

Bridging the Digital Divide: Library Communities Respond

Virtual Mini Conference Sponsored by:
NCLA-College & University Section

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020
9AM TO 4PM





Program

9:00 AM

The Digital Divide in Context (Keynote)

Rob Ross
NC LIVE

10:00 AM

Building a Digital Library Consortium

Alan Unsworth
Sponsored by NCLA-CJCLS

11:00 AM

College and University Section Panel

Dawn Behrend, Breanne Crumpton, Dwain Teague, Velappan Velappan, and Staci Wilson
Sponsored by NCLA-CUS

Noon

Lunch Break

1:00 PM

Bridging the Digital Divide with School and Public Library Partnerships

Sedley Abercrombie and Kathy Parker
Sponsored by NCLA-SLM

2:00 PM

Enhancing Your Virtual Programming Quality

Leander A. Croker and Jason Howard
Sponsored by NCLA-PLS

3:00 PM

Collaborations, Digital Equity, and The Library

Laura Fogle, Amy Huffman,
Katie Kehoe, and Justin Stout
Sponsored By NCLA-LS



Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios

The Digital Divide in Context **Rob Ross**

The digital divide is a specific inequality that does not exist in isolation. This presentation will explore the broader socioeconomic context in which the digital divide exists both to build our collective awareness and to ensure that our actions to address the digital divide take these attendant inequalities into account.

Rob Ross is responsible for the overall leadership of NC LIVE. This includes setting the strategic vision for NC LIVE; managing its finances; engaging with member libraries; establishing partnerships with other organizations; negotiating with vendors; conceiving new programs and services; and demonstrating the value of NC LIVE to external stakeholders. Rob joined NC LIVE as Executive Director in September 2015. Prior to joining NC LIVE, Rob was the Director of Implementation Services at OCLC, a global library cooperative, where he led the team responsible for working with member libraries to successfully implement new technologies, redesign library workflows and measure ROI. Rob teaches at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science. In 2017 Rob was awarded a Fulbright Specialist Grant to assist the Conference of Italian University Rectors in Rome. You can connect with Rob and follow his blog at <http://www.nclive.org/blogs/rob>.



Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios

Building a Digital Library Consortium **Alan Unsworth**

Creating collections of digital resources that patrons are excited to use is a major issue in the current environment of mass online learning. As print circulation will likely reach record low levels this academic year, community college librarians are looking for ways to use our limited resources to bring popular e-books and e-audio to students and faculty. By pooling our buying power and leveraging the knowledge and experience of NC public libraries, NC community college libraries have formed their own digital consortium with OverDrive. This presentation will discuss the steps taken to form this organization, from initiating contact with public library leaders, promoting the idea to community colleges, negotiating with the vendor, getting library buy-in, and establishing bylaws and organizational structure.

Alan Unsworth is Director of Academic Support & Research at Surry Community College. Alan is a former president and webmaster of the North Carolina Community College Library Association (NCCCLA), is currently the community college representative on the NC LIVE Executive Board, and he is a Membership Director for the North Carolina Library Association (NCLA).



Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios

Remote Learning and Digital Divide: Considering Opportunities and Challenges in the Academic Libraries

Dawn Behrend, Breanne Crumpton, Dwain Teague, Velappan Velappan, and Staci Wilson

The NCLA College and University Section Board is comprised of diverse librarians from across the state and represent community colleges and public and private universities. The panel will discuss their intuitional experiences in helping students respond to digital needs during the current pandemic.

Dawn Behrend is an Instruction and Outreach Librarian at Lenoir-Rhyne University. She holds a B.A. in Psychology, M.A. in Clinical Psychology, MBA, and MLS. Ms. Behrend has worked for over 20 years as Licensed Psychological Associate and is a second career librarian.

Breanne Crumpton is the Information Literacy Librarian for the Humanities at Appalachian State University. She is the current Chair of the Literacy Section for the North Carolina Library Association as well as a Director on the Executive Board for the College and University Section.



Session Descriptions and Presenter Bios

Remote Learning and Digital Divide: Considering Opportunities and Challenges in the Academic Libraries

Dwain Posey Teague serves as the Emerging Technologies and Outreach Librarian for the North Carolina Wesleyan College Pearsall Library. He manages the Media Production Lab, provides reference assistance to students, teaches Library Instruction for NCWC classes at the Rocky Mount campus and the satellite campuses, teaches students the importance of Information Literacy, and coordinates all library outreach and events. Dwain has presented locally and nationally at library and fundraising conferences and has published two articles and a book chapter. Dwain holds the M.L.S. from North Carolina Central University; the M.A. in English from East Carolina University; and the B.S. in Communications from East Carolina University.

Velappan Velappan is working as a Head of Access Services at Fayetteville State University Library since 2008. He holds a BS in Textile Engineering from Bharathiyar University, India, MS in Computer Information Systems from Rivier University, NH and MS in Library Information Science from Southern Connecticut State University, CT. He currently serves as a Chair for open Educational Resources (OER) at Fayetteville State University. He is a subject liaison for Mathematics, Science and Technology and teaching various research classes for Undergraduate and Graduate students.

