



NO. 86 | SPRING 2021

# WLA ALD/ACRL-WA NEWSLETTER

Washington State Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries  
Washington Library Association Academic Library Division

## CONTENTS

### MEET AMY THIELEN

- Message from  
ALD/ACRL-WA Steering  
Committee Chair

### CONFERENCE REPORT

- "Amigos" Inspires  
Teamwork to Meet  
Equity Goals

### CAMPUS NEWS

- Highline College Library
- Olympic College
- Spokane Falls Community  
College

### Meet Amy Thielen ALD/ACRL-WA Steering Committee Chair

My name is Amy Thielen and I'm this year's ALD/ACRL-WA steering committee chair. I work for the Holland & Terrell Libraries' Access Services department at Washington State University in Pullman. My main job responsibilities are training Access Services' student employees, including creating training videos, and working in resource sharing, primarily Interlibrary Loan.



## Message From the Chair, Amy Thielen

Hello ALD/ACRL-WA members,

As we reach the end of May and the halfway point of 2021, I wanted to share some updates from this year's ALD/ACRL-WA steering committee. In September 2020, ACRL-WA merged with the Washington Library Association and WLA's academic library division (ALD) officially became ALD/ACRL-WA. The 2021 steering committee is the first, singular steering committee for the newly merged ALD/ACRL-WA and is comprised of previous ALD steering committee and ACRL-WA board members as well as members new to the steering committee. Currently, the steering committee has members from four -year public and private institutions, community colleges, and MLIS/MLS programs. Through the first half of the year, we have appointed additional positions to the steering committee, including a communications manager, member-at-large, and student representative. In April, ALD/ACRL-WA cosponsored WLA's workshop series, "The Journey to Becoming an Anti-Racist Organization," which was attended by representatives of the steering committee.

We also helped coordinate panelists for the recent WLA Career Lab panel, "So You Want to Work in Academic Libraries?," which our vice chair/chair elect Caitlan Maxwell and secretary Lydia Bello served as moderator and chat moderator, respectively.

In the second half of 2021, the steering committee has plans to coordinate relevant virtual programming and offer engagement opportunities for members. ALD/ACRL-WA is planning to offer and highlight webinars for members and host a one-day virtual "summit" with ACRL-OR later in the fall. We hope that next year, ALD/ACRL-WA and ACRL-OR members will be able to meet again in person for the annual joint conference. The steering committee wants to hear your feedback, suggestions, ideas, or questions for the division/chapter and you'll have a chance to do that at our upcoming drop-in Zoom sessions (More information regarding dates and times coming soon! **See Page 4 for more details.**).

Even if you weren't able to submit an article for our Spring newsletter, you won't have to wait until the Fall newsletter to share news or updates from your library. Our communications manager Rhonda Kitchens has ideas to share updates, news, and events from your libraries through ALD/ACRL-WA's social media platforms throughout the year and coordinate possible engagement opportunities, such as podcasts. You can send your article submissions or ideas to Rhonda at [rhondak@bigbend.edu](mailto:rhondak@bigbend.edu)

We hope you enjoy the ALD/ACRL-WA Spring newsletter,

*Amy Thielen*

ALD/ACRL-WA 2021 Steering Committee Chair



**Send your article submissions, events, staff changes, awards, and other content to Rhonda at [rhondak@bigbend.edu](mailto:rhondak@bigbend.edu)**

## Conference Report: "Amigos" Inspires Teamwork to Meet Equity Goals

In Winter 2020, our Bellevue College Librarian team decided that we wanted to use our professional development budget funds to purchase a group registration so that the entire team could attend an online conference. In this time of COVID, quarantine, and working-from-home, it has been important for us to surface both professional development and team building opportunities, and this activity provided both. We chose to attend the Amigos Library Services conference, *Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Libraries: Progress and Promise* on December 2, 2020. This conference was an excellent fit for our library development because we are committed to rethinking many of our policies and procedures vis-a-vis an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) lens in the 2020-2021 academic year and beyond.

