Happy Spring! It has been a year for making strides in ANSS. This was the first Midwinter Meeting in which all of our committee meetings were held virtually. While it allowed many of you a respite from the blizzard in Chicago and the financial and time commitment, many ANSS members were still in attendance. The Social was lively and the food delicious. Our discussion groups were well attended and had engaging guest speakers and conversations. What was your experience with the ANSS virtual Midwinter? If you are someone who typically attends Midwinter, but didn’t, were you still able to maintain a level of participation? I am curious to hear what you thought worked and what could be improved. If you have comments or feedback, please get in touch with me. With budget and time constraints, it is possible that the section could continue having virtual Midwinters. It would be beneficial to continue a discussion of our virtual best practices and add to the Cyber Participation Policy now that we have an almost entirely virtual Midwinter under our belt.

This spring continues to be busy as the 2015 Program Committee is finalizing the details for the ANSS/LES/LPSS Annual program “Libraries Behind Bars: Education and Outreach to Prisoners” which will be held on Saturday, June 27 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. You are also invited on a trip to Alcatraz Island on Friday, June 26 at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are $30.00 and can be purchased from Alcatraz Cruises. The ANSS Social is also in the planning stages by the Membership Committee. Mark your calendar for the evening of Friday, June 26. As the date nears there will be a more formal announcement on ANSS-L, ANSSWeb, our
Facebook page, and Twitter. We hope that if you are attending, you will be able to join us for these engaging events.

Miriam Rigby, ANSS Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, has finalized committee appointments for the upcoming term beginning July 1, 2015. Thank you to all of you who volunteered to serve. ANSS thrives on the involvement of the membership! If you did not make it onto a committee this year or are curious about committee work, you are welcome to attend any of the committee meetings at the annual conference. Meeting the chair and members of the committees is a great way to start getting involved.

The ANSS leadership will hold a “Getting to Know ANSS” virtual meeting prior to the annual conference. This allows ANSS members and potential members time to ask questions about the section and involvement in committees. The date and time are yet to be determined, but it will be held in early June. Keep your eyes out for announcements on ANSS-L, ANSSWeb, and Facebook.

Hope to see you in June! San Francisco is an incredible city, and it will only be made more so with ALA Annual and Pride weekend occurring at the same time!

Thank you,
Erin Gratz

ANSS PROGRAM AT ALA ANNUAL 2015

LIBRARIES BEHIND BARS: EDUCATION AND OUTREACH TO PRISONERS

Saturday, June 27th
1-2:30 pm

Headed to San Francisco for the 2015 ALA Annual Conference? The ANSS Conference Planning Committee, in collaboration with the Law and Political Science Section and the Literatures in English Section, invite you to join us for our conference program, “Libraries Behind Bars: Education and Outreach to Prisoners.” The United States incarcerates more citizens than any other country, which presents a pressing issue for civil society. This program brings together a multidisciplinary panel of scholars, moderated by a prison librarian, to raise awareness of the importance of prisoner education in reducing recidivism and improving rehabilitation outcomes. It highlights the role academic libraries play in research on the incarcerated and incarceration institutions, as well as in outreach to incarcerated populations.

Why attend?

• Hear from our featured speakers, Leah Jacobs (Social Welfare, University of California-Berkeley), Dr. Amy Lerman (Political Science, UC-Berkeley), and Dr. Tobi Jacobi (English, Colorado State University) about their research on prison education and their work with incarcerated students.
• Learn about challenges for scholars who research incarcerated populations and prison education in order to support efforts for data-driven advocacy, policy development, and activism.
• Learn about models of prison education programs in order to promote and create awareness of library resources in prisons.
• Learn to identify the characteristics of effective art, literature, and creative writing programs in prisons in order to develop and improve partnerships between academic libraries and prison education programs.
STANDARDS FOR LIBRARIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION TRAINING WORKSHOPS

The ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education provide a framework for planning and assessment that can be adapted for a variety of circumstances including strategic planning, program review, and accreditation self-study. ACRL’s “Planning, Assessing, and Communicating Library Impact: Putting the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education into Action” workshop provides information on using the standards and other foundational documents as a framework to develop benchmarks, evaluate quality and performance, and demonstrate value. Details are available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/standardsworkshop.

“In this workshop, the assessment process was presented in a clear, understandable way. Great job on difficult material!” – Standards Workshop Participant

Hosts are responsible for the full cost of both workshops and may choose to recover costs through registration fees.

THE 56TH ANNUAL RBMS CONFERENCE

PREPARE THE HUMANITIES! SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AS LIBERAL ARTS LABORATORY

Oakland and Berkeley, June 23 - 26, 2015

The annual RBMS Conference will feature three plenary panels around the theme of the role of special collections libraries in the context of larger trends in the humanities and higher education. Speakers will focus on collaborative partnerships forged amongst archivists, librarians, researchers, and teaching faculty and position libraries as laboratories for the liberal arts and sciences. Register by May 22, 2015, to receive early bird pricing.

http://www.preconference15.rbms.info/
Conference Program Planning Committee – 2016, Orlando
Deborah Margolis, Chair

All members of the newly convened conference program planning committee were on deck for our first meeting, held virtually on February 12. We are off to a great start, with both new and veteran ANSSers on the committee. At the meeting, we reviewed the committee charge and the program planning process. We're brainstorming program ideas now. Even if you aren't on our committee, please feel free to share your inspiration for a program you'd want to attend! Ideas for a local cultural tour are also welcome. You can contact me at deborahm@msu.edu or via Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/deborah.margolis.7.

Conference Program Planning Committee – 2015, San Francisco
Jill Conte and Rui Wang, Co-Chairs

Since ALA Midwinter 2014, the ANSS Conference Program Planning Committee 2015 has reached out to two other ACRL sections, the Law and Political Science Section (LPSS) and Literatures in English Section (LES). The three committees have developed a co-sponsored program, “Libraries Behind Bars: Education and Outreach to Prisoners” for the ALA Annual Conference 2015. This program brings together a multidisciplinary panel of scholars to raise awareness of the importance of prisoner education in reducing recidivism and improving rehabilitation outcomes. It highlights the role academic libraries play in research on the incarcerated and incarceration institutions, as well as in outreach to incarcerated populations. The program proposal was approved in October 2014. The invited panelists for the program are: Tobi Jacobi, Associate Professor of English, Colorado State University (Fort Collins); Amy Lerman, Associate Professor of Public Policy, University of California-Berkeley; Michelle Schwartz, Board of Advisors, University of California-Berkeley; and Leah Jacobs, Doctoral Candidate in Social Welfare, University of California-Berkeley. The panel will be moderated by Elizabeth Marshak, who is a prison librarian with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The program is scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2015, 1:00-2:30 p.m. at the Moscone Center, San Francisco. We look forward to seeing you at the program at ALA Annual Conference 2015.

The members from the three committees held a face-to-face meeting at ALA Midwinter Chicago on February 1, 2015 and a virtual meeting on February 9, 2015. In these two meetings, the members reported the planning progress and discussed other activities and tasks for the program including organizing a trip to Alcatraz, publicity, and preparing the program evaluation.

Instruction and Information Literacy Committee
Rui Wang and Priscilla Seaman, Co-Chairs

The Instruction and Information Literacy Committee met virtually this winter. The nine members and three invited guests (Katie Anderson, Jenny Bowers, and Erin Gratz) participated in the meeting. The meeting began with a discussion on whether to review the committee’s charge. The committee charge should be reviewed and possibly updated every three to five years. After the ANSS IL committee was officially formed in 2004, the charge was developed in 2008. The committee unanimously voted to review and revise the charge between now and ALA Annual.

The committee also discussed two ideas for potential projects. The first idea was to collaborate with the Liaison Committee to get the disciplinary organizations
involved with the transition to the new ACRL Information Literacy Framework. Although Juliann Couture, AAA liaison and Maud Mundava, the new ASA liaison, were not able to participate in this meeting, Katie Anderson was at the meeting to support the idea. During the discussion, the committee members had a split view about the Framework. On the one hand, some felt that the new Framework was a breath of fresh air, and better connects with student research compared to the older Standards. On the other hand, with the threshold concepts, the Framework seems more ambiguous than empowering. Because dates have not been finalized for either the inception of the draft of the Frameworks or the sunset of the Standards, the committee leaned toward continuing discussions about the Frameworks before reaching out to AAA and ASA.

