

SUNYLA NEWS

JUNE 2016 SPECIAL CONFERENCE EDITION

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello all in summer SUNYLand! The publication committee would like to welcome you to this special conference edition of the newsletter. Inside you will find a few favorite-session write ups from committee members and links to presentations on the SUNYLA website.

At best you will find nuggets of information to better your own library, at worst you print it out for campfire starter. Either way, enjoy!

**CONVERGENCE: LIBRARIES FROM EVERY DIRECTION****SUNYLA 2016**

Binghamton University, June 8-10

THANK YOU!

To all the presenters, vendors, attendees, sponsors, and especially the Conference Planning Committee! For details on who these wonderful people are, and session descriptions please see the

SUNYLA 2016 Conference Program at: <http://sunyla.org/sunyla-conference>.

Slides shared by presenters are at <http://sunyla.org/sunyla-2016-sessions/>.

We are looking forward to reaping the rewards of our next conference planning committee!

SUNYLA 2017**Stony Brook University****June 14th-16th, 2017**



“STEPPING UP YOUR RESEARCH GAME: CONDUCTING EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWS”

BY BRANDON WEST (GENESE0) & LEE ANN FULLINGTON (CUNY BROOKLYN)

April Davies

Surveys can give you a lot of feedback for a relatively small effort and that's great, but sometimes you need to go beyond the 'what' of things to get at the 'why.' **Brandon West** and **Lee Ann Fullington** did a great job of explaining this and then went on to explore using one-on-one interviews to go that next level of inquiry. I'd never thought about how involved doing research-type interviews can be. Who to talk to, what to ask and how to ask it and in what order, how many interviews to do and how to analyze them... these are just some of the things that have to be considered. The presenters demonstrated several things along the way, like when someone asked for an example of leading questions (which are to be avoided). They also had everyone do a couple of rounds practicing some basic interview techniques. This was an enjoyable and informative session. And I'm looking forward to seeing the results of the projects the presenters are currently working on!

“FINDING THE RIGHT PLATFORM FOR CONVERGENCE AND COOPERATION: SELECTING THE NEXT ILS FOR SUNY”

BY SHANNON PRITTING (POLY); MAUREEN ZAJKOWSKI (OLIS); JENNIFER SMATHERS (BROCKPORT); REBECCA HYAMS (MARITIME); VIOLET PRICE (DOWNSTATE MEDICAL); GREGG KIEHL (TC3); ANGELA RHODES (MORRISVILLE); JENN MURRAY (BUFFALO)

Jennifer Smathers

You don't usually get a session report from one of the presenters, but in this case it is somewhat important. The topic included much SUNY Confidential Information and could not be directly shared beyond in-person attendees. That said, your directors have seen this presentation at SCLD, anyone who was in the session can share the information with SUNY librarians.

The pre-conference went through the entire evolution of the ILS RFI Review process, from the large SCLD review to the more recent community input regarding next-generation library systems and vendor meetings. While some of the members were really hoping for a different outcome than we arrived at, the very thorough review and heavy questioning of each vendor leads us to believe that the direction we suggested to SCLD, that was approved, is the only viable option at this time.

Whatever system is ultimately chosen, it will be created in a One-Bib environment for at least those libraries that are already on shared servers. Given this shift in the architecture of the system, there is a need for oversight groups and collaborative agreements regarding workflows. Keep an eye out for your opportunity to provide feedback into that process.

How's that for a lot of words to say nothing too specific? Please, if you have any role that involves using Aleph today, check in with your director to find out about what will be planned for the next system. (Our Aleph contract is up in 2020, we've got enough time to do this migration right.)

If your director missed SCLD, you are welcome to contact **Shannon Pritting** for more information, 315-792-7199 prittis@sunyit.edu.

“Please, if you have any role that involves using Aleph today, check in with your director to find out about what will be planned for the next system.”



THE #SUNYLA2016 STORY

Lydia Willoughby

For a peek at the story behind the conference panels, sessions, vendors, keynote speaker, and evening social events like the BBQ and bonfire at SUNYLA 2016, take a look at the Storify of the conference on social media: [bit.ly/sunyla2016](https://www.storify.com/lydiawilloughby/sunyla2016)

This storytelling summary shows attendees experiences collected from Twitter and Instagram, and features some wonderful photographs. It's a great way to catch up on what you may have missed and to jog your memory about the sessions that you want to remember to share with colleagues.



“WORK FOR CREDIT: BRINGING STUDENTS INTO THE LIBRARIES TO WORK FOR A GRADE” BY NANCY ABASHIAN (BINGHAMTON)

Nancy Abashian

This presentation by **Nancy Abashian** covered the Binghamton University Libraries' experiences with different types of internships, including research oriented internships and internships for professional experience. Topics covered were the art of defining a library's need and the purpose of the internship, creating meaningful and structured experiences for interns, using grading as an incentive, evaluating success and redesigning internships with lessons learned from each experience.

