



STS SIGNAL

Science and Technology Section
Association of College and Research Libraries

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ACRL 2023 call for participation!

ACRL invites proposals for the [ACRL 2023 Conference](#) to be held March 15-18, 2023, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania around the theme of ***“Forging the Future.”*** See page 10 for more information.



Letter from the Chair

Greetings fellow STSers!



Hannah Gascho Rempel

STS Chair

hannah.rempel@oregonstate.edu

Congratulations on having made it through (or almost made it through, depending on your campus schedule) another academic year in the midst of many uncertainties. My sixth grader is currently studying mutations and adaptation in her life sciences unit on evolution. She is learning that sometimes change happens over long periods of time and sometimes quite rapidly. And

that sometimes you can see a clear benefit from adaptations, and other times the benefit is not clear. As STEMM library workers, one reflection touchpoint for us is based on what we continue to learn from the physical and natural world. In the STS book club, we have read several books (e.g., *Braiding Sweetgrass*, *Sea People*) that have encouraged us to think about multiple ways of knowing and experiencing the world around us. I hope that drawing on multiple perspectives and ways of knowing gives you strength and hope as you face a changing world.

STS too is experiencing changes and is seeking to adapt based on changes in the professional development funding our members receive, public health concerns, and climate change issues. In Fall 2021 STS leadership surveyed the STS membership to help inform how we might adapt and make decisions moving forward based on these factors. Here are our main observations from the survey (read this [longer version of the results](#) if you're curious):

- The majority of respondents were not planning to attend an in-person ALA Annual 2022, but many hope to attend the ACRL 2023 Conference.
- Uncertain travel funding was the top factor for considering in-person conference attendance, followed by public health uncertainty.
- Many respondents noted that in-person conference attendance was influenced by opportunities for them to contribute, such as by giving presentations or posters.

Lower costs and work-related programs were also important factors.

- There was overwhelming support for virtual programming, with members expressing a clear preference for the virtual modality for most events STS organizes. However, there was considerable support for in-person social events, particularly dinners and other events with food and field trips.
- When asked about use of section funds, the top choice was to support live streaming of in-person conference presentations, followed by BIPOC conference scholarship support, increasing accessibility of virtual programming, EDI programming, and food/social events.

Based in part on these survey results, the STS Executive Committee decided not to hold any in-person programming or meetings at the 2022 ALA Annual conference. Instead, you will see (and hopefully have already seen!) a rich slate of STS programming offered virtually throughout late spring and early summer. We are working to provide not only excellent content, but also more ways to connect with each other in online settings. STS leadership has been working on a set of guidelines and expectations for virtual programming to make sure we are following consistent good practices as we interact with each other online. We will also be piloting an STS YouTube channel beginning this summer to help make recorded programming more centrally findable for those unable to attend live sessions. And we plan to pilot the use of section funds to provide live transcriptions for some of our programming to make our virtual sessions more accessible.

STS leadership continues to work on the question of how we will provide programming and networking opportunities for our section in an equitable manner moving forward. We are fortunate that we have

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Letter from the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Letter from the Chair Continued

several options to consider including virtual and in-person options. Our facility with online tools has made the shift away from an in-person ALA Midwinter programming model easier to manage, and we will likely continue to offer more virtual programming throughout the middle of the year. But we will also consider the benefits of offering some in-person programming at future ALA Annual conferences that emphasize the high value components of an in-person experience such as discussion, networking, and fun. We will continue to seek your input and assess how we can best meet the needs of all STS members - not just those who benefit from one type of modality.

This is my last Signal letter as STS Vice-Chair/Chair Elect. The editors, in their great wisdom, do not include a Past-Chair letter in the Signal. As I conclude my duties as STS Chair, I want to name my gratitude to several people. First to Rachel Borchardt, the outgoing STS Chair. Her steady wisdom and input was so helpful in orienting me to this role. And really, I have a long line of STS Past Chairs to thank, extending back many years, who have provided insight, been willing to serve on committees, and shared their carefully documented budgets with me. I am thankful to those who have served on the STS Executive Committee with me and have helped provide different perspectives on questions and issues that have arisen. I'm especially thankful to Bonnie Fong who will be taking over next year as STS Chair - Bonnie brings great ideas and a drive to continue finding ways to make STS better. I am thankful for her infectious enthusiasm. Last, I'm thankful to all the STS members who regularly contribute their knowledge as STEMM library workers, who ask questions on the STS list, who give poster presentations, who provide mentorship to other library workers, and who continue working toward becoming an open and inclusive community of learners. Thank you all!

