

Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development
October 6, 2024: 10:00a.m.

Location: Harrisburg Hilton as part of the Pennsylvania Library Association Conference

Minutes

GAC Members Present: Marsha Everton, Mary Garm, Dale Hamby, Robert Lambert, Allison Mackley, Beth Mellor, Lisa Rives Collens, Barbara Zaborowski

GAC Members Absent: Rebecca Long

Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL): Susan Banks, Deputy Secretary; Carrie Cleary, Executive Assistant; Bri Crum, Library Development Advisor; Sara Deegan, Library Dev. Supervisor; Ed Lupico, Library Development Advisor; Amy Geisinger, State Data Coordinator; Sarah Greene, Bureau Director State Library; Corri Hines, Library Development Advisor; Kris LaVanish, Library Development Advisor; Julie Moore, Library Development Advisor; Mike Reilly, Library Development Advisor; Heather Sharpe, Director, Bureau of Library Development; Heather Warren Smith, Early Childhood Services Advisor

Guest presenter: Mary Kay Biagini, Ph. D.

Attendees: Nicole Badger, Carolyn Blatchley, Matthew Cammarano, Jessica Church, Jennifer Coleman, Karen DeAngelo, Robbin Degeratu, Blake K. Dessy, Deborah Dorshimer, Brandt Ensor, Sue Erdman (online), Adam Gilbert-Cole, Katie Greenleaf Martin, Marissa Guidara, Erin Joyce, Laura Keller, Allison Latagliata-Young, Zach Laurence, Ryan McCrory, Addy McGarr, Jessica Miller, Rick Miller, Kerri Milliken, Sylvia Orner, Kim Patti, Karl Rebon, Amy Resh, Amy Riegner, Tracy L. Schwarz, Melissa Sheperd, Jennifer Stock, Janine Strohm, Jeff Swope, Tracey Trotter, Karla Trout, Patti Weiss, Stephanie Williams, Chelsea Williams, Leslie Wishard

1. Call to Order & Introductions – Mary Garm, Chair
2. Approval of Minutes of the July 18, 2024, Meeting – Mary Garm. No corrections, minutes approved as distributed.
3. Special Guests: Sylvia Orner, President, and Christi Buker, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Library Association.
 - a. Garm introduced Orner and Buker and thanked them for the venue for this meeting. Orner shared good news from a busy year as president of the association including Frontline Online, Friends and Trustees Institute with PCBL, and the PA Academy of Leadership Programs as examples. She shared that the work continues in advocacy for funding. Buker shared thanks and remarks regarding the public library subsidy and its distribution language and encouraged attendees to continue to speak up for libraries.
4. Chair's Report – Mary Garm
 - a. Garm shared highlights from **attached report**.
5. Deputy Secretary's Report – Susan Banks, Deputy Secretary, Commissioner for Libraries, and State Librarian
 - a. Banks shared highlights from **attached report**.
6. Bureau Reports from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries
 - a. Bureau of Library Development – Heather Sharpe, Director.

- i. Sharpe shared highlights from **attached report**.
 - b. Bureau of State Library – Sarah Greene, Director
 - i. Greene shared highlights from **attached report**.
- 7. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only: No public comment received.
- 8. Spotlight: Mary Kay Biagini, Ph. D., Chair, Department of Information Culture and Data Stewardship and Director of the School Library Certification Program, School of Computing and Information, University of Pittsburgh
 - a. Mary Kay provided an overview of the University of Pittsburgh’s programs for librarians, its history, and accreditation by the American Library Association. The program is part of the School of Computing and Information, offering a range of degrees from BS to Ph.D. The program values include accessibility, intellectual freedom, and multiple literacies, with a diverse student body and a focus on experiential learning. She also noted the central role of librarians in providing trustworthy and reliable information. She details in **attached slides**.
- 9. Committee Reports
 - a. Bylaws: No report.
 - b. Library Relations: Mellor and Everton shared that copies of the Report to the Governor will be available at the OCL booth in the conference hall and on OCL’s website. The group is talking about next plans to share library stories.
 - c. Guidelines and Policies: No report.
 - d. Planning: No report.
 - e. Ad Hoc Committee / Statute and Regulations Working Group: No report. Covered earlier by Banks and Sharpe in their reports.
- 10. Community Conversation – Mellor shared a summary of responses to the questions posed in the registration: “What pressing community needs would your library like to address?” and “What data or evidence do you have that will support your efforts addressing the issues selected above?” Many respondents noted that they were seeing workforce development/job training as a current pressing need, and that first-hand observation and information from other community organizations supported the need for this type of library programming.
- 11. Public Comment:
 - a. Maryam Phillips, Executive Director, HSLC discussed POWER Library and trainings. See more in attached printed report.
 - b. Ryan McCrory, Executive Director, Dauphin County Library System discussed a recent NTIA Grant opportunity for digital equity that many area libraries partnered with KINBER to submit.
 - c. Katie Greenleaf-Martin, Executive Director, PaLS shared how their integrated library system software and products provided via the consortium help libraries. She highlighted new case study about resource sharing with 3 districts and 4 counties sharing. She discussed a new statewide service grant that will allow them to update school district and municipality information on records with geo-coding for addresses.
- 12. Adjourn: Zaborowski made a motion to adjourn; Mellor seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:38a.m.

Next Business Meeting: Thursday, December 5, 2024 (virtual)

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted, Carrie Cleary, Executive Assistant, Office of Commonwealth Libraries

Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development
Chair's Report
October 6, 2024

PaLA Annual Conference

Thank you to the PA Library Association Board and Executive Director Christi Buker for offering us this time at the annual conference to meet with members and others. Christi and President Sylvia Orner will join us later this morning with an update on all things PaLA.

