

EBSS Newsletter

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EBSS Chair's Report Spring 2016



Bernadette Lear
EBSS Chair 2015-16

Photo provided by Bernadette

EBSS Newsletter (ISSN 0887-5189) is a biannual electronic publication of the Education and Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS) of the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Members of the ALA/ACRL EBSS section receive the newsletter as a perquisite of current membership.

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Greetings from the EBSS Chair! I am happy to say that 2016 is shaping up to be a very productive year for EBSS.

In my last report, I stated that my goal was to improve our section's organizational infrastructure. I continue to work toward that goal, in big ways and in small. In the fall, EBSS established a new "general" Education Committee, parallel to the Communications, Psychology, and Social Work groups our section already offers. I was very pleased to see the large number of volunteers, which confirms that an Education Committee was sorely needed. Following its first meeting this summer, I can't wait to hear about the initiatives that group will devise. I have also provided guidance to the Education Research Libraries Forum (ERLF) as it makes its way toward becoming a "discussion group" within our section. The ERLF, a group of education librarians from large universities, has been meeting informally for a number of years. Converting it to a discussion group will give it greater visibility within EBSS's and ACRL's organizational structure and ensure that it receives much-needed communications and conference meeting space. In addition, the EBSS Executive Committee is beginning to prepare for EBSS's 50th Anniversary, which we will celebrate at ALA's 2018 conference in New Orleans. This spring, we established an ad hoc committee to plan the event. We are also using some of this year's budget to purchase give-away items. If you have ideas on how to make the occasion special, please let us know!

Beyond committee work, I am also trying to strengthen our relationships with other entities within ALA and beyond. We continue to collaborate with ACRL on reshaping our awards. Earlier this spring, we learned that the division has a longstanding procedure which requires sections to obtain at least \$1000 in outside funding to establish any new award. Feeling that this policy is not feasible, especially for mid-size and small sections like EBSS, we petitioned the ACRL Board to reconsider the policy. The board has charged a task force to do so. I fully intend to provide recommendations when that group asks for feedback. ACRL has also asked us to help recruit representatives to the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), and I thank EBSS vice-chair Kaya Van Beynen for taking the reins on that effort. If you know of someone who is both an EBSS and IFLA member, please let her know!

Continued on page 2

Visit the EBSS Website @ <http://www.ala.org/acrl/ebss>

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education & behavioral
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Also, I have been in discussion with Susan Hillson, our contact with the American Psychological Association (APA), about its awards for librarians. There is now a possibility that EBSS will work more closely with that association than we have in the past in terms of jurying of nominees. In addition, I interacted with APA to resolve recent problems many of our members were having with limiters in the ProQuest version of the PsycINFO database. Another issue brought to my attention is the terminology used for LGBTQIA+ persons in PsycINFO and other social science databases. In response, I have reached out to a colleague who is a board member on ALA's GLBT Round Table, to gauge whether action is needed.

There are many little "housekeeping" tasks I've undertaken as well. For instance, if you happen to attend our all-committees meeting in June and notice new signage at each table, that was me! :)

I am greatly looking forward to this year's conference and hope to see you there!

Bernadette :)



EBSS Committee Reports

Take a look at what EBSS committees worked on since our Fall 2015 newsletter. For complete information on all of the committees' activities, check out the [EBSS website](#).

Awards Committee by Deborah Schaeffer, California State, Los Angeles — The Awards Committee is revising its initial draft recommendations on the future of EBSS awards to the chair for the Executive Committee's meeting at Annual. The Distinguished Librarian Award will not be given in 2016.

Communication Studies Committee by Joyce Garczynski, Towson University — The Communication Studies Committee invites you to be a part of our Media Tour during ALA Annual in Orlando. This year we will be visiting [&Barr](#), a well-known advertising agency in Orlando specializing in digital marketing, design, and user experience. The free tour will be at 2pm on Monday, June 27th at their Orlando headquarters (about a half-hour by car from the Orange County Convention Center) and will last about an hour with time for Q&A at the end. Space is limited so please reserve your spot on the tour today. To sign up, visit <http://goo.gl/forms/FgXqoo2kb8>.

