Robert Seal, ACRL Academic Librarian of the Year

Robert Seal, Dean of Libraries at Loyola University Chicago, was recently named ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. To read the article on his receiving the award, go to http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2015/02/robert-seal-named-2015-acrl-academic-research-librarian-year. Interview by Eric Edwards, Benedictine University at Springfield

What was your reaction to being named ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year?

Stunned, at first, speechless. I knew my staff had nominated me, but I didn’t expect to be the one chosen. I am humbled and honored by this wonderful recognition.

Do you know, or have you had a chance to work with, any of the previous winners?

As a matter of fact, yes, mostly through association work and my service on the OCLC Members Council and the OCLC Board. Those colleagues include Janice Welburn, Betsy Wilson, Ray English, Ravi Sharma, Tom Kirk, Larry Hardesty, Jim Neal, and Beverly Lynch, all outstanding librarians and library leaders. I am honored to be in their company.

If you could name an “Academic/Research Librarian of All Time”, who would it be?

That’s very difficult, as there have been so many accomplished academic and research librarians over the past many years.

See Seal, page 10

Legislative Update: Illinois Budget Situation

Eric Edwards
Benedictine University at Springfield

A new gubernatorial administration often brings significant changes. In the case of Illinois, however, new Governor Bruce Rauner has been proposing changes that are especially drastic, and that will potentially have a significant impact on institutions of higher education and academic libraries throughout the state.

During his campaign for governor last year, Rauner repeatedly emphasized the need to make substantial cuts in the state’s budget, due to the massive deficit he would inherit from former Governor Pat Quinn. That has now been compounded by the failure to renew the temporary increase in the state income tax. Rauner appears to be making good on his promise. During his budget speech on February 18, the Governor made official what many had suspected for some time—that he plans for deep, across-the-board cuts of 20 percent or more in order to bring the State’s funding under control. These cuts would amount to over $6 billion.

What is perhaps more of a shock, however, is just how heavy a hit higher education— and, by extension, academic libraries—could take. The Governor has proposed $387 million in cuts for higher education, which amounts to more than six percent of the total proposed statewide cuts. At the institutional level, schools are being asked to consider cutting spending by approximately 31 percent. (For public universities, which depend on state funding for a greater share of their budgets, the cuts could be even more severe.) Just what form these cuts will take is still undetermined, although some schools, such as Western Illinois University, have already considered eliminating several dozen programs and making significant cuts in many others. The possibility of cuts is coming at a bad time for colleges and universities in Illinois, as many are faced with declining enrollments, already decreasing the amount of funding coming from tuition.

See Legislative, page 10
A Message from the Executive Committee

Andrew Lenaghan
IACRL President (on behalf of the Executive Committee)

Greetings, IACRL members, and welcome to 2015! This year is off to a very exciting start. During ALA Midwinter, IACRL participated in the ACRL chapter’s council meeting and brunch (despite the horrible blizzard that day) on Sunday, February 1. Coming in October is the Illinois Library Association’s “A Library State of Mind” all-for-one conference. This first-time (in Illinois) event will bring together all libraries in the state. Academic, school, public, and special librarians have gotten together to plan a conference that promises to be engaging and collaborative and that, literally, has something for everyone. Proposals “that demonstrate collaboration with different types of libraries or other community organizations; that showcase creative, innovative solutions and provide leadership in serving Illinois communities of all types; and that explore strategic, forward thinking ways that libraries can strengthen communities through services and programs” are now being accepted. The deadline for program proposals is Friday, March 20. The deadline for poster session proposals will be announced in the coming months. For more information about submitting a proposal, or any other information regarding the conference, please visit the conference site: http://librariesillinois.org/.

