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The Greater New York Metropolitan Area Chapter

## Connections: The ACRL/NY Newsletter Volume 31, Issue 2 (Fall 2013)

### Greetings from the 2013 ACRL/NY President

Wishing all of our members a happy, peaceful beginning to another busy academic year. Our annual symposium, "[The Library as Knowledge Laboratory](#)" will be held on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Baruch College's Vertical Campus. Anice Mills, the 2013 Symposium Committee Chair, has a terrific program planned with incredible speakers who will explore how libraries are actively working to support knowledge creation, and addressing challenges such as demands for new formats, open-source tools, and digital repositories. Keynote speaker **Susan Gibbons**, University Librarian at Yale, will open the day with an overview of the challenges and how academic libraries are responding. She will be followed by a panel session, "*Lab Culture: Incubating Digital Initiatives*," featuring speakers from NYU, Columbia, METRO, and NYPL. After lunch, we will **Adam Rogers** of North Carolina State University, and **Tom Scheinfeldt**, University of Connecticut. Space is limited and registration closes Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, so [register now](#) to ensure your place.

ACRL/NY has been exceptionally busy this year bringing our members innovative new programs and rigorous analysis relevant to academic librarians in all disciplines. This fall, we produced a joint-publication, with METRO (The Metropolitan New York Library Association), of [The Global Librarian](#). Members of the Editorial board are Jason Kuscma (Executive Director, METRO), Caroline Fuchs (Immediate Past President, ACRL/NY and Associate Professor, St. John's University), Lisa Chow (Web Analyst, Brooklyn Public Library), Sandra Sajonas (Business and Career Librarian at Brooklyn Public Library) and myself. Chapters, written by practicing librarians in a variety of fields, cover topics relating to librarianship in a global environment across disciplines and libraries. [Order](#) your e-book or print edition today.

ACRL/NY is pleased to continue and expand our Mentoring Program for 2013. Mentors and mentees with library-related interests are teamed up based on expertise and need. Mentoring is a benefit for ACRL/NY members only. For further information, contact Susanne Markgren, Mentoring Program Coordinator at [acrlnymentoring@gmail.com](mailto:acrlnymentoring@gmail.com), ACRL/NY's Professional Development Committee, under the leadership of Barbara Bonous-Smit, has been busy coordinating educational programs with other library organizations throughout the metropolitan New York area, providing exceptional professional development opportunities for our membership. Our active [Discussion Groups](#) are vital components of our thriving membership. I encourage every ACRL/NY member to reach out to the chairs of these groups to get involved in relevant discussions about our profession.

A sincere thank you also goes to all the members of the ACRL/NY Executive Board. Because of their professionalism and enthusiasm, our Chapter continues to grow and to help foster a rich dialogue among academic librarians in the Greater New York Metropolitan area. I am honored to work with each and every member of the board.

On behalf of ACRL/NY, I would like to wish you all a very happy upcoming holiday season! I look forward to seeing you all at the Symposium on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Please introduce yourselves!

[Contact me](#) to become a more active member in our organization in 2014

Carrie Netzer Wajda, 2013 ACRL/NY President



## Greeting from the Symposium Chair Anice Mills

Registration for the ACRL/NY Symposium, "[The Library as Knowledge Laboratory](#)," is well underway. The Symposium takes place on Friday, December 6, 2013. Makerspaces, mashups and big data are bringing radical change to higher education.

Academic libraries are meeting the challenge of this new landscape with a culture of participation, innovation and collaboration. As librarians' roles shift from a traditional service-and-support model to that of active project participant in support of digital scholarship, a new ethos of experimentation, learning, disruption, and creativity is evolving.

