

April Sheppard

Assistant Library Director – Dean B. Ellis Library – asheppard@astate.edu – 870-972-3077

Education

2017 | Master of Public Administration | Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Arkansas

2005 | Master of Library Science | Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas

2002 | Bachelor of Fine Art, Studio Art | Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Arkansas

1999 | Bachelor of Philosophy | Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Arkansas

Professional Experience

Assistant Library Director

August 2018 - Current

Dean B. Ellis Library, Arkansas State University

- Has dotted-line supervisory and leadership responsibilities for all areas of Library operations and assumes full responsibilities in the absence of the Library Director.
- Oversees day-to-day Library operations; including leading units as necessary:
 - Interim Head of Archives, January 2020 – August 2022
 - Interim Head of Access & Delivery Services, Mar - Nov 2020, Mar – May 2022
- Works closely with academic departments and campus units to create assessment and accreditation reports.

Assistant Director for Public Services

January 2012 - August 2018

Dean B. Ellis Library, Arkansas State University

- Served as Head of Research and Educational Support.
- Oversaw operation of Government Documents and Access and Delivery Services.
- Led Library instruction and outreach.

Government Documents Librarian

October 2005 - December 2011

Dean B. Ellis Library, Arkansas State University

- Supervised Government Documents, including hiring, supervising, and training staff.
- Ensured compliance with state and federal regulations as well as the regional library.

Courses Taught

Introduction to Academic Research

Spring 2010 - current

- Led rebranding of Introduction to Using Electronic Information Resources (2014)
- Led creation of:
 - Subject specific Intro to Academic Research Biology (2016)
 - Introduction to Academic Research Online (2017)
 - Concurrent class for local high school students

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Membership

American Library Association (ALA)	2008 - current
ALA Rainbow Round Table (RRT)	2017 - current
ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)	2017 - current
Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi)	2021 - current
Arkansas Library Association	2022 - current
ALA Games and Gaming Round Table (GameRT)	2023 - current

Service to Professional Organizations

American Library Association (ALA) – National

SRRT Action Council. Social Responsibility Round Table (SRRT). (2019 – Ongoing):
Coordinator (2022-2024), Coordinator-Elect & Past Coordinator (2021-2022),
Coordinator (2020-2021), Coordinator-Elect (2019-2020)

GameRT List & Awards Committee. Member. GameRT. (Fall 2023 – Ongoing)

Game On! Grant Committee. Member. GamerRT. (Fall 2023 – Ongoing)

Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration Committee.
Member. ALA. (Fall 2022 – Ongoing)

SRRT Abolitionist Summit Planning Committee. Member. SRRT. (Fall 2023 – Spring 2024)

RTCA Bylaws Template Committee. Member. ALA Round Table Coordinating Assembly.
(Summer 2023)

SRRT Newsletter Editorial Board. Editor. (Fall 2022 – Ongoing)

SRRT Homelessness Summit Planning Committee. Chair. SRRT. (Spring 2022 - Ongoing)

SRRT Membership Committee. Member. SRRT. (Spring 2022 – Ongoing)

SRRT Emerging Leader Selection Committee. Member. ALA Social Responsibilities Round
Table. (Fall 2022)

EDI Assembly. Member. Equity Diversity & Inclusion Assembly of the American Library
Association. (Fall 2022 – Ongoing)

SRRT Programming Committee. Member. SRRT. (Summer 2022 – Ongoing) [Chair 2022-2023]

SRRT Bylaws Committee. Chair. ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table. (Summer 2022 –
Ongoing)

SRRT Herb Biblo Outstanding Leadership Award for Social Justice & Equality Committee. SRRT
(Fall 2021 – Ongoing) [Chair 2022-2023]

RTCA Standardization Task Force. Member. ALA Round Table Coordinating Assembly. (Fall
2021 – Spring 2023)

RRT Advocacy & Resources Committee. Chair. RRT. (Summer 2021 – Summer 2023)

