

Conference Speaker Profiles

Adrienne Alger is an assistant professor at the UM Mansfield Library in Missoula. Adrienne is the Online Learning and Instructional Technology Librarian with prior experience in public libraries and as a search analyst for Yahoo.

Annie Alger moved from Florida to Missoula and began working at the Missoula Public library nine years ago in the Circulation Department, promoting and implementing exceptional patron services. She currently works in the Reference Department and as the Interlibrary Loan Specialist. She has worked and volunteered in public and academic libraries for many years in a variety of capacities, including cataloging, collection development, reader's advisory, reference, circulation, programming, media services and outreach.

Cody Allen is the Teen Services Librarian at Billings Public Library where he runs the TECH Lab, a digital learning lab for teens that is part of the YOUmedia network. When he's not at the library, Cody enjoys reading, flyfishing, and board games.

Kim Anderson is the director of programs and grants at Humanities Montana. Among other responsibilities she directs the Montana Center for the Book, Montana Conversations, and Speakers in the Schools programs. She returned to her hometown of Missoula after living and working in New York City for 15 years. She is married to the author Neil McMahon and is the proud mother of Isabelle and Charles

Sean Anderson is the Senior Librarian for Collection Development and Branch Services at ImagineIF Libraries. Sean is also a member of the MSC Executive Board. Outside of work, Sean stays busy exploring outdoors with his wife and two children.

Kenning Arlitsch is the Dean of the Library at Montana State University. He has a BA in English Literature from Alfred University and a Masters of Library Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Kenning serves as the appointee of the Commission of Higher Education, a position he has held since 2016.

Elsie Arntzen is the current State Superintendent. Arntzen is a 4th generation Montanan from Billings. She is the daughter of two Montana public school teachers and she taught 5th and 6th grade in Billings Public Schools for 23 years. She has degrees in Economics and Education from the University of Montana and Montana State University respectively. In addition to her teaching career, she served in the Montana Legislature for 12 years. She served four terms in the Montana House of Representatives from 2005 to 2013 and one term in the Montana Senate from 2013 until she was sworn in as Superintendent of Public Instruction on January 2, 2017. She is the proud mother of two daughters and grandmother of four grandchildren. She has been married to her high school sweetheart Steve for 41 years. With her strong background in public education, she is honored to serve as Superintendent of Montana's public schools and it is her mission to put Montana students first at the Office of Public Instruction.

Lune Axelsen has over fifteen years' experience in marketing and a passion for writing and visual arts. Lune has developed skills in graphic design, videography and video editing. She has designed numerous social media, email, and text campaigns, and is thrilled to put her talents to use with the visionary team at ImagineIF Libraries. Outside the library, she embraces mountain life and can be found chasing powder on her snowboard or finding calm on her yoga mat.

Gale Bacon has been the Director of the Belgrade Community Library for the past eleven years. In 2011 the Belgrade Community Library was named the Montana Library Association's Library of the Year. In 2015, the library was awarded the Best Small Library in America through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Library Journal. After leaving Montana and moving to the Minneapolis area, Gale was a Branch Manager for

one of 35 libraries in the Great River Regional Library System for sixteen years. She also served for sixteen years on the local School Board, was elected to the State School Board for six years, and was appointed to the Minnesota State High School League Board.

Beth Baker, Montana Supreme Court Justice. Justice Baker was raised in Spokane, Washington, and graduated magna cum laude from the University of Washington in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in Speech Communication. In 1985, she graduated with high honors from the University of Montana School of Law. Following graduation from law school, Justice Baker served four years as a law clerk for the Hon. Charles C. Lovell, U.S. District Judge for the District of Montana. From 1989 through 2000, she worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the Montana Department of Justice, including four years as Assistant Chief Deputy Attorney General and four years as Chief Deputy Attorney General. Justice Baker spent the next ten years in the private practice of law with the firm of Hughes, Kellner, Sullivan and Alke. Justice Baker served ten years on the State Bar of Montana's Access to Justice Committee and currently serves as an ex officio director of the Montana Justice Foundation. Justice Baker now serves as the Montana Supreme Court's representative on the Court's Access to Justice Commission. Justice Baker was elected to the Montana Supreme Court on November 2, 2010, and was sworn into office January 3, 2011, to fill the position of retiring Justice W. William Leaphart. Justice Baker is a passionate advocate for access to justice for all Montanans and sees the vital role of libraries in fulfilling that access.