Electronic Resources in Communication Studies Committee by Heidi Senior, University of Portland and Damecia Donahue, Wayne State University — The ERCSC is pleased to announce that Springshare's LibGuides platform will be the new home of the Library Resources for Communication Studies website, currently on hiatus. Eventually, LibGuides will be available to all ACRL units. As inaugural LibGuides users, co-chairs Damecia Donahue and Heidi Senior are working with EBSS web manager Tina Mullins to determine processes for importing content, designing pages, and other tasks, and hope to unveil the new site at ALA Annual in Orlando. Fulfilling its charge to provide "careful vendor feedback" about communication studies electronic resources, the committee is also assembling a list of concerns to discuss with vendors.

ERIC Users Committee by Katherine Farmer, Murray State University and Tiffany Baglier, University of Florida — Erin Pollard, ERIC Project Manager, and Pamela Tripp-Melby, Director of the National Education Library, met with the ERIC Users Committee at the 2016 Midwinter Virtual Meeting on January 16, 2016, to update committee members on ERIC. In the past year, 12 million people from 242 countries used ERIC with more than 42 million page views in 2015 (largest recorded). Key ERIC users are academics (librarians, students, researchers) and educators. ERIC has seen a 238% increase in added documents since 2014. Eighty-seven new sources were added to ERIC in 2015. Also in 2015, ERIC updated the selection policy and thesaurus. Pollard reminded the committee that ERIC does have an existing preservation policy in which record removal requests are not fulfilled unless plagiarism is proven. Future ERIC projects include continuing to restore unreadable PDFs, working on identifier fields, and adding hyperlinks to ERIC records. ERIC provided an accompanying webinar to our meeting and can be viewed at https://youtu.be/29vxIIRfo_Q.

Higher Education Committee by Karen Downing, University of Michigan — The Higher Education Committee has met twice since ALA Annual 2015, both virtually. The Committee has been

Continued on page 4

EBSS Committee Reports Continued

working on a program proposal for either a conference program or a webinar about higher education diversity research and its implications for academic library practice. Each of the committee members has outlined at least one higher education research project from the departments with which they liaison, and together we will link how the findings of those research projects apply to us as academic librarians. We are hoping to partner with the National Center for Institutional Diversity (NCID) at the University of Michigan, which is a higher education research incubator. Stay tuned for more information later this spring!

Instruction for Educators Committee by Samantha Godbey, University of Nevada, Las Vegas —

In early March, the Instruction for Educators Committee posted the results to the EBSS listserv from our fall 2015 survey regarding people's experience with the IL Teacher Education Standards and the ACRL Information Literacy Framework. The committee plans to send the survey again in the coming months to see if there are any changes in responses. Respondents indicated a particular interest in how the frame Research as Inquiry can be used in instruction. If any EBSS members have ideas related to this frame, such as lesson plans or activities, ways to introduce this frame to faculty, strategies for getting students to practice concepts within the frame, or anything else they think would be interesting or valuable to fellow librarians, please send them to Samantha Godbey (samantha.godbey@unlv.edu), committee chair.

Membership and Orientation Committee by Elena Soltau, University of Southeastern University

— The Membership and Orientation Committee has met to strategize how to best meet the needs of its current members, as well as how to recruit new members. There are established surveys of new, reinstated, and dropped members to help the committee determine why members join or leave. The members are updating the surveys and will implement these changes by May. The committee chair is looking at venues in Orlando for the group meet-up in June. She has scouted out several potential restaurants/pubs and is the process of contacting them. The committee plans for another virtual meeting before the end of the fiscal year. Any interested members are welcome to attend.

Online Learning Research Committee by Laura Bonella, Kansas State University —

The committee has met virtually several times throughout the year. For our first project, we decided to host a panel discussion at Annual on working with distance graduate education students. We have selected four presenters and will have plenty of time afterwards for questions and discussion. We hope many people will attend and contribute to a lively session. For future projects, we discussed the possibility of coming up with some sort of a bibliography of top trends/highlights in online learning research, perhaps focused specifically on EBSS-related areas so that we do not overlap with the Distance Learning Section. Comments or suggestions are welcome.

