Greetings and a big thank you to everyone who remains committed and involved with the Anthropology and Sociology Section (ANSS). My sincerest appreciation goes out to all of you who have chosen to take an active role in one of our many ANSS committees and to those of you who provide great discussion topics on our listserv, ANSS-L and during conference meet-ups. Whether you are new to ANSS or are a long-time member, welcome and thanks for your involvement.

In 2011, I became a new anthropology librarian and began to seek out opportunities to network and learn from other librarians. By 2012, I was co-chairing the ANSS Conference Planning Program Committee and serving as a member of the ANSS Liaison Committee. Committee work allowed me to meet people and learn more about the goals of ANSS.

I no longer have the words anthropology, sociology, or criminology in my job description, but ANSS remains valuable to my professional growth as a librarian. ANSS Socials have given me opportunities to hold informative conversations with other social science librarians. The ANSS discussion groups have provided a platform for me to learn from experts and other librarians about important issues, and through committee meetings, I have developed new skills and met collaborative partners.

Over the past few years, ANSS has continued to grow and evolve. When I served on the ANSS Membership Committee from 2013-2015, membership numbers hovered right above 400; now we have over 600 members. There are over 580 subscribers to ANSS-L and we have nearly 700 Likes on Facebook. To assist with committee meeting attendance, we have transitioned to a virtual Midwinter meeting model. Despite our increased shift to the virtual environment, when we do meet at the ALA Annual Conference we continue to offer an engaging line-up of activities.
Last June’s conference program, “Protest and Preservation,” gathered a full house of attendees eager to learn about the preservation of knowledge generated through social activism. Thank you to all those members who attended or helped with this program. I should also send a big thank you to our membership for its involvement with the 2019 ACRL Conference Scholarship Campaign; with your help in numbers and donations, ANSS has donated $600 to this fund.

Although we celebrate our growth, we also mourn our loss. In June 2017, we said goodbye to one of our former ANSS Presidents, Pauline Ditala Manaka. Pauline served as ANSS President from 2013-2014 and was a dedicated librarian at UC Irvine for over 25 years. When I attended my first ANSS Social, Pauline was one of the first people to greet me. She always made people feel welcome and included. Pauline always stood in defense of important library issues, and her emails on ANSS-L informed many members about the latest happenings with everything ranging from net neutrality to news about library advocacy. She was a great colleague, mentor, and friend.

-- Anne

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**PRELIMINARY MIDWINTER MEETING SCHEDULE**

2018 Denver

Friday, February 9

ANSS Social 7:00-9:00pm

Virtual

All committee meetings and discussion groups will convene virtually during the month of January (but not during Midwinter-proper). As those dates are established, we’ll publish them over ANSS-L, on ANSSWeb, and on our social media sites.

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**ACRL BOOKS**

ACRL publishes a range of books to assist academic librarians in developing their professional careers, managing their institutions, and increasing their awareness of developments in librarianship, providing timely, thought-provoking, and practical content and research to academic and research librarians worldwide. Some recent titles:

- The Library Assessment Cookbook
- The Self as Subject: Autoethnographic Research into Identity, Culture, and Academic Librarianship
- Zotero: a guide for librarians, researchers and educators, second edition
- Creative Instructional Design: Practical Applications for Librarians

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 and submit a proposal.
UPCOMING ANSS OFFICE ELECTION INFORMATION

The ANSS Nominating Committee has been busy developing a slate for the section’s officers. These positions will appear on the ACRL ballot for the elections that run from March to April, 2018. The offices that will become vacant at the close of the 2018 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans are: Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and Member-at-Large. The candidates’ biographical information is listed below in a random order.

**VICE-CHAIR/CHAIR-ELECT**

**Jill Conte**  
Librarian for Sociology, Psychology, and Gender & Sexuality Studies, New York University

To start, I would like to thank the Nominating Committee for putting my name forward for the position of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of ANSS. Since joining ANSS in 2013, I continue to grow professionally by leaps and bounds, due in large part to the opportunities afforded by the section to connect, share, learn, and grow with fellow social sciences librarians across the country.

I served as Co-Chair of the 2015 Conference Program Planning Committee for ALA-San Francisco and spent two years as Member-at-Large, which entails co-chairing the Membership Committee. Currently, I am Co-Convener of the Sociology Discussion Group and a member of the Review and Planning Committee. I continue to be an active member of the Executive Committee, on which I have sat since joining the section. In my various leadership roles, I have helped build strong relationships with other sections—such as the Literatures in English Section (LES) and the Politics, Policy, and International Relations Section (PPIRS, formerly LPSS)—through joint conferences and socials. I have also worked on efforts around membership recruitment and retention, which are absolutely vital to the continued growth and success of ANSS.

If elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, I would bring to the position my enthusiasm for social sciences librarianship and my commitment to ANSS as a significant and meaningful organization for many in the profession, myself included. Above all, though, I bring a deep respect and appreciation for my ANSS colleagues and a desire to work cooperatively to advance the section’s goals, objectives, and future directions.

**Carolyn McCallum**  
Cataloging Librarian for Nonprint Resources/Anthropology Liaison, Wake Forest University

Finding one’s place or home in ALA’s large organization can be a daunting task. At the 2008 Annual Conference, I was fortunate to discover mine after attending sessions sponsored by ANSS. Joining ANSS has provided me the opportunity to network with its friendly membership, advance my knowledge of anthropology librarianship, and develop leadership skills by serving as past Chair of the Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee (SBAC) and most recently as past Secretary of the Executive Board. Additionally, I have served on the Review and Planning Committee. I am currently a member of the Resource Review and Bibliography Committee and the SBAC once again.

I thoroughly enjoy collaborating with my fellow ANSS colleagues in fostering the excellent work of our section, and I feel that my experience, attention to detail, and leadership skills that I have gained through my involvement with ANSS have well prepared me for the role of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. If elected, I would proudly represent and advocate for ANSS; promote the value and benefits of belonging to this section; and...
investigate opportunities for recruitment, participation, networking, and mentoring for new and current ANSS members.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Diane Fulkerson
Director of Information Commons/Library Services, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee

Thank you to the nominating committee for thinking of me for the position of Member-at-Large for ANSS. I have been an academic librarian for 12 years and received my MLS degree from the University at Buffalo-SUNY. I have many years of experience with ACRL, including being a member of the ACRL task force that created the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy. In addition, I have also served as a past chair of the Women and Gender Studies section. Since joining ANSS, I have served a convener of the Criminal Justice & Criminology Discussion Group, and have been an active participant of ANSS. If elected, I would work towards enticing and recruiting new members to ANSS and work diligently to meet the current needs of our membership.

Rebekah J. Lee
Reference Librarian, Collin College

I originally joined ANSS as a way to gain some professional development and experience with academic committees. Since I joined in 2015, I’ve come to see the importance of providing an outlet for librarians with a focus in the social sciences to connect and learn from each other’s experience.

If elected Member-At-Large for ANSS, I hope to build on the work of those who have held the position before me to help promote and increase our membership through representation at various conferences and through new and innovative ideas for recruitment. I would like to reach out to and mentor the next generation of librarians, who may be looking for the opportunity to work with, and learn from, current ANSS members.

On a personal note, ANSS was the first professional committee I joined after getting my MLS in 2011. From the start, Miriam Rigby, Jill Conte, and other wonderful committee members have gone out of their way to make me feel welcome. ANSS has played a huge part in building up my self-confidence as an academic librarian, and encouraged me to pursue new and challenging accomplishments in my professional development.

ACRL 2019 CALL FOR PARTICIPATION – COMING NOVEMBER 2017

Keep an eye out for the ACRL 2019 Call for Participation, coming November 2017! ACRL invites you to share your research and creative endeavors at ACRL 2019, “Recasting the Narrative,” to be held April 10-13, 2019, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Why Present at ACRL 2019?

- Advocate for your research, project or initiative.
- Expand your connections and get feedback from the best in the profession.
- Boost your professional experience and confidence.
- Invite new collaborations and opportunities into your life.
- Inspire your colleagues by presenting on the most dynamic issues and ideas facing the profession.
- Be published in the online ACRL 2019 Conference Proceedings (contributed papers).
- Add your presentation to your CV and feel good about contributing to the profession.
- Good work juju (it’s true, ACRL presenters receive good juju all year long).