Matt Beckstrom was born and raised in Montana. He has been with the Lewis & Clark Library in Helena, Montana since 1999 as the Systems Manager/Librarian. He received his undergraduate degree in computer science from Montana State University Billings in 2010, and graduated with his Masters of Information Science in information systems degree, with two graduate academic certificates: Advanced management of Libraries and Information Agencies, and Digital Content Management from the University of North Texas in 2012. He currently serves on the Montana Library Association board, the ACLU Montana Board and is a councilor for the American Library Association. His first book, titled *Protecting Patron Privacy*, was published in 2015 by ABC-CLIO. He is a contributor to an upcoming book on Library privacy, and is a frequent speaker on technology, security, and library topics at conferences.

Connie Behe has a deep passion for staff development, strategic planning and having fun at work. She thrives on the warm connections and dedication to building better communities that is a huge part of the Montana library family. When she's not talking staff into trying new things at ImagineIF Libraries, she's outside having fun with her family and friends in beautiful northwest Montana.

Jennifer Birnel is the Director of the State Library's Montana Memory Project. She is a graduate of the University of Montana, Western Kentucky University, and Leslie University. She is an experienced teacher and trainer and enjoys helping people learn new skills. Jennifer enjoys travel, camping, kayaking, and reading in her hammock.

Natalie Bond is the Political Papers Archivist at the University of Montana's Mansfield Library Archives and Special Collections, where she currently works with the Max S. Baucus Papers. Her past work has focused on archival praxis in post-colonial societies, social memory, and Congressional archival collections. Natalie received her MSI from the University of Michigan in 2012

Hayley Botnen is a Billings native who graduated with a BA in English-Teaching at UM before pursuing librarianship. She has an MA in Children's Literature and an MS in Library Science both from Simmons College in Boston.

Beth Boyson is a Past President, Committee Chair and ALA Representative of MLA. She is a member of the Tech Services Interest Group and a cataloger at Bozeman Public Library.

Honore Bray has been the Director of the Missoula Public Library for 13 years and prior to that she was the Director of the Hearst Free Library in Anaconda for 10 years. Her MLIS is from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. She spent 20 years teach high school prior to Montana libraries. Her bachelors in Secondary and Elementary are from MSU with a fifth year in Library Science from UM.

Joy Bridwell is the library director at the Stone Child College Library in Box Elder, MT.

Sam Buechler (BEAK-ler) is the Stacks Maintenance Supervisor at the Mansfield Library. She is currently seeking her MLIS at the University of Washington iSchool.

Susanne Caro is currently the Government Documents Librarian at the University of Montana, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library in beautiful Missoula, Montana. As a Government Documents Librarian she promotes state and federal publications, including the growing digital and digitized material available. She is the author of *Digitizing Your Collection: Public Library Success Stories* (2016) and editor of *Essentials of Government Information* (2017).

Ben Chiewphasa is the Cataloging Specialist for Government Documents and Maps at the Maureen & Mike Mansfield Library, University of Montana in Missoula. Previously, he worked as an Archaeological Technician for the Bitterroot and Helena National Forests. Ben holds a Bachelor's degree in Geosciences and Sociology/Anthropology and a Master's in Anthropology from the University of Montana.

Johns Chrastka is the Executive Director of EveryLibrary, the first and only national organization dedicated to building voter support for libraries.

Alex Clark is the Community Outreach Assistant at Montana Legal Services Association, a state-wide non-profit law firm that empowers low-income people by providing legal information, advice and other services free of charge. Alex grew up in Helena and earned a B.A. from the University of Montana with majors in history and philosophy. He joined the "Access to Justice Movement" as a Justice for Montanans AmeriCorps member, serving two years upon graduating from UM.

