

# **Alberta Association of Academic Libraries**

AAAL 2025 Spring AGM Meeting Agenda and Package

**Spring 2025 AGM,** 2 May, 2025 9:00 AM - 3:45 PM MST <u>MacEwan University</u> - 10700 104 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T5H 0K9

Room: Fiegel Conference Centre, Allard Hall, Room 11-204 (Link to Building 11 Map)

**Parking:** Paid Parking is available on- and off-campus; Surface lot 110 and Surface Lot 111 are the closest on-campus parking options (<u>Link to Campus Parking Map & Rates</u>). Parking passes can be purchased using the <u>Honk Mobile app</u>. For a list of off-campus options, please view the <u>Parkopedia results list</u> for the area.

Wi-Fi: Guest Network and Eduroam options available onsite.

Nearby Accommodations: Canterra Suites Hotel, Matrix Hotel, Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel

AAAL Executive Contact Information aaal.executive@gmail.com

Chair: Jane Duffy, MacEwan University

Chair-Elect: Andrea Johnston, Red Deer Polytechnic Treasurer: Yvonne Phillips, Red Deer Polytechnic Secretary: Sheena Sereda, NorQuest College

Past Chair: Amanda Wills, Northwestern Polytechnic

Communications Committee
(Web, News & Social Media)

<u>aaal.communications@gmail.com</u>

Caitlin Ratcliffe, NorQuest College
Meghan Staal, University of Alberta
Tessa Broadhead, King's University

Mentorship Committee Roxy Garstad, MacEwan University; Chair

<u>aaal.mentorship@gmail.com</u>
Sarah Chomyc, University of Alberta
Holly Hoffman, St. Mary's University

Ron Rooth, MacEwan University Connie Winther, University of Alberta Shaun McMullen, Portage College

Statistics and Assessment Committee Adam Cohen, Mount Royal University

<u>aaal.assess@gmail.com</u>

Jenn Laskosky, Concordia University of Edmonton

Emily Villanueva, University of Lethbridge

Learning and Development Committee Ali Foster, MacEwan University; Chair

Christy Nichols, Mount Royal University Christena McKillop, University of Calgary Dana Ouellette, University of Alberta Rynnelle Weibe, Medicine Hat College

### **Morning Schedule of Events**

8:30 am - 9:15 am: Registration, Continental Breakfast (Coffee/Tea, Fruit, Pastries), & Socializing

9:15 am – 9:45 am: Business Meeting Meeting Called to order at 9:19am

- Host Welcome and Land Acknowledgement (3 minutes)
   Jane Duffy & Eva Revitt
- Approval of Spring 2025 Agenda (1 minute)
   All in favour. Passed.
- Approval of Minutes of the Fall 2024 Meeting (<u>Link to Meeting Minutes</u>) (1 minute)
   All in favour. Passed.
- Verbal Reports (10 minutes)
  - o Executive Committee

Jane Duffy, Chair: Update on Stronger Together Conference, thanks to outgoing Chair-Elect who led the collaboration, members voted in favour of trial membership for 2025.

Andrea Johnston, Chair-elect: full report available in the package, despite a difficult year for academic libraries, this network has been a great support. Please consider putting your name forward as Chair-elect.

**Yvonne Phillips, Treasurer**: thank you for patience while learning role, expense sheet available upon request, AAAL in good financial standing, initiated proposed bylaw changes, looking into e transfer as alternative to cheques & Paypal, two auditors are needed.

AAAL Subcommittees

Roxy Garstad, Mentorship: 10 pairs this year, please consider being a mentor - very rewarding, welcome to member of committee: Shaun McMullen (Portage College).

Tessa Brodhead, Communication: transitioned from X to Bluesky, please send events to AAAL calendar, centralized membership list - please send changes, AAAL notices will be prioritized since there is a restriction on the amount of communications is restricted.

Adam Cohen, Statistics: 20 responses, reports are available on AAAL website.

