Standing Up & Sitting In: Libraries and Social Change

Libraries have long promoted social causes and supported social movements, like the fight for civil rights and the women’s movement. And librarians are working to both preserve this grassroots history and to educate their communities about today’s social issues. For this program, activists, historians, librarians and other creative thinkers will discuss their research and involvement in promoting civic engagement and human rights, inviting conversation about how librarians can become engaged in social movements.

Speakers:

John Feffer
Co-director of the Foreign Policy in Focus project
Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, D.C.

Cheryl Knott Malone
Associate Professor
School of Information Resources and Library Science, University of Arizona

Kathleen de la Peña McCook
Distinguished University Professor
School of Library and Information Science, University of South Florida

Annie C. Paprocki (Moderator)
Anthropology and Sociology Librarian
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The Anthropology and Sociology Section brings together librarians and information specialists to discuss common issues; publish news, bibliographies, and reviews of important resources; and communicate with organizations devoted to scholarship in anthropology, sociology, and related fields.

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John Feffer is the co-director of the Foreign Policy in Focus project at the Institute for Policy Studies. He has been a Writing Fellow at Provisions Library in Washington, DC and a Pan-Tech Fellow in Korean Studies at Stanford University. He has also worked as an international affairs representative in Eastern Europe and East Asia for the American Friends Service Committee. He is the author of several books and articles, including: North Korea / South Korea: U.S. Policy and the Korean Peninsula, Power Trip: U.S. Unilateralism and Global Strategy After September 11, and Living in Hope: People Challenging Globalization.

Kathleen de la Peña McCook is Distinguished University Professor at the University of South Florida’s School of Library and Information Science. She is the author of several books, including A Place at the Table: Libraries and Community Building, and of a few blogs, including A Librarian at the Kitchen Table (http://librarianoutreach.blogspot.com/) and Union Librarian (http://unionlibrarian.blogspot.com/). She is also on the editorial board of Progressive Librarian: A Journal for Critical Studies and Progressive Politics in Librarianship. Among her numerous recognitions are: Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Library Association (2007); Achievement in Library Diversity Research from the ALA Office of Diversity (2004); Trejo Librarian of the Year Award from REFORMA (2002); and Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award from ALA (1998).

Cheryl Knott Malone is an associate professor at the University of Arizona’s School of Information Resources and Library Science, where she currently teaches online searching, information literacy instruction, government information, and information resources and services. She has increased the profession’s understanding of information access and its barriers through her publications on the history of segregated public libraries and the contingent aspects of classification systems. Her newest research explores the history of the environmental movement’s print culture.