Carmen Clark is a Bookmobile Librarian and MLA board member. In the last year she has stepped way out of her comfort zone and obtained a CDL by practicing driving snowplows on the streets of Bozeman. After that adventure was over and the bookmobile finally arrived in Bozeman, you can rarely find her in the office anymore. She enjoys being out and about in the Bozeman area and in parts of Gallatin County.

Shari Curtis is the Programming Librarian and Gallery Manager at Butte Public Library. She holds an Honors BA in History from the University of Texas at Arlington and an MA in Early Modern European History from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She has an MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Professional Certificate in Museum Studies from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She has previously worked as a paraprofessional at University of Colorado at Boulder, MSU-Bozeman Library and Bozeman Public Library.

Heather Dickerson is the Teen Services Librarian at Lewis & Clark Library in Helena. When not at the library, Heather coaches youth rock climbing, goes camping, and makes stuff!

Abbi Dooley has been the Assistant Director at the North Lake County Public Library since March 2016. She was taught copy cataloging by one of the best in the state, Library Director Marilyn Trosper and spent two fun-filled and educational days learning original cataloging from the great Laura Tretter. Abbi was recently appointed to the Content Management Committee as a new member. Although she doesn't get to catalog every day, Abbi makes the time to do a little cataloging each week as it is one of the most enjoyable aspects of her job.

Jessica Edwards is the Outreach and Electronic Resources Librarian for the Montana State Library. Prior to joining the State Library, she worked in public libraries in Southern California and taught English in Japan. Jessica holds an MLIS from Syracuse University.

Connie Eissinger and her family ranch outside of Brockway, Montana in McCone County. She holds a BA in Business from Montana State University. Connie is now retired after spending 24 years as a McCone County Commissioner. She brings great experience to the State Library Commission having served on numerous local, state and national committees to advance county administration, and land and information management priorities in Montana. Connie was appointed to the Commission in 2015.

Eva English is the library director at the Aaniiih Nakoda College in Harlem, MT.

Michael Everts, AIA, is a registered architect and associate professor of architecture. Since 2003, he has taught advanced graduate level design, professional practice, and special design topic courses at Montana State University. He was educated at University of Texas-Austin (B Arch 1987) and Columbia University NY (MS in Architecture and Urban Design, 1991). Prior to teaching at MSU, he practiced architecture with Valerio Dewalt Train Associates, Chicago for ten years. He has also practiced in Milwaukee, San Antonio and New York. His academic research and interests are: 1) advancement of the profession through practice that stakes out new territories of value, 2) integration of digital technologies to augment creativity, and 3) using the unique social engagement capacity of architecture to create equitable cultural, political, economic and physical health impacts.

Dr. Ann Dutton Ewbank served as a high school and middle school social studies and language arts teacher, a middle school and academic librarian, and has taught teacher education courses at the undergraduate and graduate level. Dr. Ewbank researches school library advocacy and has written articles in *School Library Research*, *School Libraries Worldwide*, *Knowledge Quest*, *Teacher-Librarian*, *School Library Media Activities Monthly*, *The Journal of Research on Technology in Education* and *Phi Delta Kappan*. She is a past president of the Arizona Library Association. Dr. Ewbank was named one of *Library Journal's* "Movers and Shakers" of 2009. Dr. Ewbank is Associate Professor and Director of the School Library Media Certification Program at MSU-Bozeman.

Erin Fashoway is Montana's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator with the Montana State Library. She works to coordinate GIS functions/activities within Montana across local, state, tribal, and federal government as well as private, nonprofit, and universities. Erin got her start in the field of GIS as an analyst with a water & wastewater district in northwest Ohio. She has worked for Esri, a leading GIS software vendor and various Montana state agencies. Erin has had passion for maps since she was a kid, helping navigate on trips with her family. One of the things that helped build her passion for geography and maps was her local public library; it was always an excitement to grab as many as copies of the discarded National Geographic magazines as she could and peruse the stories, photos, and of course the maps! Erin holds a BA in Geography from Bowling Green State University and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from the Ohio State University.