Ali Foster, Learning & Development: report available in package, invitation for institutions to consider hosting Spring AGM next year - please consider getting in touch. Seeking ideas for a virtual keynote for the Fall Meeting. Changes: Many thanks to Kelly Keus previous co-convener, joined by Rynelle from MHC.

- Voting (15 minutes)
  - Approval of Membership Fees, 2025-2026
     Passed.
  - Approval of Bylaws Updates
     Proposal to change fiscal year: Passed.

Proposal to change fiscal year: Passed.

Proposal to change due date for membership fees: Passed.

AAAL Chair Elect
 Nomination received from the floor for Celine Gareau-Brennan. Passed.

9:45 am - 10:45 am: Roundtable

• 2 minutes per representative

**Robyn Hall, MacEwan University**: new LSP - exLibris, received funding for textbook affordability, launched open textbook grant, will be joining the Community Scholars program and will be the hub for AB, SK, & MB - please contact if interested in joining.

Liz Fulton-Lyne, NorQuest College: Sheena Sereda is new Associate Chair, went live with Alma LSP, new Library website, Makerspace pilot led and launched by Caitlin Ratcliffe, mural in Library by Indigenous Art students, navigating resource constraints, discussion with faculty about reliability of data and polarization as a result of geo-politics, data workshop about data preservation will be offered by Research Data Management Librarian.

**Shaun McMullen, Portage College**: new to Portage, updating space with modernization grant, new Information Literacy modules in the LMS, new Kinesiology & Aircraft Structures Technician program launched, currently developing a BEd program.

**Elaine Fabro, Athabasca University**: welcoming new staff - now nearly full staffed, University has a new strategic plan 'Like No Other' - being used to guide library operations, Library working on a Digital Preservation Framework around the Institutional Repository, .New strat plan like no other' guiding library ops, Library has been offering information literacy outreach with nearby high school and that has been fruitful, currently compiling data for annual report.

**Sona McNaughton, Red Deer Polytechnic:** go live for LSP (OCLC) today (May 2, 2025), thanks to our LSP Implementation partners, introduced BiblioCoins - tokens made with 3D printer and given to staff to reward not using LSP jargon, new name for division: Student Experience and now joined by Indigenous Student Services, International Student Support, and Career Education and Experience Development (CEED), working on OER report about faculty perception and use of OER at RDP (forthcoming by end of June).

Anne Carr-Wiggin, University of Alberta: Planning for a new gallery is at the schematic design stage, which is space allocation for the various functions. Working on LSP implementation for U of A (Clarivate Alma - go live in July) and on the migration of the other NEOS libraries to individual catalogues. Working on Zero Cost Textbooks initiative. The Indigenous Initiatives group is planning the medicine garden for a second year.

**Brian Jackson, Mount Royal University**: piloting occuspace - wireless data to track movement to help with decisions about space changes, new Indigenous engagement librarian will start in the fall (coming from Dalhousie).

**Carmen Reeves, NAIT:** no major changes, growing student involvement in space, new student makerspace staff planned for the fall.

**Nicole Palanuk, Yellowhead Tribal College**: new Indigenous languages collection - unfortunately not loanable but now in a more prominent spot, Communications team is working on a new website which will hopefully be ready by September.

**Megan Hallam, Ambrose University**: Started implementing LibCal, partnered with Academic Success colleagues for co-events (tutoring, research help, longer hours), welcomed back Public Service Librarian.

**Darel Bennedbaek, TAL:** Thank you for collaborating on STC - registration will open soon, strategic planning has been happening, also keeping an eye on managing databases given data changes in the U.S.

**Bonita Bjornson, King's University**: campus in construction mode in preparation for new Centre for Excellence in Sciences building, go live with new LSP on May 12th, library assistant is back, all LibGuides have been updated thanks to Tessa.

