

MLA: Future of Libraries Interest Group (August 2018)

Meeting Date & Location

08/06/2018 @ Howard County's ElkrIDGE Library

In Attendance

Conni Strittmatter, Sara Arnold, Dorothy Stoltz, Michael Blackwell, Anna White, Olivia Horvath, Alli Jessing, Ella Alonso, Annie Kovach, Maddie Hines, Michelle Harris, Jennifer Hopwood, Ashley Biggs (virtually)

MLA Annual

Feedback for Presenters

Is there a way for the speakers to get their feedback easily? Can FoLIG beta test digital/electronic feedback at MLA?

- Conni will email Tiffany Sutherland, Joe Thompson, and Margaret Carty to ask if FoLIG could possibly beta test electronic feedback
- FoLIG could have one session of each - digital vs paper
- Conni will see about getting a blank feedback form so we can test out a few digital feedback options.

Sessions to Sponsor

Lightning Talks - how do we want to propose/structure?

- We will write up a proposal for six lightning talks, 8 minutes each (time for some questions in the end)
 - Conni will write the objectives
 - Olivia will write the title and description

Another session - what do we want to do?

- Carson Block
- David Lee King from Topeka, KS
- Jennifer Hopwood will explore the availability for these two speakers as well as their cost.

CRAB Articles

The CRAB publishes quarterly rather than monthly. Options for article structure are:

- Highlights of each topic discussed in the quarter rather than a whole article for each
- Choose which topic is most interesting to cover and do an in depth article

- We will discuss more at the November meeting when we've had two more topic conversations and can decide the best way to move forward

FoLIG Site and Information in MLA's What's New

Conni will be sure to update information on the MDLIB website and inquire about the group's information being included in MLA Happenings

Group Discussion on Trends in Environment/Collections/Infrastructure

Overview by Michael Blackwell

Infrastructure:

1. Library spaces:
 - a. Trends in Library Interior Spaces/Design
 - i. http://www.demcointeriors.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Photo1-CCPL_Parma_Snow.jpg Designer Stephanie Shook discusses the direction modern libraries are going and the top library design trends.
 - ii. https://www.grimmandparker.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/5_Trends-in-Library-Design.pdf
 - iii. <http://blog.ki.com/5-design-strategies-to-transform-the-public-library>
 - b. Trends in architecture: <http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2018/02/the-architecture-of-libraries-in-contemporary-times/> and <https://prismpub.com/library-building-awards-recipient-reflect-new-trends-in-library-designs/> Library Building Awards recipients reflect new trends in library designs. Traditional roles of libraries are evolving. Today, libraries are designed with larger gathering spaces to support the needs of the community and many include sustainable features to conserve water or energy. Both of these trends are reflected by this year's AIA/ALA Library Building Award recipients.
 - c. The library as third space/Libraries Plus
 - i. W(h)ither the collection? http://www.slate.com/articles/life/design/2014/04/the_future_of_the_library_how_they_ll_evolve_for_the_digital_age.html Will Libraries Exist in the Future? If So, They'll Be Very Different.
 - ii. A trend in urban libraries--housing units with libraries: in Brooklyn <https://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/locations/brooklyn-heights/reconstruct> We're building a new library in Brooklyn Heights. In addition, as part of the project, 114 units of affordable housing will be built on two privately-owned sites in Community Board 2. And in San Francisco: <https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/how-library-systems-can-help-address-affordable-housing-crises>

- iii. Libraries in shopping centers, shopping centers in libraries: Right here at home: <http://rockvilletownsquare.com/at-the-square/library/> , in Salt Lake City <http://www.slcp.org/branches/view/Main+Library> , and
- iv. Libraries with museums <https://libwww.freelibrary.org/locations/the-rosenbach> And Culinary Institutes: <http://libwww.freelibrary.org/programs/culinary/>
- v. Meeting rooms as Exercise Centers: <https://theoutline.com/post/5409/library-exercise-programs-chair-yoga-pilates-tai-chi> Libraries are filling an affordable fitness void, providing yoga and tai chi classes for communities that need them.

2. <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-biz-office-napping-20180608-story.html>

Office napping climbs out from under the desk and into high-tech pods: napping is encouraged in specially designed pods and break rooms as a way to recharge sleep-deprived employees and increase productivity.