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SRRT Liaison to ALA Committee on Legislation. Member. (Summer 2021 – Ongoing)
Round Table Coordinating Assembly. Member. (Summer 2020 - Ongoing)
RTCA Overhead Task Force. Member. Round Table Coordinating Assembly. (2020 –2022)
RRT Web Committee. Member. Rainbow Round Table. (Spring 2020 - Ongoing)
SRRT Web & Social Media Team. Member. Social Responsibilities Round Table. (Spring 2019 - Ongoing), Chair (2019-2020)
SRRT Conference Travel Grants Selection Committee. Member. Social Responsibilities Round Table. (Summer 2019 - Ongoing)
SRRT Logo and Brochure Ad-Hoc Committee. Chair. Social Responsibilities Round Table. (Summer 2019 - Spring 2020)
ALA Ambassador. American Library Association. (Summer 2019)
New Attendees Mentor. American Library Association (Summer 2017)
Great Stories Club: Nature vs Nurture. Reviewer. American Library Association (Spring 2017)
Great Stories Club Grant. Reviewer. American Library Association (Spring 2016)
State Agency Databases Wiki Task Force. Member. GODORT. (Spring 2016 - Fall 2018)
Latino Americans: 500 Years of History Grant. Reviewer. American Library Association / National Endowment for the Humanities (Summer 2015)

Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi) – National

Advisory Board. Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi). (Summer 2021 – Ongoing) [Chair-Elect 2022-2023, Chair 2023-2024]
LILi Task Force on AI. Member. (Fall 2023 – Ongoing)
LILi Conference Planning Committee. Chair. (Fall 2022 – Ongoing)
Bylaws Committee. Member. Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi). (Summer 2022)
Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi) Web Committee. (Summer 2021 – Ongoing) [Chair 2021-2023]

State Organizations

College and University Librarians of Arkansas. Secretary. ArLA. (Spring 2024 – Ongoing)
ARKLink Board of Directors. Secretary. ARKLink. (Spring 2024 – Ongoing)
Arkansas Libraries Editorial Board. Associate Editor for Academic Libraries. (Fall 2023 – Ongoing)
CULAR Programming Committee. Member. College and University Librarians of Arkansas. (Fall 2022 – Ongoing)
Arkansas Queer Alliance for Libraries (AQuALib). Secretary. (Spring 2021 – Ongoing)
AQuALib Web Committee. Chair. Arkansas Queer Alliance for Libraries. (Spring 2021 – Ongoing)

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University Committees

University Diversity and Affirmative Action. (Fall 2020 – Ongoing) [Chair Fall 2022 – Ongoing]
Diversity Retention Plan Subcommittee. Member. University Diversity and Affirmative Action. (Fall 2021 – Ongoing), Chair [2020 – 2021]
Red Wolves Work, formerly A-State Creative Commons. Member. (Summer 2021 – Ongoing)
Lecture-Concert Series. Member. (Fall 2017 - Spring 2019, Fall 2021 - 2023)
Library Committee. Member. (Fall 2019 – Spring 2022)
Third Floor Planning Group. Member. (Fall 2019 - Spring 2020)
P-20 Expo Planning Committee. Member. (Summer 2019 – Summer 2022)
A-State Creative Commons. Member. (Fall 2016 – Summer 2021)
Wilson Award Committee. Member. (Fall 2015 - Spring 2018)
Faculty Senate. Secretary. (Fall 2015 - Summer 2018)

University Service other than Committees

Academic Hub. Web Coordinator. (Fall 2022 – Ongoing)
LGBTQ+ Faculty & Staff Interest Group. Founding Member. (Fall 2021 – Ongoing)
Create@State. Blind Reviewer. (Spring 2021)
Title IX Advisor. Office of Title IX and Institutional Equity. (Fall 2020 - Ongoing)
100 Mentor Program. Mentor. (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021)
Arkansas State Community Emergency Response Team. Member. (Spring 2020 - Ongoing)
Oasis: Pagan and Witch Student Support Group. Faculty Advisor. (Spring 2020 – Fall 2022)
Faculty Senate. Web Coordinator. (Spring 2019 - Ongoing)

