

TWO YEAR POST MLS DIVERSITY RESIDENCY REPORT



DIVERSITY RESIDENT JENAY SOLOMON 2016-2018

Introduction

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro University Libraries has established a two-year Diversity Residency in order to guide and develop a new librarian's professional growth while investing in The Libraries' commitment to diversity within the field of librarianship. In the first year of the program, the Resident rotates between different functional areas of The Libraries gaining valuable experience in multiple service areas of academic librarianship. The Resident also participates in diversity initiatives and outreach activities for both the library and the university. The second year of the Residency aligns with the goals and interests of the Resident and is designed to be spent in one department getting more in-depth experience in a particular area of the academic library profession.

Year One Summary

During the first year of her residency, Jenay rotated among three different departments: Research, Outreach, and Instruction (July 2016-December 2017), Technical Services (January 2017-April 2017), and Special Collections and University Archives (May 2017-August 2017).

First Rotation

For her first rotation in Research, Outreach, and Instruction (ROI), Jenay focused her time on instruction, primarily for first year students, staffed the reference desk, and engaged with students and faculty.

- Jenay taught approximately 20 instruction sessions for several classes such as Communications studies 105, English 101, Freshman Seminars, and Foundations for Learning.
- Jenay created a LibGuide for Native American Studies resources, updated the MLA 8 citation guide, rebuilt, and maintained several others including Social Work libguides, CST 105, and took over the libguide for Graphic Novels in Jackson library.
- In October 2016, Jenay served on the Roundtable for Ethnic Minority Concerns (NCLA roundtable) panel discussion with several new librarians discussing their experiences as minorities in the field and how they came into librarianship.
- While in ROI, Jenay also created a brand new, separate browsing collection of Young Adult and Graphic Novels with the help of a taskforce including several librarians from ROI and Access services. Jenay secured a permanent fund and ordered new materials, as well as reallocated books from the stacks for the collection.
- Planned, coordinated, and implemented UNCG Library's 2nd Diversity and Global Engagement Exposition in February 2017. Created by the former and fourth Diversity Resident, Orolando Duffus, the first event was held in January 2015 for UNCG students to learn about and engage with international and diverse students on campus. The Expo featured group presentations from over 20 student and University wide organizations, a staff and student panel, music and cultural food. The Expo generated about 100+ attendees throughout the event.

Second Rotation

In Technical Services, Jenay focused on Open Educational Resource (OER) initiatives and Electronic resources. Jenay met with each member of Technical services to understand more about their job and roles.

- Collaborated with Assistant Dean for Collection Management and Scholarly Communications on OER initiatives, by updating the OER libguide, finding and promoting OER repositories and tools, attending and participating in OER faculty and librarian workshops.
- Collaborated with Electronic Resources librarian on e-resource usability environmental scan to analyze problems, troubleshooting, and discoverability of UNCG's e-resources.

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- Worked with a team of librarians charged with targeting e-resource databases to market to students and faculty.
- Attended NC Serials conference in March with other department members.

Third Rotation

For her third rotation in Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) Jenay focused on instruction and outreach within the department and in addition, Jenay completed the following:

- Began processing the papers and materials of the North Carolina Home Economics Association and will be creating a finding aid for the collection.
- Attended the Society of North Carolina Archivists conference in March with other department members.
- Co-curated an exhibit on UNCG's collection of antique celery vases and collaborated with the SCUA intern on a blog post on the history and use of celery vases in the late 19th century.
- Observed several SCUA class instructions and co-taught two sections of Theatre 500 and one section of 501 about SCUA research databases and resources, and was able to observe primary document analysis activities.
- Co-taught with the Graduate Assistant and Community Instruction Coordinator in SCUA, three consecutive workshops at Andrews High School in High Point, working with high school students on how to find and analyze primary sources and documents. These workshops are part of SCUA's Community Institution Program, partnering with K-12 schools teaching about primary sources in the classroom.
- Assisted on the SCUA reference desk, monitoring chat and helping patrons.

Additional Participation

Jenay attended the Metrolina conference in June during her rotation in SCUA, meeting with librarians and library professionals from all over the state and in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area. Jenay served on several teams, including the Humanities team, Instruction team, Social Sciences Team and Collections team. She also served on the Search Committee for the Online Learning Librarian. Jenay was also a member of the Administrative Advisory Group and the Library's Diversity Committee. She also assisted UNCG staff and faculty from other departments outside the library with planning UNCG CHANCE, a college readiness program for Latino high school juniors and seniors. Other highlights of her residency include:

- Began processing the papers and materials of the North Carolina Home Economics Association and will be creating a finding aid for the collection.
- Promoting the Young Adult and Graphic Novel collection by working with a professor in the English department, who taught a Freshman seminar class on graphic novel narratives' exploration of diversity. Jenay was able to meet with the class and talk to them about the importance and collection scope of the Graphic novels, inviting them to submit any suggestions for titles.
- Creating a survey for students enrolled in the study abroad program, asking them about what information resources they use to prepare and how they access information while abroad.