At ACRL/NY's 2013 annual symposium we will explore the opportunities and challenges facing academic librarians in light of scholars' increased demands for new formats, open-source tools, digital repositories, and innovative research Speakers:

- **Susan Gibbons**, University Librarian at Yale, will talk about aligning the library's mission with the university's goals of creating a knowledge laboratory;
- **Barbara Rockenbach**, Director of the Humanities and History Libraries at Columbia University, will moderate a panel discussion on Incubating Digital Initiatives with members of New York City digital centers;
- **Adam Rogers**, Emerging Technology Services Librarian at the Hunt Library Makerspace, North Carolina State University, will talk about creating and shaping a makerspace in an academic library;
- **Tom Scheinfeldt**, Associate Professor of Digital Media and Design & Director of Digital Humanities in the Digital Media Center at the University of Connecticut, will talk about digital projects and the future of libraries.

**Where:** The William and Anita Newman Vertical Campus Conference Center, Baruch College, 55 Lexington Avenue (at East 24th Street). Registration closes Monday, November 25 or when we reach our maximum room capacity. Come join the conversation! Space is limited. Don't wait, [register now](#).

-Anice Mills, 2013 ACRL/NY Symposium Chair  
ACRL/NY Vice-President/President-Elect

## METRO & ACRL/NY Present: Launch Your Library Career - Part III

Friday, November 22, 2013 - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

### The Interview -- Putting Your Best Foot Forward:

You've mastered the resume and cover letter, and have been invited to interview for your dream job. Now that you've been noticed, the challenge of wowing the hiring committee begins. Come dressed in your interview best for a hands-on workshop of mock interviews and interview coaching. During the workshop we'll look at what to expect when interviewing at academic, special, and public libraries. We'll discuss how to manage a panel of interviewers, the one-on-one interview, phone interviews and online (Skype) interviews, as well as the finer points of post-interview communications. We will discuss interview-appropriate attire, how to avoid common wardrobe pitfalls, and give you tips on staying comfortable yet looking professional.

Participants will draft a 30-second elevator pitch that sums up their qualifications, experience, and professional interests. Throughout, we'll emphasize how to go beyond the qualifications listed on your resume to talk about how and why you are the best candidate for the prospective employer's needs. We will also look briefly at the basics of creating clean, professional-looking presentations and handouts, or any materials you may need to bring to an interview. Visit <http://metro.org/events/435/> for more information and registration.

## METRO & ACRL/NY Present: Launch Your Library Career - Part IV

Friday, November 22, 2013 - 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

### The Next Steps -- Getting Started With Networking, Publishing, & Presenting:

Networking, publishing, and presenting are  
(continued on next page)

activities that you can do, or may want to do, at any and every stage in your career.

Whether you choose to do them, or are required to do them, this hands-on workshop will show you that they do not have to be as intimidating or as formal as you may think, and that the act of "putting yourself out there" can be good for your career, your self-confidence, and your future job prospects. We will discuss ways to get involved in library organizations, at various levels, and guide attendees to specific organizations that meet their needs. We will talk about how networking and "joining" and keeping options open can change the course of one's career. We will provide participants with tips and tools to help them get started with writing and presenting, starting with ideas -- so bring yours! We will emphasize starting small and building on ideas and projects, and discuss the different kinds of publishing in our profession today. We will also discuss the benefits of collaborative writing and presenting. There will be brainstorming, writing, and presenting exercises, as well as time to research potential publications and editors, and time for group discussion and support. Visit <http://metro.org/events/436/> for more information and registration

-Barbara Bonous-Smit, Queensborough Community College, CUNY

## **ACRL/NY and METRO Collaborate on Mid-Career Professional Series**

The ACRL/NY Professional Development Committee is collaborating with METRO (via their Community Engagement Manager, Davis Erin Anderson) on a series of events at METRO for mid-career librarians. It will address some issues facing these librarians such as mid-career burnout, staying motivated, climbing up the ladder, becoming leaders, navigating the tenure and promotion process, and measuring success.

The series will kick off in February 2014 with Jim Neal, Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian, Columbia University. He will speak on leading, mentoring and staying motivated.

