Kelly A. McCusker

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EDUCATION

Master of Public Administration (MPA), *University of Colorado Denver*

Master of Science in Library and Information Science (MSLIS), *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

Bachelor of Education (BEd) in Primary Education, *York University* (Canada)

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in East Asian Languages and Cultures, *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

Auraria Library (Denver, CO)
Serving the University of Colorado Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and Community College of Denver

Collection Development Program Lead Librarian, August 2022 – present
- Team lead of the Learning Materials Budget Team (LMBT), a team of seven members comprised of representatives from four departments in the library. Directs discussions and votes on resource renewals, cancellations, and subscriptions and communicates about issues that potentially may affect the learning materials budget.
- Manage and prioritize collection development work and projects, including supervising four full-time faculty, one of whom supervises student employees.
- Manage the development of consistent methods for building collections to help internal and external users understand how we select materials and decide to cancel or weed resources.
- Coordinate weeding projects of print and online resources across the unit to ensure the collection comprises the most relevant materials.
- Lead the review of current and new resources to support diversity, equity, and inclusion in our collections to ensure our collections represent views and perspectives of the campus community. This has included advocating for the purchases of ethnic studies databases; allocating funds to purchase older books related to ethnic studies, gender studies, and social justice in ebook format; and supporting the review of books with outdated language.
- Lead the promotion of library collections through online and physical displays, news articles, communication, and collaboration with groups on campus.
- Designed and implemented a survey to assess the perspectives of students, faculty, and staff on the library's collections and access to the collections.

- Led the coordination of, decision-making, and communication about the cancellation of $508,000 of resources, 13.9% of the learning materials budget. Organized the collection of usage and cost statistics, analyzed resources for diverse content, reviewed vendor ethics' profiles, and gathered feedback from almost 400 users on potential cancellations. Developed a comprehensive communication plan to ensure internal and external users were aware of the process and final decisions.
- Created critical documentation to help new and current employees become successful in taking on new roles or responsibilities. These include a collection development manual outlining expectations and projects, comprehensive onboarding plan for new collection development librarians, training and expectations document for new student employee supervisors, support and safety overview, and collection development vision and priorities.

Scholarly Communication & Collection Development Program Lead, Dec. 2020 – July 2022
Researcher Support Librarian, August 2014 – November 2020
- As Lead managed the work of the scholarly communication and collection development group, which comprised of four faculty. Supervised 2-3 faculty directly.
- As Lead, led scholarly communication and collection development projects which involved assigning tasks and deadlines for projects; coordinating with heads and members of other library departments; developing and supporting new initiatives; and promoting resources, services, and knowledge both internally and externally.
- Directed the development, promotion, and teaching of research workshops, including data management, EndNote, poster design, impact factor, copyright, and others. Entailed coordinating groups to create learning outcomes, lesson plans, handouts, presentation slides, online guides, and supplementary learning materials. Workshops help faculty, staff, and students develop new research skills to support their teaching, learning, and research.
- Managed LibGuides, an online research guides platform, for the entire library by organizing guide analysis, updates, and revisions. Created LibGuides Standards to ensure guides meet basic accessibility and quality.
- Reviewed and selected materials for social science and humanities collections.
- Provided research assistance in-person, over the phone, via email, and via chat.
- Designed and taught information literacy sessions in-person and online with unique student learning outcomes relevant to course requirements.
- Managed and coached student assistants including selection, training, mentoring, project development, and performance management.
- Led the development, delivery, and analysis of a survey to assess research needs of faculty and graduate students. Results helped develop research workshops and create new positions based on campus needs.
- Coordinator for the federal and Colorado state document collections including overseeing the processing of new materials and withdrawal of older material, collecting and analyzing usage data of government materials, and coordinating with other depository libraries.

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Champaign, IL)
Behavioral Sciences Librarian / Assistant Professor, October 2012 – July 2014

Geography Services & Sociology Specialist, September 2011 – October 2012

- Designed and taught information literacy sessions to undergraduate and graduate students with content specific to social science course requirements.
- Created online research guides for specialized subjects or classes to support student learning.
- Managed the *Psychology*, *Social Work*, and *Sociology* book budget and collections.
- Redesigned website for the School Collection, a heavily trafficked website assisting education students with help in finding and using children's literature. Redesign complemented the way users seek and use children's literature in their course projects and teaching.
- Directed web graduate assistant including developing and prioritizing projects for website redesigns, updates, and usage analysis.
- Managed the Test Collection, a special collection of over 8,500 psychological and education tests with restrictive usage policies, including creating and implementing policies and processes for cataloging tests.
- Led research projects to survey distance students and faculty about their use of library services and resources and assess the usability of the social sciences library website.