Watch the ACRL website for details!
CONFERENCE PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE – NEW ORLEANS, 2018

Ilka Datig and Susan Smith, Co-Chairs

The Program Planning Committee has submitted a program proposal for ALA 2018 in New Orleans. As we did this year (very successfully!), we are collaborating again with our ACRL colleagues from PPIRS (Politics, Policy and International Relations Section). The title of our program proposal is Southern Food Culture and Politics.

From our program description: “As John Egerton wrote in his book Southern Food, ‘Within the South itself, no other form of cultural expression, not even music, is as distinctly characteristic of the region as the spreading of a feast of native food and drink before a gathering of kin and friends. For as long as there has been a South, and people who think of themselves as Southerners, food has been central to the region’s image.’ Our program will delve into the political and cultural issues as they relate to the celebration of the food, drink and the related culture of the South, and features two panelists. Liz Williams is a founder of the Southern Food and Beverage Museum and President of the National Food and Beverage Foundation who researches and writes about legal and policy issues related to food and foodways. Susan Tucker recently retired as the Curator of Books and Records for the Newcomb Archives and Vorhoff Library at Tulane University, which has approximately 300 unique collections, many of which document the history of women and gender in the Gulf South including culinary history. Southern food culture will be discussed and participants will understand how librarians and archivists can play a part in preserving food culture anywhere in the world.”

We developed the proposal with the location of the conference and the rich food culture of New Orleans in mind. We think it will be an interesting program with lots of ‘food for thought’ (sorry, we couldn’t resist!). We are thinking about tying in social activities to the program--possibly a walking food tour or something similar. If our proposal is accepted, we hope to see you there!

INSTRUCTION AND INFORMATION LITERACY COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Fox and Priscilla Seaman, Co-Chairs

The ANSS IIL Committee held both a physical meeting at ALA Annual and a virtual meeting after ALA Annual this year. The physical meeting was held Saturday, June 24, 2017 in the Chicago Hilton, and the virtual meeting was held Wednesday, July 12. Eight members attended each meeting, with an additional two guests at our virtual meeting.

In the past year, our committee completed work on a survey sent to ANSS members soliciting feedback on the framework and disciplinary documents. Those participating in the survey were split between the creation of one overarching document or three separate disciplinary documents. The results led to our major discussions at our June/July meetings.

In both meetings, our primary discussion centered around next steps in our task of creating companion documents to the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education. There was a good deal of discussion at both meetings on this issue. The in-person meeting leaned toward the idea of creating one document covering sociology, anthropology, and criminal justice, with examples from each discipline. The virtual meeting was divided, but ultimately we broke into three subgroups to work on the disciplines separately. The three groups will meet regularly throughout the upcoming year and post documents on the committee’s shared drive. We will have a draft document by ALA Annual 2018.

We will encourage the liaisons for the disciplinary associations to participate and to work with those
associations as we develop our documents. Although no firm plans have been made, the idea was floated to create workshops regarding the framework and our companion documents for each of the disciplinary associations. Because the associations meet at different times of the year, some companion documents may be more developed than others at the time of the 2018 conferences.

LIAISON COMMITTEE
Katie Elson Anderson, Chair

The ANSS Liaison Committee wishes to thank our current liaisons: AAA- Juliann Couture; ASA- Hailey Mooney; and ACJS- Melissa Chomintra for their continued work in enhancing relationships between ANSS and the professional organizations they represent. At Annual, the committee discussed the timing and transition of onboarding new liaisons. Much of the previous work of the group has been in establishing documents, procedures, and checklists for the recruitment, appointment, and support of liaisons. With the bulk of this completed, the committee will be exploring future activities for communication and support. The Liaison Committee looks forward to working with the ANSS Instruction & Information Literacy Committee to assist with identifying the needs of the different disciplines.

ACRL - AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION LIAISON REPORT
Juliann Couture, University of Colorado, Boulder

I am looking forward to my sixth year as ACRL Liaison to the American Anthropological Association (AAA). My liaison role continues to focus on building connections between the professional associations, with an emphasis on the ACRL Plan for Excellence areas of student learning and research and scholarly environment.

As a member of AAA’s Publishing Futures Committee (PFC), I advise and recommend policies and initiatives related to the dissemination of anthropological knowledge, specifically related to AAA’s publishing program. Serving on this committee has been enlightening, and I have learned much about the gaps that exist between libraries, scholarly societies, publishers, and researchers. Currently, I am part of a team that is working to create a taxonomy for AnthroSource to improve search and discovery of anthropology journal articles. This is a lengthy process that is progressing slowly, and I intend to share more about this project in the spring.

In November, I will attend the AAA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC where I will engage AAA members in conversations about topics related to student learning and scholarly publishing changes, and attend relevant committee meetings, roundtable discussions, and panel sessions. As a member of the Publishing Futures Committee, I will attend meetings and events related to the AAA publishing program. This is the second year that the committee will host a journal editors’ forum to facilitate conversations around scholarly publishing trends with a current focus on multimedia publishing, open access initiatives, and other issues related to the AAA journal portfolio.

I continue to work with the ANSS Instruction and Information Literacy committee to reexamine the discipline-specific standards. I plan to strengthen connections with the AAA General Anthropology Division’s Teaching Anthropology Interest Group at their upcoming annual meeting. While this relationship has been more challenging to develop, more sessions centered on teaching and learning in anthropology have emerged in recent years and I aim to use this shift to deepen connections in this area.

I would love to hear from ANSS as I continue to build the relationship between ACRL and AAA. Is there anything you would like to know about AAA? Are you interested in hearing about meeting presentation themes or about specialized publishers in the exhibits? If any other ANSS members or academic librarians are attending the AAA meeting, I would love to meet up to discuss outreach to and engagement with a disciplinary organization. Please contact me at juliann.couture@colorado.edu or on twitter @julezig.
I have spent the last few months collaborating with Susie Skarl, Associate Professor, College of Urban Affairs Librarian at University of Nevada Las Vegas, on a resource review for two of the major criminal justice research databases: EBSCO’s Criminal Justice Abstracts and SAGE’s Criminal Justice and Criminology. These databases have not been reviewed in a decade, and hopefully the review will be a useful resource for our members.

My primary focus during my first year has been to identify and build communicative relationships between ACRL and ACJS and focus my efforts on criminal justice specific information literacy, building a network of new opportunities for ACRL/ACJS members. I recently reached out to the current editor of Journal of Criminal Justice Education (JCJE) in hopes of engaging their interest for an article that addresses the unique challenges of criminal justice information literacy, and provides active problem-based resources and activities to combat these challenges. The aim of JCJE is to enhance the quality of higher education in criminal justice and criminology, so I think that this would be a good fit, and an additional source of engagement with ACJS. In addition, I am hoping to attend the 2018 Annual meeting February 13-17 in New Orleans, LA.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me. I love to collaborate and hear new ideas and if any of you have any tips or tricks for the newbie send those my way as well. I have thoroughly enjoyed trying to get this relationship up and running this past year. Happy fall!

The American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting was held August 12-15, 2017 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. I attended the meeting and even had a chance to enjoy a little bit of Montreal sightseeing. The hike up Mount Royal involved many, many stairs to a beautiful view of the city. The outing provided some much needed exercise and fresh air after taking in a day of intense discussion on the structural bases of social inequality and the like. I also had the pleasure of meeting up with a small group of ANSS librarians for dinner, including Sally Wilson Weimer, Alesia Montgomery, and Sherri Saines.

We had a second librarian meetup the next day at the poster session in front of my poster, “‘Fake News’ and Information Literacy.” I presented the poster, representing myself and my co-authors, Heather Mooney and Shevon Desai. You can take a look at the poster file online; the eye-catching design is an homage to the layout of the National Enquirer. There are two parts to the poster, (1) an introduction to the issue of “fake news” and various types of false and misleading information, and (2) an investigation of parallels between the Sociological Literacy Framework and the Framework for Information Literacy, by way of highlighting literacy issues related to fake news. For example, the connection between information credibility (a library and information science concept) and the social construction of knowledge (a sociological concept) is presented along with the corresponding Framework elements.

While at the Annual meeting, I made a point of attending a majority of the events hosted by the Section on Teaching and Learning in Sociology (STL). ACRL liaisons have a strong history of working with STL, so I am continuing that tradition with the specific goal of finding partners to further the work of the ANSS Information Literacy Committee in creating the Disciplinary Framework Documents. I was pleased to learn that the Sociological Literacy Framework (which was originally published in a book sponsored by the Social Science Research Council) has been endorsed by the ASA as evidenced by its inclusion in the report The...
Sociology Major in the Changing Landscape of Higher Education: Curriculum, Careers, and Online Learning. This report was introduced in a workshop sponsored by the Department Resources Group, which is active in supporting department-level concerns, such as curriculum planning for the undergraduate major, in order to help schools maintain vital programs for passing program reviews. Connecting the Framework for Information Literacy to overall departmental curriculum programs will be beneficial to librarian liaison programs at individual institutions.

