Spring 2022 CJCLS Newsletter
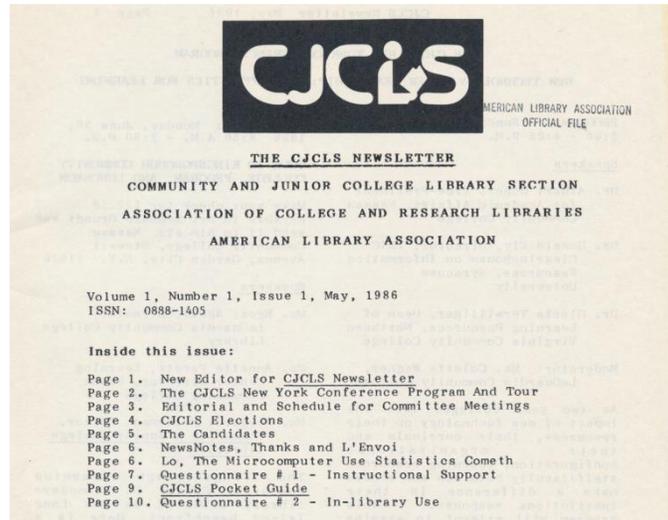

Cover of 1st CJCLS Newsletter from 1986 – Learn more on page 4

From CJCLS

From the CJCLS Chair

Sandy McCarthy and I (as past and current CJCLS chairs) had an opportunity to talk with ACRL Leadership about seeing more community college librarians present at ACRL conferences. They told us that there were not many community college applications in the pool. We need more community college librarians to submit proposals.

ACRL 2023 Conference Call for Proposals is interesting because it also allows for presenting virtually, which would be less expensive than traveling to ACRL. The biennial ACRL Conference is important because it is specific to academic librarians.

> There are two proposal deadlines:
>
> **June 3** - contributed papers, panel sessions, workshops
>
> **October 14** - lightning talks, posters, roundtable discussions and virtual presentations

ACRL Proposal Elements webpage gives a good overview of what it takes to write a proposal. There are a lot of choices when it comes to session formats. Once you have made that choice, you need to craft a dynamic title, interesting tags, and learning outcomes. There are two descriptions required. The detailed description can be up to 500 words; the short description will go in the conference program and should be less than 100 words.

I am at work on a proposal promoting the use of universal design for learning, particularly in this time that remote instruction is becoming more prevalent.

By Robin Brown, Professor & Head of Public Services, Borough of Manhattan Comm. College, rbrown@bmcc.cuny.edu

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.

Election Winners

The CJCLS Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following CJCLS Executive Committee election winners who will serve from 2022-2024:

Linda Miles – Vice-Chair/Chair
Assistant Professor, Head of Reference, OER Librarian, and Liaison Librarian to the faculty of Early Childhood Education and the Visual and Performing Arts at Hostos Community College – City University of NY

Adrian Morales – Secretary
Librarian, Assistant Professor at El Paso Community College, Valle Verde Campus Library

Kathy Ladell – Member-at-Large
Reference Librarian, University of Cincinnati Clermont College

By Sandy McCarthy, Nominations Committee Chair

Library Staff Education Webinar

On April 25, we hosted a webinar about setting up transfer and articulation relationships between library staff certificate programs and 4-year institutions. Further details can be found on the CLSE LibGuide. Stay tuned for further details about an upcoming webinar about a new OER that is aligned to the ALA-APA Library Support Staff Certification course: Foundations in Library Services.

By Walter Butler, Library Staff Education Committee Chair

Virtual Social on June 14

Please mark your calendars and plan to join your CJCLS colleagues for a virtual social gathering on June 14, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern/11:00 a.m. Pacific. The CJCLS Social will be held via Zoom. Sign-up to receive access information.

By Sarah Smith, CJCLS Awards Committee Chair

Mentoring Program

The Mentoring Program Committee launched its CJCLS Pilot Mentorship Program with a Kick-Off Meeting on April 14. The Committee is happy to share that we paired 31 mentees with 26 mentors. Five mentors agreed to mentor two mentees. At the Kick-Off meeting we shared information about the mentoring process and reviewed the Mentor-Mentee Handouts. The Pilot program will run from April 1 to June 30. The goal of the pilot is to provide feedback to the CJCLS Mentoring Program Committee to establish an 8-month Mentor-Mentee Program to start in fall 2022. A final survey will be emailed to all participants by July 1. Learn more on the Mentoring Program LibGuide. Committee members who set up the new mentoring program are Sabrina Dyck, Dr. Yumi Shin, and Nathasha Alvarez.