Open Forum

You are all invited to join us this afternoon at 1 PM for the GAC Open Forum. We'll hear from our State Librarian Sue Banks about her interest in and growing excitement about a new resource on information literacy from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. We'll also devote much of the time to questions and comments from you to help us understand better how your libraries and your communities are faring.

PA Library Organization Reports

We've asked the PA library organizations to submit brief written reports updating us and you on their activities, goals, and progress this year. The reports will be available online following the submission of this meeting's Highlights to the listservs. You'll find reports from:

- HSLC
- IDS
- PAILS
- PaLA
- PALCI
- PCBL
- PSLA

Regulations

You'll hear more during the meeting about the revision of our state regulations regarding libraries that receive state funding. I'll just note that they are moving forward with reviews by PDE and are on track to move forward when the next legislative session convenes.

Next Meetings

The GAC will meet one more time in 2024, on Thursday, December 5 at 10 AM. The meeting will be held virtually. At that time, dates and locations will be announced for the 2025 meetings.

GAC Business Meeting
PaLA Conference, Harrisburg
October 6, 2024
Deputy Secretary's Report
Susan Banks

- **The Governor's Advisory Council** will be meeting with representatives of Governor Shapiro's office in the next few weeks. The GAC members will share the Report to the Governor print piece and reiterate the messages and highlights from that document and engage the Governor's office in a discussion of the state and importance of libraries to the Commonwealth.
- **State Library of Pennsylvania** – We are planning a 10/23 reception to celebrate the award-winning restoration of the Forum Building and State Library and the people who made it happen. Partners for this event include Historic Harrisburg, PA Humanities, the 1745 Library Foundation, PA Heritage Foundation, Dauphin County Library System, Capitol Preservation, PA Downtown Center, PA Council on the Arts and others. The event will be by invitation only for the partners' organizational leadership and legislators to reinforce the importance and impact of preservation and restoration projects.
- **PDE** – Secretary Mumin will be visiting LAMP in Pittsburgh at the end of this week on 10/11– with luck he will record a book to be included in the BARD database of content that is shared internationally. The establishment of a new Board of Higher Ed is underway. Budget preparations continue for 2025-26 to lodge our requests for additional funding from the Governor's Budget Office. We will be doing our best to influence decisions about the Governor's budget for libraries (and the State Library) – PDE's budget requests go to Governor's Budget Office later in October and the conversations with that Office will continue.
- **NTIA Competitive Digital Equity Grants** – OCL has been included in the project proposal for the Dept. of Labor and Industry, the Urban Libraries Council and Dept. of Human Services. All of the projects would include libraries of all kinds statewide to support better access and application of all kinds of technology and training to address inequities in the adoption and use of technology. The ULC application in particular focuses too on fighting mis- and dis-information in addition to pursuing broader and more equitable access. Check out a session on Monday from 3:30-4:30 presented by the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority with EA Carrie Cleary, to learn more about the Digital Equity Act and Opportunities for Funding. Reach out and engage with partners and covered populations in your community to be prepared to act.
- Work continues on the process to produce **new Regulations in Pa Code Title 22, Part IX**. We refined the draft language for the regulations based on all the feedback from the field and prepared the RAF and Preamble. After the package of those pieces is reviewed by Policy, Legal, Legislative Affairs and the executive level of PDE, we will work on changes suggested by our colleagues and be ready to submit the package to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission, the Governor's office and House and Senate Education Committees after the new committees are seated (probably Jan-Feb 2025).
- **Futures Community of Practice** meetings may be changing again, based on the preferences of the group. The group is expanding and we believe project work in a variety of areas of interest are coming soon. If you're interested let Sue Banks know and she'll include you in the meeting invitation.

- **Broadband and Technology Updates:**
 - E-rate category 2 funding year beginning July 1, 2025 now allows for discounts to be applied on purchase of loanable hot spot devices (up to \$90 each) and service plans for hotspots (up to \$15/month/each) for educational purpose with square footage of facility determining maximum number that can be discounted.
 - Fall E-rate training dates are available. See [Fall PA E-rate Training Workshops Scheduled | E-rate in Pennsylvania \(e-ratepa.org\)](#)
 - From the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority:
 - Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program guidelines are posted online: [Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program Guidelines \(pa.gov\)](#). They will be posted for at least 30 days before applications are open.
 - See the updated [Pennsylvania Broadband Map](#) to include Broadband Serviceable Areas (BSAs) eligible under the PBDA BEAD Program. You can find a CSV file and other pertinent information, to include Program Webinars and upcoming Office Hours details, on the [PBDA BEAD Program website](#). Libraries should check the map to see how your location is listed and what your community can work towards.
 - Review continues by the PBDA of applications submitted for the [Capital Projects Fund](#) grants including the Multi-purpose Community Facilities Program and the Digital Connectivity Technology Program.
 - Read Pennsylvania's [Digital Equity Act Plan](#) so you are prepared for future opportunities. Be sure to check out the [Digital Equity Atlas](#) to get data on covered populations that you can impact in your service area.
- **IMLS introduces InformationLiteracy.gov** – This and more on the topic in the GAC Forum
- **PA Assessment of Collective Impact of Libraries** – see the handout both physical and attached to the conference agenda item. Four months in on this large-scale data collection and needs assessment for library services and it's going well with many hundreds of individuals within and outside of libraries providing a wide range of input about library services and libraries. The project is scheduled to be completed and a final report shared next September and we hope to present with our consultants at the 2025 Conference.

