

NJLA Professional Development Committee Minutes

Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 2 p.m.

Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82720112519?pwd=-kwdxNtFwbkLQ0e9k1GRcygLvUBD6T.1>

Meeting ID: 827 2011 2519 / passcode: 277922

Phone access: +1 309 205 3325. One tap mobile: +13092053325,,82720112519#,,,,*277922#

Start: 2:00pm

Attendance: Eric Schwarz, Neil Grimes, Lisa Thorton, Katie Kotacska, Kate Mathe, Lisa Bruckman, Sarah Mason, Susan Vignuolo

Planned absences: Bonnie Lafazan.

1. **Welcome and introductions.**
2. Acceptance of May 24 minutes
3. NJLA Conference experience
 - a. Thursday, June 1, 2023 - 11:00am to 11:50am: Early Career Librarians: Building a Sustainable Career. Presenter(s): Carina Gonzalez, Piscataway Public Library; Katie Kotacska, Middletown Public Library; Bonnie Lafazan, Springfield Free Public Library; Sarah Mason, Westminster Choir College at Rider University; Lorri Steinbacher, Ridgewood Public Library; Lisa Thornton, Seton Hall University. Panel went really well and had great feedback from attendees. Susan attended Jumping through Hoopla and found it really eye-opening. Conference website should be up today and Kate confirmed that it should be. Available for only a limited time, so act now! According to Kate, it will be up for 60 days approximately past the conference date.
 - b. Friday, June 2, 2023 - 2:10pm to 3:00pm: Addressing Digital Equity at New Jersey Public Libraries. Presenters: Will Porter, Sussex County Library System; Rich Loomis, Somerset County Library System; Doug Baldwin, Piscataway Public Library. Co-sponsored with Emerging Technologies Section.
 - c. Kate conducted a poster session at the conference, on the NJLA internship program.
4. Intern Program / Leadership and Education Subcommittee - Kate Mathe / Katie
Kate learned more about the other committees during her intern program. Kate felt she got a lot out of her internship. This encouraged her to join the PD Committee and be more involved next year.
5. Surveys: Katie
 - a. June - marketing: The **NJLA Professional Development Committee** is seeking feedback on your library's advertising and marketing activities. Please fill out the survey [here](#) by **June 30th**. We'd like to understand what's working and what's not in order to develop programs in the future outside of the annual conference. Thank you in advance for taking this survey. For any other questions or comments, please e-mail us at professionaldevelopment@njlamembers.org
 - b. Survey updates-

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- c. Future surveys:
 - i. Funding/Grant related problems for all libraries (for all NJLA members).
 - ii. Kate is working with Cassie Collucci on a survey for emerging leaders. Sent draft to Cassie Collucci, now in Cassie's hands.

6. **New Librarian Series:** Katie
 - a. Katie is working with Jessica Trujillo to develop this panel.
 - b. Katie met with Jessica last week to discuss the New Librarian Series for youtube. "We came up with some ideas on how to organize it and we are currently putting together the official list and dates of each segment that will be recorded for youtube."
 - c. As of April 11, planned panelists were:
 - i. Jennifer Salt (Children's Librarian), Middletown Public Library:
 - ii. Marissa Hall (Former Medical Librarian, now Teen Librarian), Middletown Public Library
 - iii. Neil Grimes, Education & Curriculum Materials Librarian at David and Lorraine Cheng Library at William Paterson University
 - iv. David Williams, Digital Initiative & Special Collections Librarian at William Paterson University
 - v. Christine Anderson (Former school librarian, now Adult Reference Librarian), Middletown Public Library
 - vi. Carina Gonzalez (Former School & Academic Librarian), Librarian at Piscataway Public Library
 - vii. Jennifer Baxmeyer (Assistant University Librarian for Metadata Services), Princeton University Library
 - viii. JiHae Ju (Head of Access Services at Princeton Public Library): (15 years in reference and electronic resources before she was promoted to head of technical services)
 - ix. Annalise Berdini (Digital Archivist), Princeton University Library

7. Professional development (training) videos
 - a. Question from a staff member at the Little Falls Public Library: "Is there a section on your website where you offer professional development /continuing education videos."
 - b. We have this page: [Professional Development Webinars and Other Training Events: Upcoming and Archived](#) (includes WebJunction suggested by Katie)
 - c. Any other sources (maybe someone can take over editing the page listed above, and the related page [Professional Development Links](#))

8. Newsletter future - partnership with LibraryLinkNJ (LLNJ) (Susan, Eric).
[See separate document here.](#)

Eric has maintained the newsletter for many years and wanted to partner with someone since it has become too difficult to run ourselves. We reached out to LLNJ and they agreed to partner with us so we will have a column in their newsletter. We can include

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articles and other professional development updates and news. It will be promoted through the NJLA office. Susan wrote the categories we normally included in the PD newsletter to be included in the LLNJ newsletter. Discussion to be started about what will be included for next year. We are looking for each member of the PD Committee to write one article a year. Will include content on a monthly basis to include in the LLNJ newsletter.