By Sandy McCarthy, Mentoring Program Chair

Open Educational Resources

Thanks to all who joined us on April 4th for Coffee & Conversations: Accessibility in OER. If you missed it, check out the recording on the OER Resources LibGuide. Stay tuned for a continuation of the "OER: What's Next?" series this summer.

By Ruth Slagle/Howard Marks, OER Comm. Co-Chairs

1st Issue of CJCLS Newsletter

36 years ago in May 1986, the first issue of the CJCLS section newsletter was published under the editorial guidance of Joe Lindenfield of Shelby State Community College. The very first article announced that Damaris Schmitt of St. Louis Community College would be taking over for future issues. Readers were assured that she was "assertive enough to make sure that people who promise articles and newsnotes will deliver them." We here in the present day can only hope to follow in her tradition.

View May 1986 newsletter, courtesy of the American Library Association Archives.

Reading the first issue of our section newsletter, which was recently digitized as part of the American Library Association Archives, I'm struck by what has changed and what has stayed the same. The newsletter is written in a conversational tone, and I've used the first person in this article as an homage, although I don't think I'll be adopting the application of ALL CAPS and multiple exclamation points!!! The writing style may have changed, but I think we can all relate to complaints of "inadequate budgets, staff, etc., etc."

The newsletter hits familiar notes encouraging librarians to become professionally involved and demonstrates section pride while describing the offerings on a conference program:

Needless to say, these two programs will occupy the same time slot with many other (less worthwhile) programs; you may have to make a choice. Choose CJCLS. There are few opportunities for community and junior college librarians to get together and discuss issues. Most of the time, we are caught in the day-to-day crush of minutiae which make up our jobs. A program like this is a chance to think about what we will want to do and why we will want to do it.

[…]

These programs are also great ways to meet fellow community and junior college librarians. Often, what you remember from a conference is a one-to-one chat from someone who is in the same boat as you, or (if you're lucky) has bailed out the same boat you're in now.

What's the biggest change? Setting aside the steal of joining both ACRL and ALA for $55 total, the last pages of the newsletter consist of two surveys investigating libraries' experiences with an exciting new technology: microcomputers. Librarians are asked what kinds of computer and software use supports their instruction (FORTRAN gets a mention) and what role the library has in academic computing. The surveys are also interested in fees associated with OPAC use and online searching. One question, "Have you eliminated any print sources since going online?" anticipates our future of increasingly downsized print

reference collections. This retrospective raises the question, which surveys we're running now will look quaint in forty years? Which questions may be prophetic?

When we get access to more digitized newsletters, I'll share more glimpses into our past. For now, I'll end in the style of our very first issue:

UNNECESSARY EDITORIAL:

SUBMIT TO OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER ISSUE!

By Erin Niederberger, Communications Committee

Membership Update

The Membership Committee welcomes new members to the section and reaches out to members to participate in our Member of the Month initiative. Since May 2021, we've published nine member profiles on the CJCLS blog. Nominate yourself or a colleague to be featured. We hope you enjoy getting to know one another through these profiles.

As of December 2021, CJCLS membership is 1,097 (down from 1,107 in December 2020). We thank you for supporting the section and look forward to hearing from you about how we can better meet your needs.

If you are looking for a committee to join, consider joining us. We meet a few times a year and all work can be done remotely.

By Lisa Eichholtz, Membership Committee Chair

CJCLS Blog

Have you visited the CJCLS Blog lately? Why not subscribe to be notified when there's a new blog post? Here are some of our recent posts:

- ACRL Event Recap - Read our recap and watch a recording of the ACRL Value of Academic Libraries initiative's panel discussion *Beyond Words: Initiating, Implementing, and Sustaining Change*.
- Members of the Month - Learn more about CJCLS colleagues.
- Chat Waterfalls - Learn about how instigating a veritable cascade of chat messages during online instruction can increase participation and serve as an icebreaker.
- First Draft Matchmaker Program - Organized by and for library workers, this Library Writing Cooperative's program matches volunteer reviewers with writers for supportive and nonjudgmental feedback.
- Building an Instructional Menu - What if you allowed English faculty to choose from a "menu" of synchronous and asynchronous options, so they can build a library instruction program that fits their schedule and course format?

