

ORALL NEWSLETTER

OHIO REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

DECEMBER, 2023

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President's Column – Stephanie Ziegler

Greetings and happy winter, fellow ORALLiens! I'd like to take this opportunity, in my first President's Column, to say thank you so much for everything all of you do for the profession and this organization. At our Meeting last month in Akron, I was struck more than anything by the great energy and excitement for the future. Our theme was "bouncing back," and I think after pandemic lockdown and with the NextGen Bar on the horizon, everyone is more than ready to bounce back and face what's next for the profession.

This energy showed as well in our newest ORALLiens—both those new to the profession as a whole and those simply new to the region. Welcome! It was great to hear the stories of what brought our newest members to our field, and I'm so happy to see the connections being made between our newest members, those mid-career, and our most seasoned and experienced colleagues.

In the coming weeks, I will be reaching out to our members to ask about committee preferences for 2024. Chairing the Education Committee

highlighted for me the incredible diversity and breadth and depth of knowledge our membership has to offer. Librarians from different environments and at all stages of their careers, coming together to share ideas, strategies, and passions, to converse about topics as localized as workplace interactions and as wide-ranging as the NextGen Bar, is what makes our profession grow and thrive. I hope you'll all be able to find the time to volunteer your smarts, your skills, and your valuable time to one of our great committees.

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ORALL

Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries

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Newsletter

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Profile

ORALL is a 3-state chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries [Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky]. It was formed in 1949 "to further the development and usefulness of law libraries and to stimulate a spirit of mutual helpfulness among law libraries of this region." An annual conference is held each fall. ORALL publishes or sponsors the following publications: *Core Legal Collection* [bibliographies for Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan], ORALL Membership Directory, ORALL Newsletter, Ohio Legal Resources Annotated Bibliography & Guide 3rd.

President's Column *continued*

As we continue this bounce into the New Year, I hope we'll all continue to bring this energy and excitement to our careers and our own corners of the world. As always, if you have any ideas for ORALL and our path in 2024, please don't hesitate to let me know (ziegler.149@osu.edu). In the meantime, I wish you and yours a happy, healthy, and peaceful holiday season.

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ORALL 2023 – Akron, Ohio: Marketing the Law Library in the 21st Century **by Kayla Fertig, Cleveland Law Library**

This November I had the privilege of attending my first ORALL Annual Meeting in Akron, Ohio. I am a relatively new law librarian, and, over the past year, I have acclimated to my job and responsibilities at the Cleveland Law Library. The truth is that I'm still learning a lot about law librarianship, and the ORALL Annual Meeting helped me further develop my skills. Over the course of the three-day conference, I learned about new technologies, trends in the field, and met some amazing new people. I am so lucky to be part of such an amazing, supportive professional community.

The three-day conference was such an amazing experience; I enjoyed every program that I attended but there was one program that left a lasting impression. At the Cleveland Law Library I am responsible for some of our marketing materials, social media posts, and community outreach. Now, I am not a naturally talented artist; I can barely cobble together a stick person. However, in the age of computers and AI technology, anyone, no matter how hopelessly untalented, can express their creative side. This was the focus of Thursday's program, "Bounce Back with Design Strategies", which focused on marketing the law library in the 21st century. Through this course, design gurus Jeannette Mazur and Nikki Henry showed us how we could give our library's programming and media a fresh, new look.

Through Mazur and Henry's program, we learned about different computer programs and websites that make design a painless process. Starting with Microsoft Office Suite, they showed features to enhance any presentation, highlighting the program's ability to create immersive graphics and cartoon animations, and even the ability to insert your own live video into a power-point presentation.

Beyond Microsoft, we were introduced to some online design platforms. Canva is a cloud-based design program, with free, pro, and group membership

options. Mazur and Henry demonstrated how they used Canva to create presentations, disseminate information, and engage with firm members. Canva makes design easy and seamless. Their easy-to-use tools can create stunning designs, or you can access their premade template library. The most unique feature was their AI capabilities. Through Canva you can easily edit photos, remove unwanted objects, expand borders, or isolate objects to make a vector image. Canva also allows you to create new AI generated photos/videos with a simple prompt. This application is not perfect, but it can create free-use media without the risk of copyright. Canva is a useful tool to boost your design strategies and create impressive marketing materials.

