

## **Educational Services Advisory Committee Minutes**

**4/17/2025, 10:00am**

Zoom meeting

**Present:** Megan Benson (BU); Brian D. Lee (4CLS); Lauren Delaubell (SUNY Cortland); Jessica Philippe

**Excused:** Laura Kuo (IC); Jenny Shonk (FLLS)

[Minutes from January 9, 2025](#)

### **Updates**

**Megan:** BU doesn't have a med school that could be affected by federal funding and they don't have any IMSL grants. They may be affected if the federal funding sponsored by Schumer and Gillibrand for chip workforce training is rescinded. Although the plan was to bring more domestic chip manufacturing to the US so that may be aligned with the current administration's stated goals. Megan attended (and presented at ACRL) and said the closing keynote, Saeed Jones, was very good. In terms of DEI, the university plans to continue their commitment.

**Lauren:** SUNY Cortland's Chancellor said that Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion aren't bad words and they don't have any plans to pre-emptively censor. DEI is embedded in what they do and they will continue to work towards those goals. Lauren noted that doing library instruction now involves explaining that .gov doesn't necessarily mean a source is still reliable with all the changes in government information. Old information on .gov websites is archived automatically however, and can still be found on the Wayback Machine. Lauren attended a session addressing the high levels of anxiety (among faculty and staff) and some of the takeaways were that you have to meet your safety needs before you can do anything else; news diets can be helpful; diving deeper into your values can help to recenter your focus.

**Brian:** Layoffs at the State Library would affect timelines on construction grants, annual reporting, etc. for their member libraries. There is a library in Laurens, NY that is currently part of a school facility and unaffiliated with 4CLS that may join the system.

### **Recent Events**

The recent events review was shared in the [meeting agenda](#). The highlights included Hold. Fold? Walk. Run! With Maurice Coleman, Creating Equitable Library Policies with Jill Hurst-Wahl, and the webinar about law enforcement (and ICE) in the Library with Stephanie "Cole" Adams had nearly 700 registrants.

**Upcoming Events** listed below in case you want to register or share with colleagues:

- [Lunch & Learn: Occupational Stress](#), 4/24
- [Ask the HR Expert: Open Ask HR](#), 4/25
- [Finding the Hidden Links in the Underground Railroad: Oneonta and Norwich](#), NY, 5/15

- [ESLN Academic Library Leadership Series: Recruitment and Retention](#), 5/29
  - Andrea Falcone (BU) and Elaine Westbrooks (Cornell) will be panelists
- [Lunch & Learn: Mosquito-borne Illnesses in NYS](#), 6/4

### **Discussion Topics**

- Committee members present are fine with being associated with SCRLC's DEI goals listed on our website. Other than making sure that our presenters' comfort level with recording and/or posting webinars to YouTube is being respected, we plan to continue prioritizing DEI/JAB topics in our CE offerings.
- We looked at questions 27 and 28 in the recent member survey to get ideas for event planning for the next fiscal year.
  - Some ideas that stood out were principles of graphic design (signage; how to be impactful). Mark Aaron Polger did something for LILRC a few years ago on this. He could also potentially talk about the new web accessibility laws in a separate session. In person book repair workshop with emphasis on emergency preparedness. How to prepare for management for mid-career librarians. Utilizing AI features that already exist in the products you use like EBSCO, ILS', etc. Maybe an open forum just to talk about how the loss of federal funding is affecting our institutions and creating anxiety and uncertainty?
- We talked about shorter webinars, but the committee felt that shorter content would only work if it was pre-recorded because people tend to come and go from live webinars. AI could potentially create highlight clips from webinars?
- For the ESLN luncheon at the NYLA conference, Megan had suggested the idea of bringing in a comic and we were close to making it happen, but it didn't work out. Maybe in 2026.

### **Upcoming Meeting Schedule- mark your calendars!**

Thursday, July 17, 2025, 10:00-11:00am (in person)

Thursday, October 16, 10:00-11:00am (Zoom)

Thursday, January 15, 10:00-11:00am (Zoom)

Thursday, April 30, 10:00-11:00am (Zoom)