GPO names Indiana University-Bloomington library as 2020 Library of the Year

The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) has named Indiana University-Bloomington’s Herman B Wells Library as the 2020 Federal Depository Library of the Year. The library was selected for its efforts to promote the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and for its success showcasing government resources during the coronavirus pandemic. Herman B Wells Library became a member of FDLP in 1881. During the coronavirus pandemic, the library hosted virtual events that highlighted government resources anyone could access remotely. Through its Preservation Lab, the library takes exceptional care and preservation of its depository collection. The library’s government information team closely followed FDLP’s guidance on preserving depository materials during the pandemic.

The library also promoted FDLP through social media, blog posts, exhibits, and presentations at its local public library. The staff worked closely with public libraries in 11 counties to spread the mission and resources of FDLP to a wide audience. The library conducts workshops that encourage all subject librarians to use federal materials and this year launched Government Info Alerts, a service that provides library members with suggested federal publications tailored to members’ interests.

New ACRL Framework for Impactful Scholarship and Metrics

The ACRL Board of Directors approved a new Framework for Impactful Scholarship and Metrics at its November 2020 virtual meeting. The new document was developed by the ACRL Impactful Scholarship and Metrics Task Force as a framework for the measurement and evaluation of academic librarian scholarship. The framework is designed to address gaps between current scholarly evaluation practices and impactful scholarly activities within academic librarianship, including ways to measure and evaluate the impact of a wide range of research outputs.

Consisting of two primary impact categories, “Scholarly Impact” and “Practitioner Impact,” the framework is intended as a tool to understand and contextualize the range and diversity of scholarly activities, which may be considered impactful within academic librarianship. The framework is best employed as an entryway for discussion at individual institutions within the context of existing guidelines and expectations set forth for academic librarians by those respective institutions. The new Framework for Impactful Scholarship and Metrics is freely available in the Standards, Guidelines, and Frameworks section of the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/standards.

SIU’s Morris Library honors Carus family with new endowment

Morris Library at Southern Illinois University (SIU)-Carbondale will honor a benevolent family by establishing the new Alwin C. Carus Endowment. The library’s leadership recently worked with the SIU Foundation to transfer $1 million from the Carus Mineral Trust to create the endowment. It will support archival work and a future endowed chair, the Alwin C. Carus Archivist and Professor of Philosophy, all fully funded by the revenue from the trust. The endowment will support an archivist for the Open Court Publishing Company records and its related collections, as well as other collections in philosophy.

Internet Archive launches Open Library Explorer, acquires Michelson Cinema Research Library

The nonprofit digital library Internet Archive has launched the Open Library Explorer, an experimental new interface for browsing the
Approaches to Liaison Librarianship: Innovations in Organization and Engagement

ACRL announces the publication of Approaches to Liaison Librarianship: Innovations in Organization and Engagement, edited by Robin Canuel and Chad Crichton. The book showcases different implementations of the liaison model across a range of institutions and describes in detail many of the tailored programs and services that liaison librarians are so well-positioned to provide.

Liaison librarianship is a well-established system for framing the work and organizational structures of an academic library to effectively meet the needs of faculty and students. But despite its rich history, the precise meaning of liaison librarianship remains somewhat fluid—the size and nature of an academic institution, the library’s financial and human resources, and the diversity and size of local programs are only some of the variables that librarians must take into consideration when evaluating a specific liaison model for their library, how to implement it, and how its success will be assessed.

In 20 chapters, Approaches to Liaison Librarianship explores:

- the design and establishment of liaison librarian programs;
- refreshing programs periodically to reflect local campus changes and demands for new services and support from faculty and students;
- the challenges of managing liaison programs through these types of changes;
- day-to-day experiences as liaison librarians, from collaborating with teaching faculty on crafting and delivering information literacy instruction to designing online research support tools;
- librarians working to become fully embedded in their liaison departments to establish a closer connection to the workflows and culture of the departments they serve;
- participating in special projects in collaboration with research and teaching faculty that leverage the specialized knowledge and skills of today’s liaison librarians;
- and more.

Throughout the book, the authors describe the opportunities and challenges faced by liaison librarians and outline how these librarians leverage their specialized skills and knowledge of their users’ needs to satisfy a wide variety of demands. Approaches to Liaison Librarianship offers ideas for creating customized solutions for your local environment and ways to integrate new resources and services into your liaison models.

