

Myka Kennedy Stephens

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PROFILE

Dedicated and passionate librarian with expertise in library leadership, strategic planning and management, and open-source software adoption. Adaptable to change and rapid developments in information technology. Self-motivated, detail-oriented, and deadline driven. Visionary leader and collaborator who cultivates a collegial atmosphere. Professional, articulate, and personable.

EDUCATION AND HONORS

- MSLIS – College of Information, Florida State University** **2007**
Information Policy and Management concentration
Member, Beta Phi Mu—The International Library and Information Studies Honor Society
- MDiv – Candler School of Theology, Emory University** **2004**
William R. Cannon Scholar
- BA – Southern Methodist University** **2001**
English major, Music and Religious Studies minors
Member, Sigma Tau Delta—The National English Honor Society
University Scholar

EXPERIENCE

SEMINARY LIBRARIAN & ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY **2014 TO PRESENT**
Lancaster Theological Seminary; Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Serve as member of regular faculty and share responsibility for the development and implementation of the Seminary's curricular programs. Plan, implement, manage, and evaluate a wide range of innovative library services including collection development, embedded library services, integrated information literacy instruction, reference services, cataloging, seminary archives, library systems administration, library budget, facilities, staffing, library policy, strategic planning and visioning.

- Led a departmental strategic planning process resulting in an integrated library plan based on integrated business planning models, involving monthly review and assessment practices and an 18-month rolling horizon for ongoing planning and visioning
- Reconfigured library staff to maximize individual skill and departmental efficiency
- Migrated multiple legacy systems and launched new open-source systems to support all library services, seminary archives, and learning management
- Trained staff and faculty in new technologies, systems, and best practices
- Updated and created new policies and procedural documents for library operations
- Authored Lancaster Seminary's Intellectual Property Rights Policy and incorporated restorative justice in the Standards for Student Conduct
- Collaborated with faculty colleagues to map and embed the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education in the master's and doctoral curricula
- Faculty advisor to students in the master's programs
- Member of the 2016 Strategic Partnerships Steering Committee and workgroup chair
- Faculty representative to Board of Trustees (2017-2019)
- Chair of Community Task Force (2019) to examine racist legacy of the library's eponym
- Chair of Standards Committee (2015-2021)
- Chief administrator of the learning management system (Moodle) and support team lead

INDEPENDENT INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL **2006 TO 2014**
Decatur, Georgia and Morton Grove, Illinois

Library, information services, and communications consultancy. Clients and projects included:

Mondelēz International; Deerfield, Illinois **2014**

- Edited and standardized a library of documentation for the Integrated Business Planning initiative, including training materials distributed globally to business units

United Methodist Women; New York, New York **2012-2014**

- Provided online and phone reference services and technical support for the national community of deaconesses and home missionaries
- Generated broad range of resources for the Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner
- Created and taught classes on communication for ministry and social media technologies

New Hope United Methodist Church; Chicago, Illinois **2009-2011**

- Established online collection of information resources for community
- Trained volunteers to update and maintain website content
- Developed brand identity and redesigned multi-page website for church and food pantry

Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association **2008-2011**

- Edited and published quarterly newsletter publication with over 2,000 subscribers
- Transitioned to electronic publication after evaluating available financial resources
- Created written editorial policies and procedures, established publication standards, and instituted and led a five-member editorial board

Druid Hills United Methodist Church; Atlanta, Georgia **2006-2009**

- Provided reference services and developed library programs for a diverse community
- Revitalized church library collection through collection development and promotion
- Created and implemented a complete set of library policies and procedures and recruited, trained, and supervised volunteers to assist with library operations

CATALOGER **2004 TO 2006**

Pitts Theology Library, Emory University; Atlanta, Georgia

Cataloged new acquisitions, special collections and periodical materials. Imported and updated bibliographic records for monographs and serials. Created full-level original records for monographs and serials. Performed bibliographic maintenance activities as necessary.

Supervised and trained student assistants.

