

# Cornell University Library Forum Steering Committee Annual Report

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*2010-2011*

## **Library Forum Charge**

The charge of the Library Forum, from the bylaws:

The purpose of the Library Forum is to promote inclusiveness throughout Cornell University Library (CUL). Specifically, the Library Forum shall provide all CUL staff with the opportunity to:

1. enhance their understanding of how CUL operates in the context of the greater information environment and its goals and priorities;
2. be heard on issues important to CUL staff and the library;
3. be engaged in the life of the broader library and university communities.

## **Membership**

### **2010-2011**

Rachel Brill  
Library Administration

Carla DeMello (co-chair)  
Assessment and Communication

Randi Kepecs  
Olin Research and Learning Services

Cecilia Sercan (co-chair)  
Library Technical Services

Gail Steinhart  
Mann Services and Collections

Jessica Withers  
Hotel School Library

## Elections

An election to replace outgoing Library Forum Steering Committee (LFSC) members George Kozak and Deb Lamb-Deans was held in May 2010. Three candidates ran for two seats, with Randi Kepecs and Jessica Withers being elected to the LFSC for two year terms (2010-2012).

An election was held in May 2011 to replace outgoing members Rachel Brill, Carla DeMello, Cecilia Sercan, and Gail Steinhart. Lance Heidig, Sally Lockwood, Jim Morris-Knowler, and Eisha Prather were elected to two year terms (2011-2013).

## Standing Committees

### Career Development Committee

Jessica Withers and Randi Kepecs shared the responsibility of serving as liaisons to the Career Development Committee.

## Library Comment Box

One of the elements of the Library Forum's charge is to "provide CUL staff with the opportunity to be heard on issues important to CUL staff and the library." Comments requiring a response are handled by the LFSC or routed to the appropriate staff member, committee, or unit. If the commenter grants permission, comments and responses are posted to the Library Forum wiki (<https://confluence.cornell.edu/x/puAPBw>). Several anonymous comments were received in 2010-2011 and routed for response by the most appropriate person.

## Programming

2010-2011 was the first full year of programming for the LFSC, and we significantly increased our programming efforts, offering 15 different programs. 28 total sessions were offered (9 of which were "Play Dates," and a few other programs were offered twice). We collaborated with the Career Development Committee and Library Human Resources to offer a series of wellness programs throughout the year. We conducted a survey to solicit feedback to inform program planning for 2011-2012; selected comments from that survey are included throughout this report.

*"Thank you for being so inclusive and diverse, and for offering a variety of presentations."*

## Managing Change Brown Bag Lunch

Speakers: Vice President for Human Resources, Mary George Opperman, and Vice President for Planning and Budget, Elmira Mangum  
8/19/2010, 12noon-1pm, 700 Clark

Cornell is going through what will perhaps be the most transformative time in its history. Budgets, organizational structures, staffing, and many other issues are all under close examination as the university positions itself for the future.

Vice President for Human Resources Mary George Opperman and Vice President for Planning and Budget Elmira Mangum discuss managing change in uncertain times.

*"It's important to bring university administrators to speak to library staff about what's happening at Cornell and how it affects us."*

Audio recording: <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/17323>

## Kick off a year of wellness programming with a Walk with the University Librarian

9/22/2010, Meet at the Olin Library Entrance at 1:30 pm.

Come see the sights around campus and get a breath of fresh air on a walk with Anne Kenney. Anne will guide a tour of the early fall gardens as well as a look into the future home of the Fine Arts Library in Rand.

*"It was fun and relaxing. Interacting with the UL (and other AULs) in non-work or big events settings is important for all involved."*

## Parabiosis in the Academic Research Library Community: 2CUL as Parable or Paradigm or Paragon

Speaker: Jim Neal, University Librarian, Columbia University  
10/5/2010, 1:30-3:00 pm, G10 Biotech

Jim Neal is currently the Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian at Columbia University, providing leadership for university academic computing and a system of twenty-two libraries. This presentation will outline key trends affecting the current and future vitality of the academic research library, suggest the key qualities of effective partnership, and reflect on the [2CUL initiative](#) as a significant advancement and opportunity.

Audio recording and slides: <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/17507>

## Collection Development, Tsinghua University Library, and What's Special about Tsinghua University Library Special Collections

Speakers: Ms. Wu Dongman, Director of the Acquisitions Department, and Ms. Yuan Xin, Director of the Special Collections Department, Tsinghua University Library  
10/21/2009, 1:30-3:00pm, 2B48 Kroch

Audio recording and slides: <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/17797>

## Panel Discussion on CUL's International Projects

Speakers: Mary Ochs, Baseema Krkoska, Jaron Porciello, Thomas Mills, Gregory Green, Xin Li; facilitated by Anne Kenney  
11/3/2010, 2-3:30pm, G10 Biotech

CUL staff who are or have been involved in an international project, or a project that carries with it an international scope, will come together to discuss and answer questions about these projects with the larger CUL audience.