I cannot wait to apply what I have learned and strengthen the connections I made at the ORALL Annual Meeting in Akron. I am so grateful I was able to attend such a wonderful event. Thank you to the ORALL Grants Committee for providing me with a grant to attend this year!

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ORALL 2023 – Akron, Ohio: County SIG Corner
by Jeanmarie Byrge, 2022-23 ORALL SIG CHAIR

The Annual ORALL Special Interest Group (SIG) for County Law Libraries Fall Meeting took place November 3, 2023 during the ORALL Annual Conference held in Akron, Ohio. Minutes for the meeting will be posted to ORALL's Meeting Minutes & Annual Reports webpage. Highlights were the installation of new leadership: Kristy Wells, Butler County, and Jenny Myers, Stark County will be taking the helm for 2023-24 as Chair and Co-Chair of the ORALL County SIG. Also, the 2024 Spring meeting was announced for May 2nd- 3rd 2024.

County Law Librarians will head off to another of Ohio's great State Parks, Hueston Woods. Expect to take care of business and participate in great programming. A networking event will be held outdoors around a fire-pit, enjoying pizza and the lush landscape of one of Ohio's Great Lodges.

Also in Akron, six representatives of SIG prepared and presented an ORALL County SIG workshop program. This program was available live, and also open to County Law Librarians via Zoom. The program was packed full of information on many topics: Funding, Budgeting, Vendor Negotiation, Records Retention, Curating & Cataloging a Collection and a lot of Open Discussion.

Okay, I'll be honest, we had a few technical glitches and the Zoom recording of the program will not be available. Do look for the complete presentation, along with handouts and the valuable links provided within the session to be published and available on the Consortium of Ohio Law Libraries website. I'd like to give a hearty shout-out to all of those presenting and participating in the program and the especially to those running Zoom and monitoring the chat! You truly demonstrated resilience and flexibility.

As for the conference overall the program, it was fantastic. One of the focuses of multiple presentations and vendor demonstrations was to highlight Artificial Intelligence (AI). The message was clear. AI is on the way, educate yourself.

I'd like to thank everyone for your support during my term as SIG Chair.

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ORALL 2023 – Akron, Ohio: New Librarian Interviews

Jenny Myers (by Kayla Fertig)

Meet the new director of the Stark County Law Library, Jenny Myers. Jenny is new to the law library scene. She has a bachelor's in education and a Master's in Library and Information Science from Kent State University. She has lived in

Stark County her entire life and previously worked in the Stark Public Library system. She held three different positions over the years, from teen librarian to collection development coordinator.

In November 2022, Jenny started her law library journey. For nine months she worked as the assistant director at the Stark County Law Library, shadowing Kendel Croston and preparing to take over the director's position when Kendel ultimately retired in 2023. Jenny quickly learned the ropes and developed a deep passion for her law library. In my interview, she discussed updating the library's space and her excitement to host her first CLE on November 9th. She is eager to grow her library and better herself as an information professional. I am so excited to see all that she will do at the Stark County Law Library and here at ORALL.

Nikki Henry (by Lisa Murray)

Nikki does law firm consulting where she is contracted full-time at Baker-Hostettler, where there are over 1,000 attorneys that she assists. Her official title is Legal Content Specialist. As a LCS, Nikki manages vendors, budgets, and library administrative work. There are six Specialists on her team and they all work closely with the Legal Research Specialist team.

Nikki was a history major in college and became an OSU intern at their library. She went on to receive her MLIS and had an academic library interest. She worked at Case Western Reserve Law Library as a Computer Lab Specialist for a few months before landing her role at Baker-Hostettler.

In her personal time, Nikki enjoys true crime, documentaries, tennis, and arts and crafts.