Bureau of Library Development (BLD) Report

Governor's Advisory Council Meeting

October 6th, 2024

FEDERAL FUNDING/PROGRAMS

LSTA

- **Statewide Library Service Grants**

- Awards have been made for FY 2024-25 new *and* renewal Statewide Library Service Grants. Contracts are routing for signatures.
- The subgrant to PA Council on the Arts to administer Folk and Traditional Arts projects with local libraries ended September 30, 2024.

- **Local Library Grants**

- 42 awards have been made for FY 2024-25 Local Library Grants for professional development, excellent and equitable youth services collections, and sustaining success for Family Place and Play & Grow libraries. Contracts are routing for signatures.

- **Youth Services**

- There is an opportunity to provide feedback on the PA One Book initiative to measure the extent of the reach of this year's program with the selection of *Slug in Love* by Rachel Bright by completing this survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PAOneBook2024LP>
- [Register for Early Childhood Conversations](#) - These community of practice sessions are designed to enhance library services for children ages 0-8 across Pennsylvania. All library staff and volunteers providing services to young children are invited to attend. Thanks to the Early Childhood Services Steering Team for helping to moderate these sessions.
- [Register for the Pennsylvania Summer Library Program 2025 Roundtable Session](#) on Celebrating our Stories on **Thursday, October 10, 1:30 – 3:00 PM**. Join in conversation with colleagues in group and breakout discussion on how to define success, achieve goals, and celebrate outcomes. Go beyond registration data and completed reading logs to capture the changes in skills, well-being, and knowledge, especially in systemically marginalized communities. We recommend viewing the [Building Equity-Based Summers workbook](#) section "[Summer Services Impact](#)" before attending the session.
- Approximately 375 libraries contributed to the richness of the Pennsylvania Summer Library Program story through the Summer 2024 impact report. We are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate program successes through the Summer 2025 Showcase. More data will be shared as it becomes available. Special thanks to the Pennsylvania Summer Advisory Committee for their guidance and direction.

- **Operations and Relationships**

- A Steering Team is currently in place and developing model policies and procedures for libraries to use as they develop their own. As these models are finalized, they will be made available on a BLD LibGuide. If you need a model policy or procedure, please complete this form <https://forms.office.com/g/CPJBet6bpw> and the Steering Team will add it to the list.
- OCL has partnered with [PA Humanities](#) on a pilot project for libraries, funded by the IMLS and focused on community engagement and the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Trainings were held in June and August with a focus on the history of the Declaration of Independence and how libraries can effectively engage with their partners and community members in creating safe spaces for discussions. A toolkit and related website are in development to provide libraries with resources in continuing their work in connecting and engaging with their communities and will be available soon.

- A Steering Team is currently in place to develop a revised Board Trustee Manual as an update to the *Getting on Board* Manual, and work is beginning in creating a resource to help trustees understand their important role in governance. When completed, this manual will be available on a BLD LibGuide.
- **Professional Development**
 - BLD has a statewide subscription to [Homeless Library Academy by Ryan Dowd](#). This resource provides all Pennsylvania libraries with empathy focused de-escalation and conflict resolution training. The Homeless Library Academy programs can be easily accessed through your [PA Library Staff Academy](#) log-in, found in the category titled "Homeless Library Academy." We encourage libraries to share this resource widely with library staff, board members, and volunteers. Our ability to continue a statewide subscription relies on the robust use of this training platform.
 - Ryan Dowd will host a live 30-minute training on Traumatic Brain Injury on October 10 at 2:00 PM. [Register here](#), using **password 1010**. To receive information about Homeless Library Academy's live monthly webinars, [fill out this form](#).
 - Bookmark the following sites and refer to them frequently to stay up-to-date on workshops and webinars that may be of interest.
 - [PA Library Staff Academy](#)
 - [Pennsylvania Library Association](#)
 - [WebJunction](#)

STATE FUNDING/PROGRAMS

Regulations, Policy, and Guidelines

Proposed changes to existing library regulations have been drafted and are under final PDE review. The BLD work group pulled together relevant supporting material. We expect to submit the regulatory package to IRRC early 2025 after the new general assembly has convened and new committees are established to avoid interruptions in the process.

State Aid

- The State Aid Library Subsidy Application (SALSA) closed on Wednesday, August 28th.
- Plans for State Aid (which includes County Coordination Aid plans) opened on Wednesday, September 25th and are due on Wednesday, October 30th.
- BLD is implementing new district names for four districts. There is no change to the entity that is the district library center. The name changes will be implemented in LibPAS (Counting Opinions) as well as other OCL documentation. Please be sure to update any internal documents that may exist with the historical names.
 - "Doylestown" is now named the "Bucks" district.
 - "Erie" is now named "Northwest" district.
 - "Washington" is now named the "Southwest" district.
 - "York" is now named the "South Central" district.

Keystone Grants for Public Library Facilities

- The 2025 round applications must be submitted on eGrants by NOON on Thursday, October 17th. Applicants can expect funding decisions by late February or early March, with funded projects to be completed between April 1, 2025-September 30, 2026.

OPERATIONS/PERSONNEL

The rebuilding of the BLD team is nearly complete.

- Administration & Data Unit
 - Contracts and LSTA Coordinator (Education Administration Specialist) – Cynthia Capaccio started September 23, 2024.
 - Administrative Assistant – GJ Hinkley resigned in August. The position has been posted and applications will be accepted through October 7, 2024.
- Assistant Director position to be posted soon.