Wanjiku Kaai, Lakeland College: Back in library Feb 3rd after last year's flood - students are really happy with renovations, go live with new LSP (Alma) on July 16th, College President has been renewed for 3rd term, new website launched on April 30th, MOU with Polrtage, Keyano, Northwestern Polytechnic to share credentials, please stop by if in the area to see renovated space.

**Sheila Clark, Burman University**: new LSP will launch on May 22, working on promoting ZTC and more faculty have been coming on board, developed a sequence of laddered information literacy modules for Music History, and working on an article about the development about these modules.

**Kathy Wise, St. Mary's University**: currently finalizing academic plan, as part of liberal arts core all students will take a foundational scholarship course, reinvigorating instruction using faculty feedback which suggested integrating modules into D2L modules & developing instruction about AI & the critical evaluation of information, Master's of Education program has been approved, hours of IL specialist hours have been increased from p/t to f/t, exploring resource sharing options in Alma, will be developing policies about Challenged Materials and a Code of Conduct, advocating for hours, pay, and recognition.

**Melanie Forrest, Keyano College**: went live with LSP (OCLC) on May 1st - went smoothly, Sarah Schmidt is the Director of Academic Experience and College Librarian, and Melanie Forrest is the

new Chair of Library Services, report on staff perceptions & OERs will be coming out this summer, also navigating changes of IRCC.

**Sandy McKenna, Banff Centre for the Arts**: Alexandra has been at Centre for 1 year, Statistics show lots of growth in circulation & reference, new cataloger position & archives assistant through Young Canada Works program.

**Lynette Toews-Neufeldt, Concordia**: LSP migration to OCLC went well, seeing less traffic in library after new building opened in September, Concordia will be hosting NEOS mini conference in June, moved to LibAnswers for chat which will help for tracking, navigating budget constraints, staffing has been stable with no major changes.

Rynnelle Wiebe, Medicine Hat College: MHC is launching a new Pharmacy Technician diploma and seeking degree granting status which will impact programming & resources at the Library.

Doreen Williams-Freeman, Red Crow Community College: big staffing changes including a new Acting President which will hopefully bring new positive changes, LibGuides will be updated with U of A partnership with Indigenous interns, Tyra has joined Library staff - worked on and opened the Dr. James Dempsey collection around Christmas.

**Keltie Ross, Alberta University of the Arts**: Keltie has been at AUA since January, new President after former retired after 15 years, new Learning Commons set up in the past year, lots of projects being worked on.

10:45 am - 11:00 am: Break

11:00 am - 12:00 pm: Presentations

# Leading the charge: Librarian delivered sessions on generative AI productivity tools for medical residents

Caitlin McClurg, University of Calgary Libraries

The artificial intelligence landscape continues to evolve and grow at a rapid pace, and the academic library is well positioned to lead conversations with students, staff and faculty on literacy, ethics and integrity considerations. This presentation will outline how the health sciences librarian for undergraduate and postgraduate medical education at the University of Calgary developed a practical and timely workshop to teach students and faculty about generative AI tools specifically targeted at productivity and workflow processes related to clinical and academic activities. Key takeaways include conversations around: jumping into teaching generative AI, reframing information literacy, and what medical learners and trainees need from the library as they approach AI bots and tools.

**Caitlin McClurg** is a liaison librarian at the University of Calgary. She collaborates with the Department of Psychology, the School of Public Policy and the Cumming School of Medicine where she provides teaching and research support for literature reviews, evidence synthesis and generative artificial intelligence. She has interest in the intersection of academic librarianship with the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning and adult learning discourses.

# "Whose hearts will be broken?": student experience, stewardship and pedagogy of the Alberta History mural at the University of Alberta

Debbie Feisst, Jessie Loyer, Tom Hunter & Anne Carr-Wiggin, University of Alberta

Unveiled during the opening of Rutherford Library in 1951, the Alberta History mural in the Rutherford South Reading Room was a gift to the University of Alberta by artist Henry George Glyde, a faculty member and head of the Department of Art. In the decades since, there have been conversations and reflections on how the work portrays Indigenous and European settler history in Alberta. More recently, student voices inspired us to persevere towards the best possible conclusion to the story of the mural.