For the second session on Monday March 3, 2014 at 11:00a.m., a panelist of New York librarians will discuss how to navigate a successful tenure process. Moderated by Marsha Spiegelman, Professor, Nassau Community College, SUNY, the panel will include:

- Caroline Fuchs, Outreach Librarian, St. John's University
- Mark Aaron Polger, Instruction/Reference Librarian, College of Staten Island, CUNY
- Polly Thistlethwaite, Chief Librarian, CUNY Graduate Center
- Stephanie Walker, Chief Librarian and Executive Director of Academic Information Technology, Brooklyn College, CUNY
- Rosanne Humes (Serials Librarian) and Katrina Frazier (Head of Cataloging), Nassau Community College, SUNY

The third session on Tuesday April 8, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. will concentrate on measuring success: assessment, outcomes, and strategic planning.

Dr. Ian Beckford, Academic Assessment Manager, Queensborough Community College, CUNY will speak on assessment research methods, including methods that can be used to carry out a full scale analysis. Examples of assessment projects will feature presentations by Profs. Sheila Beck, Barbara Bonous-Smit & Neera Mohess from Queensborough Community College, CUNY on assessment of reference desk services. Nisa Bakkalbasi, Assessment Coordinator, Columbia University Libraries will share an example of library assessment that was conducted at the Columbia University Libraries within the last year.

-Barbara Bonous-Smit, Queensborough Community College, CUNY

## Participating in NCC's Team Building Workshop

The North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) is "a clearinghouse for Japanese information resources." Founded in 1991, NCC works closely with faculty, librarians and funding agencies to strengthen language collections and to promote access to information in all forms and formats." From August 12-14, 2013, NCC organized a conference in Harvard called "NCC Team Building Workshop II" for librarians and teaching faculty on utilizing digital and print Japanese resources for teaching purposes; some will be explored in this article. For this conference, NCC invited collaborative project proposals from librarians and teaching faculty.



Raymond Pun (NYU librarian) collaborated with Elaine Carey (history professor at St. John's University) in this conference. Their project is to create and maintain a LibGuide, which will contain information on accessing print and digital resources of Japanese history in the context of world history. The site will be operated within St. John's University and will be available for adjuncts and full-time professors teaching world history undergraduate courses. Kathryn Shaughnessy, librarian at St. John's University is also maintaining the site. Other participants worked on developing a curriculum or embedded course on Japanese studies using digital archives. Participants also received hands-on trainings in using Japanese research databases.

Here are some useful and interesting resources:

- North American Coordinating Council of Japanese Resources: Supported by The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, Japan-United States Friendship Committee, and Toshiba International Foundation, the site contains online resources, tips and other important information on Japanese studies. Site: <http://guides.nccjapan.org/homepage>
- Digital Archive of Japan's 2011 Disasters: "The Digital Archive of Japan's 2011 Disasters project is an initiative of the Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University in collaboration with several partners. We aim to collect, preserve, and make accessible as much of the digital record of the disasters as possible, to enable scholarly research and analysis of the events and their effect. You can find tweets, photos, maps and other digital records of the events of March 2011 and their aftermath." Site: <http://jdarchive.org/ja/home>
- Lantern Slides of the Nippon Rikkokai: Japanese Immigrants to America: "The main images of the lantern slides at this site are lives of those immigrants to Americas, mainly to Brazil, in late 19th and early 20th century. The University of Hawaii at Manoa Library has been given permission to share the images through the Library's Image site." Site: <http://digicoll.manoa.hawaii.edu/rikkokai/index.php>

Raymond Pun, New York University (Shanghai)

## ACRL/NY Mentoring Program : Experiences from a Mentee

I participated in the ACRL/NY mentoring program from 2012-2013 when I was in the last year of my graduate studies in Library and Information Science with an interest in art libraries at Pratt Institute. I was paired with the accomplished Constantia Constantinou, library director of the SUNY Maritime Stephen B. Luce Library and SUNY Distinguished Librarian (the highest librarian ranking one can get at the State University of New York).