Psychology Committee by Cheri Smith, University of Notre Dame —

The Psychology Committee has met “virtually” twice during the last six months. We have discussed several projects including a survey for psychology librarians to help us discover what types of services we are providing. We have a particular interest in looking at instructional activities, and newer services such as data management planning. We are also preparing to update our information literacy standards and create some support

Continued on page 5

EBSS Committee Reports Continued

materials based on the new information literacy framework. We look forward to the work that the Gender Studies and Communication Studies Committees are doing to lay the foundation for other social sciences to develop their own information literacy frameworks.

Publications & Communications Committee by Jodie Borgerding, Webster University — The Publications and Communications Committee held our Midwinter Meeting January 26th, 2016 via conference call. Highlights from that meeting included the following. EBSS Webmasters Sara Memmott and Tina Mullins have been working with EBSS committees to move items from the soon-to-be decommissioned ACRL Wiki to the EBSS website. There is some ongoing cleanup but this project should be wrapping up soon. ACRL is looking into options to host other web based projects but nothing is definitive yet. ALA Connect is moving to a new platform, but is not going away. It was supposed to be rolled out last summer but no official ETA exists yet. EBSS Listserv Administrator Judy Walker announced that because her IT folks are threatening to no longer support the listserv software, and due to the fact that she will be retiring in the next year, we will need to move the EBSS listserv from UNC to ALA's platform. This transition will also include appointing moderators/administrators and establishing terms for the new moderators/administrators. Information about this transition and opportunities to be involved as a new moderator/administrator will be forthcoming. Except for doing "lite" reviews of items being moved from the Wiki to the website, there are no projects or papers coming down the pike from other committees.

Reference Sources and Services Committee by Katelyn Angell, Long Island University and Christina Cicchetti, University of California, Riverside — The Reference Sources and Services Committee is pleased to announce the transition of their two main projects, the Education Librarian's Toolkit and A Statistical Directory for Education and Social Sciences Librarians, from wikis to the EBSS homepage! The toolkit is located at <http://www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/directoryofleadership/sections/ebss/ebsswebsite/ref/toolkit> and the directory at <http://www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/directoryofleadership/sections/ebss/ebsswebsite/ref/stats>. Both projects utilize Google Docs as the content platform, ensuring that all interested persons are able to freely access the information. The documents are works in progress, as the committee works to finalize the links and add annotations before ALA Annual in June. After ALA Annual, both Katelyn and Christina will be stepping down as co-chairs of the committee after two great years of service. Thank you for your interest in our projects and do stay tuned for the initiatives of the future committee chairs!

Research Committee by Cassandra Kvenild, University of Wyoming — The committee will host the EBSS Research Forum at ALA Annual on Saturday, June 25 from 3:00 – 4:30 PM. Please join us to learn from excellent presenters and their posters highlighting current library research projects in education and the social sciences. The forum is a lively and fun event, with sponsored catering from the American Psychological Association.

Scholarly Communications Committee by Ericka Raber, University of Iowa — The Scholarly Communications Committee met at Midwinter to continue discussion of topics identified from last year's SC survey of EBSS liaisons, and how to share information on selected topics within the EBSS

Continued on page 6

EBSS Committee Reports Continued

community. Topics included: data management, alt-metrics, graduate student outreach, evaluating publishers, and libraries as publishers. The committee is planning to send out SC topic emails to the EBSS listserv in preparation for Open Access Week in October. We also looked at recent ACRL and American Educational Research Association conference presentations on SC topics to identify gaps that could be addressed in order to reach beyond the EBSS community. One suggestion is to submit a proposal to ACRL 2017 for a roundtable discussion on helping librarians, faculty, and students to evaluate publishers.