Building on earlier conversations and a consultation process in 2010-2016, in January 2021 the University of Alberta Library and Museums portfolio formed a working group to consider what should be done with the mural, given reports of harm and its actively deteriorating condition. The mural is applied directly to the wall of the reading room using a variety of media, and cannot easily be moved to another location. Through community engagement and talking circles, we identified three distinct strands which comprised the Alberta History mural braid: the student experience of harm; the duty of stewardship and conservation of the art; and the desire to maintain access to the art in situ for teaching and learning purposes.

We learned early on that feedback was not going to be easily divided along Indigenous and non Indigenous lines and that the final decision was going to take serious emotional investment. This was a complex and painstaking process that involved heartfelt and passionate conversations, university bureaucracy, and a willingness to come to a decision that is not perfect. A recent decision about the mural provides a conclusion to the story that supports decolonization of the space and a reduction of harm for current and future generations of students.

This session will be of interest to library professionals who may have similar materials in their collections and are grappling with how to address historical artworks which may cause harm, while needing to engage with diverse stakeholder perspectives as well as balance ethical considerations around preservation, access, and decolonization.

**Debbie Feisst** is Head, Faculty Engagement (Natural + Applied Sciences) at the University of Alberta Library (UAL). Debbie was Co-Lead (with Anne) for several years of UAL's Indigenous Initiatives Team and is a member of the UofA's Indigenous Research Strategy Task Force. A citizen of the Manitoba Metis Federation, she is of Red River Metis and Scottish ancestry.

**Jessie Loyer** is Cree-Métis and a member of Michel First Nation. She's the Indigenous Engagement Librarian at the University of Alberta.

**Tom Hunter** is a nehiyew from Saddle Lake Cree Nation. Tom has worked at the University of Alberta since 1994. Tom works for University of Alberta Museums as a collections assistant with the art collection. Tom has been involved with many Indigenous issues on campus. He has played a role in the return of Ancestral remains. He has been a board member and president of the Alberta Museums Association in the past. Tom is a member of the Indigenous Advisory Council of the University of Alberta.

Anne Carr-Wiggin coordinates Indigenous Initiatives at the University of Alberta Library, including the First Nations Information Connection, the Indigenous Internship, and the NEOS Decolonizing Description project. She has served on the COPPUL Indigenous Knowledge Standing Committee, the CFLA Indigenous Matters Committee, and is currently a Council member of NIKLA. She is of Scottish and English heritage, and came to these lands as an adult. She is grateful for the welcome and learning she has received from Indigenous colleagues, students and friends.

12:00 pm - 1:00pm: Lunch break

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm: Presentations

# Collaboratively integrating genAl into a first-year writing assignment

Estelle Frank & Alison Pitcher, MacEwan University Library

How do you introduce generative artificial intelligence [genAl] tools and integrate them meaningfully into a first-year English writing assignment? This session will cover the scaffolded interactive sessions that the two English Librarians at MacEwan University put together in collaboration with the course instructor in order to introduce their first-year students to genAl, its responsible use, and engaging with what it may or may not bring to the writing process. We will provide an overview of the sessions, share the various activities used to engage students as well as the alterations made to the assignment in response to this collaborative work, and share observations about what worked and what we'd change next time.

**Estelle Frank (she/her)** is one of two English librarians, as well as the librarian for the Writing Centre at MacEwan University. She works with Alison to deliver the Information Literacy Foundations program and works with Writing Centre staff to develop the Centre's services, programming, and resources. Estelle is in her third year of working as an academic librarian.

