Dennis Krieb, 2015 Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year

Eric Edwards
Illinois State Library

(For the press release on Krieb's selection, go to https://www ila.org/content/documents/2015academic_libkrieb_press_release.pdf)

Congratulations on your selection as the 2015 Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year! What was your reaction to being chosen?

Shock…followed by disbelief. I nearly fell out of my chair upon learning this. I can't express how honored I am to be selected. I just feel incredibly fortunate to have such great colleagues and friends throughout the state. I'm still a little numb about this.

Have you known, or worked with, any of the previous winners?

Yes, I have had the privilege of working with several of the previous winners. Charlotte Johnson and I go way back to when I was a student worker at Lovejoy Library at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in the late 1980s. I have also worked with Paula Kaufman, Allen Lanham, and David Carlson on the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) Board of Directors.

Over the years, you've been involved with a number of Illinois library organizations. What has been your most rewarding experience collaborating with other librarians throughout Illinois?

See Krieb, page 11

Emily Knox Receives 2015 ILA Intellectual Freedom Award

Eric Edwards
Illinois State Library

For the press release on Knox's selection, go to https://www ila.org/content/documents/2015_intelfreedom_knoxxpress_release.pdf )

Congratulations on winning the 2015 ILA Intellectual Freedom Award! What was your reaction when you heard the news?

Thank you! I was very surprised and honored.

Have you had the opportunity to work with any of the previous winners?

No, unfortunately. I'm happy to be included with such a distinguished list of winners. It's particularly satisfying to see that entire staffs and boards of libraries have won the award. This means that the profession has been able to share our values with many of our stakeholders.

What do you see as the biggest difference between the intellectual freedom debate in the U.S. and that in other countries?

In this country, we tend to focus a lot on the First Amendment and legal cases when discussing intellectual freedom. Obviously, this would not make sense in other countries. Outside of the U.S., support for intellectual freedom is based on Articles 18 and 19 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). Intellectual freedom also tends to be more absolute in this country. For example, hate speech is protected by our government—a right that is not shared in many other developed nations.

See Knox, page 11
Message from the Incoming President: Why IACRL?

Gwen Gregory
University of Illinois at Chicago

I know you’re interested in the Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries, and in academic libraries in Illinois. What does IACRL have to offer? IACRL is here to serve the needs of the academic library community. Our mission is to promote the interests of academic libraries and the personnel of those libraries; to enhance the abilities of academic library personnel to identify and meet the information needs of current and potential library users; and to develop and promote leadership to the academic library community.

Dear reader, we are here to serve you. As the incoming President of IACRL, I would love to hear your ideas about IACRL and what we should do. One place you can share these ideas is at the 2015 Combined Library Conference (http://librariesillinois.org/), taking place in Peoria on October 22-24, 2015. IACRL will host our annual business meeting and luncheon on Friday, October 23, from 12:15 to 1:30 PM. All are welcome to attend the meeting, even if you don’t pay for the lunch or attend the rest of the conference. We will have a table where you can talk with IACRL officers and members throughout the conference. Stop by, say hello, and pick up a free piece of candy or an IACRL t-shirt (just $10). We will also host a stop on the Pub Stroll in downtown Peoria.

We actively pursue ideas to engage and serve academic librarians. One of our newer initiatives is an online job board, which gathers academic-library postings in the state, at http://iacrl.net/?q=jobs. We are currently planning the next IACRL Conference, which will be at the Marriott Chicago O’Hare on March 18, 2016. The conference theme is “Raise Your Voice: Librarians in the Lead”. It will be an amazing event, complete with a keynote speaker and luncheon. We hope to offer preconference sessions, also. Watch for calls for program and poster session submissions this fall and winter. (See related article in this issue.) We’re also starting on programming for the fall, 2016, Illinois Library Association conference, which will be held in Rosemont.

I’m thrilled to serve as an officer of the Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries! In October, I will take office as President for 2015-16. I look forward to working with the IACRL committees and Executive Board to develop new programs and maintain those we have. I will represent IACRL to the Illinois Library Association and to the national Association of College and Research Libraries. I look forward to hearing from academic librarians in Illinois about what IACRL can do for you and your library. Feel free to contact me via e-mail, at ggregory@uic.edu.