Library Committees

Institutional Repository Team. Head. (Fall 2023 – Ongoing)
Library Signage Committee. Chair. (Spring 2020 - Ongoing)
New Activities Task Group. Chair. (Summer 2019 - Ongoing)
Veterans Task Group. (Spring 2019 - Ongoing) [Chair 2019-2021]
New ILS Task Force. Member. (Fall 2018 - Ongoing)
Outreach and External Communications Team. Member. (Fall 2018 - Ongoing)
New Structure Implementation Task Force. Chair. (Summer 2018 - Spring 2019)
Library Web Task Force. Member. (Spring 2018 - Ongoing)
Library Service Desk Task Force. Chair. (Spring 2018 - Spring 2018)
Library Planning Group. Member. (Fall 2017 - Ongoing)

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Maximizing Library Personnel Time Task Group. Member. (Summer 2017 - Fall 2017)

Delta Serials Conference. Committee Member and Blind Reviewer for Presentation Proposals. (Summer 2015 - Summer 2017)

Leap for Literacy 5K. Dean B. Ellis Library and the Literacy League of Craighead County. Publicity Coordinator. (Fall 2014 - Fall 2016)

Library Management Council. Member. (Fall 2010 - Ongoing)

Library Assessment Committee. Chair (Fall 2009 - Fall 2015), Member (Fall 2015 - Ongoing)

Library Exhibits and Programs Committee. Chair. (Spring 2006 - Fall 2018)

Presentations

Sheppard, A. (2023, November). *AI in the mAIstream*. Podcast. Guest Expert. Invited.

Sheppard, A. (2023, October). *Shining a Light on Artificial Intelligence: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*. ArLA / SELA 2023 Annual Conference. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. & Stevens, A. (2023, October). *LGBTQ+ & Libraries: A History of Censorship and Tools to Fight Back*. ArLA / SELA 2023 Annual Conference. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. & Hallett, D. (2023, October). *The Wonderfully Weird World of Government Documents*. ArLA / SELA 2023 Annual Conference. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A., Crist, W., Robertson, S., & Moffat, K. (2023, June). *Thinking Outside of Your Positionalities: Centering DEIA in Your Library*. American Library Association Annual Conference. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A., Chase, M., Lee, J., & Coward, C. (2023, March). *Gamifying Information Literacy Instruction to Combat Misinformation. Roundtable*. Association of College & Research Libraries. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. & Marquez, N. (2023, January). *All About the Money: An Overview of Predatory Publishing*. Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi).

Sheppard, A. (2022, October). *LGBTQ & Libraries: History of Censorship, the Anti-LGBTQ Movement, and How to Fight Back*. Boston Scientific's Spirit Day. Virtual. Invited.

Sheppard, A. & Stevens, A. (2022, October). *It's Not an Emergency: Ways to Support Your LGBTQ+ Patrons Outside of Crisis Resources*. Arkansas Library Association Conference. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A., & Weddle, J. (2022, April). *Misinformation*. Arkansas Library Association: RISci.

Sheppard, A. (2022, April). *Using Analogies & Pop Culture to Teach Information Literacy. Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi) Show & Tell Series*. Virtual: Lifelong Information Literacy (LILi). Invited.

Sheppard, A. (2021, September). *Creating Inclusion. RISci Lunch & Learn*. Virtual: Arkansas Library Association RISci. Invited.

Sheppard, A. (2021, July). *Creating Inclusive Information Literacy Classrooms. LiLi Conference 2021*. Virtual: Lifelong Information Literacy. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. (2021, April). *Summoning the Spirits: The Ghost Lights and Spooklights of Arkansas*

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and Missouri. Delta Symposium. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. (2019, April). *Library Services to Veterans. Housing & Services for Rural Veterans : A Coordinated Approach*. Invited.

Sheppard, A. (2019, July). *ACRL Presents – Consulting Services for Academic Libraries*. ACRL Presents. Online: American Library Association. Invited.

Sheppard, A. (2019, May). Getting To Know Yourself First to Better Serve Others. *ALPS InfoBits*. Hot Springs, Arkansas: Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. Current Trends and Insights in Information Literacy—A 2018 GICOIL Roundup. *Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy*, 2018. Webinar. Invited.

