

# SLRLN NET NEWS

Winter 2016



## COUNCIL UPDATES:

Brian McFerron of Vatterott College stepped down at the end of 2015. We thank you for your service, Brian.

The council voted in Julie Anne Portman, Technical Services Librarian and Associate Professor at Fontbonne University, to take the vacant council seat. Welcome Julie!

## How Rude! – Spring Speaker Series Lunch

April 27, 12:00pm, Webster University

Register at: <http://srlrn.org/welcome/workshops/>

The St. Louis Regional Library Network is pleased to welcome Emily Troxell Jaycox of the Missouri History Museum as the presenter for the 2016 Spring Speaker Series lunch and annual business meeting. Her program, “How Rude! The Changing Forms of Polite Behavior,” will cover such topics as spittoons, calling cards, gloves, and the ever-evolving standards of politeness that illuminate the relations between men, women, classes, and races.

Registration is \$25 for SLRLN members and \$35 for non-members.

## Message from the President



I am one of the few fortunate individuals to serve as SLRLN president for nearly two years. Circumstances led me to take on the role early and I have been pleased to be in this position. During my time as president, I have seen the Network grow from a recovering non-profit to a thriving and active group. Attendance at events has increased in the past two years, and we have been able to increase the effectiveness of our services as well.

Over the past year, our Co-Op Purchasing Program has increased to 19 vendors to include Bound to Stay Bound, Capstone Publishers, Rainbow Book Company, and Follett School Solutions. Each of these vendors provide discounts to St. Louis Regional Library Network members.

Another example of our growth is our annual Tech Expo, which started in 2002 as a technology-related workshop and has grown substantially into a full conference. This one-day event gives librarians and para-professionals a chance to learn from one another through shared successes and

even failures. It also gives us a chance to network with fellow library workers. Please look at our website to learn more: <http://slrln.org/slrln-tech-expo/>

We are also making changes in how we run the Network. Several years ago we found ourselves in the happy position of having a substantial financial reserve. We wanted to share the wealth, as it were, by giving back to the area's libraries. In order to do this, we decreased event ticket prices and did not make any changes to our membership fees. If you attended the 2015 Spring Speaker Series and Annual Business Meeting, you might remember hearing we were purposefully running a budget deficit for this reason. We are starting to come to a time when this is no longer sustainable, so soon you will again see ticket prices that cover our actual costs. We are also considering a potential new membership fee structure that will bring us up to date with our expenses as the fees have not changed for nine years.

I will soon turn over the role of leadership to our Vice President, Lynn Maitz. Like me, she will take the office early as I will be unavailable after the birth of my second child in early April.

Thank you all for helping revitalize SLRLN into the successful Network it is today.

## SLRLN Tech Expo



Once again, we had an amazing turnout for the Tech Expo conference at Logan University on March 9, 2016. Roughly 80 librarians and paraprofessionals from Missouri and Illinois attended the event. The ten presentations ranged from creating custom videos to gaining the most out of what LibGuides Analytics has to offer. Two of the best-attended presentations were Lauren Todd's "Timing is Everything: How (and When) to Communicate so People Will Listen," which covered marketing timelines for classes, events, and faculty communication and Bill Bass's "Beyond

Survival: Reimagining the Library,” which covered creating a plan to make your library thrive by having others tell your library’s story and being an agent of change.

The conference also provided networking opportunities with scheduled time before the presentations began and during a long lunch. Thank you to all who came, participated, and made this year’s Tech Expo a success.

To find links to handouts and presentations from the 2016 (*coming soon*) and previous Tech Expos, please go to <http://slrln.org/slrln-tech-expo/>.

## St. Louis Suburban School Librarians Association (SLSSLA)

Nina O’Daniels

The St. Louis Suburban School Librarians Association (SLSSLA) held their annual spring meeting at De Smet Jesuit High School, Saturday, February 27th. In attendance were school librarians ranging from elementary to high school, both public and private, as well as a representative from St Louis County Public Library and EBSCO. The “Librarian’s Treasure Trove” was broken into two parts. The first part of the meeting was a Makerspaces playground. Librarians weren't given many directions with the devices, the goal being to mimic how students might learn and discover on their own. The playground consisted of devices and resources related to Google Cardboard, Makey Makey, Sphero, Augmented Reality, Aurasma, and coding with students. After discovering what the devices can do, librarians were able to speak to other grade-level librarians and brainstorm ideas to bring back to their own libraries.



The second part of the meeting allowed time for informal presentations. Three rounds of presentations were given in a multitude of areas and interests, including Missouri Readers Awards, Goodreads, Tech and Literacy Tools, EBSCO, Collaboration with St Louis County Public Libraries, Professional Organizations, 1:1 Schools, and the National Board Certification process. This format allowed attendees to hear from three presenters of their choice in less time than it would normally take to hear one in a traditional conference setting. Handouts from presenters are available [here](#).

Many attendance prizes were given away, including the Sphero, a Green Screen kit, a Makey Makey and a free MASL Spring Conference registration. SLSSLA was able to provide these prizes with a

LISA grant from MASL. The LISA grant provides money to regional MASL organizations in order to provide quality professional development to its members. If you are a school librarian and would like to know more about SLSSLA, contact President Jennifer Millikan at [jmillikan@sja1840.org](mailto:jmillikan@sja1840.org). The group meets twice a year in St. Louis and once during the MASL Spring Conference. It is a great way to meet other professionals in your region and opportunity for professional development.

## INFO-PASS

For those of you who may not know, INFO-PASS is a resource-sharing program of the St. Louis Regional Library Network that has been in effect for over 35 years. The majority of our members participate, which allows a patron of a member library to have access to materials from another participating library in the program by either using materials in the library or checking the materials out where permissible.

We find that school and public libraries benefit most from this program, but having libraries of all types participate is what makes this resource-sharing program so successful. More information is available at: <http://slrln.org/welcome/info-pass/>

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### SLRLN

St. Louis Regional Library Network is a non-profit membership organization that provides opportunities and forums for local libraries and librarians to share resources and knowledge. The Network began in 1977 and includes members from public, academic, school, and special libraries.

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