The second project idea was about assessment for library instruction. The committee was in favor of opening a general discussion and sharing how different institutions conduct assessment for disciplinary (anthropology and sociology) instruction, what common challenges we have, and how librarians in different institutions deal with the challenges for assessment. A general discussion centered on topics of guidelines for assessment, the need for assessment to be tied to specific outcomes, and some discussion of how applicable (or not) SAILS might be. Based on the general discussion, the committee can draw recommendations for assessing instruction in the anthropology and sociology disciplines.

Lastly, Adam Beauchamp provided a thorough report on the current and past history of the repository project. Currently, Adam maintains and updates the Guides to Subject Literature link. Adam mentioned that the LibGuides that are currently posted tend to be self-selected by the participating institutions. Adam also reported on a new Zotero group that he created called “ACRL ANSS Recommended Reads.” The committee will continue the discussion of Adam’s repository project throughout the year and at ALA Annual.

**Liaison Committee**

*Katie Elson Anderson and Jenny Bowers, Co-Chairs*

The Liaison Committee met virtually on January 26, 2015 through Google Hangouts. We began by discussing the open American Sociological Association Liaison position. After reviewing the candidates’ application materials, we decided to recommend to the Executive Committee that Maud Mundava be appointed as the new ASA Liaison. We’re happy to report that the Executive Committee confirmed this appointment at the February 6 meeting and we look forward to working with Maud for the coming term. Look for Maud’s first column and introduction in this issue of *Currents*.

After Maud has attended the ASA Annual Meeting this summer, we plan to hold a virtual meeting to give our members the chance to ask her questions and hear directly about her goals for working with ASA. Communication between the liaisons and our membership is vital. In order to foster communication and also highlight the work of our liaisons, we will be establishing blogs for each ANSS liaison, to be hosted on the ANSS website.

The Committee also addressed the need to create a policy regarding liaison term extensions, since there is currently not one in place. We reasoned that two consecutive terms (of three years each) would enable the liaison to build relationships within the organization and are good for continuity. Serving for more than two terms, however, may exclude other people who want to be a liaison from participating. Given these factors, we agreed to establish a two consecutive term limit policy and the policy was approved at the February 6 Executive Committee meeting. In addition, we agreed to send out a call for applications every three years (when the term expires) but also to encourage the current liaison to reapply. Following these new guidelines, we will be sending out a call for the AAA Liaison position this spring.

Finally, we are moving forward with establishing a third ANSS liaison to represent our criminology/criminal justice contingent. We have
received approval from ACRL to create a liaison to the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) and we hope to fill this position beginning in July 2015. The committee encourages interested members to apply for the AAA or ACJS Liaison position and to contact the committee chairs with questions.

ACRL – American Anthropological Association Liaison Report
Juliann Couture, University of Colorado Boulder

Last year’s American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting was held December 3-7, 2014 in Washington, D.C. My primary goal in attending the meeting was to continue developing the relationship between AAA and ACRL through outreach to members and specific sections and committees. This year’s annual meeting theme was Producing Anthropology which provided the foundation for many panel sessions and roundtable discussions on themes related to the objective of research and scholarly environment laid out in the ACRL Plan for Excellence.

Using the annual meeting theme as a springboard, fellow ANSS member Richard Freeman and I organized and participated in a roundtable session: Anthropological Knowledge: Access, Creation, and Dissemination in the Digital Age. This session brought together academic librarians, anthropologists, and scholarly publishers to discuss issues of open access, author rights, digital collections, findability, and scholarly society publishing alternatives. The attendees participated in a lively discussion around these issues noting the complexity of moving forward with open access issues in a time of budget constraints. The session included Tim Elfenbein, the current managing editor of Cultural Anthropology, who provided great insight into the publishing aspect of transitioning a scholarly society journal to a gold open access format. Another presenter, Matt Thompson, examined open access anthropology journals and discovered that many are not providing quality metadata and have major issues with findability. The discussion went beyond the theoretical into brainstorming ways of gathering the expertise of librarians, publishers, and disciplinary scholars into a possible product to share with those interested in pursuing the creation of an open access journal. Some presenters and attendees are continuing the conversation outside of the annual meeting to explore options for providing this expertise in a format that can be shared across disciplinary and professional organizations.

Additionally, I attended numerous sessions that dealt with issues relating to open access and research data. In one panel presentation, the Society for Cultural Anthropology (SCA), a section of AAA, presented a discussion on many issues related to access and publishing. The topics varied from the SCA treasurer discussing what it meant for the society publication to go open access, in terms of membership dues and future revenue for the section, to another anthropologist presenting a plan for a data repository focused on field notes and ethnographic data. In another session, panelists explored ethical questions raised by the changing nature of how we create and share information. One presenter grappled with having to make her data publicly available when it contained potentially identifying health information. The presenter made no mention of resources available to help navigate this decision and understood her choice as either making the data available or not. I raised the possibility of using data repositories that are experienced in handling this sort of data and many in the session were surprised to hear that such resources existed. These interactions demonstrate the many outreach opportunities for library liaisons to connect their faculty, graduate students, and other researchers to resources related to these problematic areas.

I continue to serve as a member of the AAA Committee on the Future of Print and Electronic Publishing (CFPEP) and this year’s committee meeting focused heavily on the shifting nature of scholarly publishing. The association is grappling with a large publishing portfolio (22 journals) and a membership which identifies strongly with its section affiliation rather than the association as a whole. The CFPEP meeting spent much of its time discussing future options for the association’s publishing and included a conversation with leadership from another scholarly society. This discussion brought to light how numerous scholarly
societies are struggling with the same issues of publishing sustainability and how to transition to a more open system. Serving on this committee has been an eye-opening experience with regard to the nuances of publishing within a scholarly society. Librarian representation on committees such as this allows for a broader perspective and we are uniquely positioned to track the conversations across numerous scholarly societies.

In addition to the committee meeting and session attendance, I spent time exploring the exhibit hall to connect with small presses to discuss the publication and dissemination of anthropological knowledge. Some of these presses were interested in how to reach the librarian population when they are unable to attend library conferences. My time in the exhibit hall led to a discussion with the Human Relations Area Files (HRAF) representative on using this resource as a tool for information literacy instruction. I am connecting the HRAF representative with ACRL’s Anthropology and Sociology Section (ANSS) to explore opportunities for product demonstration and partnering to make lesson plans.

The area of student learning and information literacy continues to prove problematic in my outreach efforts with AAA. The annual meeting is designed to showcase research and does not focus on the teaching aspect of anthropology. There is limited activity on the one sub-committee on teaching anthropology and few members attend its committee meeting. From various conversations I’ve held, it is my understanding that the annual meeting is not where anthropologists discuss student learning but rather, that those conversations happen on a campus level. Understanding this perspective could assist other anthropology librarians in their outreach to departments to build partnerships at a local level.

I continue to explore ways to connect ANSS membership with AAA and build the relationship between ACRL and AAA. I’d love to know more about opportunities and challenges ANSS members face at their home institutions. The ANSS Liaison committee is working to create blogs for each of the liaisons with the aim to create dialogue between the liaisons and ANSS membership. I’d love to hear your thoughts; please feel free to contact me at juliann.couture@colorado.edu.

**ACRL – American Sociological Association Liaison Report**

Maud Mundava, Atlanta University Center

I am so excited to serve as the new Liaison between ACRL Anthropology and Sociology Section (ANSS) and American Sociological Association (ASA). I look forward to being more involved in ANSS and continuing to advance the work of ACRL/ANSS by learning more about the work of the previous liaisons, sharing ideas, making connections, and partnering with colleagues with similar interests in ACRL committees and ASA. My interests are varied, but I plan to focus on some of the following: data services; use of the new ACRL framework in instruction; marketing approaches to increase faculty/library collaborations; and trends in higher education.

I am currently a Curriculum Materials Librarian/Selection Coordinator with other responsibilities for Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice at the Atlanta University Center’s Robert W. Woodruff Library, where I have worked since 2007. I find liaison work in my assigned subjects so rewarding, because every day I feel I am contributing to students’ success by providing on-time services and imparting lifelong learning skills. I have been actively involved in both ACRL and ALA for several years, most recently being a co-chair for the ACRL/EBSS Reference Sources and Services Committee. Furthermore, I have presented papers, posters, and moderated panel sessions at several conferences. I am motivated by challenges and learning new things and have authored articles on plagiarism, marketing approaches, and diversity issues in libraries.
I obtained my MLS from SUNY Buffalo in New York and recently received my MBA from Mercer University in Georgia. Even though I am fairly new to ANSS, I am excited and looking forward to expanding the strategic plans of ACRL through increased networks and joint initiatives with ASA.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Anne Larrivee and Wade Kotter, Co-Chairs

ANSS Membership Committee met virtually in January 2015 to discuss plans for this coming year. As a group we discussed the importance of procedural activities such as brochure and membership letter distribution, as well as outreach on social media. Through our activities we hope to create an inclusive environment in ANSS and create awareness of how this section can serve member needs. In the future, the membership committee would like to experiment more with social media and forming small regional hangouts.

