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The Greater New York Metropolitan Area Chapter

**Connections: The ACRL/NY Newsletter**

**Volume 31, Issue 1**

## Greetings from the 2013 ACRL/NY President



Like many of our members, I have just returned from the ACRL national conference in Indianapolis, "Imagine, Innovate, Inspire." The conference is always a good source for fresh ideas and compelling speakers for our own chapter's annual symposium, and we are looking forward to hearing from some exciting new voices at our next symposium on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at Baruch College Vertical Campus.

ACRL/NY ended 2012 with its 31<sup>st</sup> annual symposium, "Cultivating Entrepreneurship in Academic Libraries," where five outstanding speakers presented on a variety of related topics:

- Stephen Bell, ACRL president, "*Want a More Entrepreneurial Academic Library? First Escape Your Culture*"
- Naomi House, founder of INALJ, "*I"ntity: building a brand by bucking the crowdsourcing trend*"
- Stephanie Walker, Chief Librarian at Brooklyn College Library, presented a case study, "*Library Entrepreneurialism at Brooklyn College, CUNY*"
- Lisa Carlucci Thomas, founder of Design Think Do, "*Designing the Imperative: Transformative Culture*"
- Maureen Sullivan, ALA President, "*Creating a Culture of Innovation*"

This year, the symposium planning committee is in the capable hands of Anice Mills. We are looking forward to a terrific program. Be on the lookout for details this spring and summer.

ACRL/NY recently launched a Professional Development Committee and extended the work of the Mentoring Program, in conjunction with the New Librarians Discussion Group. We also have a new First Year Experience discussion group led by our Immediate Past President, Caroline Fuchs. We continue to collaborate with METRO on developing webcasts, and thank them for their support of the forthcoming joint publication, *The Global Librarian*. Follow all of our activities on our web site – and while you're there, don't forget to renew your membership!

A special thanks to Monica Berger, Web Services Advisor, Danielle Becker, Maureen Weicher, John Pell on our Blogteam, Caroline Fuchs, Legislative Liaison, and Winifred King, and our 2012 Discussion Group Chairs:

- Kathryn G. Shaughnessy, Distance Learning
- Caroline Fuchs and Natalia Gelber, First Year Experience
- Amy Ballmer, Graduate Services
- Fiona Grady and Dianne Conyers, Information Literacy/Instructional Services
- Maureen Weicher, Resource Sharing
- Keith Muchowski, Special Collections and Archives
- Linda Miles, New Librarians
- Mark Aaron Polger and Albert Tablante, User Experience (UX)

As always, I encourage all members to actively participate in our sponsored events and programs.

Carrie Netzer Wajda, 2013 ACRL/NY President

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## Greetings from 2013 ACRL/NY Symposium Chair

Save the Date!

The members of the 2013 Symposium Planning Committee are already hard at work planning and organizing another thought-provoking and informative symposium, to take place on December 6, 2013 at Baruch College, Vertical Campus.

Our symposium is titled: "*The Library as Knowledge Laboratory.*" 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 day-long 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 methods in the new knowledge laboratory.

The ACRL/NY annual symposium is a day to engage with leading trends and topics in the profession as well as an opportunity to network with colleagues from around the greater metropolitan area, exchange ideas, and meet new people.

Stay tuned to the ACRL/NY web site for further information and updates on speakers, a call for poster proposals and other announcements. We look forward to seeing you on December 6, 2013!

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## ACRL/NY First Year Experience Discussion Group

ACRL/NY is pleased to announce the formation of a First Year Experience Discussion Group.

The First Year Experience Discussion Group of ACRL/NY (FYEDG) aims to offer platforms for discussion, presentations, workshops and exchange of ideas relating to the role of the librarian in providing service to first-year students in higher education. Topics that may be considered include student preparedness and transition issues, transfer student populations, cross-campus collaborations, outreach and a wide range of literacy programs and workshops – and will include discussion on ways to reach out to students as well as teaching faculty. This group may be of interest to librarians working with first-year students in all academic settings (community colleges, four-year colleges, research universities) as well as those working in the high-school setting. We welcome suggestions for and participation in our FYEDG events and encourage newcomers to join ACRL/NY as well as ACRL national.