Need a Job? Need a Librarian?

Check out the IACRL job board! New openings at local academic libraries are posted regularly. Our goal is to be the place for comprehensive information on academic library job openings in the state of Illinois. To post a job opening at your library, just click on the Submit a Job link and fill out the online form!

www.iacrl.net
ILA 2015: All-For-One Conference Preview

Carolyn Ciesla
Prairie State College

This year, the Illinois Library Association’s annual conference, scheduled for October 22-24 in Peoria, promises to be a one-of-a-kind event. Focusing on the intersections of public, academic, school, and special librarianship, the conference program highlights the various ways that the connections between our fields improve and strengthen librarianship as a whole.

Program proposals were encouraged to involve presenters from different library types, and program titles reflect that collaboration. Some of the presentations include reader’s advisory in an academic setting, marketing across all library types, and community development, “from the classroom to the boardroom”. There are also a number of sessions that may appeal specifically to academic librarians, covering topics from assessment to outreach.

IACRL is also sponsoring a stop on the Pub Stroll; join us Thursday evening between 6:00 PM and 10:00 PM for an evening of networking. The next day, we encourage you to attend the IACRL Business Meeting and Lunch, and the opportunity to chat with colleagues and discuss topics related to academic librarianship, on Friday, Oct. 23, at 12:15 PM at the Pere Marquette Hotel. Meet the new officers, reconnect with current members, and learn about the latest happenings in IACRL. (Pre-registration is required for the luncheon.)

ILA 2015: Presentations & Posters Featuring Academic Librarians

Note: Presenters whose names are in bold currently work at Illinois academic or research libraries.

PRESENTATIONS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
10:45 – 11:45 AM

“From Painter to Patron: Supporting the Arts in Academic and Public Libraries” Karen Kleckner Keefe, Hinsdale Public Library; and Lindsay Harmon, Lewis University.

“Need Demographic Statistics? Numbers for Grants, Reports, and Patrons in All Libraries” Daneen Richardson, Western Illinois University; and Stacey Knight-Davis, Eastern Illinois University.

“Creating a Culture of Reading: Readers’ Advisory in the Academic Library” Janice Derr, Pamela Ferrell, and Sarah Johnson, Eastern Illinois University.

“Bridging the Information Gap for Adult Learners” Kathy Olesen-Tracey, Western Illinois University; and Kathryn Dauksza, Illinois State Library.

1:45 – 2:45 PM

“Voices of Race: Bringing Communities Together” Carolyn Anthony, Skokie Public Library; Rose Novil, Oakton Community College; Gail Bush, National Louis University; Beverly Zbinden, Niles North High School Library; and Deborah Keegan, Lincolnwood Public Library District.

“Resources for Information Literacy in Illinois High Schools” Michelle Guitar and Kelly Grossmann, Northeastern Illinois University.

3:00 – 4:00 PM

“IACRL annual Business Meeting and Lunch”

“IACRL Business Meeting and Luncheon”

“IACRL Business Meeting”

“IACRL Business Meeting”

“Creating Connections with Community Reading” Michelle Olsen Ott, Illinois Central College Library; Janice Derr, Eastern Illinois University; and Roberta Koscielski, Peoria Public Library.

“Not Down, and Not Out: The Perceived Value of Subject Terms in an Age of Information Overload” Lindsay Braddy, Skokie Public Library; and Bill Schultz, Jr., Eastern Illinois University.

“What We Learned About Librarianship in Our Own Classrooms” Michelle Powers, Career Education Corporation; Sarah Skilton, Oswego Public Library District; and Rich Clegg, Dominican University.


“Sharing Since Before it was Cool: Libraries and the Shared Economy” Jeanne Holba Puacz, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

See ILA, page 8
Meet the New Officers: Lindsay Harmon

Carl Lehnen
Rockford University

What are you most interested in doing in your new position with IACRL?

I’ve been involved with IACRL almost since the start of my career as a librarian, first on the Communications Committee, then as Secretary/Treasurer, and now as the Vice-President/President-Elect. In all of these positions, the thing I’ve enjoyed most is interacting with academic librarians from throughout Illinois. I’m looking forward to the upcoming joint Illinois libraries conference and to our own IACRL 2016 conference. I also hope to facilitate some opportunities for IACRL members to gather, collaborate, and network between conferences.