As of December 2014 we had 417 members on Facebook and 259 Likes on Facebook; in February 2015 that number rose to 452 members and our Facebook Likes went up to 309. We look forward to maintaining strong membership numbers and want to encourage members to become involved.

Please consider coming to our ANSS Social in San Francisco. The location will soon be announced on the ANSS listserv and posted on Facebook and Twitter. Ten people attended the ALA Midwinter ANSS Social, and we anticipate an even greater turnout at ALA Annual. We look forward to seeing everyone in June!

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Beth Sheehan, Chair

The ANSS Publications Committee met virtually on Friday, January 16 at 4:00 p.m. Eastern/3:00 p.m. Central, and was convened by Beth Sheehan, Chair. The meeting was also attended by *Currents* co-editors Erin Pappas and Louisa McMurray; ANSS Chair and web co-editor Erin Gratz; and committee members Hailey Mooney, Michelle Guittar, and Helen Clements.

The committee discussed a shift in responsibility for editing the *Guides to Subject Literature* portion of the ANSS Website. Adam Beauchamp and the Information Literacy Committee are discussing future options for this site, including assuming editing and updating responsibilities, renaming the page, and revamping content.

ANSS Website statistics from the 2014 calendar year show an overall increase from 2013 in the total number of views, visitors, and average visits per day. An [NPR blog post](http://www.npr.org) from April 2014 linking to one of the ANSS [Cataloging Q & A posts](http://www.npr.org) resulted in an increase in referrals to our site. There has also been an increase in Facebook Likes and Twitter followers.

The committee discussed content for the Spring 2015 issue of *Currents*, and the editors welcome future submissions and feature article suggestions from committees and ANSS members.

The Publications Committee has contacted EBSCO and is waiting for a response regarding indexing options, to provide greater exposure and access to *ANSS Currents* articles via library and information science literature databases. Google Scholar has guidelines for inclusion for webmasters, but one of the criteria is a .edu domain name, which currently disqualifies *ANSS Currents* from inclusion. Exploration of options to increase visibility of our publications is ongoing.

The ALA Archives is now hosting an online institutional repository, ALAIR, and further discussions with ANSS leadership will be necessary to develop procedures and parameters for regular archiving of ANSS digital files and online content.

RESOURCE REVIEW AND BIBLIOGRAPHY COMMITTEE
Karen Evans, Chair

Report by Helen Clements

The Resource Review and Bibliography Committee met via Google Hangouts on February 6. Helen Clements, Spencer Acadia, Celia Emmelhainz, Erin Gratz (ANSS Chair), Deborah Margolis, Erin Pappas, and Nancy Skinner were in attendance. Karen Evans was unable to attend.
We realized that the committee change on the ALA website does not reflect the version which the ANSS Executive Board had approved in 2014. Erin Gratz requested that Megan Griffin make the change on the ALA website. That has since been done.

We will try to get articles to the Publications Committee before the late March deadline, so that they can do final edits after the articles are submitted. Nancy Skipper suggested that perhaps *Currents* could include some type of social media to allow readers to respond to articles as they appeared. Erin Pappas suggested asking Miriam Rigby about that possibility.

The committee discussed plans for articles for the spring 2015 issue of *ANSS Currents*. One long article is already scheduled, a review of Alexander Street Press’ *Human Rights Online* collection by Deborah Margolis and Michelle Guittar. Clements offered to write a shorter article about *Gallup Analytics*. Nancy Skipper suggested a follow-up comparison with the *Roper iPoll*. Skipper and Erin Gratz agreed that comparative reviews are useful, and Clements suggested seeking comments from section members on the two resources. Spencer Acadia asked to postpone his article on teaching statistics until the fall issue, because of several other commitments.

Skipper offered to check with Karen Evans about an article on a criminology resource, and to review a different title in criminology. She mentioned that data sources are increasingly important in the social sciences. Emmelhainz agreed. Erin Pappas asked Emmelhainz for suggestions about data tools appropriate for undergraduates, and Emmelhainz replied that it is important to help librarians become aware of and fluent with data tools but that librarians are sometimes uncomfortable using data or statistics. Erin Pappas volunteered to work with Emmelhainz on a short overview for a *Currents* issue in Fall 2015 or Spring 2016.

Clements reported that the Publications Committee has been working to make the *Currents* articles and resource reviews more discoverable. Erin Pappas and Nancy Skipper asked if there was an update about indexing or improving the visibility to search engine crawlers. Erin Pappas responded that there was an issue with the visibility of the ALA repository for section publications. Deborah Margolis suggested publicizing the Section toolkits, a column on free information sources, and having a column where members update ANSS on their current projects. ANSS-L could be used for publicity. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. Central time.

**SUBJECT AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACCESS COMMITTEE**  
Carolyn McCallum, Chair

The Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee meeting was held virtually using WebEx on January 26, 2015. Topics for Cataloging Q&As were identified and approved for the first half of 2015. Five Q&As will examine and report on authorized Library of Congress subject headings for the following topics: coming of age events; human ecology and social ecology; acculturation and assimilation; food customs; and indigenous textile materials. Another topic to be covered will be an explanation of results retrieved from an online catalog when searching for print and electronic ISBNs. Cataloging topics such as BibFrame, a new data model for bibliographic description that will supersede the MARC record, and linked data, were mentioned as potential topics for future Q&As.

As reported by Wayne Sanders, the list of new subject headings in the social sciences is complete through December 2014. His compilation work, which has received positive feedback from ANSS members, will continue in 2015.

Two new ideas were proposed as additional ways in which the committee can help the greater ANSS community. Wade Kotter suggested that the committee periodically submit a short article for inclusion in *ANSS Currents*. For example, someone could report on a new development in the cataloging world. Isabel del Carmen Quintana reported that Harvard is experimenting with linked data projects. She hopes to work with Harvard’s library staff in taking basic metadata from Tozzer Library’s honors papers, theses and dissertations, converting it into linked data, and adding information
pertaining to a work’s advisor and committee members. The goal is to set up a linked data infrastructure where this information could be stored and accessed by researchers, and possibly be added to by other institutions for theses in anthropology/social sciences, or even in other subject areas.

**DISCUSSION GROUP REPORTS**

**ANTHROPOLOGY LIBRARIANS DISCUSSION GROUP**

Miriam Rigby and Erin Pappas, Co-Conveners

*Report by Katie Elson Anderson*

The topic of the Midwinter Anthropology Librarians Discussion group was “Information Seeking and Instruction for International Students: An Ethnography of University Students in Kazakhstan.” This talk was given by Celia Emmelhainz, Social Sciences Data Librarian at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. She spoke about her research during a three-year period in Kazakhstan comparing university and school libraries there to those in the U.S. Miriam Rigby led the discussion group and introduced Emmelhainz. Katie Elson Anderson provided note taking. Twelve people were in attendance.

Emmelhainz worked for three years as a school and academic librarian in Astana, Kazakhstan. For this presentation, she shared a portion of her ethnographic research, which focused on the research needs of university students in Kazakhstan, and how information literacy programs can better help students in international settings.

Her research was conducted at a Western-style university established in 2008. The university had 2000 undergraduates, with a student body made up of primarily those in Soviet legacy education. Emmelhainz looked at both students and faculty, though for her talk she focused on the student portion and how student methods grew out of faculty methods.

The faculty are mainly drawn from expatriate social scientists. Emmelhainz noted that there is not much research on expatriate faculty and librarianship. Challenges with this group include translating, which represents a major step in information gathering. Factors that impact research are the geographic location of the university, the lack of resources such as interlibrary loan, embargoes, customs, availability of primary sources, resources on post-Soviet topics, and government censorship.

Faculty and students have developed workarounds for obtaining resources in other ways. Many of those interviewed went to friends first, not the library. Challenges for the library and librarians were finding ways to immerse themselves within the educational culture of the university. Specifically, they wanted to find ways to make the library important.

Following her formal presentation, there was a substantial Q&A session. Audience questions elicited information such as the fact that students had completed grades 1-11 with training in English; however early education focuses on repetition, so many are writing papers for the first time in college. They are primarily fluent in English and have passed math and cultural exams. Students’ experiences with high school libraries were with collections made up of cheap government textbooks.
The student base is 95% urban, 5% rural. Proficiency in English is an obstacle for the rural population. As for the potential gap in technological proficiency, most students have had one year of western-style technical instruction or drilling.