Are you an ACRL/NY member looking to become more active in our organization? Why not consider joining us? We hope to have our first "meet & greet" event in May 2013 — the date and time will be announced soon.

For information about joining this group or if you have suggestions for upcoming meeting topics, please contact the ACRL/NY FYEDG Co-Chairs Caroline Fuchs at [fuchsc@stjohns.edu](mailto:fuchsc@stjohns.edu) and Natalia Gelber [natalia.gelber@liu.edu](mailto:natalia.gelber@liu.edu)

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## **Steven Bell: Want a More Entrepreneurial Academic Library? First Escape Your Culture**

Bell started with the notion of an entrepreneur as someone who meets a need – perhaps an unknown or unacknowledged need – at heart, an entrepreneur “Gives people something they didn’t have a year ago, but now they can’t live without”



While we often try to meet needs, the approach to fulfilling the need might require that we escape the culture of the current organization, for example Instagram is a big hit, but why couldn’t Kodak have come up with it when it was looking for innovative ideas? To be an entrepreneur means one needs to be a salesperson, with a good idea and thick skin. They take advantage of opportunities, and are creative, passionate risk takers.

Most in the crowd could name people who qualified as entrepreneurs (Gates, Jobs, Zuckerberg) but the next question challenged us: Can you name an entrepreneurial Librarian? Maybe we assume that entrepreneurship has to be tied to big money-making organizations, but certainly we can be an entrepreneur-librarian without making a lot of money.

### **Higher Education Today**

What would higher Education look like if we invented it today, from the ground-up? Would it follow an unbundled and personalized model - the way iTunes unbundled album-based music purchase models? If we are to think about how higher education might change, we would do well to re-create it according to “design” thinking. How do people use education? How do they use the library in their education, research and life?

We can start with design thinking in libraries: How can we make the foray into the University library an experience people one look forward to, one with positive associations? Bell introduced a “Capture an Idea” booklet at Temple Library where any library worker can write down ideas for library improvement. The cover of booklet is emblazoned with the words: “Every decision we make affects how people experience the library. Let’s make sure we’re creating improvements.” Using the booklet allowed for individual and community reflection on the culture of the Library’s organization and what might need to change.

Bell offered some concrete suggestions which might help other ACRL librarians who are interested in addressing their organizational culture:

- Treat people as if they are famous and they will be invested in what you do
- Create a “way we serve” statement
- Do some non-commissioned work (the best work you like to do, without pressure)
- Meet unmet needs, then sell what you do
- Take more leadership on campus, find “grassroots” opportunities

Lastly, Bell reminded the participants about the recent ACRL initiative highlighting the Value of Academic Libraries, and encouraged ACRL-librarians to be agents of change and entrepreneurs in our organizations and Universities.

- 1) Align Libraries with Institutional outcomes
- 2) Empower libraries to carry our work locally
- 3) Create shared knowledge and understanding
- 4) Contribute to HE assessment

We are grateful to Steven Bell for providing much food for thought in his engaging presentation, and we encourage ALA to consider selling the “capture an idea” books in bulk!

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## **Naomi House: I"dentify: Building a Brand by Bucking the Crowdsourcing Trend**

Naomi House's lively discussion *I"dentify: Building a Brand by Bucking the Crowdsourcing Trend*, discusses how she founded the web site INALJ.com. House, a graduate of Rutgers University, came up with the idea in 2010 when she found a job ad and wanted to forward it to her friends. She thought of a delivery method to send job postings and help new library science graduates find jobs.



In coming up with a name for herself, she discussed how she came up with the brand INALJ. In discussing the development of creating this daily digest that would become a huge success, she discusses the importance of teamwork. INALJ is so popular that she cannot update the web site on her own. She is very grateful for the help of many volunteers.