You recently moved from a position at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago to being the Instruction & Outreach Librarian at Lewis University. What has it been like to adapt from working in art school libraries to working at a comprehensive university?

I’m writing this a couple of days before classes begin, so I may have a different answer by the time this is published! As an instruction librarian, a lot of what I do at Lewis will be pretty similar to my work at SAIC, except for the subject matter, since I’ll be working with business and communications students (my new liaison areas), rather than art and design students. I think the biggest change will be not being constantly surrounded by art, both on display and informally. So far, there hasn’t been any performance art taking place in the library at Lewis, but I’ve only been here a couple of months, so maybe that will change . . .

Carolyn Ciesla
Prairie State College

What are your goals as the incoming Secretary/Treasurer of IACRL?

My goal as Secretary/Treasurer is to expand my involvement with IACRL, in order to help further promote and connect academic libraries throughout the state. I am already working with the planning committee for the IACRL Conference in March, 2016, and am working to gain corporate sponsorships for the conference.

Can you tell me a little bit about your time as a librarian?

I have worked at Illinois Central College, in East Peoria, as the Outreach and Reference Librarian for nearly six years, which is my entire librarian career. In the past few years, I have worked to create relationships with faculty, staff, and students. Our new programs helped us win the ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award for 2014. I have also worked to institute our community-reads program, “One Book, One College”, now in its second year. Before coming to ICC, I worked in Vanderbilt University’s libraries, as a Library Assistant in Technical Services and as a student worker in Government Information.

What do you see as an immediate need facing Illinois academic libraries right now?

As a librarian focused on outreach, I see visibility and awareness of academic libraries as an immediate need. Much of my job is spent raising awareness of the ICC Library’s products and services. I want everyone to know that libraries are awesome.

Do you have a favorite pop-culture librarian?

I don’t know if this counts, but Fake Library Statistics is amazing.
Hugh Atkinson Named Illinois Library Luminary

Eric Edwards
Illinois State Library

A director of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s libraries whose legacy is still being felt almost three decades after his death has been named an Illinois Library Association Library Luminary.

Hugh Atkinson, who served as director of UIUC’s libraries from 1976 until his unexpected death in 1986, was named one of the recipients of the award for 2015. He is among seven people, including Commissioner of the Chicago Public Library Mary Dempsey, who have been recognized so far this year. The award is given annually to approximately a half-dozen individuals who have shown strong leadership in promoting Illinois libraries and their vital roles, and who have left a lasting impact on their communities and library services more broadly.

Atkinson, who received an MA in library science from the University of Chicago, had a productive career that included stops as library director at Ohio State University and the State University of New York at Buffalo. It was at UIUC, however, that he laid the foundation for his legacy. According to Betsy Wilson (currently Vice Provost for Digital Initiatives and Dean of University Libraries at the University of Washington), who started her library career under Atkinson at UIUC, he was one of the first people to embrace the concept of “libraries without walls”.

Many of the services that library users and staff take for granted today—particularly resource-sharing among libraries and electronic access to library materials—sprang in large part from Atkinson’s efforts. At the time, such an approach to providing library services was considered radical, as it went against the “traditional” concept of libraries as stand-alone institutions housing print collections intended for a narrow group of users. Resource-sharing was limited even among library branches within the same institution.

The benefits of Atkinson’s changes soon became clear, however. Lin-da Smith, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs at UIUC’s Graduate School of Library and Information Science, and who joined the faculty there shortly after Atkinson’s arrival, says that Atkinson’s creation of UIUC’s first online library circulation-system helped break down those barriers. “In a library with many separate branches, this was a significant improvement in access to the rich library collections at Illinois.” The success of UIUC’s approach encouraged other libraries in the state to embrace the concept. These efforts eventually resulted in the creation of an online, statewide resource-sharing initiative, the Library Computer System network, that was a precursor to today’s Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois. Illinois’s system also became a model for library collaboration in other states.

