

Candidate Statement, LAUC Vice President/President Elect

Jennifer K. Nelson, LAUC-B

Candidate Statement

I appreciate the opportunity to run for the position of LAUC VP/President-Elect and to continue my deep commitment to our professional organization. My career-long active involvement in LAUC, both locally and statewide, as a librarian at UC has provided me with both a broad overview of, and direct experience with, LAUC and all of its committees and work. My most recent term as Statewide Secretary (2021-2022) was particularly fulfilling, as it gave me the chance to meet monthly with colleagues across the UC and learn about member experiences at different campuses. My tenure on the LAUC-B Research & Professional Development (R&PD) Committee will be invaluable as preparation for my role chairing the statewide R&PD committee as it administers the LAUC Research Grant program; my term as LAUC-B Executive Committee Vice Chair/Chair (2015-2018) – for which I chaired monthly meetings, coordinated discussion among membership on issues important to UCB librarians, planned our local assemblies, and participated in Statewide Executive Board conference calls – has provided me with relevant experience listening to members' ideas and concerns, facilitating discussion, and keeping membership apprised of any pertinent developments; and my CAPA service has given me the opportunity to learn about the great work of my colleagues at Berkeley and gain a solid understanding of the review process.

As a founding member of LAUC-B's Librarian Researchers Working Group,¹ which is under the auspices of LAUC-B's R&PD Committee, I am committed to supporting and highlighting the scholarly and creative activity of librarians. As VP/President Elect and chair of Statewide R&PD, I intend to work with the President and the Statewide Assembly planning committee to find ways to highlight librarian research in that venue (much like the R&PD Showcase at the 2021 LAUC Assembly). As President I would continue to explore ways to facilitate and highlight research, for those who are interested in pursuing it, including identifying and disseminating resources for writing successful grant applications, exploring ways to workshop in-progress research on a statewide basis, and celebrating the accomplishments of our colleagues. Another important issue I intend to focus on as a member of the LAUC Executive Board, first as as VP/President Elect and then as President, is to maintain an open dialogue among librarians across all campuses regarding the proposed changes to APM 210-4, which adds contributions to diversity, equity, inclusion, and equal opportunity as academic review criteria,² regarding how these changes, once adopted, are being implemented on each campus and to discuss their effectiveness in achieving their stated goals.

¹ The Library Research Working Group (LRWG) provides a regular, informal forum where library professionals engaged in scholarly and creative projects can share and discuss their ideas with peers: <https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/Staff/lauc/research-and-professional-development>.

² Announced via email from the Vice Provost for the Faculty to the UC Berkeley campus on 4/26/2023: <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/academic-personnel-policy/policies-under-review/apm-210.html>.

Education

PhD in Latin and Roman Studies (2019), University of Florida, Gainesville

MA in Classics (2005), University of Kentucky, Lexington

MLIS (2004), University of Kentucky, Lexington

MA in Italian (1997), University of California, Los Angeles

BA in Italian Literature (1991), University of California, Santa Cruz

Professional Experience

Senior Reference Librarian (2005-present), The Robbins Collection, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

LAUC Activity

LAUC Statewide

- LAUC Statewide Secretary, 2021-22

LAUC-B:

- Committee on Appointment, Promotion and Advancement, 2021-24
- Committee on Research & Professional Development, 2021-23 (Co-chair 2022-23)
- Distinguished Librarian Award Committee, 2017-18 (Chair)
- Committee on Appointment, Promotion and Advancement, 2010-13 (Chair 2012-13)
- Conference Planning Committee, 2012-13 (Co-chair)
- Committee on Affiliated Library Affairs, 2011-12 (Chair)
- Treasurer, 2007-09
- Secretary, 2006-07

Other Professional Activity

Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries

- Editorial Group for Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Manuscripts), 2008-2016
- Bibliographic Standards Committee, 2009-2013
- Nominations and Elections Committee, 2011-2012
- Seminars Committee, 2007-2009

Western European Studies Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries

International Association for Neo-Latin Studies

International Association of Neo-Latin Studies

Society For Neo-Latin Studies