

**Emily Drabinski**  
**Interim Chief Librarian**  
**The Graduate Center, CUNY**

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**EDUCATION**

2011 M.A., Composition and Rhetoric, Long Island University, Brooklyn  
2003 M.S.L.I.S., Library and Information Science, Syracuse University  
1997 B.A., Political Science, Columbia University

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

2020- The Graduate Center, CUNY, Interim Chief Librarian  
2019-2020 The Graduate Center, CUNY, Critical Pedagogy Librarian  
2012-2019 LIU Brooklyn, Coordinator of Library Instruction  
2008-2012 LIU Brooklyn, Electronic Resources and Instruction Librarian  
2004-2008 Sarah Lawrence College, Reference Librarian

**MASTER'S-LEVEL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2017- Rutgers University School of Communication and Information, Adjunct Faculty  
2017-2020 Syracuse University iSchool, Adjunct Faculty  
2013-2019 Pratt Institute School of Information, Visiting Assistant Professor

**AWARDS**

2020 Career Achievement Award in Women & Gender Studies Librarianship, ACRL  
2018 Innovative Alumni Award, Syracuse University iSchool  
2018 Harold Lancour Scholarship for Foreign Study, Beta Phi Mu  
2017 Special Libraries Association, New York Chapter Spotlight Award  
2017 New York Library Association Dewey Fellow  
2015 ASIS&T Elfreda A. Chatman Research Proposal Award (with Debbie Rabina)  
2015 ACRL Instruction Session Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year Award for "Toward a *Kairos* of Library Instruction"  
2014 *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker

**PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

2021 "Pleasure and the practice of classification." With Amanda Belantara. *Library Trends*. Accepted, forthcoming Fall 2021.

- 2020 "Professionalism reconsidered." *Evidence-Based Library and Information Practice*. Vol. 15, No. 20, 191-195.
- 2017 "Locating Wojnarowicz: Moving Through Library Systems, Structures and Technologies." With Alana Kumbier. *Library Philosophy and Practice*. 2017.
- 2017 "A Kairos of the Critical: Teaching Critically in a Time of Compliance." *Communications in Information Literacy*. Vol. 11, No. 1, pp. 76-94.
- 2016 "Information Needs in Prisons and Jails: A Discourse Analytic Approach." With Debbie Rabina and Laurin Paradise. *Libri*, Vol. 66, No. 4, pp. 291-302.
- 2016 "Becoming Librarians, Becoming Teachers: The Kairos of Professional Practice." *Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science*, Vol. 40, No. 1, pp. 27-36.
- 2016 "Valuing Professionalism: Discourse as Professional Practice." *Library Trends*, Vol. 64, No. 3, pp. 604-614.
- 2016 "Reference Services to Incarcerated People, Part II: Sources and Learning Outcomes." With Debbie Rabina. *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, Vol. 55, No. (3), pp. 123-131.
- 2016 "Reference Services to Incarcerated People, Part I: Themes Emerging from Answering Reference Questions from Prisons and Jails." With Debbie Rabina. *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, Vol. 55, No. 1, pp. 42-48.
- 2014 "Toward a Kairos of Library Instruction." *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, Vol. 40, no. 5, pp. 480-485.
- 2014 "What's Gender Got to Do with It? A Critique of RDA 9.7." With Amber Billey and K.R. Roberto. *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*, Vol. 52, no. 4, pp. 412-421.
- 2014 "Evidence-Based Instruction Integration: A Syllabus Analysis Project." With Katherine Boss. *Reference Services Review*, Vol. 42, No. 2, pp. 263-276.
- 2013 "Queering the Catalog: Queer Theory and the Politics of Correction." *Library Quarterly*, Vol. 83, No. 2, pp. 94-111.
- 2011 "Teaching Other Tongues: Addressing the Problem of Other Languages in the Library." *Journal of Information Ethics*, Vol. 20, No. 2, pp. 42-55.
- 2009 "Teaching About Class in the Library." *Radical Teacher*, Vol. 85, pp. 5-16.
- 2008 "Gendered S(h)elves: Body and Identity in the Library." *Women and Environments International*, Vol. 78/79, pp. 16-18.
- 2006 "Librarians and the PATRIOT Act." *Radical Teacher*, Vol. 77, pp. 12-14.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 "The internet's invisible cleanup crew." *Jacobin*, August 20, 2019. Review.
- 2019 "What is critical about critical librarianship?" *Art Libraries Journal*. Vol. 44, No. 2, pp. 49-57.
- 2018 "Questioning Authority." With Amber Billey. *Transgender Studies Quarterly*. Spring 2019.
- 2018 "Critical Information Literacy." With Eamon Tewell. *International Encyclopedia of Media Studies*. Forthcoming.
- 2018 "Ideologies of Boring Things: The Internet and Infrastructures of Race." *Los Angeles Review of Books*, February 13, 2018. Review.
- 2017 "An Organizer's Tale: LIU Brooklyn's Lockout and Union Contract Negotiation." *The Political Librarian*. Vol. 3, No. 1, pp. 9-11.
- 2017 "Standard Practice: Libraries as Structuring Machines." *Parameters: Knowledge Under Digital Conditions*. Social Science Research Council. July 5, 2017.
- 2017 "A Space for Pleasures of All Kinds: On 'Cruising the Library.'" *Los Angeles Review of Books*, May 17, 2017. Review.
- 2017 "Our Futures in a Time of Change." With Miguel Figueroa, Sarah Houghton, and Charlotte Roh. *American Libraries*, March 2017. Interview
- 2016 "Flipping to Open Access for Survival: A Librarian's Critical Role in Transforming a Journal." *College & Research Libraries News*, Vol. 77, No. 10, pp. 488-491.
- 2016 "Turning Inward: Reading the Framework Through the Six Frames." *College & Research Libraries News*, Vol. 77, No. 8, pp. 382-384.
- 2016 "Asking Questions That Matter." With Scott Walter. *College & Research Libraries*, Vol. 77, No. 3, pp. 264-268.
- 2016 "What Collaboration Means to Me: The Infrastructure of Welcome." *Collaborative Librarianship*, Vol. 8, No. 1, pp. 5-6.
- 2016 "What Standards Do and What They Don't." with Meghan Sitar. In K. McElroy and N. Pagowsky (Eds.), *Critical Pedagogy Handbook*. Chicago: ACRL Press.
- 2012 "Forum: *Radical Teacher* as an Online and Open Access Journal." *Radical Teacher*, Vol. 94, pp. 3-13.