Other personal highlights from the ASA Annual Meeting included listening to presentations about the disciplinary response to the Trump administration (e.g., need for increased public engagement, analysis of breakdowns in authority and ideology, the crisis of financialized capitalism, etc.), critical theory, and Marxist sociology. I also had the opportunity to hear Arlie Hochschild discuss her research for the book *Strangers in Their Own Land*. I have been a fan of Hochschild’s work since reading *The Second Shift* as an undergraduate sociology student.

My main goal over the course of the next year is to support the Disciplinary Framework Document project and ensure that ANSS is able to collaborate with ASA as part of the process. I plan to keep on the lookout for any opportunities to engage in issues of scholarly communication and publishing. The movement in this area seems to be stronger with the SocArXiv organization (which is not part of ASA, although many ASA members are part of it), which has an upcoming symposium in October 2017 that I plan to attend. I also would like to submit a proposal to the ASA 2018 Annual Meeting that leverages librarian expertise in an area of current discussion in ASA, or bringing attention to a new area of interest. Please don’t hesitate to be in touch with me if you are interested in collaborating on any of these goals or would like to meet up at any future events.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Jill Conte and Rui Wang, Co-Chairs**

Four members of the ANSS Membership Committee met on Saturday, June 24, 2017 in Chicago. They were joined by Helen Clements and Anne Larrivee. The group reviewed the latest membership numbers, which are strong and continue to grow. Given that all of ANSS’ Midwinter meetings are conducted virtually, the group weighed the pros and cons of continuing to organize an in-person social at the ALA Midwinter Conference, ultimately deciding to raise the issue for discussion at the Executive Committee meeting. The group ironed out the details of the upcoming ANSS membership survey and discussed how to proceed with membership promotion, looking to other sections for ideas. Helen Clements updated the group on the status of ANSS 101 program planning. At the very end, the group was joined by Shonn Haren to talk about its role in recruiting ANSS members to join existing committees that seek new membership, e.g., Subject and Bibliographic Access.

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Erin Pappas, Chair**

The ANSS Publications Committee held a virtual meeting on June 13. We discussed the statistics for our social media presence, including Facebook (673 followers) and Twitter (220 followers), as well as the listserv (580 subscribers) and Wordpress blog (8,717 pageviews). Several members of the committee, including all *Currents* editors, can post to the ANSS Facebook page, which cross-posts to Twitter. If you have photos from a conference, social, or other activity you would like to share, please reach out to any *Currents* editor. Please practice due diligence in identifying everyone in the photos!

The committee introduced its new co-chairs, Mimmo Bonanni and Allison Ringness. There was also discussion about seeking new editorial assistance for *Currents*, which was to be presented to the ANSS Executive Committee at the Annual meeting. Content for the Fall issue of *Currents* was discussed, as well as planning for future issues. However, some of this content was pushed back to make room for a memorial
honoring longtime member Pauline Manaka, who passed away in June.

**REVIEW & PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Miriam Rigby, Chair

*Submitted by Carolyn McCallum*

The ANSS Review & Planning Committee met at ALA Annual during the All-Committees Meeting for ANSS. It was a productive event, covering old business and new, and the All-Committees meeting format granted the extra benefit of checking in with other committees and their projects as they relate to Review & Planning. Miriam Rigby (Chair), Helen Clements, Susan Silver, Carolyn McCallum, and Anne Larrivee were in attendance.

Helen Clements reported that Susan Smith and Ilka Datig will lead the Conference Program Planning Committee for ALA Annual 2018. This was followed by a discussion of ANSS 101. It was suggested that the responsibility of developing a new ANSS 101 program be delegated to the Membership Committee. Helen drafted a list of potential topics to be covered (e.g., mission statement, membership and social media statistics, procedure for joining, membership perks, ANSS structure and officers, and committee descriptions). The committee discussed whether this information should be distributed as a webinar, video, or online document (e.g., LibGuide) with embedded video clips. Anne volunteered to coordinate the program.

ACRL’s offer of free LibGuides for sections was discussed, and it was suggested that the responsibility of developing an ANSS LibGuide be delegated to the Publications Committee. One or two individuals would be needed as administrators of the LibGuide. Anne reported that there is no limit to the number of guides a section can have, but a custom banner must be utilized. Helen volunteered to discuss this topic with the Publications Committee. Continuing the discussion of items related to Publications, the topic of the ANSS website was also addressed. Currently, Allison Ringness is in charge of the ANSS website, which is hosted on WordPress. Anne suggested updating the template to make it appear less blog-like. Another suggestion was to assign maintenance of the website to an individual rather than the Publications Committee.

Priscilla Seaman reported during the All-Committees Meeting that in the upcoming year, the Instruction and Information Literacy Committee would be drafting a new document. This document will be based on three years of review and analysis of the ACRL Information Literacy Framework.

Following up on ongoing discussions of an ANSS membership survey, Helen announced plans to talk with the Membership Committee about conducting a new membership survey. Helen also reported that Beth Sheehan is seeking a place to archive the section’s documents.

In new business, the committee discussed a few projects and committee roles that are open for new volunteers. Helen reported that the Publications Committee is looking for someone new to fill the role of *Currents* editor, and Anne expressed interest in finding individuals who are willing to conduct webinars on various topics for professional development (e.g., online lightning talks presented by 3-5 individuals).

Anne also presented the idea of creating an award or scholarship in honor of Pauline Manaka. This had been discussed at the Friday night social as well as on ANSS-L. Possibilities included a research award or an award in an area for which Pauline was passionate (e.g., instruction or social justice). Such a proposal would have to go through ACRL, and we would need to determine if the award should be monetary, a plaque, a scholarship, or something else. A new ANSS committee would need to be established to evaluate nominees. Additionally, criteria for the award itself would need to be established and drafted. (This idea came up again during the ANSS Executive Board meeting, with the consensus being that we should try to create a named scholarship.)
Anne reported that in ACRL’s leadership council a discussion arose concerning the renaming of sections and committees. Anne suggested that ANSS consider including criminal justice/criminology in its section name.

At the end of the All-Committees Meeting, ANSS committee chairs gave updates on their work and on their plans for the rest of the year. Helen polled members about the setup of the new All-Committees Meeting, and a majority thought this new arrangement worked well and should be continued.

**SUBJECT AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACCESS COMMITTEE**

**Shonn Haren, Chair**

The 2016-17 Academic Year was a productive one for the ANSS Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee (SBAC). During this period we published Cataloging Q&A posts on ANSSWeb on the following topics:

- How can I search authority records using newly available attributes, such as “field of activity” or “occupation?”
- What are the subject headings we can use to find materials about various types of social inequality in human societies? Are there headings for works about social class, status, and racism?
- How is the heading “Cherokee” treated by LCSH (Library of Congress Subject Headings)?
- What are the LC subject headings for cataloging works dealing with fascism and fascist movements?
- What are the LC subject headings and name authorities for cataloging works dealing with Nazism?
- What kinds of subject headings are used for false information? How does LCSH describe fallacies?
- What are the subject headings for medical anthropology, medical sociology, and the study of traditional medicine?
- What subject headings are used for works on presidential elections in the United States and related topics?

In the coming months, we will be tackling questions dealing with new forms of subject headings, as well as a new author data-linking system being pioneered at Harvard University. Stay tuned!

During the spring, SBAC offered a service on ANSS-L in which librarians interested in proposing a new LC subject heading to SACO (Subject Authority Cooperative Program) could request assistance from the committee. As of yet we haven’t had any takers, but we remain committed to providing this service as requested.

Finally, at the Annual meeting we said goodbye to our colleagues Isabel Quintana, Wade Kotter, and Fred Hay, who are rolling off the committee after many years of excellent service. We are grateful to Isabel, Wade, and Fred for their many contributions to the committee and look forward to their new endeavors within ANSS. With that news, it should also be clear that our committee now has a considerable number of vacancies, and we would be thrilled to welcome new members. If you’re interested, please contact Shonn Haren at smharen@cpp.edu.
ANTHROPOLOGY LIBRARIANS DISCUSSION GROUP
Rachael Muszkiewicz & Niamh Wallace, Co-Conveners

The Anthropology Librarians Discussion Group met on Sunday, June 25, from 4:30–5:40 p.m. at the Chicago Hilton. We welcomed 20 attendees to our conversation on the concept of fake news and The Conversation’s article “Seeking truth among ‘alternative facts’.”