The Compendium (compendium.ocl-pa.org) is BLD's primary communication channel. Please subscribe to ensure you receive the most up-to-date information.

To contact us, please refer to the [BLD LibGuide](#).

GAC, Bureau of State Library Report
October 1, 2024 Meeting

RARE COLLECTIONS

Activities

The Rare Collections section hosted our first summer intern from May to August. The intern worked in various areas relating to special collections librarianship including archival arrangement and description, rare book cataloging, gift evaluation, and preservation

Our new Rare Collections Assistant who started at the State Library in May, has been making progress in organizing the print newspaper collection 1950 to the present. This involves identifying titles we receive on microfilm and those we do not that need to be preserved in print. Additional work will include identifying at-risk microfilm and prioritizing film for replacement or digitization. In other personnel news, our Rare Collections Technician has been promoted to the position of Librarian I where his new responsibilities include curating the newspaper collection and 20th-21st century graphic materials such as comic books, graphic novels, and zines. In July, the Rare Collections Librarian attended a week-long course on *English Bookbindings, 1450-1850* at the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia. This topic is very germane to the rare books collection here, given that the core collection of books that formed what became the State Library were published in Britain.

The monies originally appropriated by the legislature, the governor's office, and the Capitol Preservation Committee back in the early 2000s for maintaining the Rare Collections Library's HVAC systems and purchasing rare books is nearly exhausted. This is due to this being a finite resource as well as rare books acquisition and HVAC repairs and equipment replacement being long unfunded through the annual State Library budget. It is sincerely hoped that the GAC can work with the 1745 Library Foundation to establish sustainable, ongoing funding streams for HVAC repair and replacement of aging equipment and conservation and acquisition of rare books.

In preparation for the America 250th anniversary, Rare Collections continues to assist with identifying, digitizing, and promoting primary resources on the 1765-1800 era that will be placed online.

Purchases

Using one-time end-of-year LSTA funds, Rare Collections purchased 53 items that met collection development goals to both enhance strengths and address weaknesses in rare collection holdings. Purchases included signed publishers' decorated bindings, science fiction works by Pennsylvania authors or publishers, African American works, illustrated works, Judaica, Pennsylvania history, and exemplars of unique binding styles.

Highlights:

Life and times of Frederick Douglass. Hartford: Park Publishing, 1881.

Douglass's third autobiography complements our copies of his two previous autobiographies

The movement : documentary of a struggle for equality by Lorraine Hansberry; Roy DeCarava. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1964.

Photographic documentation of the Civil Rights struggle of the 1960s.

Facsimiles of Ashkenazi and Sephardic Haggadot

Facsimiles include the 1739 Copenhagen Haggadah and ca. 1350 Sarajevo Haggadah illuminated Seder manuscripts.

[Stereographs, Berkshire Knitting Mills]. A Krauth (Alfred), photographer.

Photographs of the Berkshire Knitting Mills in Wyomissing, PA during the 1920s with portable 3-D viewer.

Photograph album : State Hospital for Crippled Children, Elizabethtown, PA.

Album compiled by a nurse documenting patients, nurses, and doctors at this hospital between 1935 and 1940.

The poetical works of Oliver Goldsmith by Oliver Goldsmith 1730?-1774. London : W. Pickering, 1831.

This work, covered in a fine Cosway-style binding by Sangorski and Sutcliffe, contains a painted portrait of Oliver Goldsmith inside the front cover.

Peg Woffington by Charles Reade 1814-1884. London, George Allen, 1899.

This work is covered in in a Kelliegram-style binding by the London bookbinder Kelly & Sons that features various inlaid pieces of colored leather than form a portrait of Peg Woffington.

Issues of *Fantascience Digest* and *Science Fiction Collector*. Philadelphia, 1938-1939 and *Philcon Memory Book*. National Fantasy Fan Federation, 1947.

Self-published science fiction fanzines documenting the early history of science fiction publishing and fandom and featuring work by key figures such as Ray Bradbury.

Marvel Tales of Science and Fantasy, vol. 1 no.4. Everett, PA, Fantasy Publications, 1935.

A science fiction pulp magazine published in Pennsylvania, featuring work by H. P. Lovecraft and Harrisburg-based science fiction and mystery author Amelia Reynolds Long. One of the earliest specialty science fiction publishers, publisher William L. Crawford was the first to publish Lovecraft in hardcover (*The Shadow over Innsmouth*, 1936.)

The Knave of Hearts by Louise Saunders with pictures by Maxfield Parrish. Racine, WI: Artists and Writers Guild, 1925.

Considered by some to be the masterwork of Parrish, a key figure in the golden age of illustration and American art in the 20th century. A student of Howard Pyle and a Philadelphian.

Darker Than You Think by Jack Williamson, *The Black Flame* by Stanley Weinbaum, *Galactic Patrol* by E. E. Smith, and others. Reading, PA: Fantasy Press, 1948-1954

Several examples of work by Reading-based science fiction publisher Fantasy Press, many featuring jacket and interior illustrations by Pennsylvania artists including A. J. Donnell and Ric Binkley, as well as other prominent science fiction illustrators such as Edd Cartier.

The Shame of Pennsylvania by American Civil Liberties Union. NY, American Civil Liberties Union, 1928.

Pamphlet on police brutality, strike-breaking, and violations of freedom of speech in Pennsylvania.

PUBLIC SERVICE

As of September 2024, the State Library will no longer lend newspaper microfilm. Libraries are encouraged to send specific requests to the State Library ILL Department. This decision was made due to the concerns about preservation of the newspaper microfilm collection.

