, principles and strategies employed for a rapid launch of the resource, and offer a short user demonstration. LANE is an affinity group of the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials.

**Exploring the Connections Between Ethnic Studies and Librarianship: A Discussion**

Raymond Pun, Alder Graduate School of Education

Melissa Cardenas-Dow, Sacramento State University

Kenya Flash, Yale University

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What is ethnic studies and why should libraries care about this interdisciplinary field today? This presentation features academic librarians who support the field, and will explore the connections between libraries, particularly academic librarians' work and their ethnic studies curriculum. Ethnic studies centers on the intersections and issues of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and the nation. American ethnic studies fields such as African American/Black Studies, Asian/Pacific American Studies, Indigenous/Native American Studies, Jewish Studies and Latinx Studies have focused on complexity of identities in society, and the role of community activism and research. What are these implications for academic libraries to consider? How can libraries play a role in supporting a new program within ethnic studies? The presenters will address these questions and identify strategies in supporting ethnic studies through key academic and community partnerships. Attendees will learn about the opportunities and challenges for libraries in supporting ethnic studies in an academic context.

## **Afternoon Breakout Sessions, 2:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.**

### **Session 5: Social Justice and Librarianship: Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethics**

**Moderator: Dr. Renate Chancellor**

#### **Out and Proud: Queering the Library**

Teresa Miller, Rebecca Oxley, Erica Ezeifedi and Rachel Zukowski, Prince George's County Memorial Library

Until 2020, a gap existed in services for LGBTQ+ patrons in the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS). This panel will talk about the team specifically created to address this gap. The issues addressed by the team included the need for internal and external education about LGBTQ+ issues, growth in the library's programming and resources for LGBTQ+ customers, and enthusiastic celebration of the LGBTQ+ experience. The team was able to create extensive staff development materials and robust programming initiatives, including planning a county-wide Pride Festival and author talks from queer authors, as well as a LGBTQ+ heritage page for the PGCMLS website. We will also discuss our quick pivot to fit a digital environment for Pride month events in response to COVID-19, and the challenges and benefits of those adjustments; social media best practices; and advice on how to start a similar team in your own organization.

#### **Innovative Approaches to Ethical Cataloging Practices**

David Heilbrun, Yoko Ferguson and Rachel Lavender, George Mason University

Neither library records nor librarians are impartial. George Mason University Metadata Services is seeking ways to collaboratively engage in ethical and conscious cataloging and metadata practices with three local initiatives: 1) Reparative description: In collaboration with the Special Collections Research Center, we are creating workflows to evaluate and repair statements, titles, and subject headings in the catalog and finding aids that contain harmful terminology; 2) Local name authority record policy: Understanding creators are also our patrons, we created a local Name Authority Record Policy which recognizes our power and responsibility, and is mindful of privacy and safety, especially those of transgender authors and zine artists; 3) Task force for Ethical & Anti-oppressive Metadata (TEAM): Ethical metadata work requires cross-departmental collaboration and record maintenance in different bibliographic systems. To respond to these challenges, we are working in a flexible, collaborative framework by documenting and sharing local changes.

#### **Lift Every Voice: Public Library Programming on Anti-Racism and Black Culture**

Elizabeth Ajunwa, Prince George's Memorial Library System

A presentation on how branch staff at Prince George's County Memorial Library System promote and celebrate library programming that addresses anti-racism and Black

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culture. In the wake of global pandemic, a reckoning of the history of racial injustice and police brutality began. In response, the approach of staff at the Prince George's Memorial Library System was for the public library to create engaging and interactive virtual programming on topics such as anti-racism and Black culture. The objectives of this programming were to foster open community dialogue and education. The development of this type of programming led to greater staff and community consideration of how the library can continue to strive to demonstrate a commitment to elevating anti-racism and Black culture in future programmatic initiatives long-term. This presentation will touch how others library systems can create racially conscious programming that is current and relevant to any library community.