When discussing outreach, House focuses on being selective. She emphasizes not to spread yourself too thin. In developing the web site she talked about having a strategy, plan and deliver useful content, then evaluate what works.

***“In order to successfully build a brand for herself, House asserts that you must have buy-in from others.”***

She discussed how she begins the process of updating her web site via a Wordpress blog. She also suggests to be targeted on specific platforms. Her main product is the Daily Jobs Digest, available in PDF format. She also interacts with fans on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

House discussed some grassroots marketing techniques such as spamming lightly, posted to Facebook pages, adding everyone on Twitter, word of mouth, creating business cards, present, and publish valuable content to the web site.

Presently, she has about 50-70 volunteers who help out and her daily emails are now available in digest format. In order to successfully build a brand for herself, House asserts that you must have buy in from others. She emphasizes being active on social media so you keep your fans engaged.

She concludes her presentation by giving a glimpse of how many visit her web site and other pages. She has approximately 3650 subscribers to her daily digest email. On Facebook, she has just under 5000 likes, on LinkedIn, there are approximately 2300 members in her group, and on Twitter, she has over 2700 followers.

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## **Stephanie Walker: A Case Study in Library Entrepreneurialism at Brooklyn College, CUNY**

Stephanie Walker, Chief Librarian and Executive Director of Academic Information Technology at Brooklyn College, was the third speaker of the day and the only one to focus on a specific, successful, entrepreneurial project. Her talk, entitled “Commercialization is Not a Dirty Word: Using Library Entrepreneurship to Begin Addressing Budget Needs” addressed the challenges and successes of an academic library’s venture into commercialization. She and two of her Brooklyn College colleagues also brought their innovations (or products) -- book scanner and homegrown software -- with them to demo and share with attendees of the symposium.

The library at Brooklyn College has a unit called Academic IT (AIT), which is separate from the campus IT services. This unit allows for the experimentation and creation of technological solutions that are library-specific. The tools that they have created over the past few years include a web information management system (WIMS), an e-resource management system, an inventory management system (TIMS), a timesheet management system, a Find-a-Book app, directory management software with mapping, room booking software, lab tracking software, and more.

***“As many of us can attest, digitization endeavors are becoming increasingly popular at academic libraries, and students, faculty, staff and librarians are using scanners to digitize texts, documents, projects, papers, and images, to support their instructional, educational and creative needs.”***

Their big project, however, and the one that is actually starting to make money for them, is a homegrown scanning station. As many of us can attest, digitization endeavors are becoming increasingly popular at academic libraries, and students, faculty, staff and librarians are using scanners to digitize texts, documents, projects, papers, and images, to support their instructional, educational and creative needs. Rather than pay a commercial vendor thousands of dollars for the software and the hardware, the Academic IT team worked with the librarians to develop their own easy-to-use, hardware-independent scanning software. This allows them to save money on the hardware and to use different kinds of scanners in different locations. It was an immediate success. They marketed this product to their colleagues in other departments and decided to charge for it (at about half the cost of commercial options). The Academic IT / Library team worked with the CUNY Office for Technology Commercialization (OTC) to market their scanner product, as well as a hosting service, across CUNY. They have sold 17 scanners (at the time of the presentation) and are working on ways to market and sell to other institutions.

During her presentation, Stephanie emphasized two things: 1.) that their products are successful because they are created specifically for a library environment, by librarians and programmers working together – not by commercial vendors imagining how libraries should operate; and 2.) developing these products, and offering them to others on campus (and to other campuses) promotes goodwill amongst colleagues, the campus community, and the power-that-be.

We look forward to hearing more about this entrepreneurial project and we expect, and hope, that more libraries will follow suit and collaborate with others on their campuses and in their institutions to develop and share technological solutions to meet specific needs and to help to counteract the burden of growing expenses and shrinking budgets.