Corey Fifles is a programming and outreach librarian in Bozeman, Montana. Back in the mountain west after receiving her master's degree in Information Science at the University of Texas, she is passionate about community building, literacy, and empowerment through education.

John Finn has been Director of Lewis & Clark Library since January 2016. He has a long history in Montana libraries; first arriving in the state in 1997 to work as a Statewide Technology Consultant for the Montana State Library; followed by Head of Information Services for Great Falls Public Library; and then working as Director of Hearst Free Library in Anaconda. John recently returned to Montana after a six year adventure in the Portland Metro area. In Oregon, he managed a branch library staff and selected all the materials for the collection.

Joann (Jo) Flick is the CE Coordinator at the MT State Library. Jo has worked as a museum director, education coordinator for a NY PBS Station, and a national marketing/training professional for a publisher of educational videos. She is a volunteer firefighter, EMT and struggling gardener/artist living in beautiful, downtown East Glacier Park. She is active with the CE Cohort of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies association (COSLA), and holds a Master's Degree in Instructional Systems from Indiana University (go Hoosiers!).

Martha Furman is the Youth Services Librarians for ImagineIF Libraries in Flathead County. She holds a Master of Library and Information Science degree from Dominican University in River Forest IL. In her current position, she develops hands-on programs, creates interactive playspaces, manages collections for children and teens and collaborates with other senior team members to develop long range planning for ImagineIf Libraries.

Sonia Gavin has served as the Legislative Librarian since 2008. She has a BA in Political Science from the University of Montana and her MLA from the University of North Texas. Sonia is also the current president of the Lewis and Clark Library Foundation Board. In her spare time, she likes to quilt, cook, spend time with her two hound dogs, and hosting several Helena Area Librarians Organization gatherings.

Megan Glidden is lucky to be able to make, play, and innovate for work every day. As the Community Engagement Librarian at ImagineIF Libraries in Kalispell, Montana she gets to explore and implement new and exciting ways to connect and engage with the community. She is thrilled to see the positive impacts of her work and appreciates how awesome it is that she gets paid to do it. Getting that master's degree in Library and Information Science was a good call!

Mary Guthmiller has been working at the Montana State University Library for over 20 years, all in interlibrary loan. In her spare time, she also subs at the Bozeman Public Library. A self-professed library nerd, don't be surprised if she contacts you for a tour of your library if she happens to be in the neighborhood.

Mary Anne Hansen is Research Commons Librarian at the MSU Library, also serving as Subject Librarian to Education, Health & Human Development, Nursing, Psychology and Gallatin College. Her research interests include assessment, library space design, user services and information literacy.

Nolan Harris is the Court Help Program Administer. The Court Help Program, administered by the Court Administrator's Office, is a free service provided to assist people with civil, non-criminal legal problems. Before joining the Court Help Program as the administrator, Nolan served two terms in the program as a Justice for Montanans AmeriCorps member in the Helena State Law Library Self Help Law Center. Current projects Nolan is involved with include the Library Outreach Campaign, implementation of new family law forms, development of legal resources for self-represented litigants and training information for court staff.

Alyssa Heller is currently a Research Fellow with the MSU Library, focusing on program assessment.

Jill Howard is an assistant professor at the UM Mansfield Library in Missoula. Jill is a reference and instruction librarian and currently acts as the Workshop Coordinator.

Toni Iwen is the librarian at Clancy Elementary School.

Janay Johnson grew up in the Kansas City area, but has called Bozeman home since 1992. She has a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and Creative Writing from the University of Kansas. Most of her professional life has been spent in development and leadership roles for local nonprofit organizations, including the Yellowstone Park Foundation and American Prairie Reserve. Janay became Director of the Library Foundation in January of 2017. She is thrilled to spend her days raising funds to support the community's top-notch library and its

programs. She enjoys spending time outdoors skiing, hiking and camping with her husband and 14-year old daughter.