**Alison Pitcher (she/her)** is one of two English librarians, as well as a collections librarian, at MacEwan University. She and Estelle lead and coordinate the library's Information Literacy Foundations program for first-year students. Alison has been an academic librarian for 10 years and she always aims to incorporate active learning and accessibility into her teaching.

Student Research Leaders and Leading Student Researchers: Insights from the First Year of the Undergraduate Research Leadership Program at Mount Royal University

Hailey Siracky & Brian Jackson, Mount Royal University Library

This presentation explores the creation and first-year implementation of the Undergraduate Research Leadership Program at Mount Royal University, a library-led initiative designed to increase equitable access to undergraduate research opportunities through peer mentorship. The program empowers senior students with research experience to develop leadership skills and mentor peers by hosting events, communicating creatively about research, and supporting activities like research assistantships, presentations, and funding applications.

Our session will summarize the program's origins, its first-year implementation, and its impact on participating students, including increased confidence as researchers and greater awareness of barriers faced by their peers.

Key takeaways include how libraries can lead undergraduate research initiatives, the benefits of collaborating with students on programming that fosters both research and leadership skills, the impact such programs have on student participants, and lessons learned from the program's pilot year.

Hailey Siracky (she/her) is a librarian at Mount Royal University. Her subject responsibilities include Psychology and Communications, and she also supports MRU's Undergraduate Research Leadership Program.

**Brian Jackson (he/him)** is a librarian at Mount Royal University. He has subject responsibilities for Data & Statistics, Research Data Management, Earth & Environmental Sciences, Policy Studies, and Economics. Brian is also responsible for developing and implementing programs in support of undergraduate research.

2:00 pm - 2:20 pm: Lightning Talks

# **Faculty Collaboration on Collection Development: Use of Rialto Title Alerts**

Meghan Hallam, Ambrose University

The Ambrose University Library collaborates extensively with faculty on collection development. After implementing the Rialto marketplace within the Alma environment we trialed using Rialto Title Alerts to solicit faculty recommendations. This presentation will describe the setup of Title Alerts, faculty involvement and experience, and library experience with this platform for collection development. Key takeaways include faculty opinion on involvement in collection development and using Rialto Title Alerts, and considerations for library staff in using library vendor services to curate selection lists.

Megan Hallam (she/her) has worked as the Technical Services Coordinator at Ambrose University Library since 2021 and has also taught in the Biology program since 2014. She has an LIT diploma from SAIT and a PhD in Nutrition, Metabolism and Genetics from the University of Calgary.

# **Generative AI Tools for Research**

Liam Baker, University of Calgary

This talk will discuss Generative AI (GenAI) tools librarians should remain aware of as GenAI revolutionizes the academic research process. The emergence of GenAI tools like Scite and Undermind change the relationship that people have with the research process. Where previously researchers would traditionally look to librarians for assistance with emerging roadblocks during their research, now they often turn to GenAI tools. I plan to discuss what these tools do, and do not do, for those engaging in

academic research, as well as the challenges and opportunities it presents. This talk can be seen as a primer for those less familiar with GenAl tools.

Liam Baker (he/him) is a Digital Strategies, Learning and Engagement Librarian at the University of Calgary. He provides liaison support for the School of Architecture, Landscaping, and Planning (SAPL), Geography, Engineering. He assists with instruction on artificial intelligence (AI) and AI literacy. Part of his mandate is to investigate emerging Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) tools, including considering their utility and effect on higher education.

2:20 pm - 2:35 pm: Afternoon Break with Refreshments

2:35 pm - 3:05 pm: Presentation

# No More All-Nighters (Except This One): Mixing Fun and Learning at Long Night Against Procrastination

Merran Carr-Wiggin & Kathleen James, University of Calgary Libraries

Join us as we explore the University of Calgary's take on a unique and highly successful initiative, *Long Night Against Procrastination* (LNAP). Since 2010, this event has helped students combat procrastination and boost productivity at universities around the world. Held for the last three years at UCalgary, LNAP offers students a dedicated, supportive environment to focus on their studies during a high-stress period of the academic year while mixing in fun, creativity and of course, free food.

