

# And the winners are . . .

The official results of the 2023 ACRL election



**Beth McNeil**, dean of libraries and school of information studies and Esther Ellis Norton professor of library science at Purdue University, is the 86th president of ACRL.

“What an exciting and dynamic time in academic libraries, full of both opportunities and challenges facing us as library workers and members of ACRL,” McNeil said. “I am delighted to serve as ACRL President and deeply honored to have been selected to do so. Throughout my career, ACRL has been my professional home, providing the developmental and growth opportunities I needed, connections with mentors I admired and learned from, and networking opportunities that continue to fuel my fire for the work we do.

“This next year we will continue to build on the great work of the ACRL board, Goal Area Committees (GACs), Division and Section Committees, Chapters, etc. Important work underway by task forces, including the Awards Process Implementation Task Force, will continue. ACRL’s Plan for Excellence, a strategic plan that has served us well for the past several years, will be reviewed as the Board of Directors and GAC chairs consider what is next for ACRL.

“When I was standing for vice-president, I noted two areas on which I hoped to focus: equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging for our library workers, our constituents, and the collections we build, as well as advancing sustainable and open scholarship. To these two, however, I am adding a third: how to manage growing challenges to intellectual freedom in higher education libraries and classrooms. Over the past several months, we have learned of more book bans and watched as violence toward library workers occurs across the United States. Similar efforts are happening in some US states related to higher education. It will be critical to work closely with incoming ALA President Emily Drabinski and leaders of other ALA divisions, as well as our colleagues in other types of libraries. We are stronger together.

“As I move into this role, I feel great hope and excitement for our work in ACRL and within ALA.

“For the past several months I have had the privilege to meet weekly with President Erin Ellis, Past-President Julie Garrison, and ACRL’s Executive Director Jay Malone. I have learned so much from these leaders and I am ready! Thank you to all ACRL members for your support as we move forward together.”

McNeil’s experience with ALA includes being a member of LAMA (1997–2016) and serving as a member of the LAMA Committee on Organization (2005–09) and Executive

Committee Secretary of LAMA, Library Organization and Management (2005–07). She also served as a member of the LAMA Budget and Finance Committee (2001–05); LAMA Human Resources, Supervisory Skills Committee (2003–05); and Fundraising and Financial Development: Trends, Marketing, and Project Development Committee (2003–05); and Human Resources, Executive Committee (2001–03).

Her activity with state, regional, and other national associations include serving on the Academic Libraries of Indiana Board of Directors (2019–present), Greater Western Library Alliance’s Board of Directors (2017–19), HathiTrust Board of Governors (2015–18), Western Regional Storage Trust Executive Committee (2017–19), Rosemont Group Executive Committee (2017–19), and Iowa Academic Libraries Alliance Coordinating Committee (member 2016–19, chair 2018–19).

Notable accomplishments for McNeil include receiving the Staff Member of the Year Award (2019); Iowa State University’s Student Government annual award for faculty and staff, Runza Spirit of Service Award (2004); annual award for faculty volunteer service from UNL; UNL Office of Student Involvement, CAMRE (Creating an Atmosphere of Mutual Respect) Award (2000); and the annual award from the UNL Libraries Office/Service Staff.



**Elisandro (Alex) Cabada**, assistant professor, emerging technologies and immersive scholarship librarian, and director of the Grainger IDEA Lab at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been elected ACRL vice-president/president-elect.

“I am honored to serve as the next ACRL president,” Cabada said. “With the recent NIH and OSTP mandates, we are entering a new era of Open Scholarship. By making research more freely available to a much broader population, we bring a more diverse community of scientists into the research process, thereby accelerating our ability to solve society’s greatest challenges. While there are many challenges ahead for us, there are also opportunities to advocate for the value of Open Access, for responsible and ethical use of technology, such as generative AI, and for a purposeful understanding of how this will impact our underserved and marginalized communities. With this understanding, we can come together to build on the meaningful work needed to address the inequities of the digital and technological divide in our communities.

“We must also remain ever vigilant to safeguard our libraries as they are one of the last community spaces in our society, the last informal learning environments, and the last ‘third’ place at campuses across the nation. As we continue to build technology-rich digital scholarship centers to meet the needs of the problem-solving ‘design-learning’ pedagogy in higher education, libraries remain one of the few units on our campuses providing public engagement and outreach services to underserved and marginalized communities. This is critical as emerging technologies continue to be increasingly applied and integrated in academia and in our day-to-day lives. These efforts must not be isolated to our campuses however, we must work with our wonderful public libraries, community colleges, school libraries, and other community partners to reach our youth and their families in an effort to increase access to information, to knowledge itself, and the opportunities they afford.”

During his eight years of ACRL membership, Cabada has held various positions with

the ACRL Digital Scholarship Section Executive Committee (DSS), including past-chair (2022–23), chair (2021–22), vice-chair (2020–21), and member-at-large, (2018–20). He has also served as a member of the ACRL DSS Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (2017–19).