Perhaps even more significant than his efforts to improve library services, however, was Atkinson’s ability to see ahead and predict the future needs of libraries in a changing world. At a time when the Internet was virtually unknown among the general public, and even personal computers were still a few years away, Atkinson was already raising a question with which librarians continue to grapple today. Wilson recalls that, when she returned from training librarians across Illinois on how to use the statewide catalog that Atkinson had introduced, he asked, “Betsy, what do you think libraries will be able to do when everyone has the power of a mainframe computer on their desk?” Having Atkinson’s mindset—of looking ahead, of trying to predict changes before they occur—is serving librarians well today, as they continue adapting to ongoing technological transformations that are dra-matically reshaping the ways in which libraries reach users and deliver services.

What is most remarkable is that Atkinson implemented or initiated these changes in the space of one decade, until his life was tragically cut short just a month before his 53rd birthday. While he may not have had time to bring all of his plans to fruition, the example he set for librarians and library advocates lives on. Several awards have been named in his honor, including the Illinois Library Association’s Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial/DEMCO Award, in addition to the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award, the chief sponsor of which is the Association of College & Research Libraries. The criteria for the awards include not just excellence in library administration, but leaving a lasting impact on librarianship and possessing a willingness to engage in risk-taking. That these attributes of Atkinson’s are still held in such high regard is testament to the example he set for, and the inspiration he provided to, librarians and library supporters, not just in Illinois, but across the United States and around the world.
Why did you decide to become a librarian?

I've always loved libraries, and I worked as an undergraduate in my university's library, with some wonderfully quirky, smart, and passionate librarians. The idea of a career in libraries didn't fully dawn on me, however, until I was earning my master's degree in Russian and Slavic studies a couple years later. One of my professors was also the Slavic librarian, and this was the first time I really saw librarians as scholars, and I loved the idea of a career that would give me access to the academic world through the information resources themselves. Plus, my own interests in the humanities tend to jump around so much, from literature to history, to architecture and design, and working in libraries with access to unique collections means I'm never bored and I'm always learning something new.

What is your current position, and what do you like most about it?

I'm the Metadata/Catalog Librarian and Interim Database Maintenance Librarian at the University of Illinois at Chicago. I really enjoy that I'm able to work with so many different departments as metadata becomes increasingly important in the library universe. So, whether it's working with Circulation to hone our cataloging processes, consulting with Digital Programs for a new digital collection, helping Special Collections to make rare resources more findable, or learning about data repositories to strengthen the library's data-management services, there's always an interesting project to work on.

What are you reading or listening to right now?

I recently read Collection of Sand, a book of essays by Italo Calvino.

See Spotlight, page 12

Librarians on the Move

Sarah Sagmoen
University of Illinois Springfield

Benn Joseph recently joined the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago as Head of University Archives & Special Collections (UASC).

Joseph comes to IIT from Northwestern University, where he served as Manuscript Librarian. He belongs to the Midwest Archives Conference and the Society of American Archivists, and he was a participant in the 2013 Archives Leadership Institute cohort. Joseph earned his MLS degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In addition to his duties at IIT, he teaches a course in archival administration at Dominican University's Graduate School of Library & Information Science.

Melanie E. Emerson joined the Ricker Library of Architecture and Art at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as Head Librarian.

Prior to joining UIUC, Emerson worked at the Art Institute of Chicago for 10 years. During her time there, she served as a senior reference librarian before being promoted to head of Reader Services for the Institute's Ryerson & Burnham Libraries. Emerson also has experience at two Michigan libraries, the Detroit Institute of Arts Research Library & Archives and the Rochester Hills Public Library. She received her BA in Art History and her MLIS, with a Special Libraries and Archival Certification, from Wayne State University. In addition, she earned an MAAH (in Contemporary Art History, Theory & Criticism) from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Ashley McMullin joined DePaul University Library in May of 2015 as Assessment and Marketing Librarian.