3. Workspace design:

- a. https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/07/18/open-office-plans-are-bad-you-thought/?utm_term=.6762f6c73820&tid=sm_tw
Open office plans are as bad as you thought-- Washington Post
Open offices are supposed to spark conversation. This study shows they lead to more email -- and people avoiding each other.
- b. <https://www.cim.com/cire-magazine/articles/10-trends-office-design/?gmSsoPc=1>
10 Trends in Office Design: These Changes Will Affect How Companies Buy and Use Space
- c. <https://www.smallbizdaily.com/flexible-office-space-modern-office-trend/>
Why a Flexible Office Space is the New Modern Office Trend: the ongoing debate over which office floor plan is better, more efficient, and more productive: the open-plan office or the cubicle farm
- d. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/sarahlandrum/2017/05/19/3-office-design-trends-driven-by-millennials/#45ead6537600>
3 Office Design Trends Driven By Millennials: Since we can do work from anyplace, it makes sense that the places we choose should reflect our personalities in some way, be pleasant to look at, and be conducive to concentration and focus
- e. <http://blog.cushwake.com/americas/coworking-space-in-2018.html>
Things You Should Know About Co-working Space in 2018: A transformative change has taken place in recent years – with the concept of co-working evolving from an alternative to a traditional office lease

4. The pop-up library:

- a. Taking it to the streets: <http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2017/09/pop-up-libraries-meeting-patrons-where-they-are/>
- b. The MakerSpace in a Shipping Container: <https://www.dclibrary.org/labs/fablab>
- c. Taking the collection outside the library-- Book-O-Mat Grand Opening: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-NPTNHOWo0>

- d. The fold-up home: <https://twitter.com/CNET/status/1019839254480982016>
- 5. ASL Store: <https://www.dailydot.com/irl/starbucks-signing-store/>
The Daily Dot: Starbucks is opening its first U.S. store designed for the deaf and hard of hearing; The store will be staffed entirely by people fluent in ASL.
- 6. Small Libraries Create Smart Spaces: <https://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/smart-spaces.html>
- 7. Makerspaces:
 - a. <https://designerlibrarian.wordpress.com/2014/09/17/designing-makerspaces-for-learning/> Designing Makerspaces for Learning: Makerspaces are a big trend in libraries right now. That's a good thing because they do offer new ways of supporting critical 21st century skills (e.g. critical thinking, problem solving, digital literacy, design thinking). However, when makerspaces aren't intentionally designed with learning in mind, they risk becoming more fad than trend.
- 8. Multi-sensory rooms overview: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VIGmFNJIn-Etb5MOuaCelzXWHZlp1avE/view?usp=sharing>
- 9. Bring on the Gender Neutral Restrooms: <https://qz.com/work/1279876/gender-neutral-parenting-aims-to-blow-up-stereotypes-from-birth/> Parents who refuse to call their newborns "girls" or "boys" are leading the gender revolution: "I'm hesitant to put my child in a box."
- 10. What is the future of circulation services?
 - a. It might be this: <https://www.cnet.com/news/microsoft-is-reportedly-taking-on-amazon-with-checkout-free-retail/> Microsoft may be creating checkout-free retail technology to compete with Amazon Go.
 - b. But be careful of this: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/26/technology/amazon-aclu-facial-recognition-congress.html> Amazon's Facial Recognition Wrongly Identifies 28 Lawmakers, A.C.L.U. Says; the errors emerged as part of a test by the A.C.L.U. that compared the photos of all federal lawmakers against a database of 25,000 publicly available mug shots.

Environment

- 1. <https://twitter.com/CNET/status/1019907201052364800>
When a street address isn't enough—this platform may be built into your next car
- 2. <https://www.bostonglobe.com/ideas/2012/02/11/future-everything-will-coffee-shop/1MAJIMp1Zigeiz40aiSEOM/story.html>

In the future, everything will be a coffee shop - The Boston Globe

The coffee shop is an irreplaceable gathering place, a fact that is not lost on businesses and institutions that are struggling.

3. <https://www.apartmenttherapy.com/ikea-sustainability-zero-waste-2030-recycle-products-259562>

IKEA Announces Plans to Become "Planet Positive" by 2030: IKEA wants to make it easier for people to reduce their climate impact and become zero waste.