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
ACRL 2015 Conference Preview

Sarah Sagmoen
University of Illinois Springfield

The beginning of the year has sped by, and it’s hard to believe that the ACRL 2015 Conference is right around the corner. This year’s conference will be held from March 25 to March 28. Are you going to Portland? If so, you’re probably wondering how you’re going to make it to all of the great sessions being offered. The “My Planner” tool (accessible at http://m4.goeshow.com/acrl/national/2015/mobile_index.cfm) is certainly a great way to stay organized, but don’t forget that sitting in sessions is not the only way to be productive while conferencing. ACRL has provided a page called “Fun Stuff” (http://conference.acrl.org/fun-stuff-pages-296.php) to help you expand your conference experience. From book clubs to a buddy program, there’s something for both experienced and new attendees.

Also, College & Research Libraries News has put together an article (http://crln.acrl.org/content/76/1/20.full) highlighting the city of Portland. Be sure to read it before heading out to explore the city. If you haven’t started planning your program schedule, we’ve provided a list of Illinois librarians who will be presenting at ACRL, to get you started. The list is rather long and includes librarians from all over the state.

We’re certainly doing great things in Illinois, and it is inspiring to see how well-represented Illinois will be in Portland. A big congrats to everyone presenting!

Can’t make it to Portland? Be sure to check out the Virtual Conference. While there is a cost, it is much cheaper than actually flying to Portland, and your access to the archive lasts for a full year. In addition to 12 live webcasts, which can be viewed at http://conference.acrl.org/virtual-conference-webcasts-pages-286.php, you will have access to recordings of contributed papers, invited papers, panel sessions, and TechConnect presentations that take place at the conference. Registration is available both for individuals and for groups of various sizes. Check out the Virtual Conference’s website (at http://conference.acrl.org/virtual-conference-pages-161.php) for more information.

If the Virtual Conference isn’t an option, either, don’t forget that you can always follow along with the conference on Twitter with the #acrl2015 hashtag. While doing so can be overwhelming at times, it’s a great way to stay on top of the conversations and topics being presented, and to take advantage of resources shared by both presenters and participants.

Presentations (by date)
(Note—in cases in which a session has multiple presenters, and not all of them are from Illinois, just the Illinois presenter or presenters are listed)

Wednesday, March 25 (Preconference)
“ScholCommCamp”
Amy Buckland—Institutional Repository Manager, University of Chicago

“Tutorials Toolkit: Creating Sustainable Library Instruction”
Molly Mansfield—Access Services and Information Services Librarian, Northeastern Illinois University
Michelle Guittar—Social Sciences Librarian, Northeastern Illinois University
Kimberly Shotick—MLRC Coordinator and Information Services Librarian, Northeastern Illinois University

Thursday, March 26
“The Neoliberal in YOUR Library: Resisting Corporate Solutions to Collection Development”
Caroline Napo—doctoral candidate and Information in Society Fellow, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“e-WOREP: Updating and Automating the Wisconsin-Ohio Reference Evaluation Project”
Devin Savage—Assistant Dean of Assessment and Scholarly Communication, Illinois Institute of Technology

“From the Individual to the Institution: Exploring the Experiences of Academic Librarians of Color”
Isabel Gonzalez-Smith—Undergraduate Experience Librarian, University of Illinois at Chicago

“Reference Interview Adventure: Creating a Choose Your Own Adventure Game That Teaches the Reference Interview”
Mark Wardecker—Acting Classics Librarian and Visiting Reference Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Friday, March 27
“Measuring and Sustaining the Impact of Area Studies Collections in a Research Library: Balancing the Eco-System to Manage Scarce Resources”
Mara Thacker—South Asian Studies Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Joseph Lenkart—Interim Manager of Slavic Reference Service, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Thomas Teper—Associate University Librarian for Collections and Technical Services, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Steven Witt—Head, International and Area Studies Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

See ACRL, page 6
Member Spotlight: Devin Savage

Carl Lehen
Rockford University

1. What is your current position, and what’s your favorite thing about it?

I am the Assistant Dean of Assessment and Scholarly Communication at the Illinois Institute of Technology’s Paul V. Galvin Library. There is a lot that I like about my position, and, certainly, the variety of projects I get to tackle (or be a part of) is high on the list. However, I think my favorite thing about my current position is all of the great people that I get to work with.