By Ken Simon, Communications Committee

Connect with CJCLS

CJCLS Website

CJCLS Blog

Share news & events

Send stories to acrlcjcls@lcc.edu

Articles from CJCLS Members

Zero Textbook Cost Initiative

By Kristin Heathcock - Library, Joshua Hill - Accessibility Specialist, and Michelle Slaughter - Humanities Faculty, Hillsborough Community College, Florida

During Summer 2021, a small group, including a librarian, accessibility specialist, faculty member, and career center supervisor, began working on a Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) initiative at Hillsborough Community College. While we have had an OER committee, OER LibGuide, and considerable interest in OER and ZTC for a while, this was the first formal attempt at creating a ZTC pathway for students. The pathway would allow students to complete an Associate of Arts degree taking only classes that do not require the purchase of a textbook. Resources in a ZTC class can be OER, library paid resources, or other resources available to the student at no cost. We have had tremendous support from faculty and administration which has enabled this initiative to flourish.

During Fall 2021, our Accessibility Specialist, Joshua Hill, worked with various stakeholders at the college to get a ZTC indicator included in our Search for Courses website, both locally and statewide with Florida's Zero Textbook Cost Course Indicator Workgroup. This allows students to quickly identify courses that are available with no textbook cost. It also allows our group to collect and analyze data. We can identify how many course sections are marked ZTC, calculate the number of students enrolled in ZTC sections, and determine the textbook cost savings. We are using the current cost savings estimate provided by OpenStax of $77. For Spring 2022, we had over 600 sections (17%) of our courses marked ZTC. This resulted in student cost savings of over $760,000.

Sharing information and educational opportunities is a focus of the group coordinating this effort. In Fall 2021, we recruited students in the library to make videos about the impact of textbook costs on their lives.

This past year, our group hosted OER professional development "watch parties" that were available for faculty to participate in both on-campus and online.

We are planning a Zero Textbook Cost Summer Institute. Most sessions focus on topics relevant to our faculty; however, the program on July 14 is open to all.

> Register for Panel
>
> Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Open Educational Resources Panel
>
> July 14, 2022
>
> 11:00am – 12:00pm EST

For more information, see our Zero Textbook Cost webpage or contact us at ztc@hccfl.edu

How We Continue to Fight Against Book Banning

By Vicky Hart, Director of Library Services, Northeast Lakeview College, Texas

Northeast Lakeview College (NLC) is one of the community colleges in the Alamo Colleges District located in the greater San Antonio area. The Library serves not only the college community, but also the Judson Early College Academy, a high school located on our campus. With its unique and diverse background, NLC serves about 6,000 students from ten small surrounding communities and northeast San Antonio.

In January 2022, the Granbury Independent School District, about four hours north of San Antonio, just west of Dallas, pulled 130 books from school libraries for review by a committee searching for inappropriate content as part of the biggest book censorship push in decades. Then in March 2022, their list of books expanded to include those related to sexuality and transgender topics. The battle is current and real, and very close to home for us.

With $3,000 in Participatory Grant funding and a $775 gift from the campus Creative and Communication Arts Institute, the Library sponsored a Censorship Expo. The expo was a four-day awareness campaign that focused on censorship and its relationship to the First Amendment. Several opportunities were available during the four days for student engagement and conversations. Our student workers were invaluable before, during, and after the event. Without them, we would not have

been successful. Collaborating with the Art Department, students were encouraged to create art based on the theme "censorship."

View the Censorship Expo Gallery

Khalia Lumpkin, the first prize winner of our art competition, next to her work "Across the Red Wire" with her award presented by Vicky Hart

Our Censorship Expo LibGuide outlines the entire week of activities. What I would like to share are the results. Over 500 people participated at one or more of the events. All participants were asked to complete a Censorship Expo Survey.

There were 143 responses:

- 78% indicated they were not aware of the specifics of the First Amendment and free speech
- 76% indicated they were not aware of banning of books
- 72% indicated they had read a banned book
- 96% indicated the expo increased their awareness and knowledge of the First Amendment

I view that as a strong success. Those are the numbers but they do not tell the entire

story. Many who attended expressed, during casual conversations, their extreme discomfort with what was primarily being banned (gender identity and race). I personally discussed censorship at length with an NLC staff member who was not clear about the issue and how it affected him. I feel confident he left our conversation with a greater understanding about censorship and the First Amendment.

> The greatest way to fight against book banning is to put a banned book in somebody's hands.

As a college library, which also serves a high school, our collection development has included many of the titles pulled from high school shelves across our state. Additionally, the library used the grant funding to purchase a large number of banned books as giveaways during the expo; in total, we distributed 247 banned books to participants. The banned book recipients can make their own decisions about the content. Free speech – free will – personal choices. The greatest way to fight against book banning is to put a banned book in somebody's hands.