The discussion group based its conversation around two questions: What is it about anthropology/archaeology that makes it particularly suited to strengthen critical thinking skills in undergraduate students? And, in designing instructional sessions, tools, or resources, how might you use anthropology to challenge the idea of alternative facts, or fake news? The discussion covered ways to address alternative facts in the classroom, how this issue fits into the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education, how the concept of truth may differ in the disciplines of anthropology and archaeology, how specific types of information gathering in anthropology (field notes, pictures, interviews, and other ethnographic qualitative data) is unique, and how this data is treated differently than in hard sciences.

SOCIOLOGY LIBRARIANS DISCUSSION GROUP
Jill Conte and Susan Silver, Co-Conveners

The ANSS Sociology Discussion Group met on Saturday, June 24 to talk about the Sociological Abstracts database. Rob Newman, Senior Product Manager at ProQuest, attended the meeting and gave a short presentation to the group, followed by a discussion. Highlights of the conversation included the differences between Sociological Abstracts and Sociology Database (also produced by ProQuest). Content coverage of Sociological Abstracts has not changed, and the number of non-scholarly publications has been reduced. ProQuest has also moved to a single bibliographic record across databases, which means that controlled vocabulary terms from other databases are now attached to records. Several search fields have been eliminated (e.g., Accession number, CODEN, and Conference title). ProQuest will soon be loading the 5th edition of the ASA style guide. Newman also announced that Rachel Kessler will be taking over as product manager. The full presentation can be accessed here.

RBMS CONFERENCE, JUNE 19-22, 2018, NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans is a hotbed of convergences, ones so powerful that its lineage includes a dish as delightful as gumbo and a storm as destructive as Hurricane Katrina. This conference will focus on the idea of convergences, including our field’s preparedness for increasing environmental vulnerabilities, our readiness for the inclusion of different people and cultures in our outreach and leadership, and, finally, our willingness to democratize all of our materials. Registration opens in February!
ANSS at ALA Annual 2017

ANSS Program Report
Report by Katie Elson Anderson, Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey

The message at the Protest and Preservation program was that libraries and librarians play an essential role in the preservation of non-textual knowledge, helping to create spaces beyond text and humanize important stories. The program, sponsored by PPIRS (Politics, Policy and International Relations Section) & ANSS with GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender), explored the preservation of knowledge generated through social activism by focusing on the specific works of the panelists; Richard Gilman-Opalsky’s research on social movements and the public sphere, Robert Camina’s documentaries, Upstairs Inferno and Raid of the Rainbow Lounge and Sonia Yaco’s work on the Desegregation of Virginia Education (DOVE) project.

Gilman-Opalsky discussed the importance of revolt in society and encouraged libraries to open their doors to provide people the spaces for activism. He challenged the traditional commitment to paper and discussed the importance of preserving and making accessible the non-textual elements of uprisings; oral histories, accounts, photos, and social media.

Filmmaker Robert Camina demonstrated how he is bringing text to life through emotional clips of his award winning documentary films which focus on significant events in the LGBT community. In his remarks, Camina emphasized how stories can become more relatable when text is humanized through voices and images. He also reminded everyone in the audience that anyone with a smartphone capable of recording sound and images were documentarians themselves.

Sonia Yaco spoke about her work on the DOVE project which seeks to create a new history and new understanding through oral histories, records, dialogue, and community building. As a librarian, she acknowledged the challenges faced by the profession in preserving the non-textual knowledge important to social justice and activism and in her discussion about finding the right tool, points out that in most cases, “the best tool is you”, the librarians.

Photo credit: Anne Larrivee
For further information on the panelists, the program, and social activism and preservation, please visit the pathfinder created by the ANSS and PPIRS Program Planning Committees.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK**

Take a deeper dive into the ACRL [Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](https://www.ala.org/acrl/framework) during a full-day workshop held in conjunction with the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting. “The Mile High Roadshow: Engaging with the ACRL Framework,” will be held Friday, February 9, 2018, in Denver, Colorado.

The ACRL Framework - with its emphasis on self-reflective and lifelong learning and on conceptual understandings about information, research, and scholarship and encouraging - has prompted many librarians to consider their teaching practices from fresh angles, as they explore their evolving instructional roles within and beyond the library classroom. This full-day workshop supports librarians in engaging more deeply with the Framework. Explore concepts and pedagogical approaches outlined in the Framework and their significance to your own instructional work. Apply learning and reflection to creating instruction plans for local contexts and consider possibilities for growing teaching partnerships.

Complete details, including registration materials, are [online](https://www.ala.org/). Contact [mmconahan@ala.org](mailto:mmconahan@ala.org) with questions.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM ANSS AT ALA ANNUAL 2017

The ANSS and PPIRS 2017 Joint Social was held at The Scout Waterhouse + Kitchen on June 23.

Photo credit: Mimmo Bonanni
Sociology Librarians Discussion Group Meeting held on Saturday, June 24, in the Palmer House Hilton.

Photo credit: Mimmo Bonanni

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES AWARD
$3,000 and a plaque

ACADEMIC/RESEARCH LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR
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More information about these and all other ACRL award opportunities can be found on the ACRL website: http://www.ala.org/acrl/awards or by contacting Chase Ollis at (312) 280-2521 or collis@ala.org
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBER NEWS

Richard Freeman has been elected to the board of the Society for Visual Anthropology (SVA), part of the American Anthropology Association (AAA). His term starts in December 2017. It is a three-year appointment.

Richard co-chaired a panel at the 2016 AAA meetings with anthropologist Jerome Crowder, the associate director at the Institute for the Medical Humanities, University of Texas Medical Branch. The panel was entitled, “Anthropological Data in the Digital Age: New Possibilities, New Challenges, Same Concerns.”

He also organized a trip of four researchers to Santiago de Cuba to conduct interviews, as well as record and photograph religious ceremonies, among the Haitian immigrant communities. The trip was a part of Dr. Ben Hebblethwaite’s (University of Florida Associate Professor of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) NSF grant. Richard made his second trip to Ventanilla, Oaxaca, Mexico with anthropologist Dr. Bill Wood (UW-Milwaukee), to follow up on some visual work with the community there.

ACRL ROADSHOW WORKSHOPS

Looking to build your library’s professional skills? ACRL offers a variety of traveling workshops that can be brought upon request to your campus, chapter, or consortia. Led by expert presenters, these one-day immersive workshops are designed to engage participants and help academic librarians strengthen competencies in multiple areas of concentration. ACRL currently offers several workshops available upon request, including:

- **Assessment in Action: Demonstrating and Communicating Library Contributions to Student Learning and Success**
- **Building Your Research Data Management Toolkit: Integrating RDM into Your Liaison Work**
- **Engaging with the ACRL Framework: A Catalyst for Exploring and Expanding Our Teaching Practices**
- **Planning, Assessing, and Communicating Library Impact: Putting the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education into Action**
- **Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement**
- **Two Paths Converge: Designing Educational Opportunities on the Intersections of Scholarly Communication and Information Literacy**

Please contact ACRL Program Officer Chase Ollis at collis@ala.org or (312) 280-2521 to discuss dates, locations, pricing, and complete workshop details.
ANSS would like to express great sorrow for the recent passing of fellow ANSS member Pauline Manaka, Research Librarian at University of California, Irvine, who served as ANSS Chair from 2013-2014 and was a dedicated librarian at UCI for over 25 years.

Pauline was a strong advocate for the importance of librarian instruction and information literacy. She earned her MSLS in 1978 and also an MA in Political Science in 1982, both from Atlanta University. Her decision to become a librarian was inspired by her uncle, who was the head of an academic library at University of Limpopo in South Africa. She grew up in South Africa during the apartheid era, which remained a focus for her teaching, research, and activism.

In 1976 Pauline became one of the first black students from South Africa to receive a Fulbright Scholarship. She used it to study for her MLS in the United States, following President Carter’s policy that South Africa open the award to black students.

Not only was Pauline an active member within ANSS, she was also involved in associations such as the American Sociological Association, American Anthropological Association, African Studies Association, and the National Conference of Black Political Scientists. She will be sorely missed.