4. Smart Cities:

- a. Baltimore: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-city/bs-md-baltimore-smart-cities-tech-20180712-story.html>

Baltimore Sun: Free WiFi, public safety key to turning Baltimore into a 'smart city,' residents say; Armed with a National Science Foundation grant and a list of questions, University of Maryland, College Park researchers went to West Baltimore and asked residents what the city's future looks like.

- b. Elsewhere: Smart Cities--the wave of the future, even without government funding?: <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/26/fact-sheet-announcing-over-80-million-new-federal-investment-and>

- c. Monitoring the Monitors: <https://www.wired.com/story/mit-urban-sciences-program/>

WIRED-- Cities Are Watching You—Urban Sciences Graduates Watch Back: American Wi-Fi networks, smart traffic lights, security cameras, cell phones, and vehicles are throwing off truckloads of data. A new program at MIT (and others like it) teaches students to handle it in ways that make residents' lives better.

5. Re-use and re-build rather than adding more:

- a. <https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2018/5/7/the-more-we-build-the-poorer-we-get> The more we build, the poorer we get; If you want your community to prosper, stop building new infrastructure.
- b. https://cdn.citylab.com/media/img/citylab/2018/07/AP_17340781131488/facebook.jpg?1532617139 How Vacancy Traumatizes Cities; As empty homes sit in purgatory, neighborhoods fray and cities are left to pick up the bill.

6. Going Green, like it or not

- a. <https://www.fastcompany.com/90204411/a-simple-solution-to-help-cities-fight-overheating-more-trees> A simple solution to help cities fight overheating: more trees
- b. Um, are you SURE that's fake news? What, if anything, does it mean for Maryland? https://motherboard.vice.com/en_us/article/wjbbm5/antarctic-ice-sheet-melting-3-trillion-sea-level-rise The Antarctic Ice Sheet Has Lost 3 Trillion Tons of Ice Since 1992; Scientists found that the rate of ice loss is accelerating, threatening coastal cities if sea levels rise.

7. A new idea for of museum: (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/28/arts/design/a-new-home-ready-made-for-art.html?rref=collection%2Fsectioncollection%2Fdesign>) Swiss Institute Has a

New Home Ready-Made for Art: Devoted to experimental work by emerging artists, the Institute is now in the chill East Village, with a forward-thinking mission.

8. The Trend Towards Local: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/31/dining/grocery-store.html>
The Freshest Ideas Are in Small Grocery Stores - The New York Times. As big supermarkets struggle, a new crop of local groceries is innovating to serve niche audiences and advance social causes.
9. Net Neutrality—time to be our own ISPs?
https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/aclu_municipal_broadband_report.pdf
10. Some changes in views. driven by concerns about accuracy and social justice: perhaps only “Environment” in only the broadest sense.
 - a. Are libraries shifting a traditional stance on the First Amendment, with Meeting Rooms being a focus: Look [here](#) and [here](#) (note-will have to log into ALA to see links)
 - b. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/25/technology/tech-companies-facebook-twitter-responsibility.html>
11. Can we/should we create content for these platforms? <https://digiday.com/media/news-publishers-smart-speakers-hot-new-platform/> For news publishers, smart speakers are the hot new platform; Companies including The New York Times and NPR are staffing up as they try to figure out how their editorial voice will sound on smart speakers.
12. A quick way to do augmented reality: <https://studio.hpreveal.com/landing>
13. Three-D Printers
 - a. Vote yes! <https://www.wired.com/story/ideas-jason-pontin-3d-printing/> 3-D Printing Is the Future of Factories (for Real This Time); A technology that for years has been good for making prototypes and tchotchkes promises to usher in a new industrial revolution.
 - b. Maybe with some qualifications: <https://www.cnet.com/news/the-3d-printed-gun-controversy-everything-you-need-to-know/>

Collections:

1. Collection (and staffing trends): <http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2017/12/the-2017-public-library-data-service-report-characteristics-and-trends/>
2. Publishers Backsliding on e-books-- Statements from ALA and CULC on Tor/Macmillan widening library e-books: <http://www.readersfirst.org/news/2018/7/19/statements-from-ala-and-canadian-urban-library-council>

3. <https://qz.com/1240924/are-ebooks-dying-or-thriving-the-answer-is-yes/> Are e-books dying or thriving? The answer is yes. Self-publishing is a shadow industry that obscures any hope of understanding book publishing today.

Post Overview Discussion:

Led by Dorothy Stoltz

What is an insight from the information we've gathered for this week? Something that can inform the work we're doing?

