

CULAR Fall Meeting

Friday, October 18, 2024

UCA's Brewer-Hegeman Conference Center **AND** Zoom

In attendance:

<p>Arkansas State University April Sheppard</p> <p>Arkansas State University – Beebe Ron Russ</p> <p>Arkansas State University – Three Rivers Alan Robinette</p> <p>Arkansas Tech University Angela Black Sherry Tinerella</p> <p>East Arkansas Community College Amanda Minor</p> <p>Harding University Amy McGohan Carri Baker</p> <p>Hendrix College Britt Anne Murphy Janice Weddle Melissa Freiley Tina Murdock</p> <p>John Brown University Rachel Maxson</p> <p>Northwest Arkansas Community College Rachel Baack Shawna Thorup</p> <p>Ouachita Baptist University Anping Wu</p>	<p>University of Arkansas Community College at Rich Mountain Brenda Miner</p> <p>University of Arkansas-Fayetteville Amy Allen Cody Hackett Deb Kulczak Michelle Weston</p> <p>University of Arkansas-Fort Smith Andrea Parton Carolyn Filippelli</p> <p>University of Arkansas-Little Rock Carol Macheak J.B. Hill</p> <p>University of Arkansas Medical Sciences Libby Ingram</p> <p>University of Arkansas-Monticello Beth Stewart Dan Boice LaShonda Campbell</p> <p>University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff Zina Conley</p> <p>University of Central Arkansas Erin Shaw Jessica Riedmueller Joanna Warren Rodney Lippard</p> <p>University of the Ozarks Krista Denne</p>
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Also in attendance: Amanda Hayes (Central Arkansas Library System), Brian Irby (Arkansas State Archives), Jennifer Cherry (Dumas Middle School), Katie Adkins (Arkansas State Archives), Laura Kyzer (Benton High School), Lacy Wolfe (North Little Rock Public Library), Leslie Tedder (Pope County Library System), Lisa Pickett (Public Library of Camden & Ouachita County), Marrienne Tullis (West Fork Middle School), Melissa Runyon (Benton Junior High), Morgan Fraizer (Pope County Library System)

1. Britt Anne Murphy called the meeting to order at 11:32am.

2. Approval of April 12, 2024 Minutes: Dan Boice made a motion to approve minutes. Janice Weddle seconded. All in favor, minutes passed.

3. Britt Anne Murphy introduced the officers and gave a brief background of what CULAR is and how they work with ARKLink. She then asked attendees around the room and online via Zoom to introduce themselves. Attendees represented a mix of academic, public, and school libraries.

4. Reports: Britt Anne Murphy stated that there was no additional report from the Executive Committee that is not covered by the introduction or new business below.

5. New Business:

- Nomination/Election of 2025 CULAR Officers: Britt Anne Murphy noted the following volunteers for offices:
 - Angela Black, Chair
 - John Boone, Vice Chair
 - April Sheppard, Secretary

Britt Anne Murphy asked if there were additional volunteers. Hearing none, Dan Boice moved that nominations be closed and officers elected by acclamation, Janice Weddle seconded. Nominees elected by acclamation.

- K-16 Continuum continues: Britt Anne Murphy started a conversation about the recent work of a group of academic librarians (Alan Robinette, April Sheppard, Britt Ann Murphy, Jean Waldrop, and Karen Haggard) who are trying to start conversations/form connections between academic and high school librarians to support one another. She noted that the group presented at the AAIM (Arkansas Association of Instructional Media) Annual Conference and they heard from several high school librarians about the barriers they face. She added that school and academic librarians have the same mission and that CULAR is looking to do in the Spring with Cassandra Barnett to help bring both groups together.

Some of the barriers discussed in the meeting include:

- Laura Kyzer stated that many students stop getting library instruction after 5th grade.
- She also noted that school librarians get a lot of administrative duties pushed on them because they don't teach.
- Erin Shaw noted that schools that have more than 300 students must have a librarian and those with 1,500 must have two. However, librarians are doing more than just their jobs. A great deal of time is spent on Chromebook repair. She added that school councilors have guidelines that prevent the creep of other duties, but librarians don't.
- It was noted that many school administrators don't understand what high school librarians do and that many teachers believe that they are teaching information literacy in the classrooms.
- Additionally, conversations are also not happening at educational programs, i.e. Ed.D programs, that generate school administrators. These students are not graduating with an understanding of the role of school librarians.
- Angela Black noted that Arkansas Tech used to do outreach with concurrent students. Since that has stopped, they receive a lot of questions from these students. Outreach needs to restart. She later added that students who take Comp concurrently usually miss library

instruction once they're in college since that instruction usually happens in Comp classes.

- Laura Kyzer stated that it will likely be four years before students catch up from the deficits created during COVID.

Participant also discussed ways to make progress in forming these connections between academics and high school libraries:

- Laura Kyzer state that the librarians in her co-op are always looking for presentations/service.
- Shawna Thorup said that NWACC will be reaching out to our HS librarians as one of their strategic initiatives for AY 26 if it's approved by their AVP.
- Angela Black stated that librarians need to start focusing on AI literacy and that this may be an opportunity for us to lead conversations.

- Records storage and accessibility: The action item was skipped in favor of the K-16 discussion.

- Next meeting date/location: Britt Anne Murphy stated that we are looking at February gathering of academics and school librarians. Erin Shaw added that she would also like to invite the three schools that teach librarians. Shawna Thorup volunteered NWACC to help organize outreach.

Meeting adjourned at 12:26pm.