



**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice & Accessibility (DEIJA)
Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 11:00 AM
Minutes**

Present: Rachel Dworkin (Chemung County Historical Society), Karin Wikoff (Ithaca College), Beth Hylan (Corning Museum of Glass, retired)

ex officio: Christine Brown, Jessica Philippe, Mary-Carol Lindbloom

Excused: Jenny Shonk (Finger Lakes Library System); Virgilio Pinto (Ithaca College); Allie Shanafelter (Corning Museum Of Glass)

Notes from Last Meeting ([Minutes 10/15/24](#))

Announcements

Nancy Abashian took a position as Dean of Libraries at Ball State University. She was hopefully going to find a replacement on the DEIJA committee from BU.

DEIJA Plan

The committee will review the plan. We will keep a separate DEIJA plan from the Plan of Service to demonstrate our continued commitment to DEIJA and to make it easier to find those elements which will be included in the POS.

Around the Table

Mary-Carol- She checked in with Dr. Bright who said that she is stepping back from EDI work because she is unable to continue it at her university. Karin sent her an email to check in as well.

HBR had [an article](#) about how to still carry on DEI work.

Mary-Carol is the Diversity officer for the AAUW. She developed a questionnaire to find out more about the DEI needs of the different AAUW chapters and she will be speaking on a panel as a library representative this coming weekend.

Rachel- Hosted an event called ghosts in the museum. Web of History- conspiracy theory style board as an exhibit showing interconnectedness between different groups. Voices and Votes through Smithsonian. Rachel wrote a blog post on [birthright citizenship](#) for CCHS. She was also included in a documentary about the Underground Railroad.

Jessica- The Ithaca City School District is one of two districts in the country that may lose federal funding due to DEI-related events or practices. [Ithaca Voice article](#).

Karin- Library of Congress was taking comments for just 24 hours on the proposed name change of the "Gulf of Mexico" to the "Gulf of America." Karin left a comment. PBS used to have a statement about being committed to representing all people, but it has recently been removed. Karin used CCDA funds for a product called "Lived Places" – a collection of eBooks on the intersection of identities and places. At IC's, "State of the College" the President was asked about what may happen if they don't align with Trump's plans.

Beth- She participated in a glass workshop and noted that they began the workshop with a diversity statement, which Beth found reassuring.

Christine- Her Audubon book club read Soil: The Story of a Black Mother's Garden by Camille Dungy.

DEIJA LibGuide

Christine shared the [Immigration Tab](#) that she added to the DEIJA LibGuide

Recent DEIJA Learning Opportunities

- [Dyslexic Friendly Libraries](#) – Held December 3
- [Hold, Fold?, Walk, Run](#) – Held January 28
- [Creating Equitable Library Policies](#) – Held February 14

DEIJA in the SCRLC News

- Freedom to Read Day of Action – October 18
- Binghamton University Library's exhibit celebrating their Black Greek Letter organizations – November 1
- Chemung County Library District held a program on John Jones – November 15
- SCRLC announces they are leading the Southern Tier Digital Equity Coalition –December 6
- Simone Clunie at Binghamton University participated in a Scholarly Attachment at the University of the West Indies in Mona, Jamaica – December 20
- Tompkins County Public Library celebrates MLK Day with a Family Celebration – January 10
- Black History Month Celebrations at Member organizations – February 7

We ended with a reminder that joy and kindness are acts of resistance.

Upcoming Meetings 2025

April 15, 2025
June 17, 2025

Minutes taken by Jessica.