



## Providence: About Our Leaders

This **About Our Leaders** provides a short biography of our leaders for our LYRASIS Leaders Forum in Providence, Rhode Island on May 17, 2018. The Leaders Forums are face-to-face meetings across the US, Canada and soon the globe, to gather leaders to discuss, explore and workshop ideas, problems and potential solutions. Our theme this year is **Experiments in Innovation**.

Experts from the LYRASIS team and from the community will discuss new concepts, trends and ideas surrounding innovation. Forum participants are members of the LYRASIS Leaders Circle, the general LYRASIS membership and invitation only community drivers within the archive, library and museum profession. By reading each short biography below, you'll get to know our leaders engaging in our LYRASIS Leaders Forum, Experiments in Innovation.

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**Jennifer Betts** is the University Archivist and Assistant Director of the John Hay Library at Brown University. Jennifer concentrates on the University's Special collections and is focused on digital projects specializing in workflow management and training for EAD consortium. She earned her M.L.S from University of Albany, SUNY.

**Arthur Carlson** is the Assistant Director for Archives and Special Collections at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). He oversees all aspects of WPI's institutional memory, the rare book holdings, and the manuscript collections. He joined WPI after serving as the University Archivist and Records Manager at East Carolina University. He has an interest in supporting digital humanities and finding new and creative ways to incorporate Special Collections into WPI's curriculum while also better engaging with the campus community.

**Katherine Collins** is the Manager of Electronic Resources at Brandeis University. She has strong commitment to understanding user needs and use of library systems and resources. She holds a Masters of Science - MS, Library and Information Science from Simmons College.

**Angelica Ferria** is the Media Curator at the University of Rhode Island. She focuses on the students use of the library and its evolvement of services. She runs the Library's Makerspace and has recently been working with groups across the University in creating new library spaces.

**Emily Ferrier** is a Senior Librarian at Olin College of Engineering. She earned her MLS from San Jose State University.

**Russell Franks** is the Librarian for Special and Archival Collections at Providence College. He received his B.A. in History and M.L.I.S. from the University of Rhode Island. He is a member of the Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board, the Historical Society of Smithfield, RI, the New England Archivists Association, and the Society of American Archivists. His research interests extend from Pre-Conquest Mayan culture to late 19th century American history.

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**Becky Herrmann** is the Library Director of Chelmsford Public Library for over 17 years. She is a native of MA, a Boston Red Sox fan married to a Yankees fan. When she is not at work, Becky can be found reading, hiking, weeding her vegetable garden, traveling, cooking and doing yoga.

**Jennifer Gunter King** is the Director of the Harold F. Johnson Library at Hampshire College, an experimental undergraduate liberal arts college in western, Massachusetts. At Hampshire College, King is leading a library transformation project that has received a \$1.2 m grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to develop the library as a Knowledge Commons. Prior to joining Hampshire, King was Director of Archives and Special Collections at Mount Holyoke College (2004-2012), where she initiated an online digital archive, electronic records archiving, campus-wide exhibitions and programming. King has held positions in special collections at Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia. She earned her BA in history from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and her MA in history and MLS (Archives Concentration) from the University of Maryland. King is the Immediate Past President of the New England Archivists, an active member of the Society of American Archivists, and was a participant in the 2012 Harvard University Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians. King's interests include 21st century library design and advancing the accessibility of archival resources.

**Alan Karass** is Director of Libraries at the New England Conservatory in Boston, Massachusetts. He earned his Doctorate of Philosophy from The Open University, received his Masters of Arts from University of Connecticut and MLS from Simmons. He is a founding member of the ensemble *FloraMusica*, as an active recorder player. He served as President of the American Recorder Society from 2002 to 2006. Alan has also performed on oud with the Tufts Takht and has studied with John Berberian (USA), Nabil Ata (USA), Ramses Gharsallah (Tunisia), and Youssef Abdelmalek (Tunisia).

**Janet Ohles** is the Director of Reeves Library at Moravian College. She has 20+ years of experience in program planning, implementation, and evaluation; and training, predominantly in medical library settings, including the National Library of Medicine and National Centers for Biotechnology Information. Moravian College is a Leaders Circle member. Moravian College is a Leaders Circle.