Through extended library hours, study breaks, academic workshops, wellness activities – along with personalized support from librarians and staff, this event creates a vibrant atmosphere that fosters academic success. In this presentation, we will explore the evolution of LNAP, its impact on student engagement, and how this event promotes well-being and academic resilience.

This session will provide valuable takeaways for creating a supportive, energized environment that helps students tackle their tasks and overcome procrastination—one night at a time.

Merran Carr-Wiggin (she/her) is the Student Experience Librarian at the University of Calgary. Before this she held positions at Calgary Public Library, Dalhousie University Libraries, and Edmonton Public Library. She completed her MLIS degree at the University of Alberta and Dalhousie University. Merran believes strongly in a community led approach to library practices and infusing library spaces with joy every chance she gets!

**Kathleen James (she/her)** is a sessional Learning and Engagement Librarian for Sciences at the University of Calgary. Originally from Kelowna, B.C., Kathleen previously worked at Selkirk College and MRU prior to starting at UofC.

3:05 pm: Closing Remarks Meeting Ended at 3:09pm

# List of Reports

- Chairs Report
- Chair Elect Report
- Treasurer Report
- Secretary Report
- Learning and Development Committee Report
- Communications Committee Report
- Mentorship Committee Report

#### **Chair's Report**

As Chair of the Alberta Association of Academic Libraries (AAAL), it is my pleasure to present an introductory report for the 2024-2025 year. This has been a year of engagement, collaboration, and growth for our association as we continue to navigate challenges and opportunities in academic libraries.

The diversity of our membership continues to reflect our varied gifts and contributions to Alberta's post-secondary landscape. AAAL has continued to pursue strategic goals that align with the evolving needs of our members. In particular, collaboration with other library sectors and library associations has been a special focus to support the next generation of library professionals in facing the challenges of the evolving, more integrated, academic library landscape. As you will see from their upcoming reports, our sub-committees in Statistics and Assessment, Communication, Mentorship and Learning and Development have all been critically focused on their goals toward stimulating and demonstrating the academic library presence in Alberta.

A major highlight of 2024-2025 has been the focus on exploring a role in the "Stronger Together" conference partnership. The "Stronger Together" initiative, launched in collaboration with other provincial and national library associations, aims to create a unified front to advocate for libraries, share resources, and promote the essential role that libraries play in supporting academic and research endeavors. Outgoing AAAL Chair, Amanda Wills, provided leadership on AAAL's behalf by working with the visionary "Stronger Together" team to offer our association a one-year, cost-free, and risk-free opportunity to collaborate on their next conference on a trial basis. We are very grateful to the "Stronger Together" team for their generosity and leadership throughout this discussion process. We are very excited to confirm today that in February, our AAAL voting members voted overwhelmingly in favour of joining "Stronger Together" for this trial membership in 2025-2026.

Through this new partnership, AAAL will be able to:

- · Collaborate on joint professional development programs, such as shared workshops and speaker series.
- · Advocate collectively for increased library funding and support across all levels of government.

· Share innovative practices, including new approaches to data management, open access, and the integration of emerging technologies in academic libraries.

So far, the "Stronger Together" partnership has proven to be an invaluable conference experience for Alberta Librarians. AAAL's partnership with them will advance our ability to advocate effectively on behalf of our members and expand the services we offer, such as

- · Adoption of open educational resources (OER) across institutions
- · Strengthening of partnerships with academic institutions to promote the value of libraries in the academic learning experience

As ever, financially, AAAL remains in a strong position. We have maintained a balanced budget and continue to be measured and forward-looking in our financial management. I would like particularly to thank our Treasurer, Yvonne Phillips, for her smooth, calm, and steady management of AAAL's finances this past year. Yvonne will provide a more detailed financial report later in the programme.