Marti Johnson is the Reach Higher Montana Advisor for the Helena area. Reach Higher Montana helps students and families overcome barriers and reach their educational goals.

Stef Johnson is the Director of the Butte - Silver Bow Public Library. Stef had an exciting career as a ranger at Glacier National Park before she dove into librarianship. She has been engaged in the evolution of library services in Butte to provide more online access and greater tech support for Butte and its surrounding communities.

Elizabeth Jonkel received her MLIS from the University of Western Ontario in 2000. She has worked for Canadian governments as a consultant, analyst and librarian, specializing in health services. Since 2009, she has served as the Assistant Director at Missoula Public Library in Missoula, Montana. Elizabeth also holds a MA in History from Carleton University and BA in English from the University of Montana.

Angela Jordan is the Reference Librarian at Butte Public Library. She holds a BA in Philosophy from Pacific Lutheran University, a MA in American Studies from the University of Wyoming, and a MLIS from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Prior to her return to Montana, she worked as an archivist at the University Archives and the Student Life & Culture Archives at the University of Illinois.

Anne Kish is the Interim Library Director at the University of Montana Western in Dillon. She participates in the statewide library community by serving as a State Library Commissioner and as Director-at-Large West for the Montana Library Association Board. She is bananas for Intellectual Freedom and loves the opportunities that librarianship provides to advocate for the rights of all citizens!

Aaron LaFromboise is the library director at Medicine Spring Library located at Blackfeet Community College in Browning, MT. Aaron was appointed to the Library Commission in 2014.

Stephan Licitra is the Technical Services Librarian at the State Law Library of Montana. Stephan first started in libraries, volunteering for his local library and has not left since. Before he joined the staff of the Law Library in 2015 he worked in public, academic, and special libraries. He currently is responsible for processing and caring for library materials, cataloging new and original works, and coordinating the Federal Depository Program for the State Law Library. In his spare time, Stephan likes to sing in choirs, dance, ride his bike, read a good book, or quilt.

Robert Luke's practice at Garlington, Lohn & Robinson in Missoula focuses on trademark law, copyright law, trade secrets, intellectual property licensing, employment law, and commercial litigation. He also has worked extensively on complex and class action litigation. Bob's outside interests and profession come together in the world of craft brewing. Several years ago Bob resurrected the historic Missoula brand, Highlander Beer and is the owner of the Missoula Brewing Co. Bob has assisted many of Montana's breweries with their trademark protection efforts and employment related issues. Robert teaches both trademark and copyright law at the University of Montana School of Law, as an adjunct professor.

Carolyn Martin is the Consumer Health Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Pacific Northwest Region. She previously worked as a hospital librarian in two major hospital systems in Indianapolis for over 20 years. Carolyn seeks to connect public libraries and other community organizations with the freely available resources of the National Library of Medicine as they work to provide health information to the various populations in their communities. Through the use of webinars, classes, social media and attending such conferences as MLA, she provides a variety of useful tools for libraries to use to help improve the health in the communities they serve.

Dianne Mattila is the Co-Chair of MLA's School Library Division and the librarian at Rose Park Elementary School in Billings.

Susie McIntyre is a fourth generation Montanan. Susie was born and raised in Great Falls, got her Bachelors of Science from the University of Montana and then spent ten years in Seattle getting her Master's degree in Library and Information Science and helping to run the AIDS Resource Center for the Public Health Department. She has worked for the Great Falls Public Library for 11 years. She loves being a librarian and believes that public libraries are the cornerstone of democracy. Susie and her family alternate watching movies, reading books and training for triathlons.

Hannah McKelvey is Assistant Professor and Electronic Resources & Discovery Services Librarian at Montana State University Bozeman. Previously, she has worked as a Research & Instruction Librarian and Ivan Doig Archive Project Manager. She holds a BA in English Literature from MSU Bozeman and an MLIS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests include user experience and service design, project leadership, and the complex world of electronic resources.