Sheppard, A. Improving Student Success : Arkansas State’s Partnership with Credo and Regional High Schools. *Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy*, 2018. Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. In a Perfect World: Successful Outreach to Faculty. *Credo InfoLit Learning Community*, 2018. Webinar. Invited.

Sheppard, A.; Bevely, T. Getting To Know Yourself First To Better Serve Others. *Memphis Area Circulation Conference*, 2018. Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A.; Marks, S.; Charney, M.; Marcus, S. Creating Dynamic Programs & Events at Your Academic Library. *American Library Association (ALA)*, 2017. Panel. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. Dealing with Diverse Patrons. *INFO Exchange*, 2017. Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. Hidden Gems of Serials : The Stories Hidden Beyond the Articles. *Delta Serials Conference*, 2017. Poster Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A.; Bailey, J. R. Improving Student Success : Arkansas State’s Partnership with Credo and Regional High Schools. *Credo Webinar*, 2017. Webinar. Invited.

Sheppard, A.; Hallett, K. D. Closing the Loop with Library Instruction. *Learn@stAte*, 2017. Poster Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

Bailey, J. R.; Sheppard, A.; Singer, I. Improving Student Success: Arkansas State’s Partnership with Credo and Regional High Schools. *Charleston Conference: Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition*, 2016. Conference Publication.

Sheppard, A.; Hallett, K. D.; Downing, L. S. Reviving For-Credit Instruction at an Academic Library. *2016 ArLA Conference*, 2016. Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. Open Educational Resources. *A-State Faculty Center Summer Institute*, 2016. Presentation. Invited.

Crisis Prevention in Libraries. *Craighead County Public Library*, 2014. Presentation. Invited.

Dealing with Diverse Patrons. *ALPS Annual Conference*, 2013. Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

What the Heck is Boolean? The Basics of Research. *ALPS Annual Conference*, 2013. Presentation. Blind Reviewed.

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Twenty-one book reviews published under reviewer the name A. Sheppard in Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries from 2019 to present. www.choicereviews.org. The most recent review is: *Star Trek Discovery* and the female gothic by Carey Millsap-Spears. Choice Review 61-2358. May 2024, vol. 61 issue 9.

Sheppard, A. (2023). Libraries and Artificial Intelligence: Addressing Equity and Social Responsibility Concerns. *SRRT Newsletter*. Reviewed.

Sheppard, A. (2019). Building Bridges: Creating Success Before the First Year. *Intersections : A Blog on Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach from the ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy, & Outreach Services*. Reviewed. <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/diversity/odlos-blog/building-bridges>

Bailey, Jeff, April Sheppard, and Ian Singer. "Improving Student Success: Arkansas State's Partnership with Credo and Regional High Schools." Proceedings of the 36th Annual Charleston Conference: Issues In Book and Serial Acquisition. Purdue University Press, 2017.

Grants

Carnegie-Whitney Grant, Funded by the American Library Association (March 2020 - Ongoing), awarded March 9, 2020 (\$5,000). Principal Investigator.

Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 and the March on Washington, 1963 Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities (September 3, 2014 - October 17, 2014), awarded December 9, 2013 (\$1,700.00), Completed Spring 2014. Co-Principal Investigator.

Let's Talk About It: Muslim Journeys, Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities (January 6, 2014 - June 20, 2014), awarded May 9, 2013 (\$3,500.00). Completed Spring 2014. Principal Investigator.

Civil War 150, Funded by Gilder Lehrman Institute (January 2, 2014 - March 31, 2014), awarded July 31, 2012 (\$1,000.00), Completed Spring 2014. Co-Principal Investigator.

Muslim Journeys Bookshelf, Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities (August 19, 2013 - January 10, 2014), awarded January 9, 2013. Completed Fall 2013. Principal Investigator.

Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War, Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities (January 2, 2012 - May 31, 2012), awarded June 1, 2011 (\$3,000.00), Completed Spring 2012, Principal Investigator.

Soul of a People: Writing America's Story, Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities (September 9, 2009 - November 30, 2009), awarded January 7, 2009 (\$2,500.00), Completed Fall 2009, Principal Investigator.