Lisa Murray (by Nikki Henry)

Lisa Murray is the Assistant Director at Stark County Law Library and a new member of ORALL. She started as Assistant Director in July 2023 and comes from an accomplished career in public libraries, previously working in positions such as Collection Development Coordinator, Adult Services Manager, and Branch Manager at the Stark County District Library and Wayne County Public Library. Lisa earned a B.S. in English Language and Literature from Malone University and received her MLIS from Kent State University.

In her free time, she likes to spend time with her two-and-a-half and five-year-old daughters, listen to audiobooks and true crime podcasts and go to concerts. She is both friendly and funny, so don't be afraid to reach out and say hi!

* * *

DEI Resources Guide from IU McKinney School of Law
by Diversity & Inclusion Committee

The ORALL Diversity & Inclusion Committee is reviewing the organizational websites of ORALL members for publicly available diversity, equity, and inclusion resources. Committee members will notify you if your organization's resources have been selected for our crowdsourced bibliography, which will soon appear on the ORALL website. If you would like to proactively submit resources for the bibliography, please send your electronic LibGuides, research guides, and other resources to the D&I Committee. Any and all materials that relate to diversity, equity, and inclusion are welcome! In this article, and future articles, we will feature a diversity, equity, and inclusion resource created by one of our fellow ORALL members.

In this article, the D&I Committee is featuring the [Diversity Equity, and Inclusion Resources](#) libguide on the IU McKinney School of Law Ruth Lilly Law Library website. The guide was created by Larissa Sullivant, Head of Collection Services and Adjunct Lecturer in Law. The guide is intended "to serve as a resource for faculty, adjuncts, students, staff, and librarians." Feedback and suggestions are welcome, and the "guide will continue to evolve as new resources become available." The home page provides information on, and links to, numerous books, eBooks, and law review / journal articles. The "Resources at McKinney Law" page provides links to the IU McKinney Office of Diversity & Inclusion and Commitment to Diversity, as well as an incident of bias report form and several related Offices of the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. The "DEI Resources at IUPUI" page links to the IUPUI Division of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion website, with information on its various Centers and projects, Faculty & Staff Councils, and Initiatives, as well as links to numerous "Indianapolis area organizations involved in creating and sustaining diversity, equity, and inclusion" and publications. The "Resources at IU" page provides links to several Indiana University Offices, Centers, and College/School DEI pages. The "Indiana DEI Resources" pages provides links to several state of Indiana inclusion, diversity, equity and access resources. The guide is easy to navigate, and provides contact information on its creator, Larissa Sullivant.

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County SIG Corner
by Kristie Wells, ORALL SIG CHAIR

Hello fellow Orallians! This time of year is always a great time to step back and reflect.

Thinking of all of the wonderful experiences and memories that were made over the past year and planning for the new year is always an exciting time. With that being said, I am pleased to announce that the annual ORALL-Sig County Conference will be held at Hueston Woods Lodge in Oxford, Ohio on May 3, 2024. More details will be forthcoming, including registration and lodging. I have personally visited Hueston Woods, and I believe it will be an enjoyable experience, with beautiful views of the lake and various wooded hiking trails so you can discover the full beauty of springtime in Ohio. I hope to see everyone there!

* * *

News from ORALLiens

Tamara L. Rogers began her new role as Research and Instructional Services Librarian at Robert H. McKinney School of Law, Ruth Lilly Law Library in October, 2023. She is a library student and is a recipient of the Wilma Gibbs Moore Scholarship. You can learn more about Tamara and her scholarship at the [Law School's press release](#) and the [Library School's press release](#).

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A Note from Your Newsletter Editor

Our next newsletter will be published in March, 2024.

Thanks to all who contributed not only to this quarter's newsletter, but to those who have contributed throughout the year. I hope to continue receiving more informative and interesting articles as my tenure is apparently continuing as your editor.

It was great seeing many of you in Akron, and I hope you all have a happy holiday and safe new year.

If you ever have any questions, concerns or ideas, please e-mail me at pvenard1@udayton.edu.