Hannah Gascho Rempel
STS Chair

Letter from the Vice-Chair

Dear STS Members,

What a year it has been! Just as we've all adapted to meet changing needs at our respective institutions, STS leadership continues to ensure that what we do is in alignment with membership interests.

One example of this is that all STS programming is virtual this year. Sponsoring STS committees are promoting their programs on the STS email list (via ALA Connect) throughout the year, so be on the lookout for them. For one of our upcoming programs, we are trying out a mini-conference idea. The [STS Annual Program](#) on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 1pm-4pm ET, will consist of a session on the (pending) Science Information Literacy Framework, followed by some networking time, then a session on equitable practices in scholarly communication. The program is co-sponsored by the STS Conference Program Planning Committee and STS Professional Development Committee. That same week, the STS Research Committee is sponsoring the STS Research Forum (on June 15th, 3pm-4pm ET) and STS Lightning Talks (on June 16th, 3pm-5pm ET). I'm looking forward to them all!

I am grateful for all the volunteers – committee members, committee co-chairs, and members of the Executive Committee – who help make STS the wonderful organization that it is. I recognize that almost everyone has likely been dealing with increased workloads at work and am especially appreciative of your dedication to professional service in STS. Thank you to those completing committee terms this June and thank you to those continuing on this next year. With the current appointment cycle coming to a close, I am happy to say everyone who

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Bonnie Fong

STS Vice Chair/Chair Elect

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Letter from the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Letter from the Vice-Chair Continued

volunteered was appointed to a committee they expressed interest in, and I look forward to working with all of you. If you missed the deadline for completing the ACRL Volunteer Form, but are interested in serving on a committee, please reach out to me at LibrarianBonnieFong@gmail.com as there are spots available on some STS committees.

It has been a pleasure working with everyone on the Executive Committee this past year. With Hannah's excellent leadership in assessing membership priorities and aligning our Section's work accordingly, some officer roles have evolved and everyone has been so willing to take on new and changing responsibilities. I look forward to working with our continuing and newly elected officers (congratulations, Rachel Hamelers, Andrea Baruzzi, Jessica Martinez, and Amanda McCormick!) when I begin my term as STS Chair in July.

Stay safe and stay well, everyone.

Best,

Bonnie Fong
STS Vice Chair/Chair Elect
LibrarianBonnieFong@gmail.com

STS
Science & Technology Section

2022 STS Annual Program

Registration now open for the free 2022 STS Annual Program!

Please register in advance here: go.umd.edu/STS2022

The 2022 STS Annual Program will be held virtually on June 14, 2022, 1:00-4:00pm ET (10:00am-1:00pm PT). It will consist of three (3) parts and you are welcome to attend any or all parts:

- (A) 1:00-2:30pm ET (10:00-11:30am PT) - The (Pending) Science Information Literacy Framework
- (B) 2:30-3:00pm ET (11:30am-noon PT) - Half-hour social/networking
- (C) 3:00-4:00pm ET (noon-1:00pm PT) - Equitable Practices in Scholarly Communications

During Part (A), three panelists will introduce the new (pending) Science Information Literacy Framework (<https://acrl.libguides.com/sts/STSILFramework>): Nikki Rech (Sciences Research and Instruction Librarian at Georgia Southern University, and member of the Task Force that wrote the framework); Aditi Gupta (Engineering & Science Librarian at University of Victoria Libraries); and Anamika Megwalu (Faculty Director of Library Instruction & Assessment at San Jose State University). Then participants will break into small groups to discuss their experiences with and/or to delve deeper into the framework. If you would be interested in moderating a small group discussion, please indicate this on the registration form by May 14th. If you have any questions, please contact Jodi (jcoalter@umd.edu) or Nicole (nhelregel@gmail.com), Co-chairs of the 2022 STS Conference Program Planning Committee.