- Organized and oversaw project to identify and catalog approximately 1,200 periodical titles not previously cataloged
- Developed and completed project to reorganize and standardize records for official doctrinal works of Methodist churches
- Co-coordinated cataloging for The Rev. Gordon Taylor Collection of Church Histories
- Initiated and provided leadership for a task force addressing building maintenance issues and served on two other task forces
- Served on search committee for curator of archives

PERIODICALS ASSISTANT **2003 TO 2004**

Pitts Theology Library, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

Checked-in and shelved new materials. Processed bindery shipments. Provided reference assistance and referrals as needed. Monitored subscriptions and claimed missed issues. Managed ATLA Serials Exchange participation.

- Managed periodicals collection during six-week transition between two periodicals librarians
- Developed a renewal system for subscriptions ordered directly from the publisher

SENIOR CIRCULATION ASSISTANT**1999 TO 2001****Bridwell Library, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas**

Performed general circulation tasks: charged, discharged and shelved materials, investigated and recovered lost and/or missing materials, processed payments for fines and merchandise, managed reserve materials, provided reference assistance and referrals as needed.

- Designed instructional PowerPoint presentation for new student orientation
- Updated and published circulation training documentation in new browser-based format
- Distinguished as the Outstanding Student Employee in 2001 by the SMU Libraries for outstanding performance, dedication to excellence, and contributions to the SMU community

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**Monographs**

Integrated Library Planning: A New Model for Strategic and Dynamic Planning, Management, and Assessment. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, under contract.

Shifting Stacks: A Look at the Future of Theological Libraries in Celebration of Atla's 75th Anniversary. Edited with Matthew Collins and James Estes. Chicago: Atla Open Press, 2020.

Professional Papers

"Defining Balances in Collection Development Policies," with Katie Benjamin, Andrew Keck, and Michelle Spomer, *Summary of Proceedings: Seventy-fourth Annual Conference of Atla* (2020): 87-108.

"Small and Thriving: A Follow-Up to 'The Future of the Small Theological Library,'" with Susan Ebertz and Elizabeth Young Miller, *Summary of Proceedings: Seventy-third Annual Conference of Atla* (2019): 85-96.

"Integrated Planning for Theological Libraries," *Summary of Proceedings: Seventy-First Annual Conference of the American Theological Library Association* (2017): 133-140.

"Open Source Software in Theological Libraries," with Richard M. Adams and Matthew S. Collins, *Summary of Proceedings: Seventieth Annual Conference of the American Theological Library Association* (2016): 99-110.

"The Future of the Small Theological Library," *Theological Librarianship: An Online Journal of the American Theological Library Association* 9, no. 1 (2016): 28-32.

"Hosting Conversations in the Library: A User-Centered Approach to Change," *Summary of Proceedings: Sixty-Ninth Annual Conference of the American Theological Library Association* (2015): 226-231.

"A Prophetic Voice for Love, Justice, and Service: The Lay Diaconate Embodied by United Methodist Deaconesses and Home Missioners," with Becky Dodson Louter, *Currents in Theology and Ministry* 42, no. 3 (July 2015): 205-212.

"Partnering with the Parish: Information Behaviors of Faith Communities," *Summary of Proceedings: Sixty-Eighth Annual Conference of the American Theological Library Association* (2014): 87-95.

"The Ordained Theological Librarian: A Cost Benefit Analysis," *Summary of Proceedings: Sixty-First Annual Conference of the American Theological Library Association* (2007): 142-152.

Editorials

"My SRRT Education," SRRT Newsletter, no. 175 (June 2011): <http://www.ala.org/rt/srrt-newsletter-issue-175-june-2011#10>.

