

Spring 2023 CJCLS Newsletter

From the CJCLS Chair

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



It has been a busy year for the Community and Junior College Libraries Section!

Congratulations 🎉 to our 2023-24 elected officers:

- Jill Sodt - Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
- Sarah Smith - Member-at-Large

Welcome and thanks for your service to CJCLS!

- The Scholarly Research Committee hosted a webinar “How to Create an Effective Survey.”
- The Mentoring Program for 2022-23 is winding down, with the final program survey due June 30. There were 29 mentor/mentee pairings this year!
- The Communications Committee published two issues of our newsletter. The blog was active all year as well.
- Members of the CJCLS Executive Committee represented at the ACRL Conference first-time attendees’ sessions. They were able to share information about the section with approx. 10 people, including volunteer opportunities.

Linda Miles, Vice-Chair, completed all the committee appointments for the 2023-24 academic year. The links below provide info on our new lineup.

- [Communications Committee](#)
- [Conference Program Planning 2024 Committee](#)
- [Committee on Library Staff Education](#)
- [Membership Committee](#)
- [Mentoring Program Committee](#)
- [Nominating 2024 Committee](#)
- [OER Committee](#)
- [Scholarly Research Committee](#)

Join us at ALA!!!

If you are in Chicago for ALA, please join us for an informational session about CJCLS. Refreshments

will be served. Mark your scheduler 🌟 for:

- ACRL CJCLS Informational Meeting
- Saturday, June 24, 2023
- 9-10 a.m.
- Palmer House, Theater Salon 04-06

It has been my honor to represent CJCLS as the Chair for 2022-23. Thank you!

CJCLS Committee Updates

Mentoring Program

By Sandy McCarthy, Mentoring Program Chair



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The CJCLS Mentoring Program Committee emailed a final mentor and mentee check-in announcement in April sharing the article “[BIPOC librarians and retention: Mentorship and supportive relationships in the workplace](#)” by Annmarie Magurany and Elizabeth Dill from the December 2022 issue of *College and Research Library News*. The 2022-2023 Mentoring Program will end on June 30 with the participation of 29 pairs of community college librarians, staff, administrators and School of Information graduate students interested in a community college career. There were 56 participants - 27 mentors and 29 mentees. Two mentors volunteered to be paired with two mentees each. An end of program survey will be emailed to participants on June 1 with a deadline of June 30.

The committee is finalizing the CJCLS Mentoring Program Committee Planning Timeline and Tasks document. The committee has uploaded all past agendas and minutes, as well as all documents for the mentor program to the [ACRL CJCLS Mentoring Program LibGuide](#) under an unpublished tab for committee members. This will be the committee’s intranet for all documents.

The committee plans to meet in July to kick-off the 2023-2024 Mentoring Program planning and welcome new members. Kathy Ladell and Sandy McCarthy will co-chair the 2023-2024 Mentoring Program Committee.

Members of the 2022-2023 committee:

- Sandy McCarthy, Chair
- Laura Mondt
- Kathy Ladell
- Christine Kim
- Yumi Shin
- Nathasha Alvarez
- Sabrina Dyck

Membership

By Lisa Eichholtz, Membership Committee Chair

The current CJCLS membership is 1,211 based on reports posted on April 25. This is a 2.28% increase from 2022. It is gratifying to see that our members value the organization. We look forward to another busy year welcoming new members, and finding Members of the Month to share with all of you. Since our last newsletter we have featured:

- Kathy Ladell, Student Success Librarian, University of Cincinnati Clermont College Library, Ohio
- Erin Niederberger, Librarian, Metropolitan Community College - Maple Woods, Missouri

Please consider [nominating yourself or a colleague](#) to be profiled as a [Member of the Month](#).

Communications

By Suzanne Bernsten, Communications Chair

Committee members have been writing articles for the [blog](#), putting together the [newsletter](#), and sharing information on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). Want to write for the blog? Contact us at cjcls@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Scholarly Research

By Stephanie D. Davis and Christine (Mi-Seon) Kim,
Scholarly Research Committee Co-Chairs

The Scholarly Research Committee (SRC) conducted a “Needs Survey for Community College Librarians” in the spring of 2023. A total of 117 people participated in the survey. The topics of their research interests are assessment, pedagogy/theory, research methods/methodology, writing a grant proposal, and publishing venues, etc. The SRC plans to provide webinars and workshops for community college librarians based on the survey results.