In terms of university library resources and databases, there is a national agreement with Springer and some access to JSTOR. Materials are heavily biased toward the sciences; sociology is not viewed as important. There is also censorship of materials. For instance, in political science research it can be difficult to find any information on opposing viewpoints. Resources are very one-sided.

A previous program in the early 2000s provided Kazakh students with the opportunity to study fully-funded in the United States as long as they returned to the country following their study. This program ceased when the new university was opened with the view that it was no longer necessary. The library is a separate institution from the University, and viewed as a support service, rather than its own academic endeavor/unit.

Following the main Q&A, the floor was opened to discuss any other projects that attendees were engaged with. Topics included further discussions of international librarianship, and one participant’s pending travel to Iceland for a comparative study between Icelandic and U.S. school libraries; the importance of having a Social Sciences liaison librarian and how to justify it to administrative bodies in academic institutions; and issues of digital repatriation of objects in library and museum collections.

The meeting wrapped up with brainstorming on potential future topics for upcoming discussion group meetings. Visual Anthropology and topics related to the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco were floated.

**Criminology/Criminal Justice Librarians Discussion Group**

Karen Evans and Rosalind Fielder, Co-Convener

The Criminal Justice/Criminology Librarians Discussion Group meeting at Midwinter 2015 was an open discussion among attendees. The discussion was organized around two main topics, Thematic LibGuides and Crime Mapping Resources. Attendees were invited to talk about “thematic” LibGuides that they had recently developed at their own institutions. In addition, the group was introduced to several LibGuides on themes such as restorative justice, transitional justice, and non-adversarial justice via the Resources page of the “ANSS Criminology/Criminal Justice Discussion Group” LibGuide, which was developed for the meeting and is publicly available.

The discussion then turned to crime mapping resources. Attendees were asked about the level of demand for such resources among students and faculty at their institutions, and encouraged to share resources that they found to be particularly useful to their users for mapping crime. SimplyMap by Geographic Research, Inc. and Social Explorer are web-based mapping applications that some participants were familiar with. SimplyMap requires an organizational or institutional subscription. However, a free edition, as well as individual and institutional subscriptions, of Social Explorer are available. The convener briefly introduced a Crime Mapping resources page in a LibGuide entitled “Criminology, Law & Society” at University of California-Irvine. A link to that guide is included in the discussion group LibGuide.

Attendees were also invited to discuss any recent publications, presentations, projects, or new initiatives they have undertaken. The meeting concluded with a brief discussion of the current Criminal Justice and Criminology Librarian Tool Kit, which was last modified in October 2013.

Attendees expressed interest in similar opportunities for open discussion and networking in the future. Special thanks are owed to Kelly Grogg, who volunteered to serve as note taker, and Wade Kotter, who provided an attendance sheet.
**SOCIOLGY LIBRARY DISCUSSION GROUP**
Jill Conte and Susan Silver, Co-Convenors

The Sociology Discussion Group meeting was held on Saturday, January 31, 2015, in Chicago’s Sheraton Hotel. Noah McClain, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Illinois Institute of Technology, gave a presentation entitled “Making Technologies, Making Criminalities: Subway Farecards and Some Sociotechnical Mechanics of Mass Incarceration.” McClain’s research examines dilemmas associated with security efforts in the New York City subway system using farecards. Farecards were introduced in the 1990s in place of tokens. Unlike tokens, once the monetary value of these cards was exhausted, they were discarded. However, a flaw in the system allowed extra fares to be extracted illegally from spent cards. Individuals who sold these extra “swipes” were arrested and prosecuted for felony forgery. McClain’s research reveals that most of the people policed for this crime were young, non-white men. While stiffer drug penalties have largely been seen as the main driver of mass incarceration in this country, McClain argues that petty crime such as this—which is prosecuted as a felony with mandatory minimum sentencing—also contributes in meaningful ways.

After his presentation, attendees asked McClain questions about the details of his data gathering, the potential for sharing his data, and avenues for subsequent research.

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**HOST ACRL STANDARDS, SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS IN 2015**

Today’s academic and research librarians increasingly act as change agents in the higher education community while being called on to demonstrate their value on campus. ACRL’s one-day scholarly communication and Standards for Libraries in Higher Education workshops help you achieve those goals through learning more about these important topics at your campus, chapter, or consortia. Facilitated by our team of expert presenters, both workshops provide a framework for libraries to grow, innovate, lead, and succeed.

**SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION: FROM UNDERSTANDING TO ENGAGEMENT**

To help empower our community in accelerating the transformation of the scholarly communication system, ACRL is pleased to offer the day-long workshop, “Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement.” The workshop helps participants in very practical ways, such as preparing for library staff or faculty outreach, contextualizing collection development decisions to internal and external stakeholders, and initiating or supporting new models for scholarly communication. Details are available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/issues/scholcomm/roadshow.

“The workshop helped me connect complex issues like the relationship between the open movement, copyright, and economics in a coherent way. It is good to have this conceptual framework moving forward.”

– Scholarly Communication Workshop Participant
ANSS MIDWINTER 2015 SOCIAL

The ANSS Midwinter 2015 Social was held at the MingHin dim sum restaurant in Chicago on Friday, January 30. There was a great turnout of membership.

Additionally, both of the candidates for ACRL President, Irene Harold and Scott Walter, made appearances to chat and take questions.

(L-R) Carolyn McCallum, Wade Kotter, Helen Clements, Unidentified, Celia Emmelhainz, Jill Conte, Erin Gratz, Miriam Rigby, Louisa McMurray.

Irene Herold and Helen Clements

Celia Emmelhainz and Jill Conte

Wade Kotter, Scott Walter, and Helen Clements

Erin Gratz and Miriam Rigby

Photos by Louisa McMurray and Valor Bohman Fanning
JANET STEINS has written the “Collecting to the Core” column for the April issue of Against the Grain. ATG is a bi-monthly journal “linking publishers, vendors [and] librarians.” The focus of her column is classic ethnographies supporting anthropology research and teaching.

For those not familiar with this feature, column editor Anne Doherty writes that the “Collecting to the Core” column highlights monographic works that are essential to the academic library within a particular discipline, inspired by the Resources for College Libraries (RCL) bibliography. In each essay, subject specialists introduce and explain the classic titles and topics that continue to remain relevant to the undergraduate curriculum and library collection. Disciplinary trends may shift, but some classics never go out of style.

“Collecting to the Core” columns are typically penned by RCL subject editors. Janet has served as the anthropology subject editor since 2008.

SPENCER ACADIA presented a poster at ACRL 2015 called: "Books Be Gone! Reducing a Library's Print Collection by Half to Meet Strategic Planning Initiatives and Participate in a Joint Library Sharing Facility." A LibGuide is available.

ADAM BEAUCHAMP and CHRISTINE MURRAY presented “Promoting Data Literacy at the Grassroots: Teaching & Learning with Data in the Undergraduate Curriculum” at ACRL 2015. Their slides are posted to the ACRL Program page and on SlideShare.

ZOE BOROVSKY has co-authored a chapter with Elizabeth McAulay for the recently published Digital Humanities in the Library: Challenges and Opportunities for Subject Specialists. Their essay, “Digital Humanities Curriculum Support inside the Library” is about an undergraduate course, Archaeology of Egypt and Sudan, that they redesigned with Professor Willeke Wendrich as part of the Digital Humanities program at UCLA.

ERIN PAPPAS and Amy Kammerman chaired a roundtable at ACRL 2015, “Trimming the Fat: Weeding, Deselecting, and Decluttering Your Collection.”

MICHELLE GUITTAR presented a preconference at ACRL 2015 with five colleagues, entitled “Tutorials Toolkit: Creating Sustainable Library Instruction,” which was attended by 61 people. Slides and handouts from the presentation, as well as links to the video tutorials, are available as a LibGuide. The LibGuide, "Introduction to Research," was selected to be in ACRL's Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online (PRIMO) database.

MIRIAM RIGBY and Yen Tran presented an ACRL 2015 Virtual Conference Webcast, broadcast live from the Portland Convention Center, “Racing to Learn: Engaging First Year Students by Gaming Library Instruction.”