Hours for the State Library changed in August to Tues., Wed., and Thursday from 10am - 6pm.

State Library staff engaged with over a thousand people at special events since the last GAC meeting. From manning a table at Harrisburg's Pride festival, to hosting the Office of Administration team building events, to a lunch and learn about the Library collection of

Government documents, staff has been reaching new audiences and connecting with old friends, as they settle back in to their presence in the Forum Building.

The State Library hosted a traveling exhibit on LGBTQ activism in local colleges. We are looking forward to partnering with Messiah College, to showcase the "Commonwealth Monument Project" - the neighborhood over which that the State Library was erected and are engaging further exhibits for 2025.

Local authors presented their works: Dr. Amaka Nnamani, "Ziora's Quest: Mommy's Milk Rocks", and Dr. Stephanie Smartchan and Lawrence Levitt's "Evitcha" - a family's story in Hungary during WW2. Science-based programs on various topics included Psychobilly music, Simian Hemorrhagic fever, and the Ajami language. The D&D club and Fiber Arts club are continuing with new quests and projects.

Staff conducted over 14 user-focused tours and classes for various state agencies, Legislators, our US Senator's staff, and signed the Auditor General up for a library card.

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Scanning and uploading of one bound volume of issues of *The Pennsylvania Gazette* was completed. Staff are working on completing the rest of the issues before the American 250.

The first Digital Collections Intern completed their internship in July. The internship was a success in terms of learning outcomes for the intern and library work completed by the intern. We look forward to more interns in the future.

Staff visited the Penn State Library's Digitization Unit mid-July and dropped off some hard drives full of digitized newspapers for them to incorporate in the Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive at their convenience.

Our State Documents technician delivered a Lunch-n-Learn to state employees about our state documents program. This led to a connection with the DEP Bureau of Mining, resulting in the acquisition of their entire collection of bound mining reports from the late 1800s to the early 2000s from all the various incarnations of the Department/Bureau.

Submitted 10/1/2024

Sarah Greene, Director State Library

Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development (GAC)

6 October 2024 Meeting

Mary K. Biagini, PhD
Associate Professor and Chair

**Pennsylvania
Library
Association
Conference**

**Hilton Hotel
Harrisburg**



University of
Pittsburgh

Overview

Master of Library and Information
Science Program

Department of Information Culture
and Data Stewardship

School of Computing and Information

We are Pittsburgh



We are the University of Pittsburgh

- **1787: first institution of higher learning west of the Alleghenies and north of the Ohio River**
- **Research 1 Institution with 36,000+ students on 5 campuses, including 9,500 graduate students on the Oakland campus**
- **5,300+ faculty and 7,200+ staff—now unionized**
- **1955: Dr. Jonas Salk pioneered polio vaccine**
- **30 Nationality Rooms—the heritage of Pittsburgh**
- **4 billion budget; research powerhouse, especially in the health sciences (#3 in U.S. in funding)**
- **The city is our campus**

Cathedral of Learning: tallest classroom building in the Western Hemisphere



Department of Information Culture & Data Stewardship

- 1901: Born at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to educate librarians to work with young people
- 1924/2028: MLIS program continuously accredited by American Library Association
- 2001: MLIS was first online degree program at Pitt



- Teaching, Research, & Service
- Professional program (MLIS) highly ranked by *US News and World Report*
- PhD LIS program for educators & researchers



- Experiential learning: Field Experience; Partners Program; Design Methods core courses
- Faculty advisors
- Strong ties to our alumni
- Paid memberships in professional associations for students

What we are

Who we are

What we do

What's happening

What we offer



- Focus on helping people & communities with information & life needs: "common good"
- 13 faculty: LIS, CS, JD degrees
- 2024-25: 120 MLIS students representing 40+ UG majors



- Research opportunities with faculty for students
- Sara Fine Institute focusing on social justice and the impact of information technology
- Data Science Certificate
- Instructional Design Certificate





MLIS Program: Our Roots

- **1895:** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh opens and children of immigrant families were its largest group of users
- **1898:** 26-years old Frances Jenkins Olcott, two years out of library training, was hired from the Brooklyn Public Library to create the Children's Department
- **1901:** Olcott started the first school to educate librarians to work with children opens with \$5,000 in funding from benefactor Andrew Carnegie
- **1923:** Virginia Procter Powell, first woman of color in the U.S. to graduate with a professional library degree
- **1924:** First accreditation of program by American Library Association; continuously accredited for 100 ye
- **1930:** School transfers to Carnegie Tech and begins to award BS degrees
- **1948:** Graduates first awarded Master of Library Science
- **1961:** School transfer to University of Pittsburgh
- **2001:** MLIS--First online degree program at Pitt
- **2017:** MLIS becomes part of the new School of Computing and Information
- **2019:** Redesigned MLIS curriculum launched



Deining School study room, 1907.

**Our first
pioneering
students
wore
white
blouses**



Original Faculty Members

High, high standards for students—entrance exam

Entrepreneurial outlook—students read stories on first U.S. radio station KDKA in 1920

Experiential learning in the community—students told stories to children at gates of J & L steel mill



Elva Smith

Graduate of class of 1903

Teacher for 40 years

**Pioneering head of
children's services at CLP**

**Benefactor of MLIS students
today**



**Our
Second
Pioneering
Students
earned their
MLIS degrees
online in the
first Pitt
degree
program
offered online**

We are the School of Computing and Information



Dean Bruce Childers

- **Newest school at the University, established in 2017--first in 25 years: “SCI is the product of optimism, trust, and commitment at all levels of the university.”**
- **3 departments**
 - **Computer Science**
 - **Informatics and Networked Systems**
 - **Information Culture and Data Stewardship**
- **Multiple degree programs with 1,200+ undergraduate and 400+ graduate students—BS to PhD**
- **70+ Diverse faculty from many disciplines and from around the world**

Who we are now?