ANSS Memories

“Pauline Manaka was an excellent Sociology and Anthropology Librarian at University of California, Irvine. I worked with her as co-chair of the University of California Sociology Librarians Consortium for over ten years. She was so excited about information literacy and research methods in the social sciences. And, she enthusiastically coached her students and faculty in effective research methods and search strategies. She also brought her enthusiasm about leadership in sociology and anthropology as the section chair of Anthropology and Sociology Section of ACRL (ALA) during 2013-2014. She has inspired me to be a better academic sociology librarian and information literacy instructor in my career at the UCSB Library. She will be greatly missed at UCI, University of California, and in ACRL.” -- Sally Weimer

“I’d also like to express my sorrow regarding this loss. Pauline was one of the first ANSS members I met, and her dedication and spirit will be missed!” -- Elizabeth Sheehan
“Pauline was so engaged with ANSS, librarianship, and social justice, as well as being a very welcoming and encouraging person, as others have noted. She will be missed.” -- Miriam Rigby

“Like many others have expressed, I am shocked and saddened to learn of Pauline's passing. Pauline was a core member of ANSS, and I was very much looking forward to seeing her (reliably!) at the social in Chicago. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family and loved ones.” -- Jill Conte

“Pauline was a kind and passionate librarian. She was always so welcoming to new ANSS members and was one of the people that encouraged me to become more involved with ANSS. She was a true advocate for important librarian and social justice issues. Her voice and presence will be missed but I know that the memory of her will live on. This is sad news indeed.” -- Anne Larrivee

“I'm so sorry to hear this sad news. Pauline was so professional and energetic, and very kind at the same time. She really embodied the ANSS for me.” -- Jennifer Davis

“I read the message a few times to be sure I was reading the name right!! Pauline was wonderful, friendly, kind and immediately made me feel at home at ANSS.” - Kuchi Triveni

“Pauline Manaka valued her association with ANSS. She was a current member of ALA Council and active in many professional activities.” -- Wade Kotter

“Pauline was kind, friendly, and helpful. She always remembered people/us. As ANSS’ers, we will miss her dedication, kindness, and knowledge. Compassion for her friends & family at this difficult time.” -- Sue McFadden

“I am shocked and so sorry to hear about the sad news. Pauline has been a great leader for ANSS and mentor for me.” -- Rui Wang
“Pauline was very welcoming to me when I was actively involved in ANSS many years ago. I remember her as just always being there contributing.” -- Gwyneth Crowley

“Pauline was kind and highly approachable. I only worked with her a short time on the ANSS committee but I hoped to work with her again.” -- Bonnie Ryan

“My first encounter with a member of ANSS, so many years ago, was with Pauline. She immediately made me feel comfortable and welcome as a new member of ANSS. I always looked forward to seeing Pauline at ALA, and catching up with her. Such sad news. I will cherish our friendship, and she'll be sorely missed.” -- Mimmo Bonanni

“Pauline was one of the real stalwarts of ANSS.” -- Louisa McMurray

“Sad news indeed! Pauline was a wonderful colleague and friend. I miss her.” -- Fred Hay

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**ACADEMIC LIBRARY IMPACT**

Developed for ACRL by OCLC Research, *Academic Library Impact: Improving Practice and Essential Areas to Research* is a new, valuable resource investigating how libraries can increase student learning and success and effectively communicate their value to higher education stakeholders. The full report is freely available for download on the ACRL website. This action-oriented research agenda includes:

- a report on all project phases and findings;
- a detailed research agenda based on those findings;
- a [visualization component](#) that filters relevant literature,
- and creates graphics that can communicate library value to stakeholders;
- a bibliography of the literature analyzed;
- and a [full bibliography](#) of the works cited and reviewed.
DOES LCSH STILL MATTER?
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The Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) system is one of the largest, most complex controlled vocabularies ever created. Begun in 1897 with the Library of Congress's shift to a "dictionary" style controlled vocabulary for subject control, as of April 2017 this system has expanded to 342,107 authority records with approximately 5,000 new headings being added to the system every year (Library of Congress, 2017, pp. vii-viii). When one takes into account the various ways in which those headings can be constructed or varied using free-floating subdivisions, the number of subject headings available to describe any given work extends well into the millions.

Despite its age, the LCSH maintains its fair share of champions. Mann (2003) has consistently defended the necessity of using and teaching the use of controlled vocabulary to library users, arguing that subject headings enable "people simply to recognize what they cannot specify beforehand and thus allowing users to zero in on the precise materials they are seeking without fumbling with numerous clumsy attempts at a variety of Boolean keyword searches” (pp. 52-53). Badke (2011) sings similar praises of the LCSH, noting that keyword searching is akin to "luck" and that while subject headings "construct meaning" around the works they describe, linking them into patterns and hierarchies of information, keyword searching involves an attempt to discover “the words that most closely correspond to the nuance I'm [the user is] seeking" (p. 53). Badke continues, "Keywords don't catch nuances of what the results don't actually say in words about themselves," (p. 53) thus making them inadequate as a user's sole search tool. Finally, McCutcheon (2009) argues that the value of controlled vocabularies like the LCSH are most prominent in complex searches where they provide "the high precision and high recall rates necessary for a comprehensive overview and in-depth understanding not available through keyword searching" (p. 63).

Despite this, subject headings remain far from the user's first choice when searching a database, catalog, or discovery layer. Why is such a powerful tool neglected? The answer is simple: they're not easy to use. Indeed, outside of a cataloging department, it is doubtful that many librarians, much less library users, find the construction of an LC subject heading to be intuitive. Construction of a heading involves complex rules, the application of which may seem arcane—if not outright incomprehensible—to the uninitiated. Even when attempts are made to make subject headings accessible, such as through faceted searching, their use does not appear to significantly increase (Bauer & Peterson-Hart, 2011).

McCutcheon (2009) describes searching using LCSH as "a boon to seekers in the long run, but it does not come instinctively" (p. 64). Nor, as Spidal and Cummings (2014) observed, does it appear that teaching the use of LCSH is easier than learning it. Of the 364 instruction librarians they surveyed, 33% admitted to rarely or never mentioning subject headings in instruction, with another 29.2% stating that they taught about LCSH "sometimes" (p. 165). When asked their reasons for avoiding instruction on the topic, the librarians surveyed generally referred to the lack of time provided in one-shot instruction sessions (usually limited to a maximum of 50 minutes) for teaching such a complex topic. The general consensus was that if subject headings were to be addressed at all, it was preferable to address them...
during semester-long courses, where there was sufficient time to explore them in their complexity (Spidal & Cummings, 2014, pp. 166-167).

Were there little or no difference in the results of searching using LCSH versus searching using keywords, the slow disappearance of LCSH from both instruction and search interfaces might well be justified. However, a series of studies beginning with Carlyle (1989), Frost (1989), Voorbij (1998), Ansari (2005) and Gross and Taylor (2005) demonstrate that there is a consistently significant percentage of results found using LCSH that could not be found using keyword searches alone. In all of these studies, the results unable to be found by keyword alone never involved less than 20% of the results, and in some of the cases cited in Gross and Taylor they reached as high as 70% (as cited in Strader, 2009 and Spidal & Cummings, 2014). Essentially, searching a catalog or a database without using its available controlled vocabulary hampers a user's ability to access a comprehensive set of search results on their chosen topic. While keyword searching alone may be sufficient for brief, superficial surveys of resources, in-depth research of a topic continues to require more robust tools.

Questions about the continued utility of LCSH and other controlled vocabularies are not new. The power of subject headings to retrieve rich and specific search results does not make them any more intuitive to use or easy to understand. However, until such a time as keyword search technology manages to include all the results that can only be retrieved with controlled vocabularies, subject headings will continue to matter and remain a crucial tool for those who seek information as well as those who organize it.

At the same time, searching with keywords or LCSH need not be an either/or proposition. As noted by Spidal and Cummings (2014), effective inclusion of subject headings in instruction is possible and often takes the approach of using “keyword searching to find a book on a topic of interest, click[ing] on the subject links to lead to more books on the subject, rinse, repeat” (p. 167). Indeed, this was the way the author himself was introduced to using LCSH as a graduate history student, and this method still informs his research strategies today. Ultimately, LCSH is one of many tools at our disposal for research. It is a powerful but difficult tool to master. However, like the potter's wheel or the cabinetmaker’s jigsaw, mastery of this tool remains crucial to those involved in the search for information. Instead of ignoring it for simpler to use—albeit less effective—tools, we should either respect the time required to master subject headings, or find a way to make them easier for our users to utilize.