9. LLNJ (other than newsletter) (Bonnie, Eric)
 - a. Liaison to PD Committee: Darby could attend Aug. 23.
 - b. **LibraryLinkNJ's** third annual one-day virtual conference is scheduled for **September 27!** This year's conference theme is Literacy - a topic that remains at the heart of library service, even as it grows and expands to encompass increasingly wider skill-sets and mediums. The [Program Proposal Form](#) is open for the opportunity to join us as a conference presenter by **July 14**. We're seeking a wide variety of presentations on any and all types of literacy. Questions? Darby Malvey, darby@librarylinknj.org.
 - c. Other upcoming programs are listed on the [LLNJ calendar](#).
 - d. [LearningSpace](#)- possible article to write about this for the newsletter? Eric may have volunteered for it (haha). He agreed to look at it.
 - e. Lisa Bruckman might attend the LibrarylinkNJ virtual conference and review it for the newsletter.
10. Website updates (Eric)
 - a. Photos/conference experience
 - b. [Minutes](#)
 - c. [Update of newsletter area](#), to list URL for LLNJ newsletters and explanation of collaboration.
 - d. [Committee leadership](#): Will NJLA Office update this, or send the list to us to post?
11. **Core competencies/library job titles -**
 - a. [Professional Competencies document](#) (65 pages). Finished and being reviewed. Permanent home is NJLA Education and Resources page.
 - b. Deb is doing extensive editing and will continue to work on it with Rosary and Lisa. Deb will send the latest version to Eric to place on the PD Google Shared Drive.
 - c. Possibly put it on our NJLA website under continuing education and resources.
12. **PD programs / speaker fund - Eric**
 - a. No funding requests since previous meeting (\$2K a year total outside of conference). Katie is planning the librarians panel (listed above) as a PD event. Still coordinating with Jessica on the format, date, etc. Eric sent Katie the login information for the NJLA YouTube account. However, Katie would need to coordinate with Karen or Brett at NJLA to get past the two-factor authentication.

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- b. Debunking Misinformation Program- Carina wants to create a program for library workers that Brett sent her information about regarding how to debunk misinformation and wanted to know if the PD Program would be interested in helping create one. Eric is working with Carina on this, perhaps in one or multiple sessions. Susan and Katie are interested in working on this program as well.

13. Updates from other NJLA committees/sections/task forces

- a. NJLA meetings are listed on the [calendar](#).
- b. Email Ashley Mitchell (amitchell@camdencountylibrary.org) if you want to help edit the [D&O PD Calendar](#).

14. Updates from NJLA Executive Board

- a. On **July 5th** at 7pm, join us for an [Overview of NJLA](#). NJLA is in the midst of a historic period of growth and change. Meet **Brett Bonfield**, who began working as NJLA's Executive Director in March. He will talk about plans for making the organization more responsive to its members, a more effective advocate for New Jersey Libraries, and a more dynamic resource for library workers and the communities we serve.

15. Training programs - Katie/Carina

Carina recommends for the PD Committee to take over training (Leadership orientation, Training for board members, Training for administrators/directors). Katie is open to discussing the topic of training and looking at this more during future meetings.

- 16. **Zoom administration** - Eric: The PD Committee (Bonnie or Eric) is responsible for setting up Zoom meeting links for all sections and committees of NJLA. This is manageable, but if/when NJLA gets more staff, maybe it can be a staff function.

- 17. **Statewide Library Marketing Campaign:** The *New Jersey State Library*, *LibraryLinkNJ*, the *New Jersey Library Association*, and *Libraries Are Essential*, are excited to launch a statewide marketing [campaign](#) that can be used on-demand and customized for your library. We've created downloadable graphics and videos, that you can easily post and share via your networks. This marketing campaign is designed to speak to the various "user personas" who may or may not know what the library has to offer. **Life happens** at the library, and we want to remind some – and introduce others – to this reality. We plan to drop new content on an ongoing basis, so stay tuned!