"Renewing a Lively and Provocative Newsletter," SRRT Newsletter, no. 170 (March 2010): <http://www.ala.org/rt/srrt-newsletter-issue-170-march-2010#11>.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- "A Patron, a Librarian, and a Developer Walk into a Bar: The Conversations and Relationships that Fuel Koha Development," session presentation, KohaCon 2020, October 2020
- "Information Literacy Theory and Praxis in Religious Studies and Theological Education," panel presentation, American Library Association Midwinter Meeting, January 2020
- "Enabling Elasticsearch," panel speaker, Koha-US Conference, September 2019
- "The Power and Promise of Koha's ILL Module," session presentation, Koha-US Conference, September 2019
- "Librarians in Learning Management Systems," session presentation, Leading Edge Libraries Conference, September 2018
- "The Art of Hosting for Libraries," session presentation, Leading Edge Libraries Conference, September 2018
- "Updating a Records Management Program: Case Study from Lancaster Theological Seminary," panel speaker, Leading Edge Libraries Conference, September 2018
- "Leveraging Open Source Library Guides: Integrating Koha and SubjectsPlus," international presentation, KohaCon 2018, September 2018
- "Implementing OpenAthens for Single Sign-On Authentication," invited presentation, Leading Edge Libraries Conference, September 2017
- "Discovery Layers: Overview and Case Study," invited presentation, Leading Edge Libraries Conference, September 2017
- "Backing Library Services with Open Source Applications," invited presentation, Leading Edge Libraries Conference, September 2017
- "Doing Authentication," session presentation, Koha-US Conference, August 2017
- "You Can Be an Open Source Library," session presentation, Koha-US Conference, August 2017
- "Dynamic Management for Academic Libraries," poster presentation, ACRL 2017, March 2017
- "Making Your Library a Place for Meaningful Conversation," webinar, American Theological Library Association, February 2017
- "From Digital Rookie to Digital Pro: how to use information technology to help make it happen," invited workshop, 2014 United Methodist Women Assembly, April 2014
- "Social Responsibility and Librarianship," guest speaker, Capstone class, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Dominican University, April 2011
- "Basically Blogging," invited presentation, Church and Synagogue Library Association Annual Conference, July 2008

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND TRAINING

Library and Metadata Standards

RDA, AACR2, LCRI, LCSH, LC Authority File, LC Classification System, MARC21, OCLC Bibliographic Formats and Standards, CONSER, Dewey Decimal Classification, Dublin Core

Information Technology

Library Technologies: Koha, Omeka, SubjectsPlus, ResourceSpace, MarcEdit
Online Learning Systems and Tools: Moodle, Blackboard, H5P
Desktop Publishing: Microsoft Office, LibreOffice, G Suite, Scribus, Calibre, Prezi
Graphic Design and Media Editing: Photoshop, Gimp, Inkscape, ScreenFlow, iMovie
Web Development: HTML5, CSS3, WordPress, Amazon Web Services, Google Analytics
Programming: Git, SQL, XML, PHP, Java, JSON, APIs, Python, Sphinx

Languages

Proficiency in Spanish and Biblical Hebrew

Basic translation and transliteration experience with French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Afrikaans, Dutch, Swedish, Korean, Greek, Welsh, Latin, Russian and Swahili

Continuing Education

Women in Leadership Mentoring Program, Association of Theological Schools	2020-23
Trauma-Informed Pedagogy, Lancaster Theological Seminary	2021
Growing in Cultural Competence, United Methodist Women	2020
Faculty retreat addressing the ongoing work of dismantling white privilege	2017
Faculty retreat addressing the spiritual dimensions of anti-racism	2016
Restorative Justice for College Student Misconduct & Residential Life, Skidmore College	2015
Copyright for Educators and Librarians, Duke University	2014
Theology from the Black Perspective, Lancaster Theological Seminary	2014
Reference Interview 101, Reference & User Services Association	2013
Frontline Advocacy Train the Trainer Program, American Library Association	2010
Theology of Mission, New York Theological Seminary	2007
Advanced Serials Cataloging, Serials Cataloging Cooperative Training Program	2005

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Theological Library Association	2003 to Present
Editor-in-Chief, Books@Atla Open Press (2020 to Present)	
Editor, Books@Atla Open Press (2018 to 2020)	
Manager, ATLA-Ministry Discussion List (2006 to 2010)	
Participant, Future of Libraries in Theological Education Conversation (2014)	
American Library Association	2007 to Present
Social Responsibilities Round Table (2007 to Present)	
Editor, "SRRT Newsletter" (2008 to 2011)	
Web Manager, http://www.libr.org/srrt (2009 to 2011)	
National Association of Deaconesses, Home Missioners, and Home Missionaries	2009 to Present
Archivist (2020 to Present)	
Southeastern Pennsylvania Theological Library Association	2014 to Present
Web Manager and Co-Chair, Communications Committee (2019 to Present)	
Member, Communications Committee (2015 to 2019)	
Past-President (2018 to 2019)	
President (2016 to 2018)	
Association of College & Research Libraries	2017 to Present
Koha-US	2018 to Present