Social Work/Social Welfare Committee by Kimberly Pendell, Portland State University — The Social Work/Social Welfare Committee met virtually for our ALA Midwinter meeting. We had a number of guests join the meeting, leading to a great conversation about social work librarianship. One topic raised by the meeting participants was social policy research instruction; developing meaningful instruction for this course and guiding students working on the required assignments are often challenging tasks. In response to the discussion, the committee is creating a guide to social policy instruction for the social work librarian community. The guide will include links to resources, examples of instructional activities, and more. The committee aims to have a working draft of the guide to discuss at ALA Annual in Orlando.

Highlight a Resource

MERLOT: A Key Ingredient in Integrating Information and Digital Literacies by Dr. Lesley S. J. Farmer, California State University—Long Beach



Image from <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>

MERLOT stands for Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching. Established by the California State University system, MERLOT is a community-built searchable repository of over 60,000 learning objects, with an emphasis on higher education resources.

This year I am spearheading CSU's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy Project, which focuses on integrating ICT literacy into subject curricula. The main source of resources is MERLOT, to which I have added over two hundred learning objects as well as fifteen ICT-related bookmark collections, 20 subject-specific ICT literacy bibliographies, and a couple of courses and learning exercises. I also maintain [MERLOT's ICT Literacy portal](#). The portal links to my four-part workshop on integrating ICT literacy into the curriculum, which you can do as a self-paced tutorial and use as a framework for conducting workshops at your own site.

MERLOT membership is free, which enables you to contribute materials, create bookmark collections, lessons, and websites, each of which has a unique URL. You can also become a reviewer, join a community, and become part of a speakers' bureau. Take advantage of MERLOT to help integrate ICT literacy – and your information expertise – into your site's and system's educational program.

Host ACRL Workshops in 2016

Today's academic and research librarians increasingly act as change agents in the higher education community while being called on to demonstrate their value on campus. ACRL's one-day Standards for Libraries in Higher Education and scholarly communication workshops help you achieve those goals through learning more about these important topics at your campus, chapter, or consortia. Facilitated by our team of expert presenters, both workshops provide a framework for libraries to grow, innovate, lead, and succeed. Hosts are responsible for the full cost of both workshops and may choose to recover costs through registration fees.



The ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education provide a framework for planning and assessment that can be adapted for a variety of circumstances including strategic planning, program review, and accreditation self-study. ACRL's "Planning, Assessing, and Communicating Library Impact: Putting the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education into Action" workshop provides information on using the standards and other foundational documents as a framework to develop benchmarks, evaluate quality and performance, and demonstrate value. Details are available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/standardsworkshop.

"In this workshop, the assessment process was presented in a clear, understandable way. Great job on difficult material!" – Standards Workshop Participant



To help empower our community in accelerating the transformation of the scholarly communication system, ACRL is pleased to offer the day-long workshop, "Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement." The workshop helps participants in very practical ways, such as preparing for library staff or faculty outreach, contextualizing collection development decisions to internal and external stakeholders, and initiating or supporting new models for scholarly communication. Details are available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/issues/scholcomm/roadshow.

"The workshop helped me connect complex issues like the relationship between the open movement, copyright, and economics in a coherent way. It is good to have this conceptual framework moving forward." – Scholarly Communication Workshop Participant

Stay tuned for more information on two new workshops currently under development that you can also bring to your campus, chapter, or consortia on research data management and the intersections of scholarly communication and information literacy.

ACRL Preconferences @ ALA Annual 2016

ACRL is offering three pre-conferences in conjunction with the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando on Friday, June 24, 2016. Complete details, including descriptions, learning outcomes, and registration materials, are [online](#).



[Building a Curriculum on the Intersections of Scholarly Communications and Information Literacy](#)

This half-day, hands-on preconference will build librarians' capacity as leaders on issues and projects of campus-wide interest that involve elements of scholarly communication, information literacy, and their connections (i.e., data literacy, intellectual property, open access, etc.).

[Crossing the Threshold with Threshold Concepts: Redesigning a Library Instruction Lesson Plan](#)

The Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education offers a more conceptual approach to information literacy instruction by providing a set of "interconnected core concepts" rather than standards. In this full-day preconference, participants will learn and put into practice strategies to incorporate these threshold concepts into lesson design.

