

Educational Services Advisory Committee Minutes

4/6/2021, 10:00am

Online via Zoom

Apologies for the Zoom trouble at the beginning. Note to self: the waiting room option might be easier than the password or the Zoom authentication option for people to easily join the room.

Updates

Jessica: I am Moving to France in July for 1 year. I will email the committee when I know more about my work status in the upcoming year and when this committee will next meet.

Laura: The Ithaca College Library is interviewing the 3rd potential candidate for College Librarian and then they will make their final decision.

Jenny: The FLLS is still down some staff, but they are opening one position starting next week for an entry level librarian who will assist the other librarians.

Megan: Binghamton University Libraries has wrapped up their hiring spree and they have 6 or 7 new hires that started in January. They are also wrapping up their strategic planning process and are working on the SUNY Gen Ed changes (beginning Fall 2023).

Lauren: SUNY Cortland is also working on the Gen Ed changes. They just completed their Middle States accreditation visit (while Lauren was out sick). A couple of retirements are happening this semester and they are not sure yet exactly which departments will have the open positions.

Brian: Four County has hired a new Professional Development Coordinator who started at the end of March, Circe McKenney. The Andes Public Library and the Harris Memorial Library in Otego are both fully online now.

Recent events review

Article Discussion Group: Librarians Grapple With Conservatives' Latest Efforts to Ban Books, 1/20 had 12 attendees

Keeping Up With the Collections: Building the Past: Celebrating Ithaca's Neighborhoods in Photographs, 1/25 had 19 registrants

ESLN Services Webinar: Empire Archive Discovery Cooperative, 1/28 had 8 attendees from the SCLRC region

ESLN Services Webinar: New York State Historic Newspapers, 2/25 also had 8 attendees from the region

Library Advocacy Day, 3/2- we should hear about the final budget soon, we hope!

ESLN Affordable Connectivity Program, 3/3 had only 2 attendees from our region

Bedbugs in the Workplace, 3/24 had 26 attendees (and twice as many registrants). This is definitely an issue in libraries and covid actually helped to mitigate it to some extent. FLLS even has a “bedbug oven” to help eliminate infestations in items.

ESLN Services Webinar: New York Heritage Digital Collections, 3/25 had 13 attendees from our region

Computer Ergonomics, 3/30 had 45 attendees

Other notable events attended:

From Lauren: [Library Signage and Wayfinding: Best Practices, Tips, and Guidelines](#) with Mark Aaron Polger (LILRC). She also mentioned this Library Assessment Conference:

<https://www.libraryassessment.org/>

From Laura: <https://assessmentinstitute.iupui.edu/>

From Jenny: METRO has had some good programs lately on copyright and antiracism.

Upcoming events (with registration links)

[ESLN How to Run Your First Fundraising Program](#), 4/12

[Academic Libraries Conference](#), 4/14

[ESLN Libraries and First Amendment Audits: Ask the Lawyer Webinar](#), 4/26

[ESLN Services Webinar: Empire State Immersive Experiences](#), 4/29

[Article Discussion Group: “The Battle for the Soul of the Library.”](#) 5/12

[ESLN Services Webinar: Ask the Lawyer](#), 5/27

Additional Digital Inclusion/Disability Inclusion webinars, TBD

Waiting to hear back from someone at the Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access at University at Buffalo to talk about Universal Design for Libraries. We will also learn about accessibility audits from our ARPA grant project team.

[Raising Awareness, Eliminating Barriers, Changing Culture: Making the Arts more Accessible and Inclusive Online and Off](#), 6/15

[ESLN Services Webinar: Ask Us 24/7](#), 6/24

[ESLN Services Webinar: Academic Overdrive](#), 7/29

[ESLN Services Webinar: Empire Library Delivery](#), 8/26

[ESLN Services Webinar: Ask the HR Expert](#), 9/30

Educational Services Survey Review:

We reviewed the [Survey summary](#) ([Full survey](#) here)

In terms of in-person events, the committee discussed the pros and cons and online events still make the most sense in terms of health concerns, accessibility, people’s time and travel constraints, etc. We discussed hybrid events and although some other councils are moving in that direction, it’s difficult to do hybrid events well and it might make sense to see this piloted successfully before embarking on offering hybrid programs.

An open chat forum could be held using Discord, Trello, or Slack. The survey mentioned hosting a forum once a month for discussions on different topics.

There were a lot of good DEI topics that came up throughout the survey.

We discussed the fact that burnout is coming up repeatedly in survey results, at meetings etc. Jenny is hosting a monthly meetup for librarians who need support. Other suggestions included not scheduling things on Fridays (particularly in summer) so folks can schedule long weekends. In general, people really need breaks so keeping summer schedules light and not scheduling events will help to model rest. Being open about our struggles helps people feel less alone and provides solidarity.

Upcoming 2022 Meetings TBD

Keep July 13th at 10am on your calendars for now