A webinar, “How to Create an Effective Survey,” was held on April 24, 2023. It was presented by two seasoned researchers: Elizabeth Di Giorgio, Associate Professor, Queensborough Community College, the City University of New York and Matt Erspamer, a Research Consultant with 12 years of experience in foodservice market research. More than 100 librarians joined the webinar and gained valuable insight into the process of creating a survey. The presentation slides are available on the [Scholarly Research Committee LibGuide](#).

CJCLS Blog

By Ken Simon, Communications Committee

Have you visited the [CJCLS Blog](#) lately? You can [subscribe to the blog](#) to be notified about new posts! If you would like to write a guest blog post, contact us at acrlcjcls@gmail.com.

Here are some recent posts:

- [National Library Week: There's More to the Story](#)
- [Supporting Others at ACRL 2023](#)
- [April Member of the Month: Erin Niederberger](#)
- [Webinar: Using ChatGPT to Engage in Library Instruction](#)
- [Digital Inclusion](#)
- [The Greats – Better Sharing Collection](#)
- [The Forgotten Faculty](#)
- [Research and the IRB](#)
- [Marketing Digital Titles with QR Codes](#)
- [Loki's Loop Escape Room](#)

Awards

By Sarah Smith, Awards Committee Chair

There are no activities to report. CJCLS Awards were paused this year as ACRL leadership continued to assess all awards given by ACRL units.

Library Staff Education

By Casandra Norin, Library Staff Education Committee Chair

There is nothing to report about the Library Staff Education Committee. In the fall, the committee needs to work on building members and figuring out a charge to focus on.

Leadership Opportunities 2024 Election

By Sandy McCarthy, Nominating Committee Chair



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ACRL’s Community and Junior College Libraries section seeks six candidates for the 2024 election cycle. Two candidates each are sought to run for:

- Vice-Chair – 3-year commitment
- Secretary – 2-year commitment
- Member-at-large – 2-year commitment

All three positions will take office on July 1, 2024. All meetings are held virtually and travel to the ALA conference is not required.

You must be an active member of ALA, ACRL Division, and CJCLS section. Membership with CJCLS is free with your ACRL Division membership. You only need to check the box CJCLS in the membership section area.

CJCLS Vice-Chair / Chair Elect

The Vice-Chair serves successive one-year terms, first as Vice-Chair, then Chair, and finally as Past-Chair. The Vice-Chair will begin their term at the conclusion of ALA Annual 2024. The successful candidate will represent the section at leadership sessions at the Midwinter and Annual conferences during their term as Vice-Chair and Chair. Position is from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027.

Vice-chair candidates might be expected but not required to represent the section at ACRL

Leadership Council meetings. These typically take place in conjunction with ALA conferences. They will represent the section at leadership sessions at Annual conferences during their term as vice-chair and chair.

Vice-chair candidates should understand that, if elected, they will assume responsibility for the administrative duties involved in leading the section, including but not limited to: appointing committee members, submitting section meeting room requests for ALA conferences, drafting and distributing executive committee agendas, and submitting the section’s annual Plan for Excellence Implementation Report to ACRL.

Secretary

The Secretary takes and distributes minutes for Executive Committee meetings, the Section’s annual meeting, special meetings, and may preside over meetings in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Position is from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026.

Member-at-large

Member-at-large is a newly created Executive Committee position. The incumbent’s role varies from year to year and might include a special project or appointment to an ad hoc committee or task force. Candidates should be flexible and proactive, volunteering to contribute as opportunities arise. Position is from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026.

All nominees must be current members of CJCLS and have consented to be a candidate. The deadline for nominations is July 31, 2023. Please consider nominating yourself or someone who you think would be a great candidate for a leadership role.

Send a brief biography and statement of interest to the Nominating Committee Chair, Sandy McCarthy (mccarthy@wccnet.edu). Learn more about the positions and [CJCLS Governance at Community and Junior College Libraries](#).

