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**2019–2020 CARLI Instruction Committee:  
Annual Report of Activities and Projects**

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**Members**

Kristin Allen	(2019–2022)	Harper College
Anne Armstrong	(2018–2021)	University of Illinois at Chicago
Joshua Avery	(2019–2021)	Wheaton College
Amy Hall	(2017–2021)	National Louis University, Co-Chair
Tish Hayes	(2019–2022)	Moraine Valley Community College
Molly Mansfield	(2017–2021)	Dominican University
Marielle McNeal	(2017–2020)	North Park University, Co-Chair (through January 2020)
Christina Norton	(2018–2021)	Heartland Community College
Dee Anna Phares,	(2019–2022)	Northern Illinois University, Co-Chair (beginning January 2020)

CARLI Board Liaison: Rebecca Donald, Trinity International University

CARLI Staff Liaisons: Debbie Campbell and Lorna Engels

**Charge**

The committee will identify and address issues of critical concern and best practices for instruction librarians and information literacy programs.

**Meetings**

The committee held an initial in-person meeting at the CARLI office in Champaign on August 30, 2019. Subsequent meetings were held by video conference and took place on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2:30 pm. The committee also used the [instruction@carli.illinois.edu](mailto:instruction@carli.illinois.edu) mailing list and a Google Drive folder to share information and documents outside of meeting times.

**Theme**

The committee’s theme this year was **Fresh Starts & Restarts**. Designed for both freshly minted librarians—new to the profession and new to instruction—and more practiced information professionals with vast instructional experience now taking on new responsibilities, the committee’s programming this year focused on helping members grow beyond their comfort zones. Through a new article club, webinar, Twitter chat, the annual Instruction Showcase, and a collaboration with the Public Services committee, new and renewed instruction librarians from across the state explored cutting edge approaches to library instruction, with a particular focus on strategies for teaching information evaluation.

**Article Club**

This year, the committee launched a new virtual “article club,” which invited members to engage more deeply with the academic literature that impacts their teaching practice. The committee selected articles for discussion, which registrants were asked to read in advance. Attendees at each club meeting were provided a list of questions to guide the conversation and were also encouraged to bring questions and comments of their own.

The fall article club meeting took place on November 6, 2019. Members discussed Amanda Folk's article titled "Reframing Information Literacy as Academic Cultural Capital: A Critical and Equity-Based Foundation for Practice, Assessment, and Scholarship"

[<https://crl.acrl.org/index.php/crl/article/view/17822/19651>]. 48 people registered for this event.

The spring article club meeting took place on February 26, 2020. Members discussed Stefanie R. Bluemle's article titled "Post-Facts: Information Literacy and Authority after the 2016 Election"

[<https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/libscifaculty/10>]. As a special feature, Stefanie Bluemle joined the article club discussion and was available to respond to questions and comments about her work. 44 people registered for this event.

### **Twitter Chat**

Building on the success of last year's #InclusiveInfoLit Twitter chats, this year's committee hosted a winter Twitter chat about new approaches to evaluating information. The conversation, which was open to librarians across Illinois and beyond, used the hashtag #NecessaryEval. The committee created a list of questions for participants and published them on the event page in advance, based on feedback from last year's chats. The chat took place on December 13, 2019, and once again attracted a number of participants from outside Illinois. A brief survey was administered to solicit feedback from participants but received only two responses, both of which were positive. The committee agreed that this is an interesting new way to connect and share ideas with other instruction librarians; in the future, the committee should explore ways to increase participation, particularly from librarians in Illinois.

### **Webinar**

On April 7, 2020, Dawn Stahura from Salem State University presented the webinar "ACT UP: Evaluating Sources and Pushing Against Privilege." In this webinar, Stahura discussed her information evaluation method, called ACT UP, which goes beyond standard evaluation methods like the CRAAP test. Because source evaluation is social justice work, it is critical that instruction librarians teach students how to push against privilege in publishing as well as how to identify misinformation before sharing it with others. The ACT UP method is outlined here: <https://libguides.salemstate.edu/evaluatingresources>. 95 people registered for this event.

The webinar is available from the CARLI website at: <https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/pub-serv/instruction>.

### **Instruction Showcase**

The committee held the 8th annual Instruction Showcase on Friday, May 29, 2020. This event was originally planned as an in-person, full-day event at Harper College in Palatine, IL. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the committee made the decision to move the event to an online format and shorten the duration of the program. The Showcase was presented via Zoom from 9 am – 11:30 am, followed by a virtual "lunch hour" from noon – 12:30 pm. Six presenters shared innovative lesson plans and techniques designed to reinvigorate library instruction, many of which clearly drew inspiration from the committee's theme this year, "Fresh Starts and Restarts." Every presentation elicited thoughtful questions and productive discussion.

This year's event drew a much larger number of registrants than usual, with a total of 100 registering to attend. Survey results indicated that the online format was received overwhelmingly positively. This feedback, as well as increased attendance, suggests that virtual programming is a viable option for the Instruction Showcase moving forward.

**Collaboration with Public Services Committee**

To help prepare member libraries for the transition to Alma and Primo VE, members of the Instruction Committee collaborated with members of the Public Services Committee on a subcommittee called “Creating Use Guides and Tutorials.” This group assessed the current landscape of Primo VE tutorials and developed materials to help guide CARLI libraries in their creation of such guides. The sub-group shared their materials and findings at a virtual event on April 2, 2020, called “Getting Ready for Primo VE.” They also produced a webpage which expanded on this presentation with further information and helpful resources for creating user guides; it is available here: [https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/pub-serv/Creating\\_User\\_Guides\\_PrimoVE](https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/pub-serv/Creating_User_Guides_PrimoVE).

Respectfully Submitted by  
Amy Hall and Dee Anna Phares  
Co-chairs, 2019–2020