Staci Wilson is the Director of Library Services at Catawba Valley Community College. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and holds an MLS degree from North Carolina Central University. She serves as a Director on the Executive Board for the College and University Section. She is a member of NCLA, NCCCLA, and SELA.



Session Descriptions

Bridging the Digital Divide with School and Public Library Partnerships

Sedley Abercrombie and Kathy Parker

Join in this discussion with Sedley Abercrombie and Kathy Parker. We will be facilitating a round table discussion regarding bridging the digital divide with school and public library partnerships.

Sedley Abercrombie transitioned from 13 years in public schools as a school librarian and district library supervisor to be the branch manager of the West Davidson Public Library in Tyro. Sedley is certified in K-6 elementary ed, ESL, school library media, district media supervision and public librarianship. She is a past president of NCSLMA and currently serves as the school library liaison to the executive board of NCLA. Sedley has also taught various courses in library science for both ECU and UNCG for several years now. She currently lives in Lexington. You may reach her at sedleyabercrombie@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter [@sedley1](https://twitter.com/sedley1).

Kathy Parker is a Raleigh native who answered the calling to be a lifelong educator. She graduated with English and history degrees from North Carolina State University and earned ESL certification and a master's degree in library science from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She began her career in education as a high school English teacher before transitioning to school library media. In 2008, she earned National Board Certification in library media. Joining the NC Department of Public Instruction in 2012, she is currently the state's School Library Media and Sandhills Regional Consultant in the Division of Digital Teaching and Learning. Kathy is available via email or phone: kathy.parker@dpi.nc.gov , 252-220-0917. You may also follow her on twitter [@kparkerslmc](https://twitter.com/kparkerslmc).



Session Descriptions

Enhancing Your Virtual Programming Quality **Leander A. Croker and Jason Howard**

When public libraries closed their physical locations due to COVID-19, in-person programming shifted entirely to the virtual space. Librarians, once again, had to adapt to the needs of the public. As a result, librarians are implementing new skills to deliver rich and valuable programs. While creating content for meaningful programs is second nature to librarianship, recording and editing video programs is daunting. This presentation will teach librarians how to use free or low cost resources to enhance the quality of their virtual programs.

Leander A. Croker is the Business Services Manager for Durham County Library, in Durham North Carolina. Prior to joining Durham Public Library Leander spent the early part of her career in academic libraries at North Carolina A&T State University and Johnston Community College. For the past four years Leander has been the driving force behind “Entrepreneurial Education and Support” programming.

This multifaceted approach is nurturing entrepreneurs, strengthening staff capacity to deliver high-quality services, and positioning the library as a relevant and active partner in the Durham entrepreneurial ecosystem. Leander knows access to information can change lives and librarians play a pivotal role in that exploration.

Jason Howard is an experienced librarian and digital content creator. He is Adult Services Librarian at Durham County Library. Howard is a member of the American Library Association and the North Carolina Library Association.

A vertical image on the left side of the page shows a white tablet at the top, a white laptop keyboard in the middle, and a black pen resting on a beige notebook at the bottom.

Session Descriptions

Collaborations, Digital Equity, and The Library

**Laura Fogle, Amy Huffman,
Katie Kehoe, and Justin Stout**

To bridge the digital divide experts agree people need access to affordable broadband, a useable device, and the digital literacy skills to use these resources effectively. Often it is difficult for a single organization to focus on all three aspects of digital equity, so partnerships are formed to more effectively address community needs. But how are these partnerships formed? What are the first steps to reaching out to an organization to form a partnership? How do we effectively leverage cross-organizational partnerships to meet mutual goals? How can libraries work with outside organizations to meet the library's strategic goals? On this interdisciplinary panel a librarian, a research and policy specialist, and the leader of a digital equity collaborative discuss how they have formed cross-organizational partnerships with libraries and other organizations to bridge the digital divide. This panel will offer insight into how to establish and effectively carry out these partnerships to advance library goals and digital equity.

Laura Fogle is the Founder of Digital Durham, a collaborative of more than ten organizations dedicated to digital inclusion.

Amy Huffman is the Research and Policy Specialist for the Broadband Infrastructure Office at the North Carolina Department of Information Technology.

Session Descriptions

Collaborations, Digital Equity, and The Library

Katie Kehoe is Grants and Communications Librarian at North Carolina A&T State University, Katie formally ran the Community Workshop Series, a collaboration between UNC-Chapel Hill, The Chapel Hill Public Library, The Cybrary, and Southwest Regional Library in Durham.

Justin Stout is the Head of Reference at Neuse Regional Libraries. He is a graduate of Duke University and holds an MLS degree from North Carolina Central University. He has worked at the Neuse Regional Library System since 2006.

Thank you for attending!



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