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## **Lisa Carlucci Thomas: Designing the Imperative: Transformative Culture**

Stating how delighted she was to be invited to speak at the ACRL/NY's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Symposium, Lisa Carlucci Thomas, the director and founder of the library technology and creative services firm, design think do, captured her audience's attention as she delivered an innovative discussion on *Designing the Imperative: Transformative Culture*. Her main focus was on transformative culture and its role in nurturing entrepreneurship in academic libraries, and the challenges it presents. She also focused part of her presentation on the "power of yes" in entrepreneurship and libraries and how it fuels creativity.



Her interpretation of transformative culture was based on Dr. Jack Mezirow's definition. Accordingly, it is "an organizational model built upon transformative learning." It is "the process of using a prior interpretation to construe a new or revised interpretation of the meaning of one's experience in order to guide future

action." Librarians and libraries could be part of this progressive thinking by taking a more creative and transformative approach to the established norm when it comes to the needs of their communities.

Examples of transformative culture include the San Francisco Public Library; the Great Library Road Show; the ALA Think Tank; and librarian, Andrea Davis and her involvement with the South Southwest Interactive movement. The San Francisco Public Library transformed their identity and their community using innovative and creative approaches to meet the needs of their patrons. How creative that their old card catalog became part of an art exhibit! Concerning the Great Library Road Show, Carlucci Thomas and others will be on the road visiting many libraries and noting their innovations. The ALA Think Tank, a Facebook group, began in 2010 and grew to become one of the largest virtual places on Facebook where innovations and ideas can be shared. Here, librarians and libraries have a place to connect and talk with each other. It's an example of how much can be accomplished when people work together. Andrea Davis and the South Southwest Interactive conferences focus mainly on new, innovative and emerging technologies, many of which are eventually adopted by libraries.

Creativity, Carlucci Thomas noted, is 85% learned and plays an important role in transformative culture. According to her, it leads to new ideas and without it, libraries would stagnate. She mentioned Monty the therapy dog. [Monty is owned by a librarian at Yale Law School who found him to be very therapeutic for the law students. They can check him out for a half-hour circulation period.] One issue the librarian faced how to catalog Monty. "The outlandish idea," states Carlucci Thomas, "might be the thing that changes the environment."

Quoting from Scott Dinsmore, Carlucci Thomas encouraged librarians and libraries to "begin creating that environment of support that makes failure impossible." Our patrons and community have to be an important part of our work. Librarians, she noted, are no longer gate keepers but gate openers. Closed stacks and locked doors are now open to all.

In conclusion, she urged her audience to "wake up and be awesome," and embrace the "power of yes." She noted that Tina Fey believes that "yes" opens the door and keeps it open for opportunities. "Yes" stimulates passion and raises morale. "Yes" "makes the impossible possible" and gives your ideas the opportunity to grow. "Don't crush other people's ideas," she warned, but take advantage of any creative opportunity. She encouraged her audience to look at Steve Bell's presentation on YouTube on design thinking.

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## Maureen Sullivan: Creating a Culture of Innovation

Sullivan, current President of ALA, was the fifth and final speaker of the 2012 Symposium. Her presentation, titled "Creating a Culture of Innovation," spoke directly to the theme of cultivating entrepreneurship by addressing three main points: the importance of innovation in academic libraries, how to create a culture that encourages risk taking, and what librarians can do to become more entrepreneurial. Sullivan took questions throughout her session, creating a rewarding dialogue with attendees.



Early in her presentation Sullivan offered a definition of innovation as the application of creativity to a situation. The most compelling reasons for innovation are simple: people are inherently creative, and there are many ways to express this creativity in the workplace. Risk-taking, Sullivan joked, can be defined as moving from a state of unconscious incompetence to conscious incompetence. It is an uncomfortable process, but one that is necessary to achieve innovation.

Sullivan asked the audience to reflect on the most compelling idea they encountered during the Symposium, and then discuss that idea with colleagues at their table. Afterwards a few attendees responded to the group at large with the concepts mentioned at their table, which was an excellent method of reinforcing the themes and takeaways of the day. Sullivan followed with a discussion of how to encourage risk taking, noting that different people have different thresholds for taking risks and what constitutes a risk, but that it is a challenge everyone faces. Identifying the benefits and importance of risk taking helps a great deal to encourage motivation.

