Special Session

Session title
Developing new and innovative collaborations: Four U.S. Academic Research Libraries

Coordinator: Dr. Leo Lo
The University of New Mexico, Zimmerman Library 215, 1900 Roma NE., Albuquerque, NM, 87106, U.S.A.

Abstract of the Special Session: The papers in this themed session use the case studies approach to describe four very different types of collaborations at academic research libraries in the United States. From collaborating across the state of New Mexico to help students lower their textbook expenses; to developing a partnership to integrate President Ulysses S Grant’s legacy into the K-12 curriculum in the state of Mississippi; to using a library space to promote campus partners’ service in Kansas; to Vanderbilt Libraries’ role in pairing professional staff in experiential learning units across the university with undergraduate students in order to facilitate connections with campus resources, this session aims to share best practices and lessons learned in these wide ranging collaborations.

Papers:
1. Assessing Financial Burden of Textbooks on Students in New Mexico, USA - A Statewide Collaboration/ Dr. Leo Lo
2. Escaping the Mundane: Using Escape Rooms to Teach and Assess First-Year Students/ Erica England
4. Cross-Campus Collaborations to Support the Holistic Undergraduate Experience at Vanderbilt University/ Melissa Mallon

Presenters’ bio
Dr. Leo Lo is Dean and Professor of the College of University Libraries and Learning Services (CULLS) at the University of New Mexico. He oversees over 120 full time faculty and staff and provides leadership for all University Libraries operations, Organization, Information, and Learning Sciences (OILS) programs, and the UNM Press. Lo holds a Doctor of Education (Ed.D) from the University of Pennsylvania, and M.S. in Library and Information Studies degree from Florida State University.
**Erica England** is the First-Year Experience Librarian at the Holland/Terrell Library at Washington State University, where she serves as the Undergraduate Services Instruction Coordinator and liaison to the composition program. Prior to joining WSU, she worked as a librarian at both the University of Alabama and the University of Central Florida. Previous to that, she worked in secondary schools, as both a school media specialist and a classroom teacher. Her research interests are centered around the first-year experience and the effect that information literacy instruction has on student success.

**Jason Coleman** is the Head of K-State Libraries’ Library User Services Department, which is responsible for circulation, interlibrary loan, reserves, and front-line reference services. The department also manages the Resource Link at Hale Library. Previous positions have included Social Sciences Liaison Librarian and Undergraduate Services Librarian, and Reference Generalist. He co-founded the American Library Association’s Best Emerging Technology Application Award and has chaired several committees within the Reference and User Services Association. His research interests include collegiality with regard to tenure, reference services.

**Melissa Mallon**, MLIS, is Associate University Librarian for Teaching & Learning at Vanderbilt University. She has published, presented, and taught professional development courses in the areas of online learning, instructional design, and the impact of information and digital literacies on student learning. Her books include *Partners in Teaching & Learning: Coordinating a Successful Academic Library Instruction Program*; *The Pivotal Role of Academic Librarians in Digital Learning*; and the co-edited volumes, *The Grounded Instruction Librarian: Participating in the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning* and (forthcoming) *Exploring Inclusive & Equitable Pedagogies: Creating Space for All Learners*. 