DARCY GERVASIO presented a contributed paper with two colleagues at ACRL 2015 on March 27: “The Slow Assessment Movement: Using Homegrown Rubrics and Capstone Projects for DIY Information Literacy Assessment.” Their paper and presentation discussed how they applied principles of the Slow Food Movement to conducting a rubric assessment of information literacy skills using senior capstone papers. The paper can be found in the online conference...
proceedings. The slideshow is available on Google Docs (as well as searchable in the ACRL Conference Schedule online).

ANSS also held a lunch meet-up on Thursday of the ACRL Conference. About a dozen people attended, though we became a bit dispersed due to the nature of the food truck courtyard. Many of us managed to reconvene to picnic with our food acquisitions, and it was good to see so many familiar and new faces!

ANSS History Corner

ALA Archives: Keepers of ANSS History

The activities, events, accomplishments, and history of ANSS and its members through the years have been documented in many ways, including committee meeting minutes, program notes and bibliographies, and Currents newsletters, both in print and now increasingly digitally.

The ALA Archives, located on the University of Illinois campus at 1707 S. Orchard Street in Urbana, Illinois, houses the print archives of ANSS, including Committee Files from 1975-2001 and 2001-2004, ANSS Currents Newsletters from 1986-1994, and Publications (which includes the Manuals for Officers, Committee Chairs, and Committee Members) from 1988-1997.

But what about everything we’ve done since 2004? Most of this content is now born-digital and shared with members via the ANSS website and email listserv, but this is not the same as archiving the files for long-term access and preservation. To help us preserve our history, the ALA Archives now hosts a new online institutional repository, ALAIR, which contains the digital archives of ALA and its divisions and sections, including ANSS. ALAIR is still new and growing, but at this time ANSS Currents issues from 1986-2014 as well as ANSS Committee agendas and minutes from 2010-2014 are available in the digital archive, and more content will be added as ANSS leadership establishes future routine ANSS digital archiving procedures, and parameters for content to be deposited.

Visit https://alair.ala.org/ to take a look at the Anthropology and Sociology Section digital archives files today!
A member of ANSS since the early 1990s, Isabel del Carmen Quintana is currently Cataloging Manager in the ITS-Metadata Creation unit at Harvard Library. Her many responsibilities in this position include original cataloging on all materials for Harvard’s Tozzer Library, which houses one of the largest and most comprehensive anthropology collections in the United States. Having known Isabel for several years and worked with her on the ANSS Subject & Bibliographic Access Committee for most of that time, it was a pleasure to interview her and it is even more of a pleasure to introduce her to ANSS Currents readers who may not have had the opportunity to get to know this friendly, dedicated, hard-working, knowledgeable, skilled, and talented librarian. Even if you have not met Isabel, you may well be familiar with her work, since she has contributed for many years as co-editor and in many cases as author to the monthly cataloging Question and Answer series produced by the Subject & Bibliographic Access Committee.

As a first-generation Cuban American, Isabel has always spoken two languages and been exposed to two cultures, cultivating a fascination with the diversity and beauties of human cultures as well as an understanding of the difficulties involved when diverse cultures come into contact. Her pathway to librarianship began shortly after she graduated from Bradford College in 1985 with a Bachelor’s degree in Creative Arts. Although she was content at the time with her work as head of a Girl’s Club unit, an opening at the Lawrence Public Library in Lawrence, MA, became available and her mother, who knew the library director from community service committees, encouraged her to apply. At the time there were very few Latinos in the profession even though Lawrence had a large Latino population. The library director was also under pressure by the board to interview at least a few Latino candidates. Although she was shy and didn’t really want the job, Isabel did very well in the interview and soon discovered that not only had she won over the library director, but he had won her over due to his energy and his commitment to serving the Latino community. She took the job, and the rest is history, so to speak. Her position as general library assistant gave her the opportunity to work in all library departments except technical services, although she did work on a couple of technical services projects.

Two years later, Isabel became aware of an opening for library assistants at Harvard. She applied because she was interested in moving to Cambridge and her grandmother was working at Harvard at the time. After a long wait, she was offered and accepted the position of Technical Services Library Assistant at Tozzer Library. Her first assignment was in Acquisitions, where she became associated with Maija Lutz, who mentored her and encouraged her to enroll in the MLS program at Simmons College. She received her degree from there in 1991. It was during library school that she realized that she loved cataloging. She reports that cataloging “was, and is, like solving a puzzle to me.” Shortly after receiving her degree, Isabel was promoted to Cataloging Librarian at Tozzer Library and has never looked back.
Isabel’s involvement with ALA and ANSS began shortly after accepting her first professional position at Tozzer Library; she was encouraged to join by Maija Lutz, her supervisor, and Tozzer Library director Lynne Schmelz. As happens to many new ALA members, she was a bit overwhelmed by her first few conferences but was impressed by the energy of her fellow librarians and the work they seemed to accomplish. Upon returning from her first conference, she remembers Maija Lutz asking her about her experience. After reporting on everything she did, which primarily involved attending meetings, Isabel remembers Maija saying, “But did you have fun?” Isabel then realized that it was not just the work that was important; it was also the networking, the connections, and the opportunity to experience new places and meet new people.

Isabel’s earliest memory of involvement in ANSS is being appointed to the Conference Program Planning Committee for New Orleans in 1992. Maggie Dittemore was Chair of the committee and Isabel remembers how helpful and supportive Maggie was. Maggie and the other committee members made her feel that her opinions were welcome and taken seriously; even though she was new to ANSS, Maggie gave her several tasks, including asking her to serve as liaison to one of the speakers, a man from a community where 16th century Spanish was spoken. Isabel reports that this opportunity and other opportunities to work on national committees is one of the things she values most about her involvement with ANSS; it gave her opportunities from the very beginning, in contrast to national cataloging committees where it can be difficult to be appointed, even if you volunteer. In commenting on her ANSS experience, Isabel says that she “honestly believe[s] that ANSS is great because the people who serve on ANSS Committees are great; they are so encouraging, kind, [and] supportive.”

When asked what she likes doing in her “spare time,” Isabel first mentioned that she enjoys spending time with her three dogs and two cats, especially her rather slow, peaceful walks with her 15-year-old dog which give her a chance to take in the sights and sounds of her neighborhood, including her dog’s wagging tail as they stroll along. Reading just about anything is also a favorite activity, but she especially enjoys reading long literary novels with well-developed characters. She also loves all kinds of music, from classical to contemporary, and has been known to take the open mic to sing one or two songs written by her sister. She also enjoys acting and belly dancing, but hasn’t had much time for them recently. One thing she continues to do is writing, which is her “escape into another world.” She belongs to the writers’ group TimeLess Writers. Her short-story “The Face with One Eye” is posted on their website along with the first four chapters of her novel “Rain on a Ring of Fire.” She has also written two other novels.

Thanks to Isabel for taking the time to share some much information with me; I thought I knew her pretty well but quickly learned how much more lay just beneath the surface. I can think of no more fitting conclusion to this profile than to note that Isabel received the Harvard Hero Award in 2014, an award given to less than one percent of Harvard staff, in recognition of her excellence in service, dedication, and innovation; she was nominated by her supervisor, her staff and her colleagues. I’m sure everyone in ANSS will join me in saying “Congratulations, Isabel!”
From March 6-9, 2015 I had the opportunity to visit Manila, the capital city of the Philippines. From 1521-1898, the Philippines was part of the Spanish Empire and from 1898-1946, the country was under American occupation. In 1946 the Philippines gained independence. Walking in this capital city, you’ll notice many Spanish colonial buildings and architectures though the city is developing and rising rapidly and many commercial skyscrapers are being built throughout the city.

I was invited by the Philippine Librarians Associations, Inc. (PLAI) to speak about digital research in the humanities and social sciences, particularly emphasizing digital scholarship and data research in the University of the Philippines. It was a great opportunity to meet with librarians from all over the Philippines who attended the talk. Most of them were academic librarians from different universities in Manila and some came from the National Library of the Philippines as well.