2. What are you reading now?

I just now got a copy of Libraries and the Enlightenment by Wayne Bivens-Tatum, so, like a true library nerd, I’m pretty excited to get started. However, as for what’s new in my online reading rotation, I’ve really been enjoying Grantland.com, which features a lot of really interesting commentary on sports and culture.

3. Do you have any big projects in the works this semester?

Oh, yes. We’re doing a number of assessment initiatives here at IIT, so I’ll be helping out with our “Assessment in Action” project (on the library’s impact on student persistence), and running our LibQual survey, and working with our collections team to try to put together an eResources assessment. There are a few scholarly-communication projects that we’re not quite ready for unveiling officially, but having an institutional repository has made for a great starting point for thinking big, at least.

However, the number-one project that I’m very excited about for this semester is the Chicagoland LibUX group that Isabel Gonzalez-Smith and I have been putting together. Our stated goal is “to establish a local assessment and user experience group to share information, receive training, and leverage local expertise to enhance current practices”. Essentially, we want to create events that will give librarians useful takeaways, so that they can better employ assessment, user experience, and design thinking in their own institutions. Look for more information soon, and feel free to join our group (at http://www.meetup.com/library-ux-chicago/) if this sounds interesting!

See Spotlight, page 8

Librarians on the Move

Sarah Morris
Loyola University Chicago

At Loyola University Chicago, Ursula Scholz, Head of Access Services, was promoted to the title of Senior Librarian.

National Louis University has welcomed three new librarians. They are Chris Diaz, Collections Manager; Sarah Leeman, Online Learning and Web Support Librarian; and Amy Hall, Instruction Librarian.

Mary S. Konkel, Head of Technical Services at the College of DuPage Library, is a delegate to the OCLC Global Council. In this role, Ms. Konkel represents the Americas Regional Council (ARC) for a term ending June 30, 2018. She is also a member-at-large of the Americas Regional Council (ARC) Executive Committee and serves on the OCLC Global Council Membership Committee. Since Ms. Konkel is your OCLC regional delegate, feel free to contact her with OCLC issues, ideas, and concerns at konkel@cod.edu.

Robert Seal, Dean of the Loyola University Chicago Libraries, is the recipient of the 2015 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year award. Dean Seal has served in his current position since 2005. He received his master’s degree in Library Science from the University of Denver and his bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University. Dean Seal is active in a number of professional organizations, including the American Library Association, the International Federation of Library Associations, and OCLC. (Please see the inter-

view starting on page 1 for more information about Dean Seal’s accomplishments and interests.)

Gabrielle Annala, Business and Communications Librarian at Loyola University Chicago, has launched a new initiative designed to explore ideas and connect academic librarians interested in academic library marketing. You can visit Gabrielle’s website, http://www.academiclibrarymarketing.com/, for more information, including news about upcoming meet-up events.
Recent Publications by Academic Librarians in Illinois

Compiled by Sarah Morris
Loyola University Chicago

Note: Authors whose names are in bold are from Illinois academic libraries or institutions.


See Publications, page 8
Chen on List of Top 20 Librarian Authors

Eric Edwards
Benedictine University at Springfield

An already-accomplished academic librarian in Illinois can now add another honor to his list of achievements.

Xiaotian Chen, the Electronic Services Librarian at Bradley University (he holds the rank of Associate Professor), was rated fourteenth on the “Top 20 Librarian Authors Worldwide” list. The list appeared in the December, 2014, issue of *Scientometrics*. Chen was the only librarian from Illinois to appear on the list.

Chen — whose research focuses on database contents and their retrieval (in both free and fee-based databases), open access, and OpenURL link resolvers — has had 16 articles appear in peer-reviewed journals over the years. Of particular note is a 2010 piece that was ranked as the “#1 Hottest Article” by the Serials Review section of the ScienceDirect website. Also, Chen was interviewed for a May, 2009, article that appeared in *Inside Higher Ed* and covered the record of Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who was going through the nomination process at the time.