Amigos is a not-for-profit membership-based organization with a mission to serve libraries. They offer various professional development and continuing education opportunities.

In general, the librarians who attended this one-day, fully online conference found the content to be librarian driven, relevant, and high quality. Librarians attended sessions on topics such as assessing collections for racial equity, creating trans-inclusive library spaces, identifying bias in the catalog, and revising library policies to promote equity and inclusion.



Our team discussed the conference content on our Microsoft Teams channel, and in a follow up Teams meeting. By discussing the conference content, we were able to put some of our learnings into direct action. For example, after several librarians attended the session on transgender inclusion, we decided to make a small but immediate improvement to our library staff page: our Systems Librarian offered the option for library staff and faculty to share their pronouns on this public facing directory. We hope to make more positive changes going forward, and credit Amigos with giving us lots of good ideas.

--Chloe Horning, Social Science Liaison Librarian, Bellevue College Library



**For More Information: <https://www.amigos.org/>**

*Membership Meeting*  
*Tuesday June 22 from 11 am – 12 pm*

After the successful merger of ACRL-WA with the Academic Library Division of WLA last fall, the Steering Committee of ALD/ACRL-WA has been busy establishing this newly merged division to support academic and research library workers in the state.

Members of the Steering Committee will be hosting three drop-in Membership Meetings in the summer and fall focused on answering your questions about what has happened since the merger and new opportunities for getting involved with the new ALD/ACRL-WA! [Use this Zoom link.](#)

*Lydia Bello, Seattle University*

## **Follow us on Social Media**



[WLA ALD/ACRL-WA](#)



[@ACRLWA](#)



## CAMPUS NEWS

### Highline College Library

#### New Media Literacy Canvas Module

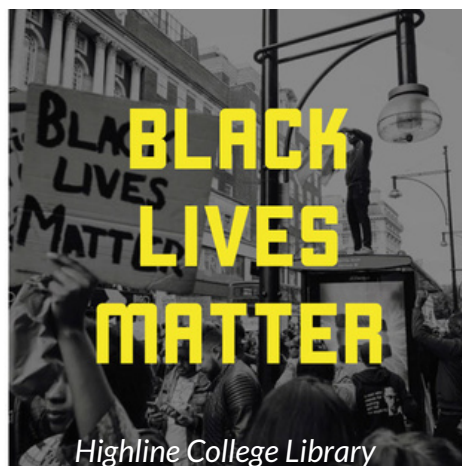
Reference librarian Deb Moore received a Highline College Teaching & Learning Enhancement grant to revise the Media Literacy Canvas module (available in Canvas Commons), and transform the Evaluating Internet Sources Canvas module into a [Library Guide](#) based on the [CCOW LibGuide](#) created by Anthony Tardiff of Foley Library at Gonzaga University.



#### Virtual Outreach Programs

- Highline librarians Sam Sermeño, Monica Twork, and Karen Fernandez, along with library director Gerie Ventura, have been developing a new outreach program to build a virtual campus community while the physical campus remains closed. [Highline Reads/Storytime](#) is a guest reader program spotlighting campus and community readers sharing favorite stories with campus.

Readers have included multilingual faculty and staff, along with student cultural affinity groups, such as the Umoja Black Scholars Program, the Arabic Club, and Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) students.



Highline College Library

#### Abolition LibGuide

[Abolition libguide](#) - This guide (adapted from Northwestern University's [Abolition Guide](#)) supports Highline College's [Unity Through Diversity Week 2021](#) theme, Abolition as Healing: Liberating our CommUNITY. This research guide provides resources for understanding, researching, teaching, advocating for, and practicing abolition in our contemporary moment.

An international movement—from Chicago to Lagos to Palestine—this guide mainly focuses on abolition in the American context. Included in this guide are links to abolitionist organizations, toolkits and study guides, journals and research databases, art and writing by incarcerated folks, community-based resources for alternatives to calling the police, and additional resources on campus and in the local area.