We discussed some of the open access resources in GIS, digital scholarship, and data programs. Many of them are new to digital scholarship but they are very interested in learning more about building digital libraries and collections open to their communities. We also spent time talking about information literacy, instructional services, and instructional design. I shared with them some of the instruction planning that I do which include using emerging technologies and social media for gamification programs. Overall, it was a great meeting and visit to Manila! I encourage everyone to take time to visit this vibrant city but also spend some time in the other islands of the Philippines too. You can see all of my travel pictures on Tumblr.
**RESOURCE REVIEWS**

**HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES ONLINE**

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*Reviewed March 2015*  
*Publisher:*  Alexander Street Press  
*URL:*  [http://search.alexanderstreet.com/huri](http://search.alexanderstreet.com/huri)  
*Coverage Dates:* 1900-2010

**Introduction**

Human rights is inherently an interdisciplinary field of study, which can include sources from the disciplines of sociology, political science and law, international relations, history, geography, anthropology, and the arts. Until now, there has not been a multimedia database which offers a comprehensive view of the human rights events that have occurred in the last hundred years, incorporating a variety of sources from throughout the world, from all different disciplines. Scholars involved in the study of human rights now have a portal through which to find sources that otherwise would have been scattered across the globe.
Human Rights Studies Online, a product of Alexander Street Press, is a database of streaming video and text materials documenting major events, themes, and figures in human rights violations and crimes from 1900-2010. This resource review is based on the product as it exists in March of 2015. The database was released in late 2014, and will continue to grow to include 75,000 pages of textual sources and 150 hours of video to cover human rights events from the 20th and early 21st centuries, including Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Darfur, and Rwanda, along with more than 30 other events. The resources included in the database are: contemporaneous television footage and photographs; government and court documentation, including testimonies from victims and witnesses; documentaries; interviews; NGO press releases; contemporary personal accounts and artifacts, such as diaries and letters; and works of art and literature relevant to those affected by human rights crimes.

The goal of this online collection is to provide a comprehensive account of the events covered, “from the historical context that made such violations possible through the international response, prosecution of perpetrators, and steps toward rebuilding,” to help scholars “explore significant questions and themes such as how these violations could have been prevented, what common patterns are associated with these crimes, and what impact can be made by government intervention” (Alexander Street Press 2015). The sources for Human Rights Studies Online include Witness.org, Journeyman Pictures, Chip Taylor Communications, NARA Archives, Basic Books, and Harvard University Press. Its editorial board includes scholars at Columbia University, London School of Economics, Northwestern University, and the University of British Columbia. Human Rights Studies Online is available to libraries via annual subscription or one-time purchase, with pricing scaled by institution. Institutions can request a trial and inquire about pricing through a form on the public view of Human Rights Studies Online.

The main way to navigate Human Rights Studies Online is through browsing. The database offers multiple points of entry into its content by offering browse by: Title, Discipline Perspectives, Human Rights Themes and Events, Subjects, Organizations, Places, and People Discussed, Documentation Categories, Publishers, Archival Collections, and Authors/Creators. The four main portals featured on the landing page are Human Rights Events, Discipline Perspectives, Human Rights Themes, and Featured Playlists.

A general search bar at the top of the page allows users to explore their institution’s Alexander Street Press databases by discipline. Human Rights Studies Online is one collection within the Social Sciences. However, a keyword search for anthropological terms such as “religion,” “culture,” and “ethnicity” will yield the most results from Human Rights Studies Online, followed by other databases if they are part of the institutional subscription. Four options immediately below the general search bar allow the inclusion or exclusion of audio, video, text, and related web resources.

A linked help page provides assistance with the entire Alexander Street platform, searching, use of facets, and viewing content. Notably, Boolean searching and truncation operators are not currently supported. The only working Boolean operator is AND, which is the default for all searches. Other search facets include specialized areas of interest such as Human Trafficking, Humanitarian Aid, and Transitional Justice. Search is also available by language. The database has sources in 36 different languages, including Afrikaans, Chechen, K’iche’, Khmer, Pashto, Serbo-Croatian, Tamil, Wayampi, and Yanyuwa.

Advanced search builds primarily on the facets that are also available when browsing events and themes. It allows for searching across human rights events for comparative cases or documents. The advanced search also provides a way of searching across major world events and historical occurrences, whether these are of a long duration (Apartheid, South Africa, 1948-1994; Arab-Israeli Conflict 1949-; Cold War 1945-1989) or a single day (Liberation of Auschwitz Concentration Camp, January 26, 1945; Dissolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, December 26, 1991).
That being said, the other points of entry into the content are more readily accessible for the end user. Unless a specific comparison between events needed to be made, these features are less helpful for searching from the outset.

**Human Rights Events**

The primary landing page of the database (Figure 1) offers nine featured “Events” which can be clicked through and explored in two different ways. First, clicking on the option to “Browse All Events” takes users to a listing of human rights events which have been defined in advance. As of this writing, 41 separate Events are currently listed (Figure 2). One of these is called “Human Rights Events Context,” and provides background for teaching about and studying human rights violations. To date it contains 238 separate works.

![Figure 1. Landing page of Human Rights Studies Online.](image-url)
On the right, users can see the number of works related to each particular Event. As of February 2015, the most robust collections were (in descending order of associated documents and materials): Rwanda (1976); Ottoman Empire and Armenia (915); Yugoslav Wars (528); Holocaust (89); and Darfur (88). Some Events (Brazil Military Dictatorships, Bangladesh Liberation War, Algerian War) contain only a single item at present, but will presumably grow as new materials are added to the resource.

On the left-hand side of the screen, all Events can be refined according to facets. These are: Format; Documentation Category; Content Type; Human Rights Theme; Place Discussed; Person Discussed; Date Discussed; Date Published; and Discipline Perspective. By clicking on a particular Event, users are taken to a separate page for it, as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 2. Browse human rights events.
Only once the user has selected an Event to explore are they given an overview of what that Event entails, such as the time period and the description. It is important to note that some Events (e.g. Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Afghanistan, Global Counter-Terrorism) are ongoing and open-ended. On this page are also listed the credentials of the Event’s subject advisors, along with further questions for teaching and discussion. At the top of the page is a rotating selection of “Editor’s Picks” for materials contained in the collection. The highlighted documents are often unique materials that might otherwise get overlooked. The combination of discussion questions and pre-selected material would make this first page a valuable resource for narrowing focus for a single class session, especially when a particular Event has a great deal of ancillary material associated with it.

**Disciplinary Perspectives**

Currently, there are nine disciplinary perspectives represented in the database: Anthropology, Diplomacy, Geography, History, Law, Medicine, Politics, Sociology, and The Arts. As of this writing, the most documentation is available in Politics (2994 works), Diplomacy (1950), Law (929), and History (832). Sociology and Anthropology currently have 69 and 19 works, respectively. Refining to include only these two disciplines limits the number of Events to 28 and also sharply curtails the number of related works within each Event (Figure 4). Limiting to sociology and anthropology gives between 1 and 25 related works on each of the 28 Events for which it is available (Figure 5).
However, looking at the facets for the categories of “Content Type,” “Subject,” or “Documentation Type” provides at least some clues about why a particular disciplinary perspective would have been chosen. Of the 19 works under Anthropology, for instance, the rationale for their inclusion in that discipline is not immediately self-evident. The bulk of the documents are photographs of the Holocaust (7), with a scattering of ethnographic documentary films, as well as documents from the U.S. Department of State and United Nations regarding the Yugoslav wars.

The subject headings seem to provide the most straightforward links between the disciplines and the digital objects housed under those categories. Only when the end user refines to this level do the disciplinary perspectives emerge. Under the anthropology subject headings are clustered archaeology and forensic anthropology (Bodies, bones and remains; Forensic anthropology; Forensics (Evidence); Reinterments), culture (Cultural identity; Cultural norms; Cultural views), body modification (Body alteration; Circumcisions), analytic categories of ethnicity and nationality (Ethnic groups; Nationalism; Ethnic conflict; Ethnogeography; Minority communities), and other aspects of social and cultural life of interest to anthropologists, historically and in the present day (Cannibalism; Social castes; Globalization; Witches and witchcraft).

Figure 4: Limit by discipline perspective
Note that browsing by subject heading may not retrieve all of the materials associated with a particular topic. Extra keyword and subject searches are necessary if a search is to be exhaustive. Under the discipline of anthropology, there are only two documents associated with the subject heading “Forensic anthropology.” However, a subject search using the assigned vocabulary “Forensic anthropology” retrieves four results from the advanced search. Keyword search is even broader, with a search for “forensic anthropology” retrieving 24 results. The same is true within the discipline of sociology. There, the term “societal structure” has only three associated documents, while a general subject search retrieves eight, and a keyword search gives 24.

Human Rights Themes

The third major way to browse the database is thematically. The eight Human Rights Themes identified in the database are Documentation of Crimes, International Response, Narratives, Never Again Militancy, Origins, Post-Conflict Support, Techniques and Methodologies, and Transitional Justice. The vast majority of the materials included in the database are labeled with Documentation of Crimes and/or International Response. While the Themes do unite topics across geographic and temporal lines, there is no discussion of how they are defined or assigned, which would greatly benefit the students who would be browsing thematically.
When a user clicks on a specific Human Rights Theme, for example, Documentation of Crimes, the search results are presented as shown in Figure 6.