We are a professional degree program educating students from many disciplines for a career in the information professions

Our objective is to help our students build the knowledge base, skill set, and dispositions they need to lead successfully as an information professional in their communities

**Who we
are now?**

**We contribute to the public
good**

**We value access to reliable
information, intellectual
freedom, literacies,**

**We conduct our professional
lives ethically and serve our
communities**

Our Mission as Educators

- **Educating MLIS graduates** to lead as information professionals in meeting the information and life needs of people, organizations, and communities and **PhD graduates** to lead as researchers and educators in schools around the world.
- **Conducting research** in collaboration with SCI and Pitt faculty that contributes to the common good.
- **Leading in people-centered service** to the School, the University, and the information professions.

Our Values as Educators

We recognize that practicing our values is a continuous endeavor that involves individual self-reflection and shared dialog on our progress as a faculty.

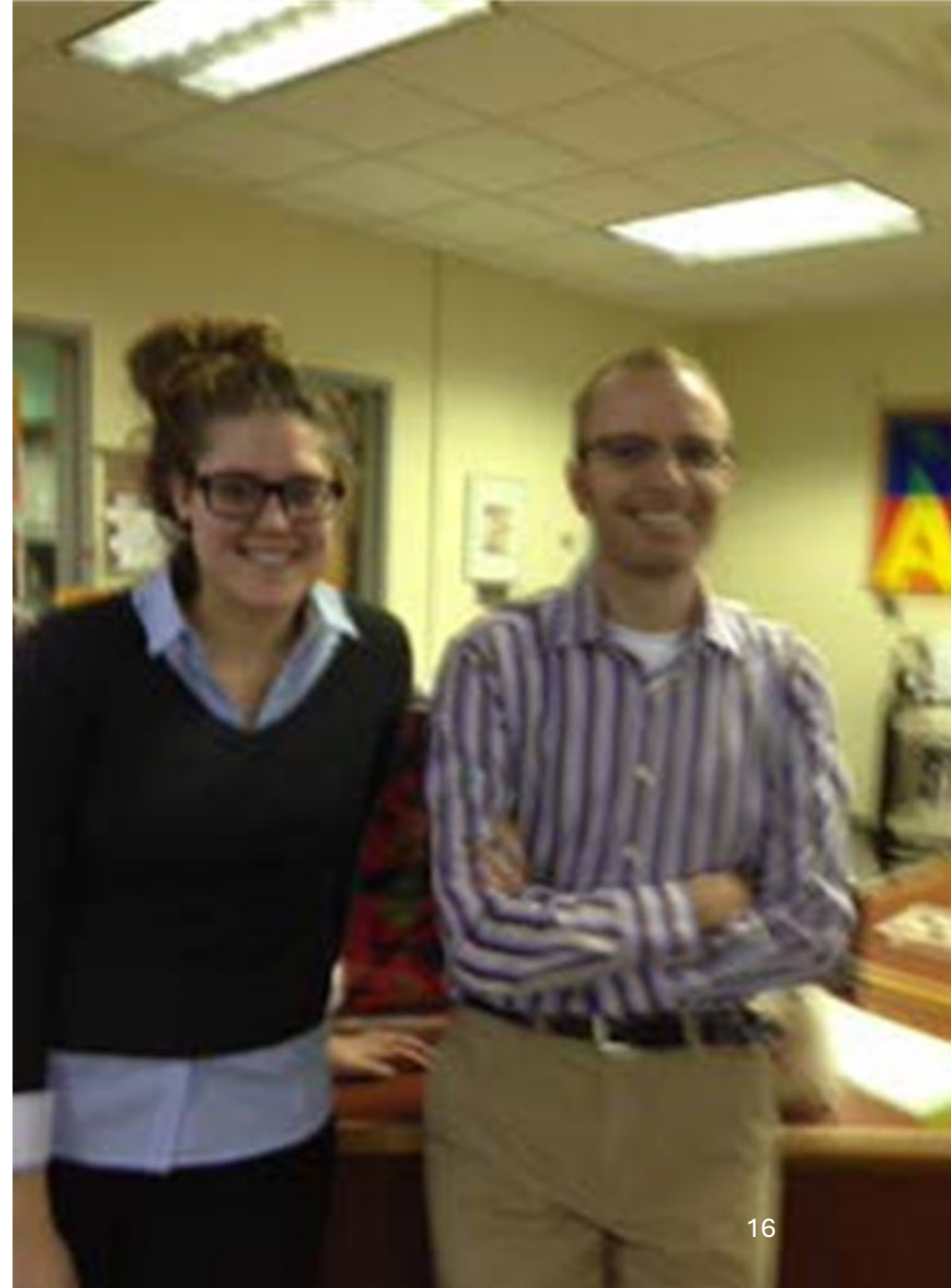
- **Integrity:** We are committed to honest, respectful, and responsible actions by ourselves and in all interactions with others. We value data, information, and research that is trustworthy and reliable.
- **Access, Openness, and Transparency:** We promote responsible and ethical access to data and information through openness and transparency. We advocate for informed consent and agency for data subjects and users.
- **Empathy:** We cultivate a culture of caring by and for our students, our colleagues, and our communities. We seek to understand and identify with the wants and needs of all our constituencies
- **Communities:** We engage and partner with many types of communities, which may be analog/physical; virtual/digital; and/or institutional/organizational to educate and enable access to data and information to advance our communities by seeking and honoring partnerships and learning from our communities and advocating for inclusion and access to data and information through community-centered programming, services, and education.
- **Literacies:** We promote lifelong learning and all types of literacies for every person in the belief that these literacies empower individuals and communities and enable their full participation within society.