- Access models of the library, especially when we choose to emulate retail space. This effects how searching happens. People might be more used to accessing materials in retail spaces, but what does it mean for libraries (which provide a very different service than retail stores) to try to emulate the same physical access and searching? Does it do good or harm to emulate retail models when our service is different?
- It's different to be inspired by or take an idea from, but we need to focus on how to apply that idea to libraries. What inspired us might look different when applied in library spaces.
- Creating the Customer Driven Library (book from ALA) about building on the book store model. Libraries who embraced and ran with it, worked really well in terms of physical space. Doesn't work well in promoting digital content and growing libraries outside of our own box. We need to be our own drivers, fight our own way, make a path for libraries (don't just copy others)
- Many of these changes have already muddled what libraries are. Many see us as the technology people. How do we remain afloat when we don't circulate materials and that is how we define ourselves?
- How do we shift our focus to impact rather than statistics? Are we improving Kindergarten readiness? What measurable things can we focus on.
- Can we be the same thing for everyone? How will that effect the definition of libraries overall when we are all changing in different ways depending on the community?
- How will co-location change the face of libraries? Will that create blurred lines? How do we keep them separate but in the same space? How does the community shape the changes of the library? NYPL has hired 60 teachers rather than librarians. How will these changes change our staffing?
- Outreach and taking the library to where people are. What do you give up in your physical space to send staff to outreach?

- How else are libraries being used and how can we tie our programming and space into that? Early voting? Do a voter registration drive. Really listen to what people are asking us about what libraries can do and adapt to those needs.
- Glenwood branch has multiple service group centers on the same “Campus.” It makes outreach very seamless. It’s more than the door count, it’s about engagement. Figuring out how to trade value system from numbers to value added to a person’s experience
- Focusing on the accessibility “pillar” of librarianship. A lot of staff training to create barrier free, adaptable, universal spaces.
- Will we start seeing more smaller spaces rather than fewer BIG monster branches?

What have we learned so far? What will this mean for us moving forward? What are some priorities? What do we want to share?

- **How do we adapt existing spaces?** Many libraries won’t have the budget to create new spaces to match these future trends. What are some localized adaptations that can retrofit older spaces?
 - Repaint a space in a sensor friendly color
 - Flexible shelving instead of building a whole new space for easier changes over time
- **Being aware of various populations** as we consider accessibility. Keep the definition of accessibility open to evolve
- **Serving the whole family.** We currently have a lot of spaces separated by service area when the whole family might need to use the space together.
- We have a lot of competition - amazon, google, subscription services with immediate access. **We need to be in the conversation that evolves digital content.** There are no models that fully suit us as libraries.
 - Accessibility with digital collections are going down when we focus on these streaming services - they are missing the audio/caption features that are so important for many customers. So we’re stuck with spending extreme amounts of money on these copies (\$300 for one copy when a customer can buy for \$15). Without bargaining with the publishers, we will lose the greater accessibility we focus so much on.
- **Outreach - going into the community is necessary to reach many under reached areas.** This requires mobile units to get full services out on the road.
 - With content ubiquitously available, we can’t sit back and wait for people to come to us. We can offer spaces for people to use (that is important to the community), but we need to go to them with our content. Use our physical space for physical space, match our content with these other services by bringing the content to the people.

Meeting Structure Discussion

The group liked the way Dorothy and Michael led the meeting – a summary of the articles submitted by category, followed by discussion of what our priorities should be.

We will identify 3-5 priorities at the end of each discussion.

Each group's leads will collate a good example (from the articles, or new articles) of each priority identified, then identify how we can apply it to Maryland libraries. **This will provide the basis of lightning talks and articles.**

Updated Group Leads:

Workforce (Leadership, advocacy, library education) - October

James Donaldson, Cindy Pol, Annie Kovach

Technology - January

Ella Alonso, Maddie Hines, Michelle Harris, Jennifer Hopwood

Lifelong Learning (partnerships & programming) - November

Allie Jessing, Sara Arnold, Ashley Biggs

Infrastructure (environment, collection, & spaces) - August

Michael Blackwell, Dorothy Stoltz

Politics & Economics - December

Conni Strittmatter, Tracy Miller

Community (demographics) - September

Anna White, Olivia Horvath

September 4th is in Eldersburg, Carroll County