Sullivan then gave a brief history of her professional development on the path to becoming the president of ALA, from Human Resources Administrator at Yale University to her organizational consulting work for academic and public libraries. Fitting with her approach of speaking directly with attendees regarding their concerns, Sullivan concluded by taking additional questions and answering with insightful, inspiring responses.

*Maureen Sullivan is the 2012-2013 ALA President. She can be reached at [msull317 \[at\] aol \[dot\] com](mailto:msull317@aol.com) or on Twitter at [maureenala](https://twitter.com/maureenala)*

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## Raffle and Door Prizes Winners at the 2012 ACRL/NY Symposium

Free 2013 Symposium registration - **Winifred King**, Albert Einstein College of Medicine & **Carrie Marten**, Purchase College  
Amazon Gift card - **Kenneth Schlesinger**, Lehman College, CUNY  
\$100 Gift Card ( Special Thanks to Privco) - **Robert Farrell**, Lehman College, CUNY  
iPod touch - **Susan Sabatino**, William Paterson University  
Kindle Fire - **Albert Tablante**, ASA College  
Google Chromebook - **Rosanne Humes**, Nassau Community College

Student Prizes (free entry and \$50 gift card)

**Kai Alexis Smith**  
**Stephanie Fazio**  
**Christine Ortega**  
**Katrina Martinez**

Compiled by Mark Aaron Polger

## **Business and Economics Librarianship: Inside the Conveners' Perspectives at METRO**

**This article was simultaneously published in *The B&F Bulletin* by SLA: Business and Finance Division.**

On Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, METRO – New York Library Council hosted the first meeting of the newly created Special Interest Group (SIG) focusing on Business and Economics Librarianship. The purpose of this SIG is to share, collaborate and explore ideas, best practices, projects and updates relating to business/economics librarianships in public, academic, or corporate/government institutions. Business librarianship is emerging as an important field. Business and economics information is now more readily available beyond the financial markets. As our world becomes more globalized and dynamic in every sector of society, business and economics information and resources



**METRO's First SIG in Business and Economics Librarianship**

are increasingly in demand. Researchers at our institutions are interested in a wide variety of topics including how to start a business in New York, competitive intelligence in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, how to find recent unemployment statistics, how to prepare for a job interview, how to track stock quotes from a start-up company, or how to find data on markets in London or Shanghai; the list of queries are expansive and ever growing. The conveners of this SIG: Kathleen Dreyer of the Watson Library of Business and Economics at Columba University and Raymond Pun of The New York Public Library thought it was important to start a group where the focus is on the larger themes of business librarianship by integrating academic economics, applied economics, business and legal research and digital technology fields.

Any professional involved in information technology, finance, job resources, knowledge management, government information resources, and economics and beyond will find this SIG to be useful in networking and learning the opportunities available for their own respective institution.

In addition, these are other associations that may be worth looking into:

1. Special Library Association / New York City: <http://newyork.sla.org/>
2. Business Reference and Services Section (under Reference User and Services Association) <http://www.ala.org/rusa/sections/brss>
3. METRO- New York Library Council: Economics and Business Librarianship SIG's Libguide: <http://libguides.metro.org/businessreference>

The first meeting was well received and productive. Ms. Kristin McDonough, the first director of NYPL's Science Industry Business Library (SIBL) spoke about the future of business librarianship; her lecture introduced participants to a series of new collaborative opportunities for business library schools and practitioners to consider. Here are some interesting points:

- Knowledge Management vs. Knowledge Service: when conducting business reference and research services, our students and patrons expect us to synthesize and analyze the content and data; we are no longer just delivering information but evaluating it critically

We need to be mindful of the new digital and technological changes in the field and learn to adapt and embrace new ways of teaching business research/reference; librarians are the best information resource sharers; focus on that core strength and skill during this critical period by taking risks and trying new things out.