[Teaching Data Information Literacy: A Hands-on Introduction](#)

This interactive preconference, presented by the ACRL Instruction Section, consists of two parts. First, presenters will share their experiences in developing instruction around data information literacy. Part two will be conducted through hands-on exercises, in which participants will have the opportunity to formulate what they see as the most important skills for their target audience to acquire.

Contact Margot Conahan at mconahan@ala.org or call 312-280-2522 with questions.

Plan Ahead for ACRL 2017



At the Helm: Leading Transformation
March 22-25, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland
Watch www.acrl.org for details!

In the Field Report

Our *In the Field* reporter shares her experiences at the 2016 ALA Midwinter Conference in Boston, Massachusetts.

Midwinter Highlights by Amanda Tarbet, MGH Institute of Health Professions —

During a Saturday Ignite Session, Mary Beth Lock of Wake Forest University spoke about the new napping/resting room in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. The ZieSta Room allows students to refresh and recharge (literally, USB chargers were built into small custom lockers) between classes without having to walk all the way back to their dorms. (A campus expansion had made the distance from housing to classrooms quite



Photo provided by Amanda Tarbet

far.) While the library had always been a place for naps, students can now rest comfortably and use the lockers to give them peace of mind about their belongings. The space is also set away from louder sections of the library, has durable recliners (five Barcaloungers), and low lighting. There are a handful of rules, like no use of electronic devices or studying--although pleasure reading is allowed--but thus far the space has been mostly self-governing. Following the grand opening, the library was featured on the WFU home page, *Inside Higher Ed*, *The Huffington Post*, and even *USA Today*. However, Lock said that their biggest success was the ZieSta Room being included as a landmark on new sign posts around campus, indicating that students consider it to be an important place on campus.

Librarians looking to improve the user experience of their research guides, specifically LibGuides 2, were treated to five tips from Sarah Thorngate of North Park University. Her usability tests with students sought to determine the best configuration for the guides. Specifically, the study tested the number of columns (one, two or three), the position of the navigation menu (top or left side), and level of integration with the library's main website (unframed or framed). Thirty students provided both quantitative and qualitative data. Based on the results, Thorngate recommended using the two column layout, using framing to make guides look like a part of your website, and moving the traditional top navigation to the left side. Additionally, she suggested using images to your advantage and putting keywords into link descriptions.

The highlight of my attendance at Midwinter 2016 (besides going home with 20+ galleys of upcoming books) was the President's Program with Senator Cory Booker. So many attendees showed up for his talk that people had to sit on the floor. Senator Booker was a dynamic and charismatic speaker. He told us how excited he was and how his high school librarian was one of the biggest influences in his life.

Continued on page 10

In the Field Report Continued



Photo provided by Amanda Tarbet

His stories ran the gamut from hilarious to heartbreaking, and he did not dodge difficult topics. When asked about the way he handled the gutting of Newark’s public library budgets by the NJ state government, he carefully explained the many dimensions of that challenge and assured us that he did everything he could to secure private funding to fill the budget gap. “...Libraries are not something that is nice to have,” he told us, “but they are an essential bedrock element of this democracy..” For we librarians who work hard everyday to communicate our worth, it was encouraging to hear from a politician who gets it. Senator Booker was an excellent choice for a speaker and I’ll be watching for his book’s arrival in February.

Rare Books & Manuscripts Section (RBMS) of ACRL

RBMS 2016 Conference – Early Bird deadline May 20!

Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, FL
Tuesday, June 21, 2016 – Friday,
June 24, 2016

<http://conference16.rbms.info/>



Conference housing, tours, and workshops are filling fast for what is sure to be a diverse and exciting program at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, FL. If you have yet to register, join us for all of the engaging plenary speakers, fantastic seminars and short paper sessions, as well as interactive discussion and poster sessions.

We look forward to seeing you in sunny Coral Gables! Aislinn Sotelo and Lori Dekydtspotter, 2016 RBMS Conference Program Planning Co-Chairs