The citation for the article in *Scientometrics* is below. (The list of the top 20 authors appears in Table 11.)

W. Walters and E. Wilder,

*(ACR from page 3)*

"User Engagement with Digital Archives: A Case Study of Emblematica Online" Harriett Green—Assistant Professor and English and Digital Humanities Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Putting the ‘Research’ in the Association of College & Research Libraries: 75 Years of ‘College & Research Libraries’ and Other ACRL Research Grams” Scott Walter—University Librarian, DePaul University

“Topic Space: A Mobile Augmented Reality Recommendation App” Jim Hahn—Orientation Services and Environments Librarian, Undergraduate Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Ben Ryckman—Developer, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign


“Not Counting What Counts: The Perplexing Inattention to Research Consultations in Library Assessment Activities.” Devin Savage—Assistant Dean of Assessment and Scholarly Communication, Illinois Institute of Technology

“Blurred Lines: Tying Recreational Reading to Research in an Academic Library” Jamie Conklin—Sciences & Health Sciences Librarian, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

“The Framework for Information Literacy and Its Impact on Student Learning” Merinda Kaye Hensley—Assistant Professor and Instructional Services Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“One System to Rule Them All: Using IT Reporting Software to Manage Email-Based Library Inquiries” Karen Janke—Library Director, Erikson Institute Alyssa Vincent—Information Services Librarian, Erikson Institute

“From Problem Solvers to Solution Creators: Shifting Roles of Technical Services” Sally Gibson—Head of Cataloging, Acquisitions, and Processing, Illinois State University

See ACRL, page 7
(ACRL from page 6)

“Sustaining the Profession: Trends, Demand, and Mentorship for the Academic Library Job Search”
Roy Brooks—Assistant Director for Career Services, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Saturday, March 28

“Leveraging OA, the IR, and Cross-Department Collaboration for Sustainability: Ensuring Library Centrality in the Scholarly Communication Discourse on Campus”
Todd Bruns—Institutional Repository Librarian, Eastern Illinois University
Steve Brantley—Head of Reference, Eastern Illinois University

“Residency Programs and Demonstrating Commitment to Diversity”
Chris Diaz—Collections Management Librarian, National Louis University

“Ethical Issues of Open Access”
Emily Knox—Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Assessing Library Internationalization Efforts and Impacts: Tools and Strategies”
Steven Witt—Head, International and Area Studies Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Improving LIS Education in Teaching Librarians to Teach”
Merinda Kaye Hensley—Assistant Professor and Instructional Services Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Creating Audience and Environment-Friendly Research Guides: Findings from a User Study”
Jennifer Schwartz—Humanities & Social Sciences Librarian, DePaul University
Jessica Alverson—Assistant Coordinator for E-Learning, DePaul University
Jim LeFager—Systems and Applications Librarian, DePaul University Library
Amelia Brunskill—Coordinator of Collections and Scholarly Resources, DePaul University Library

“Collective Strengths: Institutional Repositories & Communities of Practice”
Stephanie Davis-Kahl—Scholarly Communications Librarian, Illinois Wesleyan University

“Community College Libraries and Culture of Assessment: Bridges and Barriers”
Lisa Hinchcliffe—Professor and Coordinator for Information Literacy Services and Instruction, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Poster Sessions
Thursday, March 26

Session 1

“Revitalizing Student Employment Through Student Empowerment and a Bit of Harry Potter Magic”
Sarah Sagmoen—Director of Learning Commons and User Services, University of Illinois Springfield

“Using STEM Concepts to Teach Information Literacy Skills in First-Year Library Classes”
Sarah Morris—Instruction Librarian, Loyola University Chicago

Session 2

“A Day in the Life: Applying an Ethnographic Method to Clinical Health Information Seeking Research”

Cynthia Snyder—Reference & Instruction Services Manager, Midwestern University
Gwen Gregory—Resource Acquisition and Management Librarian, University of Illinois at Chicago
Gerald R. Jurek, Jr.—Visiting User Experience Librarian (Facilities) & Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago

“Behind the Scenes But Not Behind the Times: Technical Services Support for New Service Model Initiatives”
Mary Laskowski—Head, Collection Management Services, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Jennifer Maddox Abbott—Technical Services Project Coordinator, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Closing the Assessment Loop: Lessons Learned about Managing the Information Literacy Assessment Cycle and Acting on Results”
Ning Zou—Instruction Coordinator, Dominican University

“Contributions to the Scholarly Record: Conferences & Symposia in the Repository”
Stephanie Davis-Kahl—Scholarly Communications Librarian, Illinois Wesleyan University

“Nurturing a Data Management Community”
Sarah Williams—Life Sciences Data Services Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Karen Hogenboom—Numeric and Spatial Data Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Friday, March 27

Session 3

“Strengthening Information Literacy Collaboration Between Library and Faculty Through a Faculty Associate Program”
Sarah Sagmoen—Director of Learning Commons and User Services, University of Illinois Springfield
Nancy Weichert—Instructional Services Librarian, University of Illinois Springfield
Dorothy Ryan—Instructional Services Librarian, University of Illinois Springfield

“Surprised by Controversy: Approaches to a Difficult Common Read Selection”
Amy Kammerman—Coordinator of Library Instruction, Harper College

“The Widening Gyre: Shared Print Retention Program Extended Resource-Sharing Networks”
Rebecca Crist—Project Manager, Committee on Institutional Cooperation

Session 4

“Cultivating a Community of Recreational Readers at a Large Research Institution”
Gretchen Madsen Webb—Residence Hall Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Gail Murray—Graduate Assistant for Marketing, Outreach, & Assessment, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Exploring Instructional Uses of Scalar: Lessons for Adopting Digital Humanities Publishing Tools”
Daniel Tracy—Library and Information Science and Research Support Services Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Sustaining User Communities in Literary Studies and Creative Writing: Online Literary Journals and the Role of Academic Librarians” Harriett Green—Assistant Professor and English and Digital Humanities Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

See ACRL, page 9
4. If you had a paid year off to do whatever you want, what would you do?

To be truthful, I would probably choose to use that whole year spending quality time with my wife and two kids. However, in terms of getting paid to do a specific project, I still keep alive the tiny, guttering flame of hope that, someday, I’ll be able to spend a year turning my thesis on the origins of Italian fascism into a book.

5. In one word, how would you describe your feelings about ACRL’s new Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education? (To view the Framework, go to http://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/ilframework.)

Malleable.

**Publications from page 5**


Stern, David. 2014. “Student Embargoes within Institutional Repositories: Faculty Early Transparency Concerns” *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication* 2(2)


Roundtable Discussions
Thursday, March 26
Session 1
“Instruction Interns in Academic Libraries: Keeping Everyone Happy”
Ariel Orlov—Distance Learning, Instruction, and Reference Librarian, Dominican University
Ning Zou—Instruction Coordinator, Dominican University

“Win-Win Proposition: Outreach to Adjunct Faculty About Library Services”
Li (Quinying) Li—Education & Social Policy Librarian, Northwestern University

Session 2
“’I’m Going on an Adventure!’ Finding Your Way as an Early Career Academic Librarian”
Lindsay Harmon—Reference & Instruction Librarian, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Session 3
“Weeding Local Digital Collections”
Carolyn Caizzi—Acting Head of Digital Collections, Northwestern University

(ACRL from page 7)

Friday, March 27
Session 4
“Trimming the Fat: Weeding, Deselecting and Decluttering Your Collection”
Amy Kammerman—Coordinator of Library Instruction, Harper College

Session 5
“Beyond Recycling: Building the Sustainable Library”
Marianne Ryan—Associate University Librarian for Public Services, Northwestern University
Susan Oldenburg—Program Assistant/Library Environmental Committee Chair, Northwestern University

“Professional Development by Any Other Name: The What, How, & Why of Sustainable Lifelong Learning”
Lora L. Smallman—Humanities Librarian, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

IACRL has expanded its social media presence!
Follow us on Twitter (@IACRLIllinois) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/IACRL).
decades. I just can’t single out one person for such an honor, though I have always admired the work of the late Keyes Metcalf of Harvard for his influence in library space planning. Coincidentally, he was the first winner of the ACRL award in 1978, along with Robert Downs.