Part (B) will be a half hour to relax and connect with colleagues. BYOB!

During Part (C), join Yasmeen Shorish, Head of Scholarly Communications Strategies & Special Advisor to the Dean for Equity Initiatives at James Madison University, for a talk and discussion of equitable practices in scholarly communications. If you have any questions, please contact Kirstin (kduffin@eiu.edu) or Alyssa (young2ah@jmu.edu), Co-chairs of the STS Professional Development Committee.

Register for the 2022 STS Annual Program here: go.umd.edu/STS2022

STS Committee and Discussion Group News

Data Curation Committee

The STS Data Curation and Assessment committee processed its first data submission—results from the 2021 STS Member Survey—into its Open Science Framework repository. The committee worked through the process and the uploading of material went smoothly. We are ready to accept more submission in the future!

Submitted by Eric Prosser

Hot Topics Committee

The Hot Topics Committee held a virtual discussion on February 15. The event, “Science Communication and Libraries: Challenges and Opportunities,” featured panelists representing a variety of viewpoints on science communication. Panelists included: Leah Crane, a reporter at New Scientist, a UK-based science magazine; Natasha Metzler, Associate Director for Digital Media and Content Strategy at the Carnegie Institution for Science; and Jeanine Scaramozzino, a tenured Librarian at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. The discussion centered on insights from the panelists on how librarians can participate in communicating science to library patrons and the broader public. The session was a great success with 99 people in attendance.

The Hot Topics committee is also planning a summer discussion for mid-June. This session will center on the rapid proliferation of scientific research, and misinformation in recent years, using research around Covid-19 as a case study. More information about this event will be released soon.

Submitted by Isabella Baxter

Government Information Committee

In February 2022, previous Co-Chair Kara Whatley stepped down from her STS Government Information Committee Role to take on a different role within ACRL. Thank you, Kara, for your Government Information leadership! Beginning in March, Andrea Pritt, STEM Librarian at Penn State Harrisburg, assumed the vacant Co-Chair role and has been actively working with fellow Co-Chair, Erin Thomas, and the rest of the committee to complete the committee work. The committee is currently planning its annual update, which will be held one June 13, 2022, at 11:00 am PST / 2:00 pm EST. This year's presentation topic is the new National Institutes of Health (NIH) Data Management and Sharing Policy that will be implemented in January 2023. Speakers will include practicing data librarians

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STS Committee and Discussion Group News

Government Information Committee (cont)

as well as representatives from NIH. Registration information for the event will be shared soon. In addition to planning the annual update, members of the committee have been updating the information on our LibGuide, which members can find at this link: <https://acrl.libguides.com/stscomm/government/resources>.

Submitted by Andrea Lynn Pritt & Erin Thomas

Research Committee

The STS Research Committee has scheduled its two annual events to coincide with programming around the ALA Annual Conference. On Wednesday, June 15 from 3-5pm ET, the Research Committee will present the 2022 STS Research Forum as part of a combined event with the STS Membership "Breakfast." On Thursday, June 16 from 3-4pm ET, the committee will present the 2022 STS Lightning Talks. Registration for the [Research Forum and "Breakfast"](#) and for the [Lightning Talks](#) are now open. Both sessions will be presented virtually and are free to attend.

Submitted by Jessica McClean & Jean Hoover

Science Resources: Discovery & Access Committee

The STS SRDAC is happy to announce a name change which reflects the updated mission of the committee to provide a forum for the exchange of information relating to science and technology librarianship: the STEMM Librarianship Resources Committee. Recent posts on the blog (insidescienceresources.com) include a guide to new publications in scientific writing and publishing and advice on providing equity in the classroom with asynchronous tutorials.