Audio recording and slides: <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/17816>

*"Excellent program. It was fascinating to hear about the variety of international projects CUL is involved in."*

*"This was amazing."*

## Relax/de-stress session

Speaker: Diane Hecht  
11/8/2010 1:15-2:45pm, 160 Mann Library, and  
11/11/2010 9-15-10:45am, 2B48 Kroch Library (one session, offered twice)

Take good care of yourself by joining us to learn techniques to release stress and to enjoy the experience of being more calm, relaxed and balanced. Diane Hecht will discuss stress versus wellbeing and recent research demonstrating the profound effects that thoughts and feelings have on our body chemistry. We will explore burn-out, ways to de-stress and to better care for ourselves. Please join us to increase your endorphins! All Library employees are encouraged to attend!

[Relax and de-stress reading list](#)

## Then and Now: Olin Library, 1961 to 2011

Speakers: Anne Kenney, University Librarian; Dean Krafft, Chief Technology Strategist  
2/4/2011 2:00-3:30pm, 2B48 Kroch

For a light-hearted review of the past 50 years and an eye-opening look into the future, please join us in a stimulating discussion of how Cornell University Library is weaving together its traditional strengths and cherished physical collections with new tools, services, collaborations, and capabilities to meet the evolving needs of teaching and scholarship at the start of the second decade of the 21st century. From catalog cards to cloud computing, from closed stacks to open access publishing, from punch cards to Flickr and the semantic web, come find out how the Cornell Library is putting all the pieces together to ensure that scholars have what they need today and what they will need 100 years from now.

*"This was great and made even more wonderful by the audience participation!"*

Audio recording and slides: <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/22273>

## Public Libraries/Academic Libraries: More alike than different?

Speaker: Susan Currie, Director, Tompkins County Public Library  
2/17/2011 2:00-3:30pm, 102 Mann Library

Think academic libraries and public libraries have nothing in common? While there are distinct differences, (communities served, services and programs), they are more alike than you might think (collections, online resources and dedication to service). After spending most of her career in academic libraries, Susan made the leap to a busy public library and has been taking note of the differences and the similarities ever since. Susan's talk will compare public and academic libraries and why public libraries are more important than ever.

Susan Currie became the Director of the Tompkins County Public Library in October 2009. Prior to coming to TCPL, she was Associate Director of University Libraries at Binghamton University (SUNY) from 2005 - 2009. Susan worked in the Cornell University Library for over 20 years beginning in the early 80's at Uris Library as the Head of Circulation and Reserve. From Uris, she went to Access Services in Olin Library and was Director of Resources and Planning for the Division of Instruction, Research and Information Services when she went to SUNY Binghamton. With nearly 31 years as a librarian, her professional background includes working in all areas of library operations, extensive experience in the design and implementation of innovative, high quality, user-centered services, collaborative leadership, personnel management, and project management.

Audio recording and slides: <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/22261>

## CUL Play Dates

Facilitators: Carla DeMello and Jessica Withers  
Multiple dates and locations

*"It was a lovely, positive experience."*

Join your coworkers for PLAY DATES as we explore our creative sides together through no-stress arts and crafts fun. Be creative, chat, and share time in a relaxing environment. Projects will be displayed (optional!) in March at the 2011 CUL Art/Talent/Culinary Extravaganza.

- all materials provided
- bring your imagination/creativity/fears/derring-do
- No experience or confidence necessary.

Register for as many play dates as you like; limit 10 participants at each session. Participants may stay for as little or as long as they like.

This program was also offered to five CUL units or teams.

## Print Circulation in Context: Findings of the Print Collection Usage Task Force and the Next Steps

Speakers: Rich Entlich, Kornelia Tancheva, Kizer Walker  
3/14/2011 | 1:30 - 3:00pm, 2B48 Kroch Library

The Task Force on Print Collection Usage, convened by CUL's Collection Development Executive Committee (CDExec), conducted a wide-ranging study of the use of print monographs in the Library's circulating collections, analyzing circulation data for recent acquisitions, as well as historical trends in collection use at Cornell, and considering the data in the context of the academic disciplines. The report of Task Force, which was made publicly available in the fall, provides data that may surprise about the proportion of CUL's print monograph collection that has and hasn't circulated. Evaluating a wealth of demographic data, the report also presents a picture of wide interdisciplinary use of the Library's books. The report has already garnered some national attention.

Three members of the Print Usage Task Force will present their findings and discuss progress to date on efforts to implement richer and more routine collection use analysis at CUL and to make the data useful for collection development and maintenance.

[Download slides](#) from the presentation  
[Download the full Task Force report](#)

## CUL Art/Talent show

3/23/2011, 11:30am-2pm  
Uris Cocktail Lounge

*"A highlight of each year."*

### PERFORMANCES:

- Anne Carson (Asia Collections), dance
- Jim Blake (Mann Library), voice
- Ed Weissman (Library Administration), guitar and voice
- Jessica Withers (Nestle Library), storytelling.