References


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**RESOURCE REVIEWS**

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**SAGE RESEARCH METHODS CASES**

*Reviewed:* August 2017  
*Publisher:* SAGE Publications, 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320, Phone: 1-800-818-7243, Email: orders@sagepub.com  
*URL:* [http://methods.sagepub.com/cases](http://methods.sagepub.com/cases)

*Cost:* One time purchase of Part I and/or Part II or annual subscription; See SAGE representative for pricing.  
*Coverage Dates:* Cases published 2013-2017; Research described in Cases may have occurred earlier

**Introduction**

*SAGE Research Methods Cases* is a collection of over 1100 specially commissioned, peer-reviewed essays from researchers detailing the course of their research projects with an emphasis on the methodologies chosen and the execution of those methods. Purchasing options include *SAGE Research Methods Cases* Part I, which includes 604 case studies, and Part II, which includes 563 case studies. Part I and II offer similar content. These case studies come from a broad range of subject areas including anthropology and sociology, as well as other disciplines like economics, business and management, and history.

A relatively new product from SAGE Publications, *SAGE Research Methods Cases* is fully incorporated into the existing *SAGE Research Methods* (SRM) platform. SRM is an online platform that offers over 1000 textual and audiovisual resources from SAGE Publications. SRM also offers interactive tools like the Methods Map, which provides a visual component linking related methods.

*SAGE Research Methods Cases* is part of a larger initiative from SAGE Publications to add additional types of content to the SRM platform. The other two options for add-ons to the SRM platform are *SAGE Research Methods Video* and *SAGE Research Methods Datasets.*
Content
Each case is assigned one or more disciplines: 361 cases are listed with sociology, 126 are listed with anthropology, and 99 of these are listed as both. The cases include an Abstract, Learning Outcomes, and Exercises and Discussion Questions. These additions make the cases convenient teaching tools for the classroom in addition to individual study. Since each case is written by different authors, content can vary, but there are a few key aspects in every case. Each case features some combination of a discussion of the methods used, including the decision process; the research project itself, the data collected, the benefits of the methods, and problems that may have arisen during the research project involving the chosen methods. Authors also provide further reading and references.

Across the platform there are 242 methods described - including methods related to anthropology and sociology, such as ethnography, semi-structured interviews, action research, and open coding.

Interface and Indexing
SAGE Research Methods Cases is fully integrated into the SRM platform and is linked from the homepage. In addition to a simple search and an advanced search, the SAGE Research Methods Cases are indexed and browsable three ways: Method, Discipline, and Academic Level.

Figure 1: Browsing display.

Academic Level includes Introductory Undergraduate, Intermediate Undergraduate, Advanced Undergraduate, and Postgraduate. These levels appear to be assigned according to the appropriateness of the methods for each group. All three browsing methods can be further limited by a Discipline facet. If already browsing by discipline, you can add additional disciplines with this facet as an OR option (e.g., Anthropology OR Sociology). The other facets within browsing are of limited usefulness because the search is already limited to Cases. Facets like publication date are already limited to 2013-2017 since the cases are all published during this time.

On the results page, each case is given a brief description and is tagged with keywords. On the page for each case is the author and title information as well as the DOI and linked methods, academic level, disciplines, and keywords (see Figure 2).
A Phenomenological Case Study: Strategy Development in Small and Medium Retail Enterprises in Greece during Recession

**CASE**

**By:** Constantinos Theodoridis

**Published:** 2014 | **Product:** SAGE Research Methods Cases

**DOI:** http://dx.doi.org.proxy1.cl.msu.edu/10.4135/978144627305014539099

**Methods:** Case study research, Phenomenology

**Online ISBN:** 9781473951679

**Academic Level:** Advanced Undergraduate, Postgraduate

**Disciplines:** Business and Management, Economics, Sociology

**Keywords:** small and medium enterprises

*Figure 2: Case bibliographic information.*

In the right-hand corner, there is a drop-down box (see Figure 3) that cites the published article based on the research described when applicable. Not all of the cases have a corresponding published article. There are also drop-down boxes for the SRM Methods Map interactive tool and Related Content, which links to similar cases. Above these drop-down menus are four buttons: Cite (for citations), List (for adding to your personal research list), Share (for embedding in social media and/or email), and Text (for increasing or decreasing the font size). Citation styles offered are APA, Chicago, Harvard, and MLA. You can also export a citation to EndNote, Reference Manager, ProCite, RefWorks, BibTeX, Zotero, or MEDLARS. When tested with Zotero the export option worked adequately.

Signing up for a free profile allows you to create reading lists and access saved searches. This is a useful function for those engaging in more in-depth research or for instructors trying to create course content. The List button allows for adding the case to an existing reading list or creating another. Reading lists can be made public or private. The profile is the same across the SRM platform.

The Published Articles option is not always given, and when it is, it does not always include a link. There is at least one case that has links but no bibliographic information.

*Figure 3: Side menus.*
Below the bibliographic information and before the text, the interface allows for searching within the case, downloading the PDF, and navigating the PDF.

**Figure 4: Case navigation.**

The browsing function seems to be the best method of discovery for cases, particularly browsing by method and by discipline. However, there are 242 methods to browse by, so that may not be advisable if users are unsure of what method they would like to explore. In that situation, browsing by discipline instead would be better.

**Figure 5: Advanced search page.**

There are options for a simple search and an advanced search (see Figure 5). The advanced search is set up in the typical Boolean style with AND, OR, and NOT operators. Truncation using the asterisk is allowed, but wildcards are not. The advanced search allows for the usual options: full text, title, author/editor, and abstract (see Figure 6). You can also search using method, which may be useful in adding further limitations to a search. However, if you are only searching the Cases, the relatively low number of cases may make additional limitations overly strict. Since the advanced search is automatically set up to search across the SRM platform, it can be frustrating when you are given results from SRM packages to which you do not have access.

**Figure 6: Advanced search options.**
There is also an option to search within keywords, which may be confusing until you remember that some cases have assigned keywords that are then linked and browsable. The fact that not all cases are assigned keywords is problematic for searching by keyword. The benefit of the advanced search is that it is the only place where you can simultaneously search across the three main levels of indexing (Methods, Discipline, and Academic Level).

Returning to the individual case view navigation, the bibliographic information at the start of the page (see Figure 2) includes several linked items. The first is the author; the link prompts you to select “Find content related to this author” or “View bio.” The first option is functional and would presumably include the author’s content across the SRM platform. The “View bio” option has a bug, however; the link works, but the page with the bio continually prompts you to enter your country of location. I tried accessing the page with Chrome, Firefox, and Safari, with the same results.

All of the other linked options (methods, discipline, keywords, and academic level) search across the SRM platform, which again could be frustrating if you do not have access to all of the content. The facets on the right let the user return to just SRM Cases.

It is difficult to assess the nature of the assigned keywords, since there is no listing of all available options, and the usefulness is unclear.

Accessibility
*SAGE Research Methods Cases* was deemed appropriately accessible by our in-house accessibility team led by one of the librarians. The PDFs of the cases are readable by screen readers, with only minor complications. The SRM platform has a “Voluntary Product Accessibility Template” that, according to our team, was created by a reputable consulting company. There is also a function for increasing the text size in the case view. More about SRM’s accessibility can be found on their website.

User Guidance
The SRM homepage has a Help link located at the bottom of the page. This is not an ideal location for the Help feature, but it is very common across many websites. The Help feature provides useful information about all of SRM’s features, including the add-ons Cases, Video, and Datasets. For Cases, there is a short video describing the resource and how to use it.

There are also Faculty Resources and Librarian Resources. These pages are not specific to Cases, but are nevertheless helpful. The Faculty Resources page includes information on embedding reading lists and suggestions for classroom assignments. The Librarian Resources page gives a lot of information about the technical aspects of the SRM platform, including MARC records and title lists. The page also links to the SRM LibGuide. The LibGuide includes a tab for *SAGE Research Methods Cases*, with a brief overview of the functionality of the resource.

The Advanced Search page probably offers the most help to users, since it is incorporated into the interface (see Figure 5). There is a short explanation of Boolean operators and a note that describes the functionality of the advanced search. Above the search box are links to “general search tips” and to “using advanced search option.” The second link is particularly helpful as it explains more about the elements available to search within (Title, Method, Keyword, and DOI).