Submitted by Amanda McCormick & Sam Putnam

STS
Science & Technology Section

ACRL NEWS

ACRL Books

ACRL publishes a range of books that can help academic and research library workers worldwide develop their careers, manage their institutions, and stay on top of developments in librarianship, providing timely, thought-provoking, and practical content and research. Some recent titles:

- [*Teaching Business Information Literacy*](#)
- [*The Rise of AI: Implications and Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Libraries*, Publications in Librarianship #78](#)
- [*The Community College Library: Assessment*](#) and [*Reference and Instruction*](#)
- [*Implementing Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: A Handbook for Academic Libraries*](#)
- [*Academic Library Mentoring: Fostering Growth and Renewal*, 3 Volume Set](#)
- [*Ethnic Studies in Academic and Research Libraries*](#)
- [*The Scholarly Communications Cookbook*](#)
- [*Mind, Motivation, and Meaningful Learning: Strategies for Teaching Adult Learners*](#)
- [*Envisioning the Framework: A Graphic Guide to Information Literacy*, Publications in Librarianship #77](#)
- [*Teaching About Fake News: Lesson Plans for Different Disciplines and Audiences*](#)

Interested in writing for ACRL? Contact Erin Nevius, ACRL's Content Strategist, at enevius@ala.org for more information, or visit www.ala.org/acrl/publications/publishing to learn more about our book publishing program.



ACRL NEWS Continued

[RBMS 2022 Virtual Conference](#) (#rbms22)

What now? Reflection, Reckoning, and Recovery

June 21 – 24, 2022

RBMS is where you find content and connections that matter. With the most [relevant sessions](#) featuring diverse and engaging speakers, RBMS 2022 includes programs full of critical thinking, encouragement, and inspiration. [Register now](#) for this virtual gathering where we will take a hard look at our field in the wake of the pandemic. Conversations will focus on continuing actions for racial, social, and environmental justice, along with examining opportunities to focus our efforts toward effecting necessary change. Keep up to date, find new approaches to your work, and connect with colleagues again.



ACRL Board of Directors

Board of Directors Pre-Annual Virtual Meeting ([meeting info](#)) – Friday, June 3, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CDT

Board of Directors Face-to-Face Meeting in Washington, DC ([meeting info](#)) – Saturday, June 25, 2022, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EDT

During the Pre-Annual Virtual Meeting on June 3, there will be an open microphone period from 11:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CDT. Note that this period cannot be used to request that the Board take an immediate action. All guests planning to address the Board during the open microphone session are asked to arrive by 11:30 a.m. CDT.

Off-RoadShow Virtual Workshops

ACRL's traveling RoadShow in-person workshops remain on hold, but we're working to bring you the same great content through virtual experiences. These "Off-RoadShows" will continue to help academic library professionals tackle the greatest issues facing the profession today. Host a multi-day virtual workshop for your library or organization! Learn more at ala.org/acrl/offroad.



ACRL NEWS Continued

ACRL eLearning

ACRL's e-Learning program provides a unique opportunity to participate in professional development events that are focused on practical, tangible topics to meet the demands of your schedule and budget. Visit the [ACRL e-Learning website](#) to stay up-to-date on current e-Learning offerings from ACRL!



Submit an ACRL 2023 Conference Proposal

ACRL invites proposals for the [ACRL 2023 Conference](#) to be held March 15-18, 2023, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Higher education has changed dramatically over the last few years. Academic libraries are addressing an increased emphasis on remote learning, rising calls for social justice, and an acknowledged need for flexibility that supports a sustainable work-life balance. At ACRL 2023, explore these issues and more around the theme of ***“Forging the Future.”***

ACRL 2023 features [seven session formats](#) to suit a wide range of presentation and learning styles. Contributed paper, panel session, and workshop proposals are due June 3, 2022. Lightning talk, poster session, roundtable discussion, and virtual conference presentations are due October 13, 2022.



ACRL NEWS Continued

ALA Annual Conference

Join your colleagues for the 2022 ALA Annual Conference, June 23-28, 2022! With high-quality programs and several discussion forums, you'll have plenty of opportunities to learn from and engage with colleagues and experts in the field. Be sure to check out the [listing of high-quality programs](#) from ACRL member units! [Register today!](#)



About the Signal



STs SIGNAL

We're on the Web!

www.ala.org/acrl/sts


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