2019–2020 CARLI Technical Services Committee:
Annual Report of Activities and Projects

Members
Kathryn Dauksza (2019–2022) Illinois State Library
Megan Kelly (2019–2022) Newberry Library
Mingyan Li (2018–2020) University of Illinois at Chicago, co-chair
Robin Mize (2019–2022) University of Illinois at Springfield
Deborah Morris (2018–2021) Roosevelt University
Gayle Porter (2017–2020) Chicago State University, co-chair
Adrienne Radzvickas (2017–2020) Lincoln College

Board Liaison: Tammy Kuhn-Schnell, Lincoln Land Community College
Staff Liaisons: Jennifer Masciadrelli and Nicole Swanson

2019–2020 Accomplishments:
The Technical Services Committee was divided into three subcommittees. Each subcommittee focused on one project as described below:

- The TSC Best Practices Subcommittee members included: Joan Schuitema (Illinois State University), Gayle Porter (Chicago State University), and Mingyan Li (University of Illinois at Chicago). The Subcommittee compiled “Ideas for Activities During the Technical Freeze” https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/i-share/alma/technical-freeze-ideas. This list consists of activities libraries could conduct during the Alma Technical Freeze (May 1- June 23), when Ex Libris loaded data to members’ Alma production databases. A few of the suggestions include: Alma training and review, running any remaining Voyager reports, and working with vendors to update existing connections in the Alma environment. This Subcommittee also discussed ways to identify CARLI I-Share members’ technical services needs in order to develop future Alma best practice workflows.

- The TSC Alma Training Subcommittee members included: Robin Mize (University of Illinois Springfield), Adrienne Radzvickas (Lincoln College), and Kathryn Dauksza (Illinois State Library). This Subcommittee evaluated and organized Alma acquisitions and cataloging training resources currently available from Ex Libris into the webpage “Recommended Alma Online Trainings for Acquisitions and Cataloging” https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/i-share/alma/recommended_acq_cat_train. The training resources were selected in order to assist CARLI I-Share members’ acquisitions and cataloging staff in preparing for the migration from Voyager to Alma.

- The Alma Glossary Subcommittee members included: Megan Kelly (Newberry Library), Deborah Morris (Roosevelt University), and William Schultz (Eastern Illinois University). This Subcommittee created a glossary consisting of Alma terms and definitions with a crosswalk to equivalent Voyager terms where appropriate in order to assist I-Share members in learning the new Alma terminology.
The glossary work began by converting the Ex-Libris Alma Glossary into an Excel Spreadsheet. At this point in the project, CARLI staff identified similar work being prepared by members of the Resource Sharing Committee. The two groups joined, meeting virtually. Working in a shared Google Doc that merged the Ex-Libris Alma Glossary and Harvard’s Glossary, review of the list was divided amongst the Subcommittee members. Additional terms/definitions were reviewed and added, reflecting the specific needs of I-Share members. The final document, consisting of the Alma/Primo VE Term, Abbreviation, Voyager Equivalent Term, and Definition was published on the CARLI website.

The subcommittee agreed that the glossary should be a “living document” and updated as needed. All members offered to meet to review new suggested terms, as necessary. The Alma Glossary is available at: https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/i-share/alma/glossary

- TSC members and CARLI staff also suggested a research proposal to the CARLI Counts committee investigating the impact of cataloging on student success. The idea was accepted by the CARLI Counts committee and will be developed as an original research project. A white paper may be generated with the committee’s findings.

**Future plans:**
CARLI Technical Services Committee would like to continue leading the development of Alma best practice workflows and plan programming for members to exchange ideas and ask questions.