### ARTS AND CRAFTS:

- Linda Bryan, Library Human Resources. Medium: paper (Library Forum play date)
- Gaby Castro-Gessner, Library Research. Medium: paper (Library Forum play date)
- Roswitha Clark, CLO Cataloging & Metadata Services. Medium: watercolor & colored pencil
- Carla DeMello, Assessment & Communication. Medium: paper (Library Forum play date)
- Dianne Dietrich, Clark Physical Sciences Library. Medium: paper (modular origami inspired by mathematics)
- Chris Dunham, Veterinary Library. Medium: Ink & Paper with a Spattering of Prismacolor Markers
- Betsy Elswit, E-Resources & Serials. Medium: Woodcarving, Paper (Library Forum Play Date)
- Gwen Glazer, Assessment & Communication. Medium: Paper (Library Forum Play Date)
- Eileen Keating, Rare & Manuscript Collections. Medium: Paper (Library Forum Play Date)
- Zsuzsa Koltay, Assessment & Communication. Medium: Clay & Needlepoint Tapestry
- Cindy Lamb, Veterinary Library. Medium: Digital Photography

- Joanne Leary, Library Research. Medium: Paper, Feathers (Library Forum Play Date)
- Linda & Kevin Miller, Assessment & Communication. Medium: Digital Photography
- Liisa Mobley, E-Resources & Serials. Medium: Watercolor & Acrylic Paint
- Bronwyn Mohlke, Digital Media Group. Medium: Quilted Wallhanging
- Mafalda Moore, CLO Acquisitions. Medium: Photography & Mixed Media
- Jim Morris-Knower, Mann Library. Medium: Photography
- Leah Solla, Physical Sciences Library. Medium: Fiber
- Gail Steinhart, Mann Library. Medium: Fiber - Various
- Angie Wagner, ILR Catherwood Library. Medium: Quilting
- Ardeen White, CLO Cataloging. Medium: Mixed Media
- Jessica Withers, Hotel Library. Medium: Paper (Library Forum Play Date)

#### CULINARY DELIGHTS:

- Gaby Castro Gessner, Assessment & Communication
- Ana Guimaraes, RMC
- Tami Magnus, Library Administrative Operations
- Peter Magnus, Library Desktop Services
- Mary Beth Martini-Lyons, DLIT Digital Scholarship Services & IT
- Janet McCue, Library Administration
- Gail Steinhart, Mann Library
- Angie Wagner, ILR Catherwood Library

See photos and descriptions in the April 2011 [Kaleidoscope story](#).

## Why do students want to be in the library if they are not using the books?

Speaker: Susan Gibbons, Vice Provost and Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly Dean of River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester  
4/6/2011 | 11:00am - 12:30pm, 2B48 Kroch Library

Audio recording and slides: [<http://hdl.handle.net/1813/22625>]

*"I thought this was a great program, and stimulated a lot of discussion among colleagues both during and after the program."*

## Ergonomics for the Office - Desk/Computer Focus

Speaker: Todd Baker  
3:00pm-4:30pm, April 6th, 106 Olin Library and 10:00am-11:30am, April 12th, 160 Mann Library  
Co-sponsored by Library Human Resources

Todd will present Preventing Injury in the Office, an introduction to office ergonomics. This fun, interactive group session with supporting resources that will leave participants empowered to improve their personal and department workspaces. Topics will include:

- Ergonomic risk factors
- Human abilities and anthropometry
- Computing body mechanics principles

- Ergonomic seating
- Furniture, accessory demonstration
- Computer vision issues

General Bio: Todd Baker is Lead Ergonomics Consultant for the Cornell University [Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention Program \(MIPP\)](#). The MIPP provides ergonomics assessment, training and planning consultation to the Cornell community as a service of the Division of Human Resources, Benefit Services. Todd is Principal of Empowerment by Design, an Ithaca-based consulting firm specializing in ergonomics, accessibility and wellness services. He has presented nationally on office ergonomics and has worked extensively with Cornell Libraries on reducing the risk for injury in both office and book handling/processing work.

## Ergonomics for Book Handling/Physical Processing

Speaker: Todd Baker

10:45am-noon, April 5th, 160 Mann Library and 1pm-2:30pm, April 12th, 106 Olin Library

Co-sponsored by Library Human Resources

Awkward postures, repetition motion and forceful exertions increase the risk for work injury among library staff. This interactive, multimedia session will explore these ergonomics issues associated with collections maintenance tasks and identify strategies for reducing these risks. Specific body mechanics and personal protective principles will be discussed as they relate to the following:

- Back and lifting safety
- Book truck/cart handling
- Shelving
- Accessioning/processing

## Office Yoga

Presenters: Diane Fine and Bert Adams

June 14 – 11:30 – 12:30, 102 Mann Library and June 16 – 1:30 – 2:30, 106 Olin Library

Co-sponsored by Library Human Resources

*“Thanks - we needed this!”*

Does working all day ever leave your back, shoulders or neck stiff? Take a break, and participate in this excellent opportunity to learn a few twists and turns to relieve some of those aches and pains. Yoga can help ease many stresses and strains of everyday life, and now you can even do it while in your office. Come to this session and learn how to take care of yourself with this fun practice developed by Diane Fine and Bert Adams of the Cornell Fitness Centers. No previous knowledge of yoga is needed to gain the benefits of this nourishing and restorative practice. Every body can benefit from participating in this office yoga session, no matter your level of strength, flexibility, or mobility. Release yourself from the stresses of life with a few simple moves while at work.