Who are our current students?

- **On-campus & online/full-time & part-time**
- **Everybody works: full-time or part-time**
- **Ages range from 21 to 60s**
- **Career changers: pediatrician, engineer, CPA, coal miner, strategic planner, nurse**
- **Life changers: adult learners, divorce, empty nest, children off to 1st grade, death, a move**
- **Gender spectrum: non-binary, transgender, female, male**

Why?

- **Always wanted to be a librarian: “organized my first books”**
- **Hit by a bolt of lightning! A course, a book, a teacher, a librarian**
- **Want to help, want to do good, want to make a difference, want justice for all**



Goals for MLIS Graduates

The MLIS curriculum is organized around and aligned with **Goals for MLIS Graduates**:

- Long-term student learning outcomes: what students should know and be able to do at graduation
- Provide students with cohesive & integrated educational experiences focused on their individual career goals and aligned with Core Competencies and Core Values of ALA



Goals for MLIS Graduates



Adopt and apply the ethical and historical foundations and core values of the information professions and of related disciplines.



Lead in meeting the information needs of people, organizations, and communities, especially those that are marginalized or underrepresented.



Apply principles of the management of data, information, resources, and organizations to various functions in data and information environments.

✓ Goals for MLIS Graduates



Select, plan, implement, and apply information technology using creative, people-centered, and ethical approaches.



Design, plan, implement, evaluate, and advocate for information services that embody a commitment to diversity, inclusion, and dedication to all, especially to underrepresented and marginalized users and communities.



Understand and apply research in the library, archival, and information sciences, as well as other disciplines.



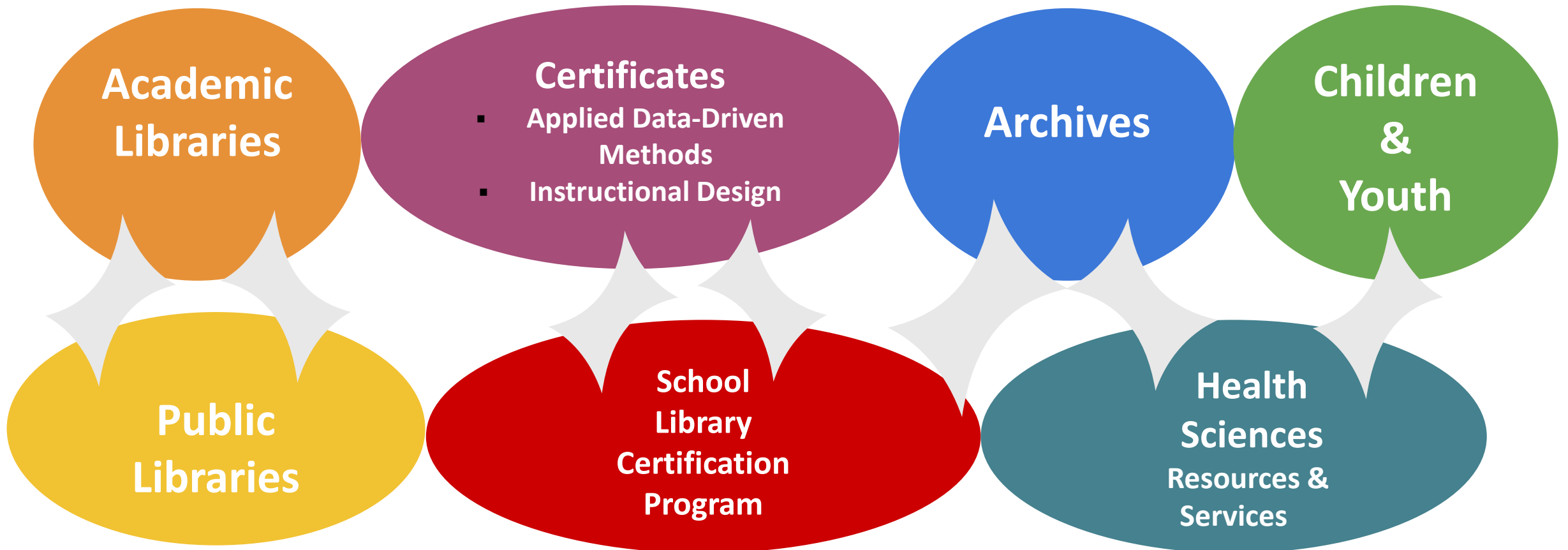
Advance the contributions of the information professions to society through advocacy and continuing professional development for information professionals and the people, organizations, and communities they serve.