We have also been very rich in other leadership talent at AAAL: I wish to personally thank the always patient Sheena Sereda for consistently meeting the very challenging demands of the AAAL Secretary role. Thanks are extended as well to Andrea Johnston for her grace, fresh ideas, and enthusiasm as Incoming Chair. I know that Andrea will be wonderful and inspiring in her new role as AAAL Chair in 2025-2026. And I look forward to supporting her in every way in the year ahead! And lastly, a very special thank you to our outgoing Chair, Amanda Wills, whose cheerful and solution-oriented leadership has steadily helped guide AAAL through a year of change and challenge. We are grateful for your years of service to AAAL, Amanda. Heartfelt thanks for your support of this association, always.

I would like to thank, too, all our members, continuing and newer, as AAAL moves forward to provide new professional development, advocacy, and networking opportunities.

Looking to the year ahead, AAAL is eager to continue our service to you all and to embrace the opportunities that lie before us. We will continue to focus on professional growth and development, advocacy, and collaboration. The "Stronger Together" partnership will continue to be a particularly important focus, and we will deepen our efforts to work closely with other associations to promote and advocate for libraries and library workers across Alberta.

I am very confident that AAAL will continue to be a driving force in supporting and advancing academic libraries in Alberta in 2025-2026.

Thank you all!

Respectfully submitted,

Jane C. Duffy, BA, MA, MLS, MACT Chair, Alberta Association of Academic Libraries (AAAL

# **Chair Elect Report**

What an absolutely incredible journey this year has been! I am beyond grateful for the support and guidance of my fellow Executive Committee members, and to our amazing Sub-Committees for their dedication and enthusiasm. Thank you all for making this past year a wonderful learning experience, and an incredible introduction to AAAL!

After joining the Executive in the Fall, I have been acting as a back-up for our wonderful Chair, Jane Duffy, and have been supporting our Sub-Committees through calls for volunteers, and ensuring they have the folks they need to be successful. Along with my fellow Executive members, we have been further discussing the Stronger Together Conference, and we are very excited about the direction this initiative has taken. A very special thank you to Amanda Wills for her advocacy and work on this project!

I also want to acknowledge that this year has been a difficult one for many institutions across Alberta, and the country. It's times like these where I am extremely grateful for the support of our network here at AAAL, and the community we have built in academia. I myself have utilized the supports here at AAAL and I am so grateful for all the conversations and encouragement I have received. For those who may need a little extra support, please know that we are here for you, we see you, and we support you.

Thank you ALL for an incredible year. I am very much looking forward to continuing to serve you as Chair next year, and for the opportunity to further support this amazing community we have built together.

Respectfully submitted by: Andrea Johnston, Chair-Elect

# **Treasurer Report**

This was a typical year for our "new normal" as far as only having one in-person meeting, as the AGM meetings are our largest expense due to the cost of a keynote speaker and catering.

Our revenue totalled \$4,473.00 from membership fees and bank interest, and our expenses totalled -\$3,487.45 from speaker fees, meeting expenses, and software costs. This expenses total differs slightly from the financial statement, which needed to account for \$12.54 deducted from our account twice (although once in error and refunded). AAAL is in good standing with an ending balance of \$16,284.32.

Something to consider for next year is facilitating electronic funds transfers, as more than one institution sent a letter with their cheque strongly preferring ETF as a payment method.

AAAL needs two volunteers from our membership to review and approve the 24-25 financial statements. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please reach out to the AAAL executive at aaal.executive@gmail.com. Ideally this needs to be completed ASAP but by the end of June would be reasonable.

Respectfully submitted by: Yvonne Phillips - AAAL Treasurer

# **Statistics and Assessment Committee Report**

**New Members** 

We have not welcomed any new members since Jenn Laskosky joined us in Fall 2024.

#### **Annual Survey**

The committee received 20 responses, which is on par with last year. No changes were made to the questionnaire this year.