18. WPU Research Survey - Neil

If you are a Spanish-speaking library worker we need your help! **Neil Grimes** from **William Paterson University** is interested in conducting a statewide research study to look at services for Spanish-speaking populations in New Jersey. If you would be interested in working with us on this research study, please email Neil at grimesn@wpunj.edu. Further information will be provided to all that are interested in being a part of this research team.

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19. Recommended reading: Neil

- a. Neil's recent book chapters (APA Citations):
 - i. Grimes, N., Innes, G. R., & Salvesen, L. M. (2023). How Libraries Support the Mental Health and Wellness Needs of Communities and Library Workers. In *Perspectives and Considerations on Navigating the Mental Healthcare System* (pp. 78-109). IGI Global.
 - ii. Grimes, N., & Burchell, A. (2023). USING BITMOJI® AND GOOGLE CLASSROOM® TO SUPPORT REMOTE LITERACY INSTRUCTION IN HIGH-NEEDS SCHOOLS. *Digital Learning in High-Needs Schools: A Critical Approach to Technology Access and Equity in PreK-12*, 179-198.
- b. Colegrove, T. (2022). *Selecting and Implementing Technologies in Libraries: A Primer*. Rowman & Littlefield.
- c. Varnum, K. J. (2019). *Beyond reality: Augmented, virtual, and mixed reality in the library*. American Library Association.

20. PD Committee for 2023-2024 (Katie)

- a. Leadership (Chair: Katie. Vice Chair: Susan).
- b. Members finishing their terms or not continuing
- c. New members
- d. Meeting schedule

21. Adjournment: 3:07 p.m.

2022-2023 committee members:

Deborah Fagnan (Sussex County Library), Jill Faherty (South Orange Public Library), Neil Grimes (William Paterson University Library), Jane Jiang (Union College Library), Katherine Kotacska (Middletown Public Library), Bonnie Lafazan (Springfield Public Library), Sarah Mason (Westminster Choir College Rider University), Barbara Pickell (Red Bank Public Library), Eric Schwarz (Clarence Dillon Public Library, NJ Department of Transportation Research Library), Lorri Steinbacher (Ridgewood Public Library), Seth Stephens (Jefferson Township Public Library), Lisa Thornton (Seton Hall University Library), Rosary Van Ingen (Hoboken Public Library), Susan Vignuolo (Piscataway Public Library).

Intern: Kate Mathe (Rutgers student, Mendham Borough Library).

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Last Name	First Name	Library	Email	Position	Current Term Starts	Current Term Ends	Previous Terms Served
Fagnan	Deborah	Sussex County library system	dfagnan@sussexcountylibrary.org		2021	2023	
Grimes	Neil	William Paterson University	grimesn@wpunj.edu	Co-Chair	2022	2023	
Kotacska	Katherine	Middletown Public Library	kkotacska@mtpl.org	Vice Chair	2021	2023	
Mason	Sarah	Westminster Choir College Rider University	smason@rider.edu		2021	2023	
Pickell	Barbara	Red Bank Public Library	bj49nj@yahoo.com		2021	2023	
Schwarz	Eric	Clarence Dillon Public Library	eschwarz@dillonlibrary.org	Co-Chair	2022	2023	Yes
Stephens	Seth	Jefferson Township Public Library	seth.stephens@jtpl.mainlib.org		2021	2023	
Thornton	Lisa	Scotch Plains Public Library	lthornton@scotlib.org		2021	2023	
Van Ingen	Rosary	Hoboken Public Library	rosary.vaningen@hoboken.bccls.org		2021	2023	
Faherty	Jill	South Orange Public Library	jpeacock.librarian@gmail.com		2022	2024	
Jiang	Yu	Union College Library	yu.jiang@ucc.edu		2022	2024	
Lafazan	Bonnie	Springfield Public Library	blafazan@springfieldpubliclibrary.com		2022	2024	
Steinbacher	Lorri	Ridgewood Public Library	lsteinbacher@ridgewoodlibrary.org		2022	2024	
Vignuolo	Susan	Rutgers University	susan.vignuolo@rutgers.edu		2022	2024	
Trujillo	Jessica	Edison Public Library	president@njlamembers.org	NJLA President		ex officio	

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Gonzalez	Carina	Piscataway Public Library	librariancarina@gma il.com	NJLA VP/President- Elect		ex officio	
Bonfield	Brett	NJLA	njladirector@njla.org	NJLA ED		ex officio	
Becker	Cynthia			Conference		ex officio	