Student Career Plan



Career Pathways to meet student career goals

Students may individualize their pathways



Focus on Experiential Learning

MLIS Curriculum emphasizes experiential learning for our MLIS students:

- Design Methods Courses
- Partners Placements
- Field Experience & Practicum



Our students decide how they wish to pursue their degree

On-Campus

(In the classroom)

On-campus students may take up to 18 credits of 36 credits online

Online

(may not take any on-campus courses)

- **Asynchronous: viewing videos, working on Canvas LMS**
- **Semi-Synchronous: In real time with on-campus students or only with online students**

**Educating
leaders
through
engagement
in
professional
organizations**

Each student may select membership in a professional association of their choosing

Students who present at a professional conference are provided conference registration funding

Students participate in student chapters of professional associations (Student Chapter of the American Library Association; Society of American Archivists)

Tuition: 2024-2025

PA Resident Full-Time

- Fall Term = \$13,853
- Spring Term = \$13,853
- Summer Term by the Credit:
\$1,126 per credit x 12 = \$13,512

Total Tuition = \$41,218

Part-Time Tuition is by the credit

\$1,126 x 36 credits = \$40,536

Non-PA Resident Full Time

- Fall Term = \$23,951
- Spring Term = \$23,951
- Summer Term by the Credit:
\$1,966 per credit x 12 = \$23,592

Total Tuition = \$71,494

Part-Time Tuition is by the Credit

\$1,966 per credit x 36 = \$70,776

**Out-of-State
residents
who pursue
the MLIS
degree
completely
online**

PAY In-State Tuition

- Full-Time tuition (9-15 credits per term) in Fall and Spring Terms
- Part-Time tuition is by the credit
- All students pay tuition by the credit in the Summer Session
- Now have students from 25 states

Financial Support for students to become information professionals

Diversity Fellowship and Residency:

Two years offered in collaboration with the Pitt University Library System

Funds full tuition, benefits, and a monthly stipend and a salary and benefits during the residency year

Elva Smith Fund:

Grants two full and multiple partial scholarships for those interested in careers working with children and young people in public and school libraries

Our graduates have great careers

Academic Library, Reference Librarian	First Year Experience Librarian	Online Services and Outreach Librarian
Archives & Record Administration	Grants Development Coordinator	Public Library, Adult Services Specialist
Asian Division Cataloger	Health Sciences Librarian	Public Library, Children and Youth Services
Bilingual Internet Research Specialist	Local History and Genealogy Specialist	Reference & Outreach Services Librarian
Data Services Librarian	Medical Library Outreach, Education & Communications	Research Historian & Archivist
Digital Asset Consultant	Micrographics Archivist	School Librarian, K-12
Digital Processing Archivist	Dean, University Library	STEM Librarian

PhD in Library and Information Science

In 1963, the PhD LIS degree was approved as the first doctoral degree in the school

Alumni are deans and faculty members at institutions around the world

The PhD degree is now redesigned & and revitalized with new students from a broader range of educational majors and professional experiences

Teaching Assistants gain teaching experience by working with faculty teaching MLIS courses and taking a course in Curriculum Development and Pedagogy

Impact

Graduates staff many PA libraries: public, academic, school, special

Graduates hold leadership roles in professional organizations

Faculty provide continuing professional education to librarians

Headwinds

- **Student affordability: undergraduate debt/cost of tuition**
- **Fewer young people seeking undergraduate degrees**
- **Enrollment cliff: fewer traditionally aged students**
- **Fewer male undergraduates**
- **Fewer undergraduates in majors that have traditionally fed graduate MLIS enrollments: humanities, especially English, history**
- **More faculty who have no library/archival experience**
- **Censorship attempts in school and public libraries**
- **Lower salaries, benefits, and schedules in public libraries**
- **Long tail of the pandemic**

Tailwinds

- **Biggest game-changer:** availability of accredited online MLIS degree programs
- Appeal of degree to broad range of graduates with many different majors
- Attracts students interested in the public good and in social justice
- Attracts a broad range of potential applicants: age, gender, geographic location

What questions/comments do you have?

- **Thank you for allowing me to make a presentation**
- **The University of Pittsburgh has a booth in the exhibits. Please stop by and see me!**
- **Mary Kay Biagini: biagini@pitt.edu**

POWER LIBRARY REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

October 6, 2024

Submitted by Maryam Phillips, Executive Director
Hosting Solutions and Library Consulting (HSLC)
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HSLC Mission: Hosting Solutions & Library Consulting (HSLC) believes strong libraries make strong communities. We are driven by our mission to contribute to the success of libraries by delivering sound technical solutions and expansive consulting services. Our core values include being Inclusive, Dedicated, Trustworthy and always Listening.

Other Things Pennsylvania Libraries Should Know About HSLC:

- HSLC has served as a library support organization since 1988 (36 years)
- HSLC has served as a non-profit partner to the Office of Commonwealth Libraries in various capacities since 2000, primarily managing the ACCESS PENNSYLVANIA and POWER Library services and programs.



2023/24 In Review:

- 2,970 participating libraries (74% K12; 20% Public; 4% Academic)
- E-Resource procurement completed July 2023
- 1,119 librarians attended 55 training sessions
- 92% of those who used Chat with a Librarian rated the information they received as Good, Very Good or Insanely Helpful;
- Initiated Scan PA Assistance Program within PA Photos and Documents
- 102,397 ILL requests were placed, and 84,886 (83%) were filled.
- 96 institutions have 939
- Database Subscription Cost Savings: Public: \$82,258; K12: \$56,548

2024/25 At-A-Glance:

ACCESS PENNSYLVANIA

- NCIP pilot with PAILS SPARK

Chat with a Librarian

- MLIS students as Chat operators



Access to E-Resources

- RFP for Photo Archive, High School/College Research, STEM +

PA Photos and Documents

- RFP Spring 2025

Outreach

- Portal (provide your feedback at the POWER Library Booth)
- Outreach to K12 with 50% or greater free/reduced lunch populations

Long Term Plans will be evaluated based on the results of the statewide library assessment

POWER Library is made possible in part by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services and through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Library Access funds administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Office of Commonwealth Libraries. The views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this website do not necessarily represent those of the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services or the Pennsylvania Department of Education.