

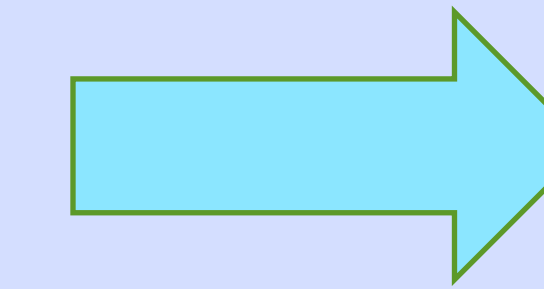
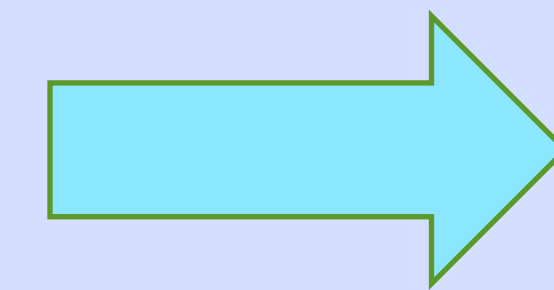
Community Librarianship: Campus & Beyond

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Nealley Library @ Santa Ana College



Photos (top to bottom): Fieldtrip to used bookstore; lunch at the home of the Vice President of Student Services as part of a bookstore and public library field trip; violence against women performance art/campus demonstration; bookstore lecture as part of a fieldtrip; and hands-on zine workshop.



ABOVE: Living in the same community where I work has led to more organizing and service beyond the campus. This has involved starting a reading group that meets at a local restaurant and preparing food and serving meals with Food not Bombs.

ABSTRACT

When an academic library is referred to as the heart of the campus, this is something positive. It illustrates how the library is understood as the central life-force. Still, for all the good that comes from beliefs like this one, we need to consider other paths. We need to decentralize certain aspects of librarianship. Some community members will never come to the library, but librarians can bring their core beliefs of access to information, freedom of speech, and information literacy to students and others where they are. This is a form of action that may lead to deeper connections and teaching experiences. In this poster, I will demonstrate actions I have taken to become more engaged with my campus community and beyond. These actions include (1) serving as a faculty advisor for a student led feminist club and book club, which has involved helping students prepare for protest actions and organizing fieldtrips to discover information sources in Los Angeles; (2) starting a social justice and ecofeminism reading group in the same city where I work to cultivate a supportive space to discuss books and related topics with members of my community; and (3) simply living in the community I serve, which allows for encounters and conversations with students outside of the library and campus. These activities have resulted in me understanding information literacy, lifelong learning, and my work as a librarian and mentor in a profoundly more meaningful way.

ABOVE: Work with student clubs has been rewarding and greatly expanded my understanding of information literacy and lifelong learning. Activities have included fieldtrips to the Central Library of the Los Angeles Public Library; visiting a large used bookstore; political demonstrations; attending a lecture off-campus; and a zine workshop.

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