One area in which you’ve been heavily involved over the years is fostering collaboration among libraries, not just within Illinois, but across the country and internationally. What would you say is the key to successful collaboration?

A number of things, but mostly, a willingness to share: collections, services, and expertise. While we have a long tradition of resource sharing and collaboration in this country, that is not the case everywhere in our world. To work cooperatively with librarians and libraries in other nations, one must be patient, understand another’s culture and point of view, and be willing to take risks. On the positive side, I’ve seen a great increase in international resource-sharing in my 40-year career, thanks to many individual efforts and the work of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions), in particular the latter’s Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Standing Committee.

What has been your most rewarding experience while working as a librarian?

Working with so many interesting, intelligent, creative people, both librarians and library staff, as well as faculty and students. I’ve spent my whole career in academic libraries, and, as a result, I have run into and worked with some amazing people. Library staff, in particular, have impressed me with their service ethic, probably the main reason I got into librarianship in the first place.

What is even less clear is just how much of an impact these proposed cuts will have on academic libraries. Libraries are, of course, in a precarious position within society as a whole, as their purpose and role have been constantly redefined—sometimes by librarians themselves, sometimes by decision-makers outside of the field—and they have had to attempt to continue providing a high level of service, but with limited resources. Complicating the scenario for academic libraries is that, since they are part of a much larger institution, they are especially vulnerable to cuts in other areas. For instance, if a school cuts its travel budget, that could prevent library staff from partaking in professional-development activities. Similarly, if particular programs are eliminated, staff members who are liaisons to those departments will have to find new roles, and the library will have to consider changes to its collection.

Despite the sense of doom that might be pervasive, the important thing to remember is that it is still early in this legislative session, and there is still time to take action to prevent, or at least reduce, cuts in various areas. At the state level, the Illinois Library Association has sponsored an “Illinois Library Day” in the past, during which library staff, trustees, and concerned community members have met with legislators in Springfield. While there are currently no plans to hold an Illinois Library Day this year, the ILA did sponsor “legislative meet-ups”, which were held at various locations in the Chicago and St. Louis areas and gave library advocates an opportunity to meet one-on-one with policymakers. To keep up with the ILA’s legislative activities, please go to its website (www ila.org) and click on “Advocacy”.

At the national level, National Library Legislative Day takes place annually in Washington, D.C. Library advocates from across the country have an opportunity to meet with members of Congress and their staffs on Capitol Hill, and the Illinois delegation has tentative plans to meet with Senators Dick Durbin and Mark Kirk at this year’s event. Attending National Library Legislative Day is a great opportunity not just to advocate for Illinois libraries, but to build relationships with library advocates from across the country. Now, more than ever, pooling resources and knowledge is critical to ensuring the continued viability and importance of libraries.

This year’s National Library Legislative Day will be from May 4 to 5. To see the Illinois delegation’s agenda and register for the event, go to http://www ila.org “Events”, and “National Library Legislative Day”. Also, to keep up with information on legislative affecting libraries across the country, the ALA’s “District Dispatch” is a good source. It can be accessed at http://www districtdispatch.org/.

Traditionally, librarians have been viewed as passive gatekeepers of information who are out of step with current trends and have let society pass us by. Librarians have done much in recent years to counter this image, from embracing new technologies to transforming libraries into community spaces. With the continuing threat of significant cuts in funding, however, further reinvention is needed, and becoming an advocate is another way to shed the stereotype of the “passive” librarian, while at the same time improving the chances that cuts are distributed fairly and do not affect libraries disproportionately. Embracing this activist role is critical not just for ensuring the continued strength and vitality of the profession, but also for defining the role of libraries and librarians within society as a whole.