Sarah McClain joined the State Law Library of Montana as Director in September 2016, where she works to develop and maintain the law library's collection and services, in addition to collaborating with public libraries, legal service providers and social service agencies to promote statewide access to legal information. Prior to joining the State Law Library of Montana, Sarah practiced immigration law in both the non-profit and private law sectors in Portland, Oregon. Originally from Montana, Sarah completed her undergraduate work at the University of Oregon and received her Juris Doctor from Willamette University College of Law.

Lauren McMullen: Lauren was the director of the Carnegie Public Library in Big Timber before coming to the Montana State Library as a trainer and statewide consultant. She has an MLS from the University of North Texas and is a member and past chair of the MLA Intellectual Freedom Committee. She is fortunate to work with so many great library leaders in Montana!

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson is the President of MLA and the Executive Director of the Montana Innocence Project.

Mike Meloy is the recognized expert in open meetings laws. Meloy was a member of Montana House of Representatives, 1975-1979, served as Majority (Democratic) Whip from 1975-1977 and House Majority (Democratic) Leader, 1977-1979. Meloy was active in drafting and enactment of provisions implementing Article II, Section 9, the "Right-to-Know" provision of the Montana Constitution, and sponsor of present Montana open meetings statute.

Leslie Modrow

Jodie Moore is the Director of the Carnegie Library in Red Lodge. Jodie's library is traditional-looking on the outside, but is anything but traditional on the inside. She actively promotes new services and partnerships in her community. She recently served as a member of the 2015-16 Library Development Study Task Force that recommended changes and priorities to the Montana State Library Commission.

Bruce Newell was born in Eugene, Oregon, moved to Helena in 1980 and worked as a public service and network services librarian for the Montana State Library and the Lewis & Clark Public Library. Bruce was active in the Montana Library Association, and feels fortunate to have participated in the global library cooperative OCLC as first a delegate and later an elected Trustee. Bruce is now retired, but he continues to be engaged with librarianship. Bruce is grateful for the opportunity to serve Montana's libraries as a MSL Commissioner, appointed to the Library Commission in 2014.

Fred Noel is the library director at the Darcy McNickle Library at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, MT.

Jodi Oberweiser is the Director of the Drummond School-Community Library.

Karl Olson has worked for Missoula Public Library since 2006, and began working for the Missoula Public Library Foundation in 2008. He has a BA in English with an emphasis on EcoLit from the University of Montana. He has served a number of nonprofits as program director, outreach coordinator, and development officer.

Paulette Parpart is recipient of Librarian of the Year 2017 and is cataloger at Missoula Public Library.

James Parrott is the Collection Management Librarian for Lewis & Clark Library. He moved to Montana in 2017. His professional interests include data-based collection development, statistics, and underserved populations. He holds an MLIS from Valdosta State University in his home state of Georgia and an MA in Experimental Psychology from Radford University in Virginia.

Tammie Peterson has spent the last 11 years lurking in the shadows of The Billings Public Library's bookshelves, first as a page and then later as a circulation clerk. She has a love for all things fantasy, sci-fi, Gothic, horror and steampunk. If it has a skull, gear, octopus and or the T.A.R.D.I.S. on it then she most likely needs to have it. She loves to use the Geek Outs as a showcase for her crafting, costuming skills and general nerdery. She can currently be found hiding somewhere wearing a large fancy hat with her nose in a comic book.

Lynne Puckett has been the networking services librarian at Billings Public Library for 20 years, dealing with all aspects of technology, and serves as her own family genealogist.

Erin Regele See Rachel Schillreff

Barbara Riebe has been Reference Librarian at Billings Public Library since 2010, and a Billings resident since 2001. As a selector for the Fiction collection, one of her favorite aspects of the job is matching readers to books and movies. Working with genre fans to find their next favorite book is especially rewarding. She also coordinates programs and classes, and over the last few years has combined her love of fantasy fiction, reader's advisory, and programming by helping to coordinate fandom events, culminating in the Geek Out series.

Kathy Robins is the systems administrator at Billings Public Library, with particular expertise in database construction and systems management, and also does family genealogy as a hobby.