#### Anti-Racist LibGuide

- [Anti-racist libguide](#) - Developed by a coalition of librarians, the [Anti-racist libguide](#) is designed to share anti-racist resources and expand anti-racism work within Highline College and our community. The guide includes readings, media, solidarity actions, information on Juneteenth and Black Minds Matter, and racial justice for Asian Pacific Islander Americans.



## CAMPUS NEWS (Cont'd)

### *Olympic College*

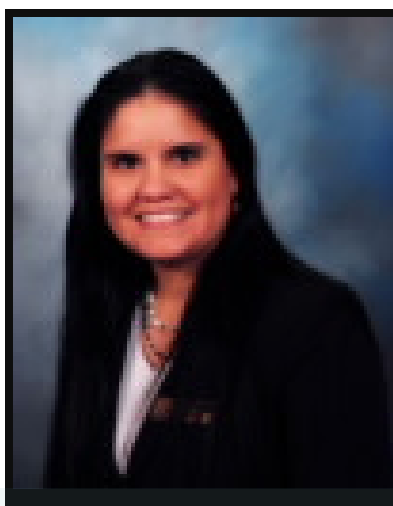


*Dianne Carey*

Dianne Carey is retiring from Olympic College on August 31, 2021. She has been a full-time library faculty member since 1992. She received a BA in Art History from Western Washington University and a MLibr from the University of Washington. Along with her colleague, Heather Newcomer, she developed a new 2-credit course titled "Fighting Misinformation." She has also maintained the OC Libraries Digital Archives. She is looking forward to having more time to hike, volunteer at the Cascadia Art Museum, and play with her grandsons.

### *Spokane Falls Community College*

Spokane Falls Community College Library is proud to announce they have recently hired two full time library staff members, Gaby Arroyo and Vickie Denz. Gaby and Vickie are welcomed additions and are already integral members of the SFCC library team.



*Gaby Arroyo*

Gaby Arroyo was hired in November 2020 as the Library Circulation Supervisor. Gaby shares: "My career in librarianship started as a work-study student while earning my Associate of Life Science degree at Eastern Oklahoma State College in Southeastern Oklahoma.

"After graduating from EOSC, I started full-time employment there as an Assistant to the Library Director/Business Manager. During this time, I developed my passion for working in a library and serving students. After working for 10 years in higher education, I decided to hone my professional skills and expand my horizons by moving to Nevada to work in a public library.

I worked for more than two years at the Humboldt County Public Library in Winnemucca, Nevada as the Library Specialist. In this role, I designed, implemented, coordinated, and assessed outreach efforts, programming, classes, and workshops for Humboldt County. My work centered on attracting patrons to the library and designing programs to best meet the community's needs.

While working as a Library Specialist in Humboldt County, I decided to further my education by completing classes to earn a Library Science Certificate from the University of Nevada Reno. I am always trying to figure out new ways to attract patrons to the library and make it a welcoming place for all."

## CAMPUS NEWS (Cont'd)

### *Spokane Falls Community College*

Vickie Denz was promoted to full-time Library Technician in April 2021.

Vickie shares: "I have lived in Washington since 1972. I graduated from SFCC with my AAS in 2019. I have loved libraries since I first stepped foot in one. Growing up in a very small town left me wondering about the world outside, so reading was my escape.

Books took me places I wanted to go to and stories fed my growing brain with ideas and possibilities.

Unfortunately, I didn't think to work in a library until 5 years ago. How could I not have thought of it sooner? I've been here at the SFCC library for the past year and a half and I love it here. The people here are amazing. I am so happy to be here!"



Vickie Denz

## We Accept Submissions All Year

for our Newsletter, Facebook, and Twitter.

### **WLA ALD/ACRL-WA Librarians:**

We seek

**Campus News**

**Conference | Seminar | Webinar Reports**

**General Submission:**

*Share events, ideas, tips, pedagogy, research ideas, instruction examples and more.*

**Tips for new and learning librarians**

**Challenging Reference Request**

**Career altering book, article, event, or meme**

**Share Emerging Technology**

**Nominate a WLA ALD/ACRL-WA Librarian we should interview**

**Wonderful Washington Photos**

**SUBMIT**