Some suggestions made were to find partners within your library to provide the broadest experience. Also, partnering with entities on campus can help you to market your internship to net the right candidate for the job. Interns can make a great impact on your library, so trust them to develop new ideas to use within your environment. Consistency is key – use a structured syllabus and schedule to accomplish your goals. To learn more check out the [presentations](#) on the [SUNYLA website](#).

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**“2015 SUNYLA SALARY SURVEY: A PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE PERSONNEL POLICIES COMMITTEE.”
BY EUGENE HARVEY (BUFFALO STATE); JILL LOCASCIO (OPTOMETRY); NANCY ABASHIAN (BINGHAMTON); AND CHRIS KEOUGH (BUFFALO)**

Nancy Abashian

The Personnel Policies Committee prepared and presented their preliminary report on the committee’s most recent salary survey. The primary purpose of this survey is to determine the contract inequities between classroom faculty and librarians as well as salary discrepancies between campuses across the system. The presentation covered the committee’s change in methodology over previous surveys which included the decision to request salary information by title directly from SUNY HR. This was a significant change from surveying representatives at each campus – the committee feels that this is a more accurate and standardized representation of salaries and faculty types across SUNY. To learn more about the committee, see their webpage: <http://www.sunyla.org/ppc>

The analysis, designed to strengthen change efforts to close the margin of inequity between teaching faculty and librarians as well as individual campuses has been enlightening. Initial results indicate that, controlling for other variables/factors affecting salaries, librarians earn approximately \$29,000 to \$37,000 less than teaching faculty. To learn more about how the committee came to these numbers, see their presentation posted on the SUNYLA website.

Next steps for the committee will be to complete their final report on the survey and move toward a plan for using it to advocate during contract negotiations.

“Initial results indicate that, controlling for other variables/factors affecting salaries, librarians earn approximately \$29,000 to \$37,000 less than teaching faculty. “

**“SPEED WEEDING ON THE CHEAP”
BY AMANDA HOLLISTER (BROOME) & SUE SLYVIN (BROOME)**

Nancy Abashian

Amanda Hollister and **Sue Slyvin** from Broome Community College presented on their strategy and the workflows they developed for weeding their collection. The primary goals they set out to accomplish were to analyze the collection for usage, to know which books with zero circulations could be requested via ILL quickly, and to know if any books with zero circulation in their collection were owned by any other SUNY. These goals were accomplished by creating a homegrown “Wonder Tool” which combined Aleph circ data with OCLC holdings data in Excel. To make sense of the data generated, Tableau was used so that the data could be better utilized to answer specific questions about the collection such as: which books have circulated more than five times? Or, what percentage of the collection has never been loaned? These questions, among many other, were demonstrated through a Tableau ‘how to’ which demonstrated the powerful impact this tool can have when trying to create an efficient weeding workflow. To learn more about their project check out their [presentation on SUNYLA’s website](#).



**“TECHNICAL SERVICES INTEREST GROUP LIGHTNING ROUNDS”
BY LAURA COSTELLO (STONY BROOK); MARIANNE HEBERT
(POTSDAM); WENDY WEST(ALBANY) & REBECCA NOUS (ALBANY)**

Karen Gelles

The Technical Services Interest Group presented their first ever Lightning Round session to a full room.

Laura Costello (Stony Brook) presented on demand-driven acquisitions, a topic on which she recently published a book titled *Evaluating Demand-Driven Acquisitions*. She presented data on spending patterns on DDA, and discussed ways to manage your spending wisely, including the use of short-term-loan triggers.

Marianne Hebert (Potsdam) presented a model of collection development that maximizes the chance that monographic purchases will actually circulate. She makes extensive use of existing data gleaned from sources such as Aleph reports. The presentation is available at the conference site, and includes a link to the Aleph report instructions.

Wendy West and **Rebecca Nous** (Albany) described their work in marketing their graphic novel collection. In addition to moving the collection to a high-visibility location and displaying it creatively, they made enhancements to records to highlight genre, illustrators, etc. Circulation stats showed a large increase in circulation both during and after the display.

**“EARLY INTERVENTION: AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY RESEARCH
SEMINAR FOR EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN”
BY MATTHEW HARRICK (BROOKLYN COLLEGE)**

Jennifer A. DeVito

It is frequently lamented that students enter college generally unprepared for college-level research and writing. What is not clear is what to do about it. In his presentation, *Early Intervention: An Academic Library Research Seminar for Early College High School Freshman*, librarian Matthew Harrick reviewed a collaboration between high school and college to give students another opportunity to develop research and writing skills that will serve them in college.