**Lori Ostapowicz-Critz** is the Associate Director of Academic Strategy at Worcester Polytechnic Institution. As Associate Director for Library Academic Strategies, Lori manages the Research & Instruction, Collections & Systems Management, Faculty Research Support, and Digital Academic Strategies programs. These programs ensure the Library continues to provide significant impacts on research and learning at WPI.

**Barbara Preece** is the Director for the Loyola Notre Dame Library. Barbara has served previously as Dean of the Library, California State University San Marcos; Executive Director of the Boston Library Consortium, Inc.; Interim Associate Dean of Technical and Automated Services at Southern Illinois University Carbondale; and Head of Technical and Automated Services at the Shawnee Library System in Illinois. She received her M.A. in Library Science from the University of Minnesota and her bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of New Hampshire.

Barbara currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) and the Maryland Digital Library Board. She served as Chair of OCLC's Americas Regional Council and President of the OCLC Global Council. Loyola Notre Dame Library is a member of the Leaders Circle.

**Alena Principato** is the Member Relations Manager at the Connecticut Library Consortium where she provides support, services and collaboration to all types of Connecticut libraries. Alena received her MLS from the University of North Carolina. She worked as a Research and Design assistant at the UNC House of Undergraduate Library.

**Lydia Sampson** is the Head of Technical Services at the Morrill Memorial Library in Norwood, MA. She started there in December, after working in an academic library for 16 years.

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**Megan Sniffin-Marinoff** is the University Archivist at Harvard University. She is an experienced senior manager appointed to progressively responsible positions. Steered development and outreach for archives and special collections of national and international significance, used by a wide range of patrons, and representing a range of subjects, formats, and time periods. Before Harvard, Megan was the Co-Director of the Open Collections Program at Harvard. Harvard University Archives is a Leaders Circle Member.

**Richard Ring** is originally from Columbus, Ohio, where he attended The Ohio State University, majored in English, and worked in an array of bookshops (used, new and antiquarian) for several years. His MLS is from Indiana University, where he worked and studied at the Lilly Library, specializing in rare books librarianship. From 1998–2007 he served as the Reference & Acquisitions Librarian of the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University, and from 2007–2010 he was the Special Collections Librarian at the Providence Public Library. From 2010–2017 he served as the Head Curator & Librarian of the Watkinson Library at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, where he also taught courses on rare books and the collecting and writing of American history. In December 2017, he was appointed Deputy Executive Director for Collections and Interpretation at the Rhode Island Historical Society.

**Ann Whiteside** is the Librarian/Assistant Dean for Information Services at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Ann was the previous Head of MIT's Rotch Library and Director of the Fiske Kimball Fine Arts Library at the University of Virginia. Ann is a graduate of Boston College (BA in Art History) and holds a MLS from Simmons College. Ann is the President-Elect of the Art Libraries Society of North America and serves on the Leadership Working Group for CollectionSpace.

**Kendall Wiggin** is the State Librarian of the Connecticut State Library. A graduate of the Simmons Graduate School of Library & Information Science, Mr. Wiggin has served as Connecticut State Librarian since October 1998. Prior to arriving in Connecticut, Mr. Wiggin had worked in academic and public libraries in New Hampshire where he also served as State Librarian for eight years. Over the past 16 years, Mr. Wiggin has worked closely with the Association of Connecticut Library Boards, Connecticut Library Association, the Connecticut Library Consortium, the Friends of Connecticut Libraries, and others to advance library service to the citizens of Connecticut. Connecticut State Library is a Leaders Circle Member.

**Melissa Wisner** is the IT Portfolio Manager and Projects Librarian at Yale University. She has over 15 years' experience managing enterprise level IT in academic libraries. Melissa holds an MLS, and is a certified Project Manager (PMP), a Certified Scrum Master (CSM), and is also ITIL certified. In her role at Yale, she focuses on the Library's annual strategic goal setting process, assessing project readiness, sustainability, and costs, and ensuring alignment between staff effort and desired outcomes. She maintains the portfolio of all current, future, and archived projects at Yale Library. She has recently contributed to the forthcoming book by Library Juice Press, *We Can Do I.T.*, about the experiences of women in IT.

## For more information

If you have any questions or would like to join us for a future LYRASIS Leaders Forum, please contact Jenn Bielewski, Community Engagement Manager, [jennifer.bielewski@lyrasis.org](mailto:jennifer.bielewski@lyrasis.org), 800.999.8558 x2915.

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