Anita Scheetz is the library director at the James E. Shanley Tribal Library at Fort Peck Community College in Poplar, MT.

Dave Shearer was born in a sod shanty on the plains of Eastern Montana. He's been the cataloger at Billings Public Library since 2002 and has not been fired yet. He is also a backup IT person and so is quite good at Anglo-Saxon incantations.

Rachel Schillreff and **Erin Regele** grew up in Billings, MT and attended West High School, where they are currently the full time librarians. Even though they are mistaken for one another on a daily basis they are separate people- even if their husbands work together and their kids are the same age. Rachel has been a librarian for four years and taught English before that. She is active in the teachers union and has a hard time not signing up for yet another committee. Erin has been a high school librarian for two years, an elementary librarian for two years and has a social studies teacher background. She is an avid sports fan and her favorite players are her children. Between the two of us we only have one cat; we apologize, we are working on it.

Jerusha Shipstead is the director at the Woodenlegs Library at Chief Dull Knife College in Lame Deer, MT.

Jennie Stapp is a Montana native. She holds a BA in International Studies from Rocky Mountain College. She earned her MLS from the University of Arizona in 2002. While in library school Jennie was a Cates Scholar. Jennie worked previously for the Montana Historical Society Research Center and joined the staff of the State Library in 2005. She has been State Librarian since January, 2012.

Kit Stephenson is Head of Adult Services and Outreach at the Bozeman Public Library. New to Montana, she is exploring the wilds of the North and learning about the community of Bozeman. With over 20 years of experience in public libraries, she loves connecting people to their communities through fun programs, great conversations and the arts.

Rick Stoddart is the current president of the Pacific Northwest Library Association. He is the Ed OER librarian at the University of Idaho. Rick loves to talk about how libraries and learning intersect.

David Swedman is Grants & Assessment Coordinator, charged with coordinating assessment efforts across all services and programs at the MSU Library.

Ken Wall has 29 years of experience in geographic information systems, beginning at the University of Montana as a GIS research specialist in 1986 and serving in the capacity of founder and president of Geodata Services, Inc. since 1993. Ken holds a BS in Forestry from the University of Montana, graduating in 1978. Ken served as assistant director of the Wilderness Institute at the University of Montana for 8 years. Ken earned certification as an Esri Desktop Associate, was certified by Esri to teach ArcGIS courses and is a CompTIA CTT+ Certified Technical Trainer. He was appointed and served 2 consecutive terms on the Montana Land Information Act Council. Ken was appointed to the Library Commission in 2015.

Ron Waterman, a library trustee, has been an attorney for many years. He defended Jimmy Ray Bromgard, Montana's first exoneree. Ron, an opponent to the death penalty, is all about truth and justice and advocating for the wrongfully convicted.

Jennifer Wilke has been with Billings Public Library since 2004, first as a Page in Circulation, then as a Clerk, and finally as a Librarian. Her favorite aspects of the job include Reader's Advisory and any programs involving arts and crafts. She loves her library's book discussion group, LitCentric, which has been meeting for almost fourteen years.

Jaci Wilkinson is an assistant professor and Web Services Librarian at the University of Montana. Jaci is a member of the library instruction team and also teaches a family history course at UM's Lifelong Learning Institute. Jaci presents and does research in the areas of content strategy and user experience.

Gavin J. Woltjer is the Library Director for the Billings Public Library. Woltjer's research interests include: Library Leadership; Librarianship and Public History; Community Advocacy; and Archives.

Jan Zauha is Professor and Outreach Librarian at the Montana State University Library in Bozeman. She is Subject Librarian to English, History, and American Studies. In her outreach work she builds collaborative relationships to bring humanities programming into the community with events such as the Ivan Doig Symposium (fall 2017), the Ivan Doig at the Big Sky Country Fair exhibit (summer 2017), and through leadership of multiple local book discussion groups. She holds a BA in English Literature from Boise State University, an MA in Literature from Clark University (Worcester, MA), and an MLS from the University of Iowa. Her research interests include leadership and staff development, culinary history of Montana, reading culture, and digital humanities.