Approaches to Liaison Librarianship: Innovations in Organization and Engagement is available for purchase in print and as an ebook through the ALA Online Store, in print through Amazon.com, and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the United States or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.
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2021 I Love My Librarian Award recipients

Congratulations to academic librarians Jessica Bell, Sean Bird, Naomi Bishop, and Jianye He on being among the recipients of the 2021 I Love My Librarian Award. ALA received 1,865 nominations for this year’s award, which showcases the incredible achievements of librarians across the country. Hundreds of nominations focused on librarians’ swift and effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, from hosting virtual programs to distributing books and technology safely to those in need.

Jessica Bell, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston: Bell’s leadership has transformed the MGH Institute library into a world-class resource for teaching and learning, offering information literacy training for all students, open access course materials, and considerable expertise in instructional design.

Sean Bird, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas: Bird is recognized for his tireless dedication to Washburn’s students, many of whom are from underserved and underrepresented communities. During 2020’s emergency shift to online learning, he led a technology lending program that distributed laptops to every student who needed one.

Naomi Bishop, University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix: Bishop is a champion for social justice, raising much-needed awareness about racism in health sciences literature and leading the College of Medicine-Phoenix to develop more equitable and inclusive curricula. She has also contributed valuable research and reference expertise to the local medical community during the pandemic.

Jianye He, University of California-Berkeley: Chinese studies scholars in Berkeley and beyond rely on He for expert assistance locating hard-to-find sources. Her vast network of research contacts, welcoming demeanor, and extensive subject knowledge have made her indispensable to the scholarly community.

Honorees each receive a $5,000 cash prize, a $750 donation to their library, and complimentary registration to ALA’s 2021 Virtual Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits.

The Internet Archive also recently announced the acquisition of the historic Michelson Cinema Research Library from the library’s founder, Lillian Michelson. Michelson has donated the Cinema Research Library that bears her name to the Internet Archive, a digital library with global reach, so that this irreplaceable physical collection will be preserved intact and digitized as much as possible, providing free public access to these research materials. When packed, Michelson’s rich collection of 5,000 books, 30,000 pho-

more than 4 million books at the Internet Archive’s book’s portal, Open Library. Still in beta, Open Library Explorer recreates virtually the experience of exploring the stacks of a physical library. By harnessing the Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems, it enables readers to discover new books serendipitously by browsing bookshelves organized by a century of librarians.

Learn more at https://openlibrary.org/explore.

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Tech Bits...

Brought to you by the ACRL ULS Technology in University Libraries Committee

Do you need free open-source software for your video conferencing? Consider Jitsi. Jitsi is an open-source, browser-based, video conferencing platform that is easy to use, secure, and free. Users do not require accounts, and therefore any user can start a meeting room. Jitsi’s default setting is full encryption, and it offers additional security features, such as meeting passwords, waiting rooms, and custom, randomly generated URLs for each meeting. Information about meetings is not retained by Jitsi, and any recordings made are deleted after they are uploaded to the user’s preferred destination. Jitsi has a stated maximum of 75 people per room, but works more optimally with 35. Jitsi is a worthy choice for librarians who value privacy, ease of use, and free, open-source software.

—Samantha Kannegiser
Rutgers University-Camden

...Jitsi
https://meet.jit.si

ProQuest One Business launches

ProQuest recently announced the launch of ProQuest One Business, a new solution designed to support the unique teaching and learning needs of business faculty and students. Developed in collaboration with faculty, students, and business librarians, ProQuest One Business delivers a mix of practical and theoretical content in an interface that helps students build the research skills they’ll need for success in their courses and careers. The tool is a business-focused user experience that guides students to content for their most common assignments—including SWOT analyses, case studies, and industry reports.

ProQuest One Business gives faculty and students access to a wealth of multi-format sources in one place, including company, industry, and country reports from providers such as the Economist Intelligence Unit and Fitch Solutions, and in-depth analyst reports from J.P. Morgan; scholarly journal and ebook coverage from hundreds of renowned publishers, including Emerald and Springer; full text of the three major global business news sources: The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, and the Financial Times; and a robust collection of video—including interviews with business leaders, case studies, and trainings.

Learn more about ProQuest One Business at https://about.proquest.com/products-services/ProQuest-One-Business.html.