Documentation of Crimes has 1022 results, and the results are sorted by Relevance as the default option, with by Title and Newest/Oldest First also possible.

The individual view of a single item allows users to cite, email, share, add to playlist, or embed a link to the document, and offers easy navigation to longer documents through the “Section” browser at the top of the page. The Human Rights Themes that have been assigned to each item within the database are found in the “Details” section, shown in Figure 7.
An example of the indexing attached to one document, a 614-page resolution from the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, is below.


**Archive URL:** http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB452/docs/doc23.pdf

**Field of Interest:** Human Rights Studies

**Subject:** Human Rights Studies; Social Sciences; Individual and Groups Rights; International Humanitarian Law; Transitional Justice; Rwanda; Sexual assault; Genocide; Prison sentences; Criminal justice; War crimes tribunals; Rwandan Civil War and Genocide, April 7–July 15, 1994; Law; United Nations Assistance Mission For Rwanda; Agathe Uwilingiyimana, 1953-1994; Théoneste Bagosora, 1941-; Gratien Kabiligi, fl. 1994; Aloys Ntabakuze, fl. 1994; Anatole Nsengiyumva, fl. 1994; Rwanda; Tutsi

**Discipline:** Social Sciences

**Specialized Area of Interest:** Individual and Groups Rights; International Humanitarian Law; Transitional Justice

**Human Rights Event:** Rwanda

**Copyright Message:** These materials are reproduced from www.nsarchive.org with the permission of the National Security Archive.

**Corporate Author:** International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
Discipline: Social Sciences / Human Rights Studies / Individual and Groups Rights; Social Sciences / Human Rights Studies / International Humanitarian Law; Social Sciences / Human Rights Studies / Transitional Justice; Social Sciences / Human Rights Studies
Content Type: Resolutions
Documentation Category: General Documents
Format: Text
Subject: Sexual assault; Genocide; Prison sentences; Criminal justice; War crimes tribunals
General Subject: Crime / Assault and battery / Sexual assault; Crime / Crimes against humanity / Genocide; Legal system / Criminal punishment / Prison sentences; Legal system / Criminal justice; International justice / War crimes tribunals
Historical Event: Rwandan Civil War and Genocide, April 7–July 15, 1994
Discipline Perspective: Law
Human Rights Theme: Documentation of Crimes; International Response; Never Again Militancy
Language of Edition: English
Organization Discussed: United Nations Assistance Mission For Rwanda
Original Language: English
Original Publication Date: 2008-12-18
Page Count: 614
Place Discussed: Rwanda
Publication Year: 2008
Publisher: National Security Archive
Place Published / Released: District of Columbia
World Cultural Group Discussed: Tutsi
Year Written: 2008

There are several areas in which content is repeated or duplicated, including in two different Subject fields, two different Discipline fields (and a separate Specialized Area of Interest field, which includes phrases also used in one of the Discipline fields), in the Subject, as well as the fields of Historical Event and/or Organization/Persons/Places Discussed. The organization of these fields seems incoherent; the Details provided for each item would be easier to navigate if information about the physical document were separated from what is discussed within it, and reorganized so that the Details attached to each item can give the user some guidance as to the nature of the item and how to find similar items.

The Human Rights Themes are assigned to each item within the database, but do not appear within the indexing for all items. An example view of a video clip is below.
In addition to a live transcript that follows along with the video, like the document view, the individual page for each video also includes links to cite, email, share, add to playlist, and embed link, along with an option to “Send to mobile.”

The indexing for the video clip is as follows:


**Abstract/Summary:** [In] 1998, the African Union adopted a Protocol establishing an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. It took six years for the protocol to be ratified, but as of January 2004, for the first time, Africa was endowed by a human rights institution whose decisions are legally binding on State Parties. "The Road to Justice: Towards an Accessible and Effective African Court on Human Rights" advocates for widespread ratification of the Protocol, and for NGO's and individuals to be granted direct access. Accompanied by a comprehensive booklet on steps to achieve ratification and the importance of an effective Court.

**All Subtitle Languages:** English

**Field of Interest:** Human Rights Studies

**Discipline:** Social Sciences

**Specialized Area of Interest:** International Humanitarian Law; Individual and Groups Rights

**Copyright Message:** Copyright 2004 by The Institute of Human Rights and Development, The Gambia & WITNESS

**Content Type:** Documentary

**Duration:** 15 minutes

**Format:** Video

**Subject:** War crimes tribunals; Genocide; Courts

**Language Of Edition:** French; English

**Organization Discussed:** African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights

**Original Language:** English

**Original Release Date:** 2004

**Place Discussed:** Africa
The indexing information in the Details seems to be more coherent for the non-document files, even with the absence of Human Rights Themes from the Details. The indexing focuses on the production details of the video without attempting to address the totality of its content. All videos include transcripts of their content.

When browsing by Human Rights Themes, it would also be helpful if, in addition to a summary of the scope of the theme, there were some clarification as to how the items are organized within the theme. International Response, which has 3,300 items currently assigned, automatically sorts items by Relevance, but the first items on the search results are related to the Rwandan Civil War and Genocide. This does not explain why those items may be the most relevant to the theme of International Response. It seems as though students are supposed to use the facets in the left side navigation to refine their search results by “Human Rights Studies” [listed as Subjects in the Details], such as Customary International Law (1940 results), Individual and Groups Rights (1262), and/or International Humanitarian Law (1096). But again, how International Response relates to those limiters is not explained. Students can also refine by Format, Content Type, Human Rights Event, additional Human Rights Theme, Author/Creator, Subject, Publisher, Date Published, Person Discussed, Discipline Perspective, Documentation Category, and Source Type (Primary/Secondary). These facets are not displayed in a logical order; a more coherent organization would be to group together document types and categories, subjects and disciplines, and Human Rights Events and places discussed.

In short, although the Human Rights Themes do offer a unique way to browse the collection across conflicts and Events, the Themes themselves as they are currently organized seem to offer more confusion rather than clarity. Students may be better off navigating the collection through the Events or Playlists, or else browsing by Subjects, which add a much more comprehensive element to a search. If a student browses by Subject, they can then limit their results by Human Rights Theme (see Figure 9). For example, after applying the filter to limit their results to “Documentation of Crimes,” the database shows the Subjects and number of works related to the Human Rights Theme, thus providing some clarity as to the intended function of the Theme.
Featured Playlists

Like the Human Rights Themes, the Playlists bring together sources from different Events, across the globe, into featured collections addressing specific topics. On March 10, 2015, the playlists included:

• First Hand Accounts and Personal Narratives (11)
• Acting Together Collection (4)
• Children and War (16)
• International Protection of Human Rights (14)
• Women, Human Rights, and Conflict (22)
• US Foreign Policy and Human Rights Atrocities (9)
• Documents related to Srebrenica from the Clinton Library Archives (9)

The number after each Playlist refers to the number of sources in the collection, and the Playlists include both video and text. Women, Human Rights, and Conflict includes 22 videos, links, or texts; here is a sample of the materials included in this collection:

Figure 9. Browse subjects.
As can be seen, this Playlist includes videos on the treatment of women in Afghanistan, Chile, Argentina, and Cambodia - and not pictured are videos on the Sri Lankan Civil War, the Central African Republic, and a full-text book, *The Dark Side of Man: Tracing the Origins of Male Violence* by Michael P. Ghiglieri (1999). These Playlists do not seem designed to be comprehensive, but rather to highlight the most significant or impactful resources that address the topic of the Playlist. These curated lists seem like they would be especially useful for professors or librarians who lead students to the database for research.

In addition to the curated Featured Playlists, users can also create an account on Alexander Street Press and compose their own playlists, allowing them to format their list for citation (Brief view, APA, Chicago, MLA 6, MLA 7), email, print, export, save, share their list, or add it to another playlist.

**Conclusion**

While at least some of the material contained in Human Rights Studies Online may be available elsewhere, whether in monographs or government documents and reports, the collation of these items into one event-based database makes them much more discoverable, and represents the strongest aspect of the database, along with the curated Editor’s Picks and discussion questions, which will help facilitate use of the materials in teaching.
Anthropology, sociology, and criminal justice librarians whose faculty work in the geographic areas (Europe, Southeast Asia, East Africa) or historical periods (Cold War, Second World War) with extensive coverage will likely find the resource indispensable once its contents are complete. Those who support academic programs in Conflict Resolution, Human Rights, Justice Studies, or Peace and Conflict Studies will also appreciate the depth of coverage. However, for more general research, or for an interested but unguided student, the database may prove overwhelming simply by virtue of how it presents its abundance of material. At present, the database does not “provide a comprehensive account” and could be misleading to users other than scholars who understand each event’s range of sources and competing interpretations. Improvements to its indexing and organization would make the database more of an asset for interdisciplinary research, and allow its contents to stand on their own more effectively.