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In addition to her teaching and workload in each departmental rotation, Jenay also presented two poster presentations at ALA Annual in Chicago and ACRL in Baltimore. Her poster at ALA was about Global Engagement in the Academic Library, talking about various global and multicultural outreach and programs at UNCG libraries. At ACRL, Jenay co-presented a poster with Orolando Duffus on the UNCG libraries as an Incubator for Multicultural Engagement. Jenay and Orolando also co-wrote a book chapter for the book, *Improving Library Services in Support of International Students and English as a Second Language Learners* to be published by ACRL Publishers, in which they discuss planning the Diversity Expo.

Year Two Summary

The second year of the Diversity Residency is designed to be spent in one department gaining in-depth experience in a particular area of the academic library profession. Due to Jenay's interest in first-year and undergraduate instruction and outreach, Jenay spent her final year in the Research, Outreach, and Instruction Department. During the Fall 2017 semester, Jenay served as liaison to the department of Social Work in the absence of a Social Sciences librarian. Through this opportunity, Jenay was able to gain important experience as a subject librarian including a general knowledge of collecting for a specific discipline, faculty relationship building, and instruction experience for an upper level Social Work Methods course. Jenay also continued teaching First Year and undergraduate information literacy and research sessions and remained a member of the Humanities Team, Social Sciences team, Instruction Team, and the Diversity Committee. Jenay served on the planning committee for the 62nd Biennial North Carolina Library Association conference in October 2017. Jenay also co-chaired the committee for Librarians Build Communities, helping coordinate the food drive with Second Harvest food bank. During NCLA, Jenay was a co-presenter for two sessions for the Library Student Track program, presented a poster on the UNCG CHANCE program, and presented a lightning round about Jackson Library's Young Adult & Graphic Novel Collection.

At the 2018 annual LAUNCCH Conference, Jenay served on a panel session: Transforming Partnerships: Supporting the Gate City through Campus and Community Outreach, with several librarians from ROI, the Head of the Digital Media Commons, and the Associate Dean of Public Services, Kathy Crowe, which discussed several community and campus outreach events and programs that took place through UNCG Libraries.

Jenay, along with UNCG Patrons Services Specialist, Alva Jones and two librarians from Winston-Salem State University, Michelle Mitchell and Breanne Crumpton, co-wrote a chapter for the book *Comics and Critical Librarianship for Academic Libraries* published by Library Juice Press. The chapter focuses on creating and collecting for both institutions' graphic novel and comic collections, representing diversity and inclusion in comics.

Second Year Highlights

Highlights of Jenay's accomplishments in her 2nd year include.

- Coordinated with UNCG Library & Information Science Student Association (LISSA) on a webinar on LIS student and faculty experiences in international libraries:
<https://youtu.be/nnQ6-eNaJns>
- Partnered with the Student Government Association on the 2018 Diversity and Global Engagement Expo.
- Collaborated with the Assistant Dean, Beth Bernhardt on a webinar about OER Opportunities for the Research and Application Webinar Series:
<https://youtu.be/gEuQkcyvCFY>
- Co-lead outreach workshops to related to the use and promotion of OER for faculty, as part of the OER Mini Grant program and for students, partnering with the NC student PIRG (Public Interest Research Group) on textbook affordability.
- Co-lead two back-to-back primary source workshops with the Graduate Assistant in SCUA for students at Andrews High School in between her first and second years.
- Collaborated with the International Programs Center to deliver the survey created in her first year on student's information usage behavior in the Study Abroad program.
- Created a Camtasia tutorial on how to navigate the Wilson Core Collections database:
<https://youtu.be/6xHNLahJZ7E>
- Provided a workshop for students in the MOSAIC Living Learning Center (LLC) in her role as Librarian Liaison to MOSAIC. The workshop discussed how to visually create, cite, and effectively communicate posters for the LLC Student Showcase, and brought in representatives from Digital ACT Center and the Speaking Center.
- Attended several conferences focusing on library instruction, outreach, and creativity including the Library Collective in Knoxville, TN in February and the Innovative Library Classroom (TILC) in Radford, VA in May.

In August 2018, Jenay began a new position as an Undergraduate Engagement Librarian at the University of Iowa Libraries.