Ed. note: To ensure that your personnel news is considered for publication, write to Ann-Christe Galloway, production editor, C&RL News, at email: agalloway@ala.org.

Appointments

Cinthya Ippoliti has been named university librarian/library director at the University of Colorado-Denver’s Auraria Library. Before joining Auraria Library, Ippoliti served as associate dean for research and learning services at Oklahoma State’s Edmon Low Library, where she was also a professor and held the Claud D. Kniffin endowed chair. She previously served in a number of positions at the University of Maryland, including head of teaching and learning services at the McKeldin Library, where she was in charge of the spaces, services, and programming of the Terrapin Learning Commons. Earlier in her career, she held various librarian roles in two Arizona community colleges: Paradise Valley Community College in Phoenix and Mesa Community College. She has also worked in libraries at University of California-Los Angeles and California Lutheran University.

Elizabeth Ott has been appointed Frank Borden Hanes curator of rare books at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill’s Wilson Special Collections Library. She has served as interim curator of rare books since 2016. In her new role, Ott will identify and pursue collection development opportunities that will continue to grow the Rare Book Collection (RBC), with an emphasis on expanding the global scope of its content. She will also work collaboratively to build bridges between the libraries’ general and rare book collections, expand outreach to faculty and students, engage with new RBC uses and users, and enhance access to the collection. Ott joined the University Libraries in 2015 as assistant curator of rare books. Prior to that appointment, she worked as curatorial assistant at the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, and previously as program assistant at Rare Book School, both at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Lisa Ruth is now director of library human resources at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Ruth will direct a comprehensive human resources program for the university library’s more than 300 employees and 350 student employees. Since 2008, Ruth has held the position of associate head for recruiting in the human resources department at the North Carolina State University (NCSU) Libraries in Raleigh. In 2012, her responsibilities increased to encompass visitor relations in preparation for the opening of the James B. Hunt Jr. Library. Ruth was a library fellow at NCSU (2006–08), and subsequently coordinated the program.

Elizabeth Cerejido is now the Esperanza Bravo de Varona chair of the Cuban Heritage Collection at the University of Miami Libraries.

Jessica Critten has been named pedagogy and assessment program lead librarian at the University of Colorado-Denver’s Auraria Library.

Joe Fox is now head of reference and instruction/digital learning and web services librarian at Charleston Southern University.

Elizabeth “Liz” Gushee is now associate dean for digital strategies at the University of Miami Libraries.

Retirements

Rita H. Smith has retired after 42 years with the University of Tennessee (UT) Libraries. She joined UT in 1976 as a refer-
ence librarian, was appointed interim head of reference and information services in 1990, and served as head of reference and instructional services (1997–2007). During this time, Smith helped to embed information literacy objectives into the university’s revamped general education curriculum and, with the dawn of digital technologies, led her team in the development of the libraries’ online research services. Smith was named associate dean of libraries in 2007 and became executive associate dean in 2011. She teamed with campus and library colleagues to promote the university libraries’ diversity programs, as well as serving on university commissions that advanced diversity and the role of women on campus. In 2014, she received the UT Chancellor’s Citation for Extraordinary Service to the University. As associate dean, Smith had primary responsibility for the library as space and oversaw several major renovations to the John C. Hodges Library. The Learning Commons, the recently renovated Miles Reading Room, and the newly constructed graduate student commons are largely a result of her foresight and efforts to make the library a welcoming, innovative community space that meets demand for quiet study, collaborative work, and the use of technologies for knowledge creation and online learning. The configuration of library spaces and services will reflect her influence for years to come.

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