“It is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Alex Cabada for his election and to welcome him to the ACRL Board of Directors,” ACRL Executive Director Robert Jay Malone said. “Alex’s deep involvement with digital scholarship, especially his good work with ACRL’s Digital Scholarship Section, will help us move more assuredly into the expanding digital landscape. Likewise, his involvement in ACRL’s equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts will aid our efforts in making ACRL more equitable, more diverse, and more inclusive. I am grateful for his willingness to help ACRL succeed.”

Cabada’s experience with ALA includes being member (2018–19) and chair (2019–20) of the ALA Training, Orientation, and Leadership Development (TOLD) Committee (2019–20). He has also served as a member of the ALA Spectrum Advisory Committee (2018–20), a member of the ALA LITA Assessment and Research Committee (2017–19) and a member of the ALA LLAMA Leadership Development Committee (2016–18).

Notable accomplishments for Cabada include being selected as a *Library Journal* Movers and Shakers: Innovators (2022); receiving the ALA RUSA ETS Best Emerging Technology Application Award (2021); being selected to participate in the ALA Leadership Institute program, Oak Brook, Illinois (2019); and invited to provide keynote convocation speech at the School of Information Sciences December 2018 Graduation Ceremony, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2018).

## **ACRL Board of Directors**

Vice-President/President-Elect: **Elisandro (Alex) Cabada** (928); Leo Lo (907)  
Director-at-Large (4-year term): **Tarida Anatachai** (1,250); Kevin Butterfield (543)  
Director-at-Large (4-year term): **Amy Dye-Reeves** (1,024); Mary Beth Lock (753)

## **Anthropology and Sociology Section (ANSS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Ilka Datig** (101)  
Secretary (2-year term): **Scott Hertzberg** (100)  
Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Wayne Bivens-Tatum** (100)

## **Arts Section**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Heather Koopmans** (111)  
Secretary (2-year term): **Kim Norman** (111)

## **College Libraries Section (CLS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Dawn Behrend** (331); Andrew Adler (163)  
Secretary (1-year term): **Melissa Anderson** (255); Kathleen Baril (227)  
Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Britt Anne Murphy** (248); Stephanie Diaz (237)

## **Community and Junior College Libraries Section (CJCLS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Jill M. Sodt** (191)  
Member-at-Large: **Sarah I. Smith** (192)

### **Distance and Online Learning Section (DOLS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Anaya Jones** (298)

Secretary/Archivist (2-year term): **Katherine Howell** (169); Theresa Mastrodonato (134)

Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Breanne Kirsch** (159); Sam Mandani (141)

### **Digital Scholarship Section (DSS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Theresa Burress** (2012); Matthew Hunter (78)

Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Teresa Schultz** (220); Jennifer Hootman (189); John Knox (116)

### **Education and Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Ashlynn Kogut** (91)\*; Robin L. Ewing (91)

Secretary (2-year term): **Katherine Donaldson** (173)

Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Dawn Behrend** (100); Todd Shipman (76)

*\*Elected by lot*

### **European Studies Section (ESS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Kathleen Smith** (51); André G. Wenzel (37)

Secretary (1-year term): **Paula Mae Carns** (53); Taylor Leigh (34)

Member-at-Large (1-year term): **Ann Snoeyenbos** (59); Milan Pohontsch (28)

### **Instruction Section (IS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Kristen Feist** (358); Piper Martin (314)

Secretary (1-year term): **Matthew Weirick Johnson** (382); Elise Ferer (285)

Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Maoria J. Kirker** (515); **Evelyn Ugwu-George** (497); **Kristin E. C. Green** (407); Julie N. Hornick (402)

### **Literatures in English Section (LES)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Stacy Reardon** (59); Mark Dahlquist (49)

Secretary (1-year term): **Virginia Moran** (65); Jeanne Ewert (41)

Member-at-Large (1-year term): **Jenny Dale** (56); Amanda Rybin Koob (49)

### **Politics, Policy & International Relations Section (PPIRS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Andrew Dudash** (108)

Secretary (2-year term): **Jennifer Castle** (109)

Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Mark D. Robison** (108)

### **Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Melanie Griffin** (292)

Secretary (2-year term): **Gorodon Daines** (283)

Member-at-Large (3-year term): **Libby Hertenstein** (291)

### **Science and Technology Section (STS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Samuel Putnam** (142); Britt Foster (113)

Secretary (2-year term): **Patricia Hartman** (141); Jason Burton (112)

Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Melissa Gold** (157); Chapel Cowden (95)

### **University Libraries Section (ULS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Carissa Tomlinson** (479); Nancy S. Gibson (348)

Secretary (2-year term): **Mary D. Galvin** (455); Jess C. Garner (342)

Member-at-Large (3-year term): **Jill J. Crane** (560); **Tisha M. Zelner** (507); Jeff Graveline (355)

### **Women and Gender Studies Section (WGSS)**

Vice-chair/Chair-elect: **Esther Medina De León** (174)

Secretary: **Renee Kiner** (175)

Member-at-Large (2-year term): **Nadia M. Orozco-Sahi** (176) *zz*