Constantia is an amazing mentor. When we met at her outstandingly beautiful library, we put together a plan for the year. I needed help with the job application process with the goal to get one after graduation in May 2013. After evaluating my resume and cover letter, she provided invaluable feedback. Constantia was honest when identifying my strengths and weaknesses and gave me advice on how to improve. In addition, she helped me prepare for interviews. Her knowledge and experience of the job hunting process and profession is not something one can learn in library school.

Throughout the year, Constantia and I communicated by phone and email just about every week. Since I was in my last year of school, she was there to give me guidance on potential positions and institutions to apply for and to. She even sent me jobs that she thought I was qualified for and would fit my interests. Also, Constantia was a great person to ask questions about the profession because she had considerable experience in it and special libraries, and to talk to about issues and trends in the field sent by the program coordinator of the mentoring program. This summer I am fulfilling my requirements for my Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Career Enhancement Program fellowship and Art Library Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) Wolfgang Freitag Internship Award that I won earlier this year. While I do not have a job yet, I am interviewing and hopefully will have something soon. Constantia has been incredibly supportive and has helped prepare me to enter the profession. I am extremely grateful for her support and advice and look forward to staying in touch with her for years to come.

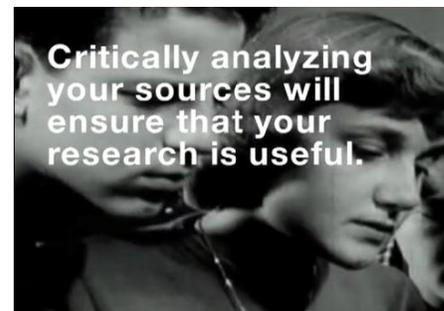
The ACRL/NY Mentoring program is a rewarding experience. They do a great job with pairing mentors to mentees. It is most beneficial for young librarians to enter the program even if they are unsure of what path they wish to pursue in librarianship. Mentors can gauge what is happening in the field and assist mentees with helping to pick a direction. Don't miss out on the opportunity!

-Kai Alexis Smith, MSLIS 2013 graduate, Pratt Institute

## Flipping the Script with Instructional Videos

Redesigning a library web site is a major undertaking, with specific considerations for librarians and library users. This is not an article about delivery, access or usability but about content and embedding learning outcomes in our digital assets. With a redesign, any old content, whether it be a screencast, videos or captured images of the previous web page, needs to be replaced.

This was the dilemma with the redesign at Stevens Institute of Technology's Samuel C. Williams Library. All of our video content needed to be revamped to fit the new design of the webpage. But instead of doing "screen capture" demonstrations of how to search for resources, we wanted a solution beyond simply creating online content because it could and should be used by online users as well as students on-campus.



The best solution was to try to integrate these videos into a flipped classroom experience in which students, at their own pace, watch videos that

would give them an overview of what was going to be taught in the classroom. Then when the students did arrive to their information literacy sessions, librarians could assign a project and facilitate discussion and learning without having to cover the basics explained in the videos. Fortunately, the instruction librarians had previously established a great relationship with professors in the College of Arts & Letters, so that they could try to integrate these videos into sessions in a required first-year writing and communication course, CAL 103.

Professors were very excited by the prospect because, as many an Academic librarian understands, library sessions tend to be too short to cover the range of topics necessary to equip students to be good information researchers and creators. Like many other college libraries, the Williams library staff is very small; to accomplish this video project we needed the help of some library students, namely from Pratt Institute's School of Information and Library Science. With an instructional technology class led by Professor Jessica Hochman, we developed a project for library

students to make videos for not just our library but any library at which they might someday work. Several students took on the challenge of working with librarians at Stevens to develop a video that would be used in a flipped classroom model.

In the end, a group of three students converted much of what was lectured into a video that was under 4 minutes long. Afterwards, student Ellie Horowitz took on the role of Web Services Intern at Stevens to refine the video in terms of:

1. Content
2. To ensure ACRL learning outcomes would be guaranteed in the videos; and
3. Time: The one video needed to be shortened to three modules in under 2 minutes each for better student digestion.