SpencerStuart (Chicago, IL)
Information Specialist, February 2008 – December 2010

- Collaborated with international consultants on business development projects.
- Synchronized current research and prepared reports about biographical, company, industry, cultural, and regional data to assist consultants with decision-making on candidates.
- Evaluated and recommended products for purchase or renewal.
- Created and updated resource listings on a variety of topics to keep the firm up to date.

GRANTS & AWARDS

- University of Colorado Denver, Faculty Excellence Award in Librarianship, 2025
- University of Colorado Denver, Center for Faculty Development & Advancement, IRC Faculty Professional Development Grant, 2025 ($475 to attend the ER&L Conference)
- Colorado Department of Education, State Grant to Libraries, 2024 ($13,599 for library collections)
- University of Colorado Denver, Inclusive Excellence Grant for Events, Conferences and Professional Development, 2024 ($2,500 to attend the IDEAL Conference)
- University of Colorado Denver, Auraria Library Faculty Excellence in Leadership and Service Award, 2024
- Colorado Department of Education, State Grant to Libraries, 2023 ($13,887 for library collections)
- University of Colorado Denver, Auraria Library Faculty Excellence in Leadership and Service Award, 2021
- University of Colorado Denver, Faculty Excellence Award in Librarianship, 2017

- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Scholar's Travel Award, 2014 ($1,350)
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University Library, Research & Publications Committee Award, 2014 ($50)
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University Library, Research & Publications Committee Award, 2013 ($300)
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Faculty Special Award of Merit, 2008

PUBLISHED WORKS

McCusker, K. & Rainard, M. (2025). Too Broad and Too Narrow: One library's Experience with Approval Plans. *Library Resources & Technical Services*, *69* (2). https://doi.org/10.5860/lrts.69n2.8434

McCusker, K. & Vandagriff, S. (2022). SCIG: University of Colorado Libraries' Scholarly Communication Interest Group. *College & Research Libraries News, 83* (11). https://doi.org/10.5860/crln.83.11.491

Ostendorf, D., Cantrell, M., Thomson, J., Glazier, R., Vandagriff, S., **McCusker, K.**, Browning, S. and DiVittorio, K. (2020), *CU Faculty Voices: CU system libraries support open access*. CU Connections, April 23, 2020. https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-faculty-voices-cu-system-libraries-support-open-access

O'Brien, N. P., Allen, M. P., Burnette, P., Ingold, C., **McCusker, K.**, & Sheehan, B. (2015). Merging the social and health sciences step by step. In S. Holder and A. Butler Lannon, *Difficult decisions: closing and merging academic libraries* (pp. 49-71). Chicago, IL: Association of College & Research Libraries.

PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS, & PANELS

McCusker, K. and G. Johnson (2023). Oh, you reorged? How was it?. Community Chat at Association of College & Research Libraries Conference. Pittsburg, PA, March 15-18.

McCusker, K., "School of Information Sciences Alumni Panel." *School of Information Sciences* from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 11 Sept. 2020.

McCusker, K. (2018). No Data Librarian? No Problem!. Poster at IASSIST Conference. Montreal, Quebec, Canada, May 29-June 1.

McCusker, K. (2018). Supporting Research Workshops Through LibGuides. Presentation at SpringShare Booth at American Library Association Midwinter. Denver, Colorado, February 9-12.

McCusker, K., et. al. "Women in Research Panel." *Women's Research Center and Experiential Learning Center* from University of Colorado Denver 29 Sept. 2015.

McCusker, K. (2014). Use of and Attitudes about the Library from Afar: Distance Students and Instructors. Presentation at Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries (QQML). Istanbul, Turkey, May 27-30.

McCusker, K. (2007) Effectiveness of different methodologies to transfer cultural heritage preservation information. Poster presented at annual BOBCATSSS Symposium. Prague, Czech Republic, January 29-31.

McCusker, K., D.F. Ruggles, and H. Silverman (2006) Collaborative for Cultural Heritage and Museum Practices. Poster presented at Katrina; After the Storm Summit. Urbana, IL, September 28.