Starting a Student Library Advisory Club

By Elizabeth Hartig, Faculty Reference/Public Services Librarian, Monroe County Community College, Monroe, Michigan

Monroe County Community College (MCCC) Library building was closed for over a year for a renovation and reopened in August 2022. The space is very welcoming, casual, and modern. Over the past eight months, the library has hosted many displays, lectures, and workshops. After these events, library staff discussed ways to get students more involved.

During an information literacy instruction session one student expressed interest in researching how readers read and discuss books on “BookTok” through the lens of communications. This conversation led to the creation of our [Student Library Advisory Club \(SLAC\)](#). The student wanted to start a student book club and help with events and displays in the library.

The goal of the club is to include students’ voices in the planning of outreach events and programs.

To start a new club, Monroe County Community College requires prospective clubs to submit a petition and constitution for approval by Student Government and the Vice President of Student Success. The petition requires five student members and a faculty advisor. Once the club is approved, the club can meet and host events.

At SLAC’s first meeting, the members decided on a plan to connect with their fellow students during the last two months of the semester and set the groundwork for fall 2023. The club’s goal is to engage with students through library programs, displays, and events.

With finals around the corner, the students planned on a coloring station that would allow for students

to relax during finals week. SLAC organized a summer book club that will discuss *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. SLAC leaders also created a display of “5 Star Reads” with photos of students along with their favorite books. The goal of the display is to encourage their peers to take some time to read for fun. The display will stay up in the library throughout the summer.



Photo by Elizabeth Hartig

SLAC wrapped up the semester with a recruitment table outside the cafeteria. Club members recruited peers to join the summer book club. They gave away bookmarks and flyers. The club plans on having a new book club title every semester and hosting future events in the library. As the club’s faculty advisor, I am very excited to have students making the MCCC Library their own.

No Tech Tuesday

By Ruth Slagle, Instruction Librarian & Sylvia Rowe, Catalog and Reference Librarian, Jackson State Community College, Jackson, Tennessee



Photo by Ruth Slagle

In February, Jackson State Community College Library started hosting a monthly event, No Tech Tuesday. The inaugural event featured board games and workshops on how to knit and crochet. Librarians provided yarn and knitting needles and taught introductory knitting in both English and continental style. Two members of the campus staff and a student volunteered to teach crochet methods and provided crochet hooks for practice. We held a drawing for attendees and gave away one new set of knitting needles with a ball of yarn and one new crochet hook with a ball of yarn. Surprisingly, nobody played any of the board games that were provided; everyone who attended was there to either learn to knit or crochet! We had an assortment of knit items made by the instruction librarian on display for inspiration. We also provided swatches of various styles of knitting stitches including garter stitch, stockinette stitch, and British moss stitch (aka seed stitch). The event was so popular that we decided to expand future No Tech Tuesday workshops from 1.5 minutes to 2 hours and to hold the workshops on the third Tuesday of each month during the semester.

At our second No Tech Tuesday in March, we had a special workshop on purling. Two librarians were on hand to teach British and continental/Norwegian purling styles, and we had yarn and knitting needles available for attendees to practice and get hands-on assistance. Our new Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs even attended this workshop and learned how to do a little knitting! Librarians discussed the possibility of having knitting workshops for students to earn volunteer hours while knitting hats and scarves to donate to our student program called The Nest, which helps provide resources for students in need. Our goal is to start that program in the fall as part of No Tech Tuesday.

Fullerton College Library Laptop and Hotspot Lending Program

By Tim Ream, Systems Librarian, Fullerton College Library, Fullerton, California

During Spring 2020, Fullerton College purchased large numbers of laptops and hotspots to support student learning during the campus closure. While the Academic Computing Technology (ACT) department handled the distribution of the equipment, the campus turned to the Library for inventory and lending purposes. Using a unique combination of Alma (Ex Libris), Microsoft Teams, and the campus SMS notification service (Cadence), the Fullerton College Library was able to successfully manage and track the distribution of over 1,000 laptops and hotspots. Below is an overview of each step in the process.

Equipment purchasing and Alma set-up

ACT purchased over 1,000 laptops and 200 hotspots for student distribution. Instead of barcoding each new piece of equipment, ACT provided the Systems Librarian with a list of equipment serial numbers.