After several refinements, the videos were ready to go by the start of this Fall semester. The videos have been well received by the students and have allowed all of us to concentrate on active-learning exercises in the class: brainstorming a topic, developing a research topic, evaluating resources, and so forth.

We are developing methods of assessing the learning from this flipped experience and hope to report back soon. The 3 part "Getting Started with Your Research" can be found on our web page ([www.stevens.edu/library](http://www.stevens.edu/library)) or YouTube page: <http://www.youtube.com/stevenslibrary>

-Rommel Espinel, Web Services Librarian, Stevens Institute of Technology

## Collaborating with Faculty: Another Embedded Librarian Experience

What practical activities reflect successful embedded librarianship? How can I apply my expertise as an instructional designer and librarian to positively impact my University's recent online learning initiative? The answers to these questions quickly emerged as faculty clamored for information literacy support within their courses.

Recurring statements from faculty included "Help! I'm spending so much time clarifying research tasks that I can't teach my course content," or "grading research papers is overwhelming due to the amount of feedback on documentation styles and bibliography formats."

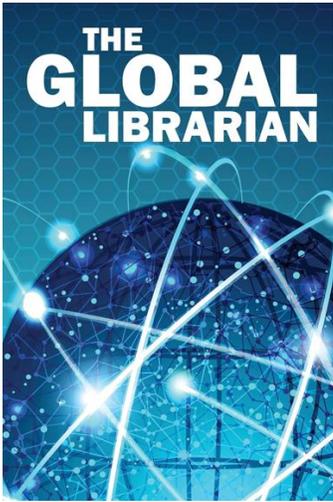
One of my most successful collaborations was with a literacy professor. I began by analyzing the syllabi for a Contemporary Issues in Literacy Research course. The stakes were high. Not only was the course delivered in a blended format (classes met face-to-face and online), the course was the last graduation requirement in the M.S. program, and the culminating research paper was sent to NYSED for final certification. Using the annotated syllabi comments, the instructor and I met to clarify the information literacy requirements and expectations. Based on our consultation, we agreed upon a number of instructional activities that we felt would contribute to student success.

At the beginning of the course, I introduced myself as a dedicated course librarian in a "welcome video". I shared my contact information and described important library reference services (e.g., instant messaging, text, email, and "research by appointment") with the hope of providing an additional sense of support. I created a course specific library guide of relevant resources that included direct links to databases, journals, books, and web pages. The guide was embedded into the course content management system (CMS) to provide "point of need" access. I was assigned a co-instructor role in the CMS. As a co-instructor I could monitor a Research Q & A forum, post announcements regarding pertinent library notices, and remain attentive to class activities (and chime in as needed)!

In order to embed with success, I focus on research intensive courses that likely provide the greatest return-on-investment. In the perfect library world, every course would embed a librarian who in the very least could contribute to a students' sense of learning community.

-Kim Mullins, Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus

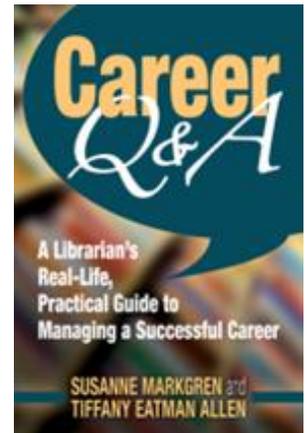
## Member news



**Caroline Fuchs** (Outreach Librarian, St. John's University) and **Carrie Netzer Wajda** (New Business Librarian, Y&R Group) and I were on the editorial team for the joint METRO ACRL/NY publication of *The Global Librarian*. Find more information about the book at <http://globallibrarian.org/>