In the future, we hope to update the libguide further (see above), add Twitter hashtag for this SIG event (#metrobiz) and rotate our speakers from different backgrounds in the field of librarianship. Joining a business librarianship listserv such as the Business Librarians' Email Discussion Group: <http://www.willamette.edu/~gklein/buslib.htm> is an excellent way to learn about latest business and economic librarianship; research techniques, resources, reference questions, and more.



Our next meeting in June (TBD) will feature Ms. Lucy Heckman, University Librarian and Business Bibliographer of St. John's University to discuss how to utilize business resources for non-business research and non-business resources for business research.

In the fall, we anticipate corporate or special librarian to be the speaker for the event.; we also plan to visit other academic/public libraries/institutions and museums such as the Museum of American Finance as part of our professional development as professionals in this SIG.

Stay Tuned!

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### ***“Demystifying the Hiring Process”*: NLDG meet-n-greet a big success**

Co-sponsored by the ACRL/NY Mentoring Program and METRO, the New Librarian Discussion Group's February 7<sup>th</sup> panel discussion about academic library hiring committees drew thirty-four attendees, with students, and early-career librarians fairly equally represented. The panel of four brought together librarians from a diversity of institutional contexts—Sebastian Derry (College of Mt. St. Vincent), Beth Evans (Brooklyn College CUNY), Susanne Markgren (Purchase College, SUNY), and Jean Uhl (LIU-Post)—to talk about how hiring committees do their work and about their experiences as members and chairs of these bodies. Several attendees shared information from their own perspective as applicants, candidates, and new hires, and there was a lively dialog about expectations and procedures. According to attendee Miranda McDermott, “It was very eye-opening to have academic librarians who had served on hiring committees to find out what constraints and

challenges they face in selecting new employees.” Among the most salient ideas was that in some institutions committee members are working with a rubric of minimum and desired qualifications and “if the applicant is lacking just one of those required skills they are bumped off the list.”

A follow-up panel discussion, “Demystifying the Working Life of a New Librarian,” tentatively scheduled for the first week in June, will address experiences, challenges, and expectations placed on new academic librarians during the first days, first weeks, first months, and first years of one's appointment. Other spring NLDG events include a discussion entitled “Getting Started with Writing and Presenting for the Profession” (Fri. 4/19, 9:30-11:00 am at Mercy College, Manhattan, also in partnership with the Mentoring Project) as well as a workshop on activity planning for information literacy yet to be scheduled, to be presented in conjunction with the Information Literacy Discussion Group. For more information, contact Linda Miles ([lmiles.librarian@gmail.com](mailto:lmiles.librarian@gmail.com)) .

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Ms. Kristin McDonough speaking about her research



The “Demystifying the Hiring Practice” panel, clockwise from top left: Beth Evans, Sebastian Derry, Jean Uhl, and Susanne Markgren.

## **The ACRL/NY Mentoring Program: Reflections from a Mentee**

I'm halfway through the ACRL/NY Mentoring Program and so far I've found it very valuable, but not entirely for the reasons I expected. Recently, I shadowed my mentor – Monica Berger of CUNY'S New York City College of Technology (City Tech) – as she staffed the reference desk on a busy Saturday afternoon. In the brief lulls between student questions, we spoke a great deal about the topics I expected to cover: the next career steps, what professional organizations to join, what to expect from an academic library career. Monica also advised me on some more intangible subjects that were especially interesting because they weren't part of my library school education.

Library school is all about discussing hypothetical situations that are frequently heightened or extreme. A knowledgeable scholar asks you a difficult reference question; you have to catalog a rare book that doesn't appear in any standard bibliography; there's a hurricane and you have to rescue the collection with the help of two interns and a bucket. Talking through these scenarios is excellent practice for real librarianship, but what's left out are the average 'daily grind' sorts of experiences, and how real academic libraries may differ from the imaginary – and sometimes idealized – academic libraries used as classroom examples.