Positive Aspects
The promotional materials for *SAGE Research Methods Cases* tout it as a one-of-a-kind resource. So far, the only similar content would be found in individual publications, both in the methods section of journal articles and in methods
textbooks. Therefore, *Cases* is notable for its integration of many diverse elements into a single product. SRM as a whole also brings together a wide range of resources, but it is worth reiterating that these cases were specifically commissioned for SAGE. It makes this resource truly unique.

Another positive aspect of *SAGE Research Methods Cases* is the indexing into three main categories: Methods, Academic Level, and Discipline. These three aspects of each case are very helpful in browsing the interface. There are a few quirks that I have already mentioned, but it is largely a useful way of categorizing the cases.

There is an inherent pedagogical usefulness to the cases, made all the more effective given the inclusion of learning outcomes and suggestions for classroom discussion. I particularly like that the publications associated with the cases are listed where they exist. I think comparing the publications to the cases could be a really great way of showing the researcher’s view of the process in order to demystify it for students who may feel intimidated by research.

**Summary**

SAGE Publishing has long provided quality resources for libraries. The SRM platform is still a fairly new addition to their suite of offerings, and *SAGE Research Methods Cases* is newer still. I am impressed with the content that SAGE Publishing is adding to the SRM platform, particularly their ventures into newer content. I think the *Cases* package is the most unique addition to the platform, and I believe it could be of great use to professors and other instructors in sociology and anthropology. As textbook prices continue to rise, the SRM platform and *SAGE Research Methods Cases* could offset some of those costs with buy-in from faculty willing to transition to electronic resources. It would also be useful for graduate students deciding on and executing a method for their thesis or dissertation research.

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**Criminal Justice Abstracts**

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**Criminal Justice Abstracts**

Reviewed: September 2017  
Publisher: EBSCO, 10 Estes Street., Ipswich, MA 01938, Phone: (978) 356-6500  
Cost: Pricing varies based on services and subscriptions selected and pricing is not readily available on the web site. Interested parties are directed to contact EBSCO for detailed pricing information. A free trial is available  
Coverage Dates: Dates of journal coverage are available from the EBSCO database but vary by title

**Introduction**

Criminal justice is a robust interdisciplinary field of study. Encompassing influence from sociology, psychology, law, and political science, the field’s interdisciplinary nature lends its hand to a myriad of options when selecting resources
to conduct research. This can prove to be a cumbersome task as users attempt to gain both breadth and depth in their scholarly pursuits. Currently, *Criminal Justice Abstracts* and *Criminology and Criminal Justice* (Alternative Title: *Criminology: A SAGE Collection*) offer unmatched access to a variety of criminal justice information sources. However, there are marked differences between them. This review will provide an in-depth look at each database and highlight their standout features.

**Scope, size, coverage, and currency**

Previously provided by SAGE, *Criminal Justice Abstracts* is an EBSCO database providing coverage of over 600 journals, equaling over 540,000 records and covering the following topics: criminal justice, criminal law and procedure, corrections and prisons, police and policing, criminal investigation, forensic sciences and investigation, history of crime, substance abuse and addiction, probation and parole, and criminology. A full list of journal titles can be found [here](#). This list also provides details on the level of coverage (mainly core, a few priority), the source type (magazine, academic journal, report, etc.), publisher, indexing and abstracting start date, availability, and whether or not the journal is peer reviewed.

The database contains journal articles, books, periodicals, conference proceedings, and reviews. The web site can be translated into 30 different languages. The majority of the content provided is in English, but materials can also be found in 14 different languages.

**Format and Organization**

*Criminal Justice Abstracts* uses the same interface as many other EBSCO databases, which contributes to the uniformity of their products. The simplicity of the main page increases usability by taking out the guesswork often encountered when using other search engines or databases.

The EBSCOhost main page has a clean design and the location of the search bar makes searching intuitive; see figure 1 below. Users navigating to this page for the first time can easily conduct a search by typing their search terms into the search bar.

![Figure 1: Screenshot of Criminal Justice Abstracts basic search options.](#)
An advanced search is also available. The original search bar of the basic search is expanded to include built-in Boolean operators as well as a myriad of additional search fields as shown in figure 2.

![Advanced Search Screenshot](image)

*Figure 2: Advanced search.*

The use of color throughout the database remains consistent. Blue is reserved for text that is linked. I thought that this was a great choice, as blue is widely used on the internet to indicate a hyperlink.

The results page contains a high volume of information and text. EBSCO uses columns and line breaks to help organize the information. The user’s eye automatically gravitates towards the search results in the middle of the page, where a larger font size is used. A smaller font size is used on the columns on either side of the results. While novice users may feel overwhelmed with the amount of content on the results page, EBSCO designed their database with a clean and organized aesthetic.

**Electronic record structure, retrieval, and display**

When a user types search terms into the search bar, the database will begin to suggest search terms based on like terms in its holdings. Once a search is complete, a list of results is produced with the most relevant results appearing first. The left side of the page lists options for refining your search, the middle of the page displays search results, and the right side of the page displays related information.

Citation searching is represented by the number of times an article has been cited and is listed under the article title, citation, and subject in the search results list. Users can click on the cited references link and the database will navigate to a list of titles in which the previous article was referenced. Users can then add these titles to a folder or research profile, or find the full text, if available, by clicking on the corresponding link.
Of particular note is the SmartText Searching feature, which allows you to enter as much text for your search as you want: a phrase, a sentence, a paragraph, or even whole pages. This mode searches only EBSCO databases and it is similar to the natural language Google search, which many university students are already accustomed to using.

**Indexing and subject access**
Indexing includes author, author-supplied keywords, company entity, document type, entry date, geographic terms, ISBN, ISSN, language, people, publication name, reviews and products, subject terms, and year of publication, as well as citation indexing. The indexes search is accessed by a link at the top of the EBSCOhost screen.

**Accuracy of entries/records**
Unique search results were produced when searching terms in all caps versus all lowercase letters. For instance, my search on “police use of force” yielded different results than my search for “POLICE USE OF FORCE.” See figures 3 and 4 below.

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**Figure 3: Lowercase search.**

**Figure 4: Capitalized search.**
User guidance

*Criminal Justice Abstracts* has an extensive help page that provides support to users in an organized searchable platform. In addition to the help screens, EBSCO provides a 24/7 support site. Customer Support Representatives are also available by phone and email 24 hours a day, Monday through Friday, as well as Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (US EST).

While many EBSCO databases feature a subject-specific thesaurus, *Criminal Justice Abstracts* does not. This could possibly be a by-product of the level of subscription access. However, there is a search expander that allows you to “apply related words.” I am uncertain if EBSCO intends this to be used in lieu of the thesaurus feature that is typically located in the toolbar.

Document availability

Every bibliographic record in the collection links to the appropriate full-text PDF.

EBSCO provides users with the ability to create a free profile, allowing them to gain additional organization, access, and control over their research. By creating a profile, users can save preferences, organize their research with folders, share folders with others, view others’ folders, save and retrieve search history, create email alerts and/or RSS feeds, and gain access to saved research remotely.

Users are also able to add results to a folder temporarily, but should be cautioned that anything contained will be deleted at the end of their session. When accessing the temporary folder, the right column index provides you with the option to print, email, save, or export your results.

Of particular benefit is the ability to create citations in a plethora of styles by emailing search results contained in a folder. Users will first navigate to their folder, select the resources they wish to cite, select email from the column on the right side of the web page, enter the email address they wish to send the information to, select their citation format from the drop-down menu, and hit send. Users will receive an email from ephost@epnet.com with proper citation and a link to the resource. Users can select to receive the content as a PDF in a separate attachment when available.

Positive aspects

*Criminal Justice Abstracts* is a robust database. Its quality and quantity of holdings and global perspective make it an integral research tool for any researcher regardless of skill level or information need. Users can feel confident that the breadth and depth of this database is unmatched, making it an easy choice for organizations with tight budgets looking to get the most bang for their buck with one criminal justice database. Institutions with degree programs with a focus on criminal justice or criminology should consider this database.

Recommendations for improvement

With so many features, users, especially first-year college students and those new to research, may feel overwhelmed by the aesthetic complexity of the results page. It would be beneficial to employ clipped explanations of limiters, expanders, function, or tool when a user hovers over the text.

Standout Features

Abstract preview

From the results list, next to the title an icon depicting a piece of paper and a magnifying glass serves as an abstract preview. If a user hovers over the icon a text bubble will open with a snapshot of information. The preview includes
title, author, date, source, subject(s), publication type, and a condensed abstract. This feature is a time saver and allows users to quickly evaluate holdings.