Mr. Harrick works at Brooklyn College which has a partnership with a high school located on campus (Brooklyn College Academy) and two other local high schools. Students enrolled in this early college program earn college credits while participating in interdisciplinary seminar-style classes. Through this partnership, Mr. Harrick was able to create a research-intensive course that focuses on information literacy, evaluating resources, using the library and creating a bibliography. His goals include acclimating students to the library space and to library resources while working on a project for a grade. The course curriculum is closely aligned with ACRL and Common Core standards.

Throughout the course students work on a research project on one of several topics with a related theme. The theme for the course discussed in the presentation was Brooklyn. Mr. Harrick selected three aspects of that broad theme and students got to choose what they would spend the course researching. The course also includes a tour of the library and library borrowing privileges. He includes active learning exercises such as using the catalog and identifying suitable resources for the project. The class met weekly and moved through the research process. Students were given worksheets each week so they could practice what they learned.

Perhaps one of the most striking parts of the presentation was the qualitative pre- and post-assessment. Mr. Harrick asked students to write details in response to “How I research.” The pre-assessment responses were brief, included Google and showed very little understanding of the research process. In contrast, the responses at the end of the course were much more detailed and included references to evaluating resources.

Some of the challenges he faced included keeping the students focused and on task. He relied on the students’ teacher to assist in that area. Going forward, Mr. Harrick wants to tie the topics he uses in his class to what the students are learning in other classes. He also will highlight the availability of *NovelNY* for databases. This presentation was a great example of one way that academic librarians can partner with high schools to help prepare students for college study.



“TIME MANAGEMENT FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES” BY AMBER BILLEY (COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY)

Jennifer Smathers

This was such a valuable session! It had been previously presented in the form of an ALCTS Webinar. The resources list is available at: http://bit.ly/ALCTS_TM. Amber did a great job breaking down the realities of being a Tech Services person who juggles many projects and often wears a bunch of hats. Her most repeated bit of advice? Write it down so that you don't have to keep thinking about it... Lists, organized lists (some with really neat prioritization schemes!)

It received glowing praise from the retired Queen of Tech Services **Maggie Horn**, who also pointed out that ALCTS webinar recordings are available after a period of time on YouTube. Amber's webinar version of Time Management may not have been as interactive and bursting to the seams with Tech Services camaraderie, but I'd recommend watching it if you missed the SUNYLA session. <https://youtu.be/nme4YgSciSg>. Amber now hails from Columbia University Libraries, you will find a [presenter biography](#) in the SUNYLA program.

“ALCTS webinar recordings are available after a period of time on YouTube“

“COLLECTING AND USING DATA FOR SPACE DESIGN” BY KRISTIN HART (MARITIME) & KATIE BRAM (MARITIME)

Susanna Van Sant

Maritime was awarded a SUNY grant to renovate its library and create an “Academic Success Center.” Although staff in the Library had many of their own ideas, goals, and dreams, they needed to ensure alignment with the perceptions and needs of their students, faculty, potential donors and administration. Kristin and Katie described the many and varied ways they gathered data and ideas: surveys, usage data, and vendor-led focus groups, for example. They had helpful advice for those of us who may undertake similar projects – what to avoid, steps not to miss, and things to consider that are only evident in hindsight. The informative presentation slides are available on the [SUNYLA website](#).

“FROM WORST TO FIRST: WTF? HOW GETTING OVER OURSELVES IMPROVED STUDENT SATISFACTION AND RETENTION”

BY MICHELLE CURRIER (CANTON) & CORI WILHELM (CANTON)

Susanna Van Sant

What would you do if your library was rated dead last in the SUNY student opinion survey? Staff at the SUNY Canton library addressed their students' dissatisfaction head on and were determined to turn their reputation around. And, spoiler alert, their hard work and laser focus worked!

Using the Relationship Quality-Based Student Loyalty Model, the staff recognized that improving student satisfaction with the library would contribute to satisfaction with their college experience and result in increased retention for the College. Their motivation went well beyond moving up the leader board.

The library gathered and, most importantly, responded to a great deal of student feedback and communicated their efforts and improvements all across campus. In doing so, they greatly improved students' experiences with the library and also removed barriers that hindered students' academic success.

Submit contributions for the
October issue to April Davies
DaviesAC@cobleskill.edu

Deadline: September 15, 2016



The SUNY Librarians Association promotes the professional development and collaboration of library personnel across SUNY in order to advance library service(s) to our campuses and the people of New York State.

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER**

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