City Tech is a career-oriented school, with popular nursing and hospitality programs. A few of my courses at Palmer mentioned career-oriented and vocational schools, but most of the time when academic libraries came up in my Reference or Collection Development classes, we were really discussing liberal arts colleges and universities. Students at career-oriented schools have different life experiences and educational histories than the average undergrad, and they have different library needs. Textbooks are heavily utilized for teaching at career-oriented schools. JSTOR isn't used nearly as often as career-specific databases. Monica, by necessity, has to have a passing knowledge of all the different subjects offered at City Tech and the best resources for each one. This polymath necessity is part of what attracted me to academic librarianship in the first place – you may have one region of real expertise but you end up gaining a flexible working knowledge of many other fields.

Monica also brought up some other unexpected realities that I might need to anticipate. Budget cuts can mean that additional responsibilities fall onto your shoulders without warning. At the same time, these may not be the hardest challenges you face. Academic institutions are large bureaucracies, and any bureaucracy comes with a labyrinth of rules. Every workplace has its own unique challenges and cultural idiosyncrasies. These are all lessons that can be learned from working – and none of them are lessons specific to working in the library world – but often learned the hard way. It's been extraordinarily helpful to have a mentor who goes beyond the usual platitudes ("networking is good") and into the actual atmospheric realities of academic librarianship.

[For more information about the ACRL/NY Mentoring Program, see: <http://acrlny.org/about2/mentoring-program/>]

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## **METRO and ACRL/NY New Professionals Series**

METRO and ACRL/NY Professional Development Committee have collaborated on a *New Professionals Series*, offering professional development workshops and webinars geared towards librarians new to the field and LIS students. Providing practical advice on various aspects of librarianship, this much needed series should be very beneficial to these two groups. Many thanks to METRO's Community Engagement Manager, Davis Erin Anderson for her hard work in coordinating the series and also METRO's Executive Director, Jason Kucsma and their Strategic Initiatives Manager, Jefferson Bailey, for their help in the early planning of the series.

The series opens with a free webinar titled, *The Future for Libraries - a Guide for New Professionals*, scheduled on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm -2:00pm. Featured speaker, Eli Neiburger, is the Associate Director for IT & Production at the Ann Arbor District Library and member of the 2011 Class of *Library Journal Movers & Shakers*. For information and to register, please see: <http://metro.org/events/328/>

The second free webinar in the series, *Librarianship as an "Avocational Vocation" - Advice for New Professionals* takes place on April 24, 2013 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm with Char Booth, Instruction Services Manager and E-Learning Librarian at the Claremont Colleges, and faculty of the ACRL Information Literacy Immersion Institute. "This webinar will focus on building a solid reputation through writing, publishing, and public presentations." For more information and to register, please see: <http://metro.org/events/329/>

Elisabeth Doucett and Ellen Mehling will present the third free webinar titled, *Beyond the MLS: How to Navigate Your New Career*. It takes place on May 8, 2013 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm. Director of the Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick, Maine, Elisabeth Doucett is the author of *Creating Your Own Brand* (American Library Association, 2008) and *What They Don't Teach You in Library School* (American Library Association, 2011). Ellen Mehling is METRO's Career Development Consultant. The focus of the webinar will be on transitioning from grad school to the "working world, covering issues like career planning, staying on top of trends in the field, thriving in new environments, and what to do in your first management role." For more information and to register, please see: <http://metro.org/events/333/>

The series culminates with two hands-on career workshops, *Launch Your Career: Finding the First Job*. ACRL/NY Executive Board members Carrie Netzer Wajda (current president) and Susanne Markgen (past president and coordinator of the ACRL/NY Mentoring Program) will conduct the workshops. The first of which is titled: *The Job Search - Preparing Yourself, and Your Materials, for the Challenge* will be held on May 21, 2013 from 10:00am - 1:00pm). For more information and to register, please see: <http://metro.org/events/344/>

The second part, *Creating and Managing a Professional Online Presence* will also be held on May 21 from 2:00pm-5:00pm. For more information, and to register, please see: <http://metro.org/events/345/>

We hope new librarians, LIS students, and anyone interested in the future of librarianship will take advantage of these invaluable programs.

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## About Connections: The ACRL/NY Newsletter

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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).