**Newswires and Web News**

The right column index from the results list chronicles newspaper and web news articles relevant to the users search terms; see figures 5 and 6 below. Users have the option to click on the title of the news link or hover over the icon to the right of the title for additional information and an abstract. This feature could be a beneficial comparison tool for librarians teaching students about fake news.

![Figure 5: News results (right column).](image)

![Figure 6: News result (detail).](image)
CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE (ALTERNATIVE TITLE: CRIMINOLOGY: A SAGE COLLECTION)

Reviewed: September 2017
Publisher: SAGE Publications, 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320, Phone: 800-818-7243

Cost: Pricing varies based on services and subscriptions selected. Pricing is not readily available on the web site. Interested parties are directed to contact their local SAGE representative for further details and a quotation:
https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/sage-journals-and-subscription-info

Coverage Dates: Vary by title

Scope, size, coverage, and currency
Criminology and Criminal Justice includes the full text of 24 journals published by SAGE and participating societies, encompassing over 20,400 articles and up to 87 years of backfiles. It covers such subjects as criminal justice, juvenile delinquency, juvenile justice, corrections, penology, policing, forensic psychology, and family and domestic violence.

The following peer reviewed journals are included in this database:

Child Maltreatment, 1996—current
Crime & Delinquency, 1955—current
Crime, Media, Culture, 2005—current
Criminal Justice and Behavior, 1974—current
Criminal Justice Policy Review, 1986—current
Criminal Justice Review, 1976—current
Criminology & Criminal Justice, 2001—current
European Journal of Criminology, 2004—current
Feminist Criminology, 2006—current
Homicide Studies, 1997—current
International Criminal Justice Review, 1991—current
International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology, 1966—current
Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice, 1978—current
Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 1986—current
Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, 1964—current
Police Quarterly, 1998—current
The Prison Journal, 1921—current
Probation Journal, 1929—current
Punishment & Society, 1999—current
Sexual Abuse, 1988-current
Theoretical Criminology, 1997—current
Trauma, Violence & Abuse, 2000—current
Violence Against Women, 1995—current
Youth Justice: An International Journal, 2001—current
The searchable database consists of bibliographic records (indexed summaries or abstracts), as well as the complete text of each journal article. Every bibliographic record in the collection links to the appropriate full-text PDF.

**Format and Organization**

*Criminology and Criminal Justice* uses the same interface as many other SAGE databases. When searching, you can either select a specific journal or search all SAGE journals at once using the search bar located in the top right-hand corner; see figure 1. This leads users to access an enormous amount of resources, as well as allowing them to narrow their search article type (such as research article, review article, and book review), publication date, and subject (including specifically, criminology and criminal justice, in addition to several other disciplines). Below is a screenshot of my search results when searching "police use of force" in all SAGE journals. The results page (shown in figure 2) provides a clean, clutter-free results list, with icons leading searchers to the abstract, PDF download, and permissions for each article.

*Figure 1: Title selection options.*
Electronic record structure, retrieval, and display

When a user types keywords in the search bar in the top right-hand corner of the database, a list of results will show up in relevancy order. The right column index side of the page allows users to refine their search by article type (such as research article or book review), by date, and by subject area. Each citation has a link that states “show abstract” and icons for the PDF download and for permissions. This database also allows researchers to conduct an “Advanced Search” which defaults to searching anywhere in the document, as well as by keywords, author, title, abstract, or affiliation. Users can also narrow their search by journal title, publication dates and ranges, and by “access type,” which includes all content, open access content only, or “only content I have full access to.” Once the results appear, it defaults to relevancy order, but you can also use the drop-down menu to view articles by date, most cited, and most downloaded.

Additionally, researchers can do a citation search, which includes a drop-down menu to all SAGE journal publications. You can then fill in information including year, volume number, issue number, and pages. Under Advanced Search, users can obtain extensive instructions in using boolean operators, parentheses, wildcards, and many other advanced searching techniques.
Indexing and subject access
Indexing for each article includes author, author affiliation, title, author-supplied keywords, and first published online date. This database does not provide more detailed indexing, such as ISSN or subject terms. Researchers also have access to article metrics and links to related articles for each citation.

Accuracy of entries/records
When typing in the keywords: police use of force without quotation marks, I retrieved 76,692 articles; when using quotations, only 314 articles are available (see figure 3). Using lowercase versus all capital letters provides the same results when searching the keyword phrase “police use of force.”

User guidance
Criminology and Criminal Justice offers a Help link that provides quick links to several resources and assistance for SAGE Journals, in addition to FAQs related to the platform migration, account activation and administration, cataloging and discovery, and technical assistance. The Help page also provides separate resource pages for librarians, authors, editors, reviewers, researchers, and societies. There are no tutorials or videos available for researchers and a Contact Us link is available for those needing more assistance.

Document availability
Criminology and Criminal Justice provides users with the ability to create a free account, allowing them more organization and control of their research. Through My Alerts, users can add new alerts by going to the journal homepage and clicking the Email Alerts sign up button. Alternatively, users can browse journals, and then select Add Alerts. Under My Favorite Journals, users are guided to browse to the journal and select Add to Favorites. Under My Saved Searches, users can save a new search and receive alerts (on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis) when new results are added.
After choosing an article, researchers will be given several options, including reading the article via HTML, downloading the PDF document, viewing the article metrics, and investigating related articles. When available, users will also be directed to tables and charts and the journal’s table of contents. Moreover, users will be able to share the article via email and/or social media (such as on Facebook and Twitter). Under the Cite icon, users can export their citations into a variety of citation managers such as RefWorks, RIS, EndNote, BibTex, and MEDLARS.

**Positive aspects**

Although considered somewhat limited - with coverage of only 24 journals specifically published by SAGE - all articles are available full text and many are unique offerings. In fact, several of these journals (i.e., *Crime, Media, Culture, European Journal of Probation*, and *Trauma, Violence & Abuse*) are only available full text from SAGE. For colleges and universities with extensive criminal justice and criminology programs, libraries may want to investigate purchasing this database as it offers undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and other researchers distinctive journals and a variety of other information (such as related journals, journal impact factors, and article metric information) that is extremely helpful.

**Recommendations for improvement**

Rather than having such a small search box near the right hand corner, it would be more user-centered if SAGE would consider a search box (for both simple and advance search options) above the list of criminal justice journals. The current setup may be a bit confusing to a novice researcher. Additionally, some brief explanations (perhaps with bullet points or examples) would benefit researchers who are used to a more intuitive database.

**Standout Features**

*Benefit of Searching All SAGE Journals vs Only Criminal Justice Journals*

Although at first, I was wondering why this database defaults to all journals, users can still limit their search (after typing in the initial keywords) to only criminal justice journals. The upside to this is that you can click on other disciplines (such as sociology or psychology and counseling) and see how scholars in those disciplines cover the topic; see figure 4 below. From this standpoint, it makes this database more of a discovery tool.
Unique Information Contained in Individual Journals

When looking at the main page of individual journals, there are some unique features about the journals available to researchers. For example, if you select *Crime, Media, Culture: An International Journal*, you will be able to see the journal’s impact factor, the most-read articles, and the most-cited from the journal; see figure 5 below. You will also be able to click on tabs that lead you to All Issues, Current Issue, and OnlineFirst.

Comparison

*Criminal Justice Abstracts* provides comprehensive (over 600 journals and over 540,000 records) coverage of the major journals in the field, in addition to books, magazines, conference proceedings, and trade publications. It is relatively easy to search and many users (including first-year college students and novice researchers) have an established working knowledge of EBSCO databases. Although covering only 24 journals (with over 20,400 articles) and not as intuitive as *Criminal Justice Abstracts, Criminology and Criminal Justice* by SAGE provides users with a cleaner, less-cluttered interface than EBSCO products and offers unique information about the journals (such as article metrics, most cited, and most downloaded).

While EBSCO’s *Criminal Justice Abstracts* focuses only on this field, users can choose additional EBSCO databases if their library subscribes to them and cross-search with breadth and depth on a particular topic. With SAGE, however,
users may browse journals by individual title or by discipline, either staying within the criminology area or expanding their search to all social science and humanities topic areas (Golderman and Connolly, 2013). Criminal Justice Abstracts offers a wide array of indexing and subject access points including author, author supplied keywords, ISSN, language, publication name, and subject terms. Although SAGE’s Criminology and Criminal Justice product does not have extensive indexing features, the database provides unique qualities, such as article metrics and journal impact factors, which are not readily available with the EBSCO product.

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