Before coming to DePaul, McMullin worked for several years at William Rainey Harper College (in reference, instruction, and collection development), in addition to The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She has been active in a number of library organizations, among them the Illinois Library Association, the Association of College & Research Libraries, and the American Library Association. Her committee involvement includes the ALA Community and Junior College Libraries Section Program Planning Committee, the ACRL Conference Poster Sessions Committee, and the ALA Education and Behavioral Sciences Section Membership Committee. McMullin is a 2012 MLIS graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Recent Publications by Academic Librarians in Illinois

Compiled by Tara Wood
University of Illinois at Chicago

Note: Authors whose names are in bold currently work at Illinois academic or research libraries.


See Publications, page 12
Academic Librarians Participate in Synergy

Eric Edwards
Illinois State Library

Six librarians from Illinois academic and research libraries participated in this year’s “Synergy: The Illinois Library Leadership Initiative” program. The annual program, which is sponsored by the State Library, is designed to identify and train librarians from across the state and a wide spectrum of institutions (academic, public, special) who have demonstrated serious leadership potential. Through the program’s activities, participants examine their own abilities and goals, both professional and personal, while continuing to build relationships with colleagues, through mentoring and other activities. At the same time, participants increase their familiarity with library issues at the local, state, national, and international levels, and they also learn to apply their knowledge to areas outside of librarianship. Participants in this year’s Synergy program met three times, twice in Springfield and then for a final gathering at Starved Rock State Park in Utica. There were 29 total “Synergists”, plus 10 mentors.

Synergists from academic libraries were Gwen Gregory, University of Illinois at Chicago; Yi Han, Illinois Institute of Technology; Sarah McHone-Chase, Northern Illinois University; Ariel Orlov, Adler University; and Sarah Sagmoen, University of Illinois Springfield. Allen Lanham, from Eastern Illinois University, served as a mentor. For more information on the program, including instructions for applying (the application for this coming year was not yet available as of mid-October), go to http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/libraries/synergy.html.

(ILA from page 3)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23
10:00 – 11:00 AM

“Work Smarter: Using Project Management to Do More with Less” Rebecca Malinowski, SWAN (System Wide Automated Network); and Michael Perry, Northwestern University.

1:30 – 2:30 PM

“A Day in the Life: Where Students Go and How They Look for Information” Gwen Gregory, University of Illinois at Chicago; and Cynthia Snyder, Midwestern University.

2:45 – 3:45 PM

“Programming through Partnership for Adults with High-Functioning Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome” Kate Niehoff, Schaumburg Township District Library; Maria Bellantuono, Alexian Brothers Autism Spectrum and Developmental Disorders Resource Center; Teri Dudasik, parent in the Schaumburg Community; Linda Hoeck, Harper College; and Patrick Abraham, Township H.S. District 211.

“Designing School Library Spaces That Work” Fred Schlipf and Georgeann Burch, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

“A RDA State of Mind - Information for the Rest of Us” Elizabeth Cribbs, Northern Illinois University; and Lynnette Fields, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

“Playing Nice on the Playground: Multi-Type Library Cooperation for Professional Development” Jasmine Cieszynski, Olivet Nazarene University; Tracy Conner, Kankakee Community College; Joe Filapek, Reaching Across Illinois Library System; and Lynne Noffke, Limestone Township Public Library District.

See ILA, page 9
“A Rising Tide: The Importance of Adult Literacy Volunteers” Jim Deiters, Melissa Apple, Joanne Neff, and Roseann Spoto, Oak Lawn Public Library; and Kipp Cozad, Moraine Valley Community College.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
9:00 – 10:00 AM

“Success! Assessment in Action and Its Impact on Four Academic Libraries” Lisa Massengale, Illinois Institute of Technology; Stefanie Bluemle, Augustana College; Amy Glass, Illinois Central College; and Heather Jagman, DePaul University.

“Marketing Across Library Types” Gabrielle Annala, Loyola University Chicago; Molly Castor, Hinsdale Public Library; Jennifer Adams, AbbVie Pharma; and Magdalena Casper-Shipp, Illinois State University.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

“No Need to Re-Invent the Wheel: Best Practices for Library Networking Groups” Lynne Noffke, Limestone Township Public Library District; Gabrielle Annala, Loyola University Chicago; Holly Jin, Skokie Public Library; Renee Grassi, Glen Ellyn Public Library; Nancy Maloney, Deere & Company; Beth Duttlinger, Lillie M. Evans Library District; and Debbie Baaske, Reaching Across Illinois Library System.