SERVICE

National
- Member, Research and Scholarly Environment Committee, ACRL, 2021 – present
- Member-at-Large, Board of Directors, RUSA, 2020 – 2023 (elected)
- Member, Reference Services Section (RSS) Board, RUSA, 2020 – 2023 (elected)
- Member, Education & Professional Development Committee, RSS, RUSA, 2018 – 2021
- Member, Management of Reference Committee, RSS, RUSA, 2016 – 2018
- Chair, Research Committee, Distance Learning Section, ACRL 2015 – 2016
- Member, Research Committee, Distance Learning Section, ACRL, 2014 – 2015
- Chair, Mentoring Program Committee, Instruction Section, ACRL, 2014 – 2015
- Member, Mentoring Program Committee, Instruction Section, ACRL, 2012 – 2014
- Member, Communication & Teaching at the Point of Need Committee, RSS, RUSA, 2012 – 2014

Colorado
- Member, University of Colorado (CU) Libraries Summit Planning Committee, 2023 – 2024
- Member, Colorado Libraries Electronic Resources Team (CLERT), 2021 – present
- Member, Shared Collection Development Committee, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries, 2020 – present
- Member, Scholarly Communication Interest Group, University of Colorado Libraries, 2019 – 2022
- Member, Colorado Government Publications Interest Group (GoPIG), 2015 – 2024

University of Colorado Denver
- Member, Budget Allocation Review Committee, 2024 – present
- Secretary, Faculty Assembly Budget Priorities Committee, 2022 – present

- Member, Faculty Assembly Budget Priorities Committee, 2020 – present
- Member, Center for Faculty Development & Advancement Advisory Board, 2020 – 2021
- Member, Faculty Assembly, 2016 – 2020
- Member, Outcomes Assessment Committee, 2015 – 2016

Auraria Library
- Member, Auraria Library Director Search Committee, 2025
- Chair, Faculty State of Shared Governance Task Force, 2024 – 2025
- Chair, Teaching & Learning Librarian Search Committee (cohort hire), 2024
- Member, Organizing Faculty Files Task Force, 2024
- Secretary, Faculty Search, Interview, Selection & Hiring Task Force, 2023 – 2024
- Chair, Budget & Finance Manager Search Committee, 2023
- Chair, Leadership and Service Evaluation Committee, 2021 – 2023
- Chair, Collections Assessment and Interlibrary Loan Specialist Search Committee, 2021
- Member, Auraria Library Faculty Performance Evaluation Review Task Force, 2021
- Member, Assessment Committee, 2020 – 2022
- Member, IT & Web Services Department Head Search Committee, 2020 – 2021
- Member, Marketing and Communications (MarCom) Committee, 2020 – 2021
- Secretary, Leadership and Service Evaluation Committee, 2020 – 2021
- Member, Leadership and Service Evaluation Committee, 2020 – 2024
- Member, Educational Resources Committee, 2020 – 2023
- Member, Auraria Library Training, Mentorship, & Recognition Committee, 2019 – 2020
- Chair, Faculty Personnel Committee, 2018 – 2019
- Chair, User Experience Committee, 2018 – 2019
- Member, Faculty Personnel Committee, 2017 – 2019
- Secretary, Auraria Library Faculty, 2017 – 2018
- Chair, Faculty Research Funds Subcommittee, 2016 – 2018
- Member, Knowledge Management Task Force, 2015 – 2020
- Member, User Experience Committee, 2015 – 2019
- Member, Shared Leadership Team, 2015 – 2017

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library
- Member, Library Assessment Committee, 2013 – 2014
- Member, Staff Development and Training Advisory Committee, 2013 – 2014
- Member, User Services Advisory Committee, 2012 – 2014

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Roundtable Facilitator. *University of Colorado (CU) Libraries Summit.* Hiring and Onboarding roundtable, July 9, 2024.

Mentor. *Colorado Libraries Association Leadership Institute (CALLI)*. Colorado Libraries Association, 2022 – 2023.

Reviewer. *Community College of Denver Student Scholarships*. Community College of Denver, Summer 2021.

Mentor. *Colorado Academic Libraries Association (CoALA) Mentorship Program*. Colorado Academic Libraries Association, 2020.

Reviewer. *Community College of Denver Student Scholarships*. Community College of Denver, Summer 2020.

Reviewer. *Resources for Collection Libraries: Sociology Bibliography.* CHOICE/Association of College & Research Libraries, Summer 2019.

Roundtable Facilitator. *University of Colorado (CU) Libraries Summit.* Digital Repository and Reference Consultations roundtables, August 7, 2019.

Mentor. *University of Colorado Denver (CU Denver) Center for Faculty Development.* Faculty Mentoring Program, 2016 – 2017

Reviewer. *Resources for College Libraries: Human Services Bibliography*. CHOICE/Association of College & Research Libraries, Fall 2015.