**Collaborating on Antiracist Praxis**

Hannah Park, American University

The Writing Studies/Information Literacy committee at American University, which is a joint committee between the Writing Studies Program and Library, received an Inclusive Excellence Collaboration mini-grant to gather, annotate, and disseminate scholarship in antiracist praxis. There were three prongs to the Antiracist Praxis project: the creation of a subject guide and two in-person Teach-Ins. The Antiracist Praxis subject guide identifies the main ideas, key terms, and definitions within the scholarship that informs antiracist practice, particularly as they relate to composition pedagogy and library and information science. During the Antiracist Teach-in, there were discussion groups on topics such as anti-blackness, implicit bias, critical library studies, antiracist assessment theory, intersectionality, literary canonicity, etc. The project's goal was to help all Library, Department of Literature, and Writing Center faculty and staff become fluent in the basic vocabulary of antiracist scholarship; to open up constructive dialogue about best practices; and to set the groundwork for truly informed faculty and staff antiracist standards and goal-setting.

**Session 6: Special and Federal Libraries: Serving Specific Needs**

**Moderator: Dr. Ingrid Hsieh-Yee**

**Building a Bridge to Entrepreneurs**

Natalie Burclaff and Lynn Weinstein, Library of Congress

The Business Reference Section of the Library of Congress has a large number of resources to support research needs of entrepreneurs, but finding the relevant information within our huge, national collection and navigating the multi-building library campus was challenging. The business librarians used LibGuides to create the Small Business Hub: A Research Guide for Entrepreneurs in order to reorganize existing information, provide search tips, and encourage interactions with small business owners. This session will cover our goals for creating this guide, challenges in implementation, and how we have used it – and plan to use it – as an outreach tool to connect with the small business community.

**Current awareness for remote locations**

Edward McClure, U.S. National Park Service

Published information has grown at increasing rates over the last two decades. People stationed in remote locations often have neither the bandwidth nor the time to remain current. Further, important information is often found in publications other than those one might expect. With new information coming out every day, our staff of scientists, interpretive specialists, educators, planners, contract administrators, and others can fall behind, leading to unnecessary expenses and embarrassing mistakes. The Grand Canyon National Park Research Library supports a staff of from 250 to 450 people (depending on the season) in multiple remote locations across northern Arizona, USA. To enable the staff to keep up, the Library monitors some 900 journals and other resources, identifies relevant items, and sends a periodic email with links to these items to the Park staff and other interested people. The Library uses a variety of online and offline tools to maintain an efficient workflow.

**Quick Access to International Collections: Country Guides at the Library of Congress**

Maria Thurber, Library of Congress

With the formal implementation of LibGuides, an electronic platform well-known to libraries, the Hispanic Division at the Library of Congress set out to create individual Research Guides representing each country in the Luso-Hispanic world. The purpose of this project was to provide users anywhere with quick access to digitized international collections held at the Library, highlighting items from and about each country through links and canned searches. This briefing will describe the creation process of the Hispanic Division Country Guides, from individual guides to a sophisticated series of guides that are widely shared as ready reference tools.

**How the DTIC Thesaurus and Metatagger Application Support the Indexing Process at DTIC**

Scott Steele, Defense Technical Information Center

The Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) has served the research and information needs of the Defense community for more than 70 years since the end of WW2. DTIC has developed a number of tools to help manage this vast repository of information of over 4 million records, including the DTIC Thesaurus and Metatagger application. The DTIC Thesaurus is a controlled vocabulary of approximately 18,000 terms organized in hierarchical format along with a Thesaurus lexical evidence file of approximately 65,000 more granular terms tied to these thesaurus terms. These terms are also tied to a broader Subject Field and Group taxonomy dating back decades.

The DTIC Thesaurus controlled vocabulary feeds into DTIC's Metatagger application, which semantically analyzes documents and then outputs ranked tag listings of concepts and topics summarizing the main themes of that document. DTIC's Content Analysts use these suggested metadata terms for indexing documents coming into DTIC's repository.