The Systems Librarian used the equipment serial numbers to create item records in Alma. He automated the creation of these item records by using a brief MARC record and adding the serial numbers as a long series of 949 field entries.

Once the MARC record was set up, the Systems Librarian used an Alma Import Profile to bring in the record and automate the creation of numerous item records.

Sometimes the Systems Librarian needed to add individual item records to Alma as the campus purchased more equipment.

Equipment Reservation

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) created a form using Qualtrics that allowed current students to sign-up to borrow a laptop and/or hotspot. The OIE forwarded the results of this form to ACT—who coordinated with the student to come and pick-up the laptop and/or hotspot using a drive-through method.

When the student arrived, the ACT staff member distributing the equipment used a shared spreadsheet hosted on Microsoft Teams to assign the student's name/student ID # to a specific equipment serial number(s).

Circulation

Library staff routinely checked the shared spreadsheet in Microsoft Teams (see above). Using the data from the shared spreadsheet, Library Staff checked out laptops and hotspots in our ILS (Alma).

Equipment Return

ACT and the Library were lenient when it came to overdue equipment during the campus closure. The checkout term was supposed to last for the current semester, but we often allowed students to keep their equipment so long as they were enrolled for the upcoming semester.

At least a few weeks before the end of each semester, the Systems Librarian sent out an email (through Alma) and a text message (using our campus SMS service) to alert students that they needed to bring their equipment back by a certain date.

Students returned the equipment to a designed spot managed by ACT. The Staff there used the shared spreadsheet (in Microsoft Teams) to make note of the day, time, and serial number associated with the transaction. The shared spreadsheet allowed Library Staff to complete the accompanying check-in process in Alma.

The laptop and hotspot lending initiative has been successfully running for nearly three years at Fullerton College. As the initiative progressed, and as librarians and staff have become more familiar with Alma, we have refined many of the associated processes and procedures.

Not only has the initiative provided thousands of students with much needed equipment, but it has also strengthened the relationship between the Library and other campus departments.

Join the CJCLS Community on ALA Connect

By Ken Simon, Communications Committee

The CJCLS Community thrives when it reflects a wide range of community college librarian voices – including yours! No formalities, just ask a question that's been on your mind or reply to an existing post. Get perspectives from your colleagues around the country by striking up an open-ended conversation about any aspect of community college libraries and librarianship.

To join the community, visit the [CJCLS Community](#) on ALA Connect and click Login in the upper right

corner. If you are not an ALA or ACRL member, you can [create a free ALA Connect account](#). Once you're logged in, if you see a big blue JOIN COMMUNITY button at the top of the CJCLS Community page, click it and you're in! If the Join button isn't there, you are already a community member.

Once you've joined, you can send and receive posts by email – like a listserv. Add this email address to your address book: ALA-ACRL-CJCLS@ConnectedCommunity.org

When you send a message to the above address, it will be posted to the community. You can also reply to any incoming post to send your answer out to the community – right from your email.

To receive discussion posts by email (as individual messages or in a digest), follow this [short tutorial](#). Read our [ALA Connect FAQ](#) to learn more.

Contact Ken Simon, CJCLS ALA Connect Group moderator, at kssimon@pasadena.edu with any questions. We look forward to welcoming you!

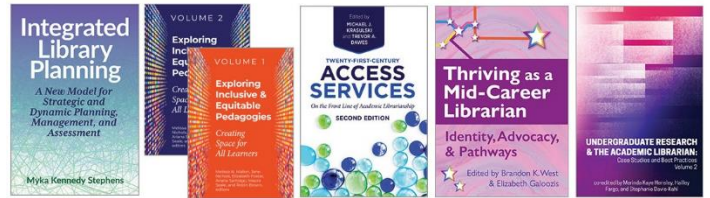
From ACRL

ALA Annual Virtual Conference



Join your colleagues for the 2023 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition in Chicago Illinois, June 22-27, 2023! The world's largest library event brings together thousands of librarians and library staff, educators, authors, publishers, friends of libraries, trustees, special guests, and exhibitors! [Register for ALA Annual](#) today!

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