1:45 – 2:45 PM


“The Librarian Dating Game (Public, School, and Academic Librarians Learning to Love Each Other)” Stephanie Spetter, Des Plaines Public Library; Julie Jurgens, Arlington Heights Memorial Library; Magi Henderson, Glen Carbon Centennial Library District; Carolyn Ciesia, Prairie State College; Brenda Glenn, Morton Grove Public Library; and Mariela Siegert, Bloomingdale School District #13.


“A Rising Tide: The Importance of Adult Literacy Volunteers” Jim Deiters, Melissa Apple, Joanne Neff, and Roseann Spoto, Oak Lawn Public Library; and Kipp Cozad, Moraine Valley Community College.

POSTER SESSIONS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
4:00 – 5:00 PM


FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23
9:00 – 10:00 AM

“Keep it Fresh, Keep it 100: Leveraging Social Apps and Staff Creativity to Deliver Library Content and Engage Students” Alyson Vaaler and Steve Brantley, Eastern Illinois University.

“Training Non-Librarians for Non-MARC Metadata Construction” Stephen Smith, University of Illinois at Chicago.

“More Than Headcounts: Using Multiple Methods to Assess Student Use of Space” Anne Marie Sticksel, Erik Ponder, and Jason Kruse, Northwestern University.

“Experiences of Embedded Librarians at a Small Liberal Arts College: One Size Fits One” Michelle Oh, Lake Forest College.

12:00 – 1:00 PM

“Streaming Musical Archives: Open Source Digitization & Delivery” Hunter Dunlap, Western Illinois University.

“Make it Count” Rachelle Stivers, Heartland Community College; Jessica Bastian, Illinois Central College; and Jennifer Sauzer, Columbia College.

“Creating Online Federal Depository Collections: Case Study” Mingyan Li and Russell Kracke, Oakton Community College.

“Getting the Big Picture: Assessing Your Library’s Web Presence” Tara Wood and Tracy Seneca, University of Illinois at Chicago.

“Helping Students Browse” Danielle Futoran, Illinois State University.

“Enhancing Distance Education: A Collaboration Effort Between Academic and Public Libraries” Rachel Wedeward, Dominican University.

“Lost and Afraid in the Library: How Academic Librarians are Conquering Library Anxiety Today” Emily Hardesty, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
10:00 – 11:00 AM

“Make it Count” Rachelle Stivers, Heartland Community College; Jessica Bastian, Illinois Central College; and Jennifer Sauzer, Columbia College.
Submit a Proposal for the IACRL 2016 Conference

Carl Lehnen
Rockford University

IACRL is inviting submissions for its 2016 conference, “Raise Your Voice: Librarians in the Lead,” to be held on Friday, March 18, 2016, at the Chicago Marriott O’Hare.

Proposals are due by Monday, November 16, 2015, and submitters will be notified of the conference committee’s decision by Wednesday, December 16, 2015.

We encourage a variety of submission types on topics that showcase librarians’ roles as advocates and collaborators, from traditional presentations and interactive panel discussions, to fast-and-focused “lightning round” presentations.

For more information, and to make a submission, visit our online form: http://tinyurl.com/prz5fb4.

Why Join IACRL?

- Get to know other academic librarians and discover common interests and opportunities for collaboration.
- Participate in our biannual conferences as an attendee or presenter.
- Get involved with state library legislative efforts.
- And much more!

It’s easy to become a member!

To join, just check the IACRL Forum box on the ILA membership application form.

You can find the application form on the ILA website under Membership.
This is a tough question. I’ve been involved with the Southern Illinois Learning Resources Cooperative (SILRC) for many years and thoroughly enjoy working with this group. But if I were forced to choose one experience, I would say serving on the CARLI Board of Directors. Susan Singleton, the CARLI staff, and Board members are really a special group that has done so much for academic libraries in Illinois. I am also looking forward to working with Bob Doyle and the Executive Board at ILA as a new Board member.

As the library director at Lewis & Clark Community College, what do you view as the special challenges facing junior-college libraries today?