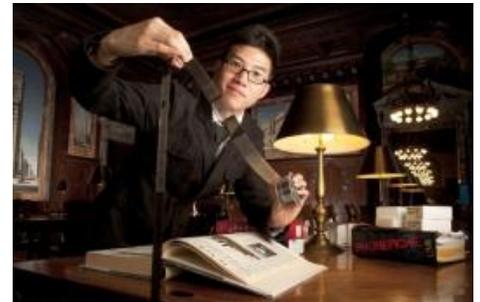
Also, **Caroline** gave a presentation entitled "Black and White?: Imaging Racism, Prejudice and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s" at the Rocky Mountain Conference on Comics and Graphic Novels (ROMOCOCO), Denver, Colorado (May 28-30, 2013). Caroline was also elected as Vice Chair/Chair Elect for ACRL Chapters Council. Please see link: <http://www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/directoryofleadership/chapters/acr-cco>

**Susanne Markgren** (Digital Services Librarian, SUNY Purchase), past President of ACRL/NY, and current Mentoring Program Coordinator, recently co-authored a new book (with **Tiffany Eatman Allen**) on managing a successful library career. In their new book, **Markgren** and **Eatman Allen** examine events, transitions, struggles, and advances that encompass and define a librarian's career, answering a range of important questions library professionals face as they move through the various stages of their working lives. For more than 10 years, **Markgren** and **Allen** have collaborated on the popular advice column "Career Q&A with the Library Career People." Here, blending their own best advice with tips and ideas from a number of their savvy peers, they guide current and aspiring information professionals in their pursuit of satisfying careers. Read more about the book at <http://books.infotoday.com/books/Career-Q-and-A.shtml>



**Kai Alexis Smith** (left, new MSLIS student from Pratt Institute) and **Raymond Pun** (below, Reference and Instruction Librarian, NYU Shanghai) were recently selected as one of the participants in the 2014 class of ALA's Emerging Leaders. Visit this web site for more information: <http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2013/11/emerging-leader-participants-class-2014-announced> **Mark Aaron Polger** (Instruction/Reference Librarian, College of Staten Island, CUNY) recently co-authored two articles. The first article co-authored with **Karen Okamoto** (John Jay College, CUNY) is entitled "Who's Spinning the Library? Responsibilities of Academic Librarians Who Promote", published in *Library Management*. The second article co-authored with **Amy F. Stempler** (College of Staten Island, CUNY) and is entitled, "Do You

See the Signs?: Evaluating Language, Branding, and Design in a Library Signage Audit", and is published in *Public Services Quarterly*. This past summer, **Tina Weiss** (Senior Associate Librarian, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion) had the opportunity to attend and present on historic American English-language manuals relating to the observance of the holiday of Passover at the 16th World Congress of Jewish Studies at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Librarians and academics from numerous New York area institutions attended and presented this international conference. **Robin Brown and Phyllis Niles** (Borough of Manhattan



The article is entitled, "Assessment of Information Literacy: A Critical Bibliography", published in *Codex: The Journal of the Louisiana Chapter of the ACRL 2.3* (2013). You can access the article at this URL: <http://journal.acrlla.org/index.php/codex/article/view/80> They have highlighted the articles that they felt are most important, or most interesting. The authors hope that readers will get an overview of the field of assessment of information literacy, and perhaps have their curiosity sparked or rekindled. Brown is also recruiting disabled women for a panel on disabled motherhood. It is still evolving, but right now she is looking for disabled women who are partners and mothers, while pursuing a career. Please contact her for more information at 212-220-1445 or [rbrown@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:rbrown@bmcc.cuny.edu) **Carrie Marten** (Resource Sharing Librarian, SUNY Purchase) recently received tenure and a promotion from the rank of Senior Assistant Librarian to Associate Librarian.

## 2013 ACRL/NY Leadership and Executive Board

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[Anice Mills](#)

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### New Librarians Discussion Group

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### Resource Sharing Discussion Group

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## About Connections: The ACRL/NY Newsletter

The Fall issue of Connections: The ACRL/NY Newsletter is published by the Greater New York Metropolitan Area Chapter, Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), Inc.

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## Join ACRL/NY now!

Join ACRL/NY online at [www.acrlny.org](http://www.acrlny.org) to access workshops, seminars, and professional development events that will help you advance your academic career.

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This issue was created using Microsoft Word 2010 using many transparent text boxes. The font used is Century Gothic font (size 10).