Reference


**GALLUP ANALYTICS: AN OPINION RESEARCH PLATFORM**

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Reviewed March 2015
Publisher: Gallup, Inc.
URL: http://www.gallup.com/products/170987/gallup-analytics.aspx
Cost: $8,500 - $30,000

Surveys and opinion polling are vital research methods in the social sciences. As academic librarians explore new roles, emphasizing access to resources and collaboration with faculty and other researchers, providing access to polling research databases may be an attractive method of outreach (Bell, Dempsey, and Fister 2015). Among the most well-known organizations providing primary source opinion polling data are the Gallup organization and the Roper iPoll, reviewed by Kimura (2009) in *ANSS Currents*. The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), based at the University of Michigan, includes opinion research results among its datasets; many universities are ICPSR subscribers. This article is a brief review of a relatively new tool, *Gallup Analytics*, and a call for collaborators to discuss and update our coverage in *Currents* of these resources.

Founded in the 1930s, the Gallup organization provides polling and leadership development services to universities, businesses, and industries, and to organizations ranging from think tanks to religious groups. Researchers in many disciplines employ Gallup polling data as one of their sources, whether they use the data as evidence or have a poll constructed as their research vehicle.¹

The Gallup Website

The [Gallup website](http://www.gallup.com) is rich in articles based on recent research. Viewers can sign up for updates via RSS, Twitter, LinkedIn, or YouTube. Gallup reports findings from its research in several interactive online publications, including the annual [State of the States](http://www.gallup.com/poll/170987/state-states.aspx) report and [Community Well-Being Tracking](http://www.gallup.com/poll/170987/community-well-being-tracking.aspx). In addition, the Gallup website features numerous articles on trends in society and business, with new items posted several times a week. An [A to Z listing of short papers on trends](http://www.gallup.com/poll/170987/short-papers.aspx) in the news offers excellent background information for a student or researcher who needs to
understand basic concepts about politics, the economy, and other issues. The Methodology Center provides more information about how polling is carried out in the Gallup U. S. Daily, Gallup Daily Tracking, Gallup-Healthways and Well-Being Index, Gallup World Poll, and Gallup Social Poll Series, and other major poll series. More detailed help, including questions and detailed discussions of methodology, is available to those with current subscriptions or trials. Reference or instruction librarians embedded in social science departments or writing classes would do well to bring the site to their students’ attention, as an alternative to other less well-researched and less insightful news venues.

**Topics Covered by Gallup Analytics**

Gallup Analytics for the first time ever allows access to 80 years of Gallup's trended data for the U.S. and a decade of data from more than 160 countries. Subscribers use predictive analytics comprising data available nowhere else, with virtually all of the opinions that matter in the advancement or decline of a nation, state, or city. (Gallup Analytics, n.d.)

A subscription to Gallup Analytics offers users two well-known resources, the World Poll and the U.S. Daily Poll. In addition, a subscription includes access to the Gallup Brain, a searchable database of Gallup data from as far back as 1935.

The World Poll started in 2005 and is taken annually in over 160 countries. Its coverage includes business and economics, citizen engagement, communications and technology, education and families, environment and energy, food and shelter, government and politics, and health. A detailed list of topics can be found [here](https://www.gallup.com/poll/145536/world-poll.aspx). The World Poll follows Gallup’s “macroeconomic path.” This behavioral economic analysis considers not only classical measures such as gross domestic product, but also takes into account opinions and perceptions in key areas. Among other items, business and economic coverage includes whether the respondent currently owns a business, what he or she thinks of local economic conditions, and data about household income, financial remittances, and whether the standard of living is improving.

The U.S. Daily poll includes coverage of political and economic issues; among them, citizen engagement (overall, quality of life), environment and energy (whether there is access to clean and safe water), food and shelter (whether or not the person has enough money for food and housing), religion and ethics (attendance at a religious service), work (job creation and job satisfaction), payroll to population (the average payroll divided by the population over 15 years of age). The coverage also provides data from the Gallup Healthways Well-Being Index (started in 2008). A listing of the U.S. Daily topics is [available](https://www.gallup.com/poll/145536/usa-daily-poll.aspx).

**Gallup Analytics Online**

Gallup Analytics is offered by subscription as a client service. From the standpoint of academic institutions and their faculty and students, the scope and depth of data gathered by Gallup mean that it is a more complex tool than most article databases. It may be confusing and hard to interpret for those not accustomed to questionnaire design or interpreting polling data. To assist users, Gallup furnishes a variety of help materials, including a YouTube video that outlines the steps in using Gallup Analytics. Nevertheless, librarians should be prepared to become fluent in using the platform, and to spend considerable time coaching their patrons in using it as well.

The Gallup Analytics search platform has two major functional areas: Explore and Analyze. Explore allows users to construct searches combining both the World Poll and the U.S. Daily, or the separate data sources. Under the Explore tab, users can use drop-down menus to choose the geography of their topic: the world, world regions, or countries; or the U.S., states, or MSAs (Micropolitan Statistical Areas). After choosing the geography, the user selects the general topic and can add keywords to execute the search. Both the U.S. and the World areas have interactive maps which show numerical data for the places selected. Results appear as tables in small windows within the larger window. The relevant
questions from the polls appear near the top of the results page, with the text exposed by passing the mouse over the title of the question. Users can bookmark searches for later use.

**Analyze** lets users analyze the metrics selected using the Explore tab. The Tables section of this function allows the user to select data from the World Poll or the U.S. Daily. The user can select the geography (states or MSAs, for example) and the metrics (variables). Moving the mouse over the metric allows a user to see the full text of the question for that item. The user can also suggest demographics such as age, gender, race, educational level, household income, political party membership, and so on. Users can also select the time, by year or other date.

Results appear as tables. There is also a chart view which allows the display of the data in a chart, a trend line, or a scatter plot, as appropriate. Users with subscriptions can download some data to Excel. The Profile tab allows users to view and refine their reports by putting them in context of the relevant countries or other metrics.

**Issues with Using Gallup Analytics**

In his 2007 article, Stephen Woods proposed that polling products should answer content questions about the purpose of the poll, its sponsor, the organization that conducted the poll, what questions were included and the order in which they were asked, who the poll respondents were, the way in which the interviews were carried out, the time frame in which the poll was administered, and what statistics attest to the poll’s accuracy (Woods, 2007: 43). Kimura’s 2009 article also uses this work. *Gallup Analytics* is a sophisticated platform, and in one place or another it has answers for these questions. *Gallup Analytics* has great potential as a teaching tool, in addition to its usefulness for research.

However, this is not an easy interface to use, although Gallup provides very good how-to information in a handout and a YouTube video. Teaching it will probably lend itself to workshop settings, together with individual consultations. Liaison librarians should inquire about its usefulness with their faculty and students directly, and conduct surveys of those students who use *Gallup Analytics*.

Several suggestions can be made for improvement. First, more context-sensitive help about query formation might prevent frequent “no results” from searches. Second, the search interface is rather dark and drab. Using lighter colors with larger text for the poll questions may help. It might be useful to adopt a faceted format reminiscent of major article databases and discovery services. For librarians who may not have the luxury of working several times a day with *Gallup Analytics*, another suggestion would be to provide more context-sensitive help guides.

**Trials and Pricing**

Libraries interested in making a trial of *Gallup Analytics* should contact the group at their contact page. Trials for librarians are generally one week in length. Gallup personnel prefer to make a group presentation in advance to those registered for the trial, to help them understand the basics of using this complex tool.

**Pricing Gallup** offers a single IP-authenticated “seat” to academic libraries for $8500 or multiples thereof. Unlimited access is available for $30,000. Libraries considering Gallup Analytics for purchase will want to compare its coverage and features with the other major data sources mentioned above.

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1. As an example of this usage, a search for “Gallup” in the abstract field of *Science Direct* database, limited to the Social Sciences area, retrieved over 20 articles from journals such as *Child Abuse & Neglect*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Electoral Studies*, *Global Food Security*, *Global Environmental Change*, and *Economics & Human Biology*. 
References


The ANSS Currents (ISSN 0888-5559) newsletter is a biannual electronic publication of the Anthropology and Sociology Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611, (800) 545-2433, Ext. 2523, http://www.acrl.org.


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