Higher education is becoming more data-driven. This shift needs to be embraced by academic libraries because I believe our impact upon student success is significant. As academic librarians, we have always gathered data about our libraries, though we have rarely been able to connect these data to individual student success. To do this requires looking at data-gathering in a different way. For example, I think we need to begin tracking our service points—such as reference work and library instruction—to the individual student. Of course, we must continue to protect the privacy of our patrons, but I believe we can incorporate analytics into our work without compromising patron privacy.

When people hear the word “library” 10 years from now, what do you think will come to mind?

I recently read Library 2020 by Joseph Janes and was surprised by how different the contributing librarians saw the future for libraries. This was comforting to me because I really don’t know the answer to this question myself. Libraries—and librarians, for that matter—are incredibly adaptable. There is no question that our physical spaces, resources, and tools will be different in 2025. But I’m confident that our roles and relevance will remain constant, perhaps even elevated as information takes on new levels of complexity. So, while I am a little fuzzy on what our libraries may have within their walls—or outside of their walls—the need for librarians can only increase, in my opinion.

With respect to academic libraries, my hope is that in 10 years, we will be able to provide our administrators with data showing that the impact of librarians upon students is real, shifting from anecdotal to quantifiable evidence. In turn, college administrators will see their libraries and librarians as indispensable partners for improving student success. Of course, librarians have always known this.

Any big projects you’re working on right now?

As the outreach librarian, one of my biggest responsibilities is coordinating our “Welcome Days” activities for the new students. We’re in the midst of that right now, and since it’s my first one here, I’m learning a lot about what Lewis students respond to. Our librarian trading cards have been particularly popular! Beyond that, I’m getting ready to expand the library’s presence on social media to Instagram and Twitter, and I’m working with our veterans’ affairs office on a joint program for the spring semester.

What is your favorite library, and why is it your favorite?

That’s a tough one! I visited the British Library when I was in London a few years back, and it was amazing. Closer to home, I’m a big fan of the Oak Park Public Library, which was my home library until recently (and, for a while, my employer, as well). It’s a beautiful building, with a lot of really innovative programming and a great children’s department that my 2- and 5-year-olds loved.

What’s the last book you read that you really enjoyed?

I’m reading a lot less, now that I commute by car rather than train! But I discovered cartoonist Lynda Barry’s books recently, and they blew my mind, particularly Syllabus: Notes from an Accidental Professor, which seems appropriate for the start of the academic year. I’d love to be a student in her classes!

Do you have an all-time favorite banned book?

At the moment, it’s The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot and Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic by Alison Bechdel are close runners-up, though.

In teaching library school students about intellectual freedom, what do you hope they will take away from your classes that they can apply in their careers?

That supporting intellectual freedom is difficult, since it is not necessarily about protecting speech with which you agree. Also, that the answers are not always black-and-white, since different situations and contexts call for different responses.

FOLLOW US

IACRL has expanded its social media presence!
Follow us on Twitter (@IACRLIllinois) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/IACRL).
(Spotlight, from page 6)

I especially loved his essays on Japan, and his general way of revealing mystery and beauty through careful observation. My new favorite music to cook to is Bill Evans. I did a lot of house-painting this summer, and my go-to jams were Alabama Shakes and Courtney Barnett.

Are there any big projects you’re working on right now?

I’m in the midst of implementing a transition in subject-cataloging practices for digital and special collections at UIC, which has been slow going because of the scale of the project. The aim is to make it easier for non-expert catalogers to learn the procedures, while also making it easier for researchers to find what they’re looking for. Finding that balance is always a challenge, but I think we’re definitely moving in the right direction.

If you had a year off with pay, what would you do?

Travel, with a focus on culinary and outdoor adventure. My domestic to-do list in far-off places includes hiking the Kalalau Trail (on the Na Pali Coast in Hawaii), in addition to Denali and Glacier Bay National Parks (in Alaska). In South America, I’d go hiking in Colombia, Peru, and Brazil, and swing by Chile for some stargazing. I’d love to do some cycling in France and Italy, then cruise down the Danube River from Germany to Hungary and do more exploring in Eastern Europe. India is big on my list, and I’d love to do a culinary tour of the whole country, preferably to coincide with mango season.

(Publications from page 7)