Reports will be made available on the AAAL website.

The visualizations for the collected data are available on the AAAL Tableau Statistics Dashboard. There are two visualizations to view:

- AAAL Institutional Fact Sheet 2016-2024 filterable by institution
- AAAL All Statistics 2023/24 filterable by measure

All data will be accessible on the AAAL Dataverse page. Data can also be downloaded directly from the Tableau data reports.

If there is something that you would like us to consider adding to the questionnaire, or a definition that you think needs clarification, you can reach out to us at <a href="mailto:agaal.assess@gmail.com">agaal.assess@gmail.com</a>.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adam Cohen, Mount Royal University
Emily Villanueva, University of Lethbridge
Jenn Laskosky, Concordia University

# **Communications Committee Report**

AAAL communications are shared on the <u>AAAL Website</u>, Bluesky (<u>Alberta Association of Academic Libraries</u>) Facebook (<u>Alberta Association of Academic Libraries</u>), the AAAL Newsletter (<u>subscribe here</u>), and the Jerome-L listserv (<u>subscribe here</u>).

- We're thrilled to be working with our new webmaster, Tessa Brodhead.
- The Communications Committee moved from X over to Bluesky. Follow us at: https://bsky.app/profile/albertaaal.bsky.social
- We've continued to add events to our AAAL <u>library events calendar</u>. If you have events that you would like to see added to the calendar, please reach out to us at <u>aaal.communications@gmail.com</u>
- The Communications Committee has consolidated the AAAL membership contact list into a single, centralized location. Please let us know if there are any changes to your preferred contacts!

If you have any communications you would like to share via AAAL, please contact aaal.communications@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Ratcliffe (NorQuest College), Social Media Manager Tessa Brodhead (The King's University), Webmaster Administrator Meghan Staal (University of Alberta), Blog Administrator

# **Learning and Development Report**

Thank you to everyone who attended our virtual Fall Meeting in November; we were happy to see many AAAL members online and are grateful to Christena McKillop and Kathleen James for their presentation on embracing change in the academic library. Our Fall 2025 meeting will be held online; as our committee will begin planning the Fall meeting programming soon, we are seeking suggestions for presenters and topics for the professional development portion of the meeting. Thinking farther ahead, please consider hosting the Spring 2026 in-person AGM! For questions about hosting, please reach out to aaal.learningdevelopment@gmail.com.

Our Committee welcomed a new member, Rynnelle Wiebe from Medicine Hat College, in November 2024. Kelly Keus ended her term as co-chair this Winter and we are very grateful to Kelly for the work and expertise she contributed to the Committee.

Many thanks for attending today's meeting and please reach out if you have any questions, suggestions for programming, or are interested in contributing to the Learning & Development Committee!

Respectfully Submitted,

The AAAL Learning & Development Committee: Ali Foster (MacEwan University, Committee Chair); Christena McKillop (University of Calgary); Christy Nichols (Mount Royal University); Dana Ouellette (University of Alberta); Rynnelle Wiebe (Medicine Hat College)

#### **Mentorship Committee Report**

The Mentorship Committee was pleased to welcome ten mentor/mentee pairs over the past year—the highest number since before the COVID-19 pandemic. Results from the midterm survey, distributed in January, indicated that this year's pairings were highly successful, with no reported concerns or challenges. As the current program concludes in April, official certificates of participation will be distributed to all mentors and mentees in May. A call for new participants for the 2025/26 year will follow shortly thereafter.

We also welcomed three new committee members this year: Ron Rooth (MacEwan University), Holly Hoffmann (St. Mary's University), and Sarah Chomyc (University of Alberta). We extend our sincere thanks to our outgoing members—Matt Black (University of Calgary), Alice Swabey (Mount Royal University), and Connie Winther (University of Alberta)—for their valuable contributions to the committee.

Respectfully submitted by Roxy Garstad on behalf of the Mentorship Committee