Community College & University Librarians as Collaborative Chat Partners

Michigan's chat collaborative Research Help Now logo

By Sandy McCarthy, Washtenaw Community College and Suzanne Bernsten, Lansing Community College, Michigan

Research Help Now is a virtual reference collaborative in Michigan with 19 academic libraries. It began in 2004 with a group of community college libraries and has grown to include several universities. The partnership between community college and university librarians enables our students to get research help 24/7, a service which many community college libraries with small staff could never provide on our own. The collaborative requires a minimum of 3 hours a week of chat staffing in return for 24/7 research help for students. Our Michigan collaborative provides an opportunity for community colleges and universities to work together towards the common goal of helping students.

Additional benefits to participating in a collaborative include:

- Sharing collaborative librarians' unique experience, knowledge & skills
- Offering innovative technology and services
- Creating a network of Michigan community college and university libraries
- Collaborating and building on ideas which leads to new initiatives

- Gaining insight into research assignments at other community colleges and universities
- Saving money and freeing up time for other job responsibilities
- Streamlining workflows (processes) and increasing efficiency

Successful chat collaboratives require commitment and dedication by all participating libraries. In Research Help Now (RHN), volunteers manage the administrative end of the collaborative. How does RHN operate? At the top level, there are four administrators from the participating libraries that oversee scheduling, LibAnswers features and updates, monthly statistics, financial requirements, quality assurance, training, recruitment, and any other topic that may arise. The next level includes one or two librarians from each participating library known as managers. The RHN administrators and managers meet regularly to focus on participation agreements, delegating new tasks, and most importantly consensus decision making. The third level includes 60+ chat librarians who are part of the collaborative. Our chat software contract and billing is outsourced to a Michigan consortium.

We continually work to build trust among member institutions and librarians with our annual collaborative meeting open to all chat librarians. We have shared policy pages with basic information about each institution. Librarians can mark questions for follow-up by a librarian at a student's institution. We encourage managers from each institution to review transcripts for quality and to give both positive and constructive feedback to collaborative librarians. We offer training about virtual reference [best practices](#) and analyze chat transcripts at our annual meeting. Finally, we have a yearly best transcript award to recognize librarians who provide outstanding chat service by applying best practices.

> Join a virtual reference collaborative in your region!

Some regional chat collaboratives include:

- [Research Help Now (Michigan)](#)
- [California Community College Library Chat](#)
- [Virginia's Community Colleges Ask a Librarian](#)
- [Ask Washington](#)
- [Ask a Librarian Florida](#)
- [Answerland Oregon](#)

Missions of Community College Libraries

By Jill Sodt, Director, Mott Community College Library, Michigan

This spring, Ithaka S+R held three online discussions about the results of research which is part of the Community College Academic and Student Support Ecosystems initiative.

Below is a summary of the panel discussion I attended about the community college mission. Individuals from library administration and other areas of higher education gathered to discuss the results of a recent Ithaka S+R survey of academic libraries. This group of panelists shared their thoughts and insights about how community college libraries are assessing their mission in relation to their respective colleges.

One of the most significant findings to come from the survey was that library leaders feel that increasing student learning is one of the least important parts of their libraries missions' although this is also one of the biggest contributions to their colleges. Often community college libraries feel they have more of a role in creating a sense of community and their missions are closer to the work of student affairs than to that of academic affairs. Also, while libraries collect a lot of data, such as gate counts, database usage statistics, and anecdotal information, the data is usually not tied to the college's outcomes.

The panel discussed the increased importance of establishing collaborative relationships with areas throughout the campus, including tutoring centers, writing centers, campus IT, and other spaces concerned with supporting student learning. Some libraries have co-located services in the Learning Resources Center to offer services to students in one location. Being strategic about collaborations is important and library administration and staff should be proactive in seeking out those on their campuses who may already be doing work to improve student success.

Watch the recordings of the discussions:

- Emergency and emerging technology programs at community college libraries
- "When in doubt, go to the library:" Navigating the community college ecosystem
- Assessing the evolution of community college library mission

From ACRL

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:

- Community College Library: Assessment and Reference & Instruction
- Teaching Business Information Literacy
- The Rise of AI: Implications and Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Libraries, Publications in Librarianship #78
- 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
- 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
- Scholarly Communications Cookbook

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

ACRL eLearning

ACRL's e-Learning program provides an opportunity to participate in professional development events 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!

ALA Annual Conference

Join your colleagues for the 2022 ALA Annual Conference, June 23-28! With high-quality programs and discussion forums, you'll have 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!