2008 "Teaching the Radical Catalog." In K.R. Roberto (Ed.), *Radical Cataloging: Essays at the Front*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 "Teaching the Radical Catalog." LILAC Festival. Online. July 6. **Invited speaker.**
- 2021 "What's in A Name? LGBTQ+ and Latinx Perspectives on Access Terminology." ALA Annual Conference. Online. June 26. **Invited speaker.**
- 2021 "Making Change: Organizing for Action While Caring for Each Other." ALA Annual Conference. ACRL President's Program. Online. June 24. **Moderator.**
- 2021 "Decolonizing the Library Catalogue." CILIP Festival of Pride and Knowledge. Online. June 21. **Invited panelist.**
- 2021 "What's Gender Got to Do With It?" Connect NY Day of Discovery. Online. June 17. **Invited panelist.**
- 2021 "Critical Librarianship and the Problem of Empire. University of Buffalo Bobinski Lecture. Online. April 5. **Invited speaker.**
- 2021 "What's So Critical About Critical Librarianship?" OrbisCascade Alliance DEI Speakers Series. Online. March 30. **Invited speaker.**
- 2021 "Catalogers at Work." With Amanda Belantara. Royal Anthropological Institute Film Festival. Online. March 25.
- 2021 "Building Our Power: Management and Labor in Libraries." With Kelly McElroy. Conference on Library Management. Online. March 19. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2020 "Classifying Difference: Critical Librarianship in a Global Context." University of the Philippines-Diliman School of Library and Information Studies Speaker Series. Online. November 17. **Invited speaker.**
- 2020 "Herstory Through Activism." ALA Annual Conference. Online. June 25, 2020. **Invited panelist.**
- 2020 "Making Power, Making Change." ALCTS/LITA Exchange. Online. May 4, 2020. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2019 "Power: What it Is and How to Build It." Be the Change Symposium. St. Louis, MO. December 5, 2020. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2019 "The Library as Connection Machine." Philippine Library Association, Inc. Annual Conference. Tagaytay City, Cavite, Philippines. November 19, 2019. **Keynote speaker.**

- 2019 "Designing Inclusive Information Systems: From Theory to Change." Association for Computing in the Humanities Conference. Pittsburgh, PA, July 24, 2019. **Panelist.**
- 2019 "Teaching the Radical Catalog." Big XII Teaching and Learning Conference. Austin, TX, June 14, 2019. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2019 "Classification and Power: Filipiniana and the Shape of Library Space." HASTAC 2019, Vancouver, Canada, June 3, 2019. **Individual paper.**
- 2019 "Organizing Difference." Iowa Library Association/ACRL Iowa Annual Conference. Cedar Rapids, IA, May 23, 2019. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2019 "Librarians and the Labor of the Everyday." Eastern New York/ACRL Annual Conference. Newburgh, NY, May 22, 2019. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2019 "I Appreciate Your No-Nonsense Takes: Adjunct Instructors and the Future of the MLS." ACRL 2019. Cleveland, OH, April 12, 2019. **Panelist.**
- 2019 "The Material Conditions of the Historical Surprise." Organization of American Historians Conference. Philadelphia, PA, April 6, 2019. **Chair.**
- 2018 DLF Forum Closing Plenary: Enacting the Mission. Digital Library Federation Forum. Las Vegas, NV, October 17, 2018. **Invited speaker.**
- 2018 "Organizing for Change, Organizing for Power." Digital Library Federation Forum. Las Vegas, NV, October 16, 2018. **Panelist.**
- 2018 "Organizing for Change: Building Power for the Libraries We Need." Nebraska Library Association. Lincoln, NE, October 5, 2018. **Invited speaker.**
- 2018 "Toward a Critical Optimism: Enacting Access, Diversity, Inclusion and Democracy in Difficult Times." Libraries in the Digital Age. Zadar, Croatia, June 13, 2018. **Panelist.**
- 2018 "What do We Mean by Critical Librarianship." Toward a Critical (Art) Librarianship. Chelsea College of the Arts, London, NY, May 25, 2018. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2018 "Librarianship in Challenging Times: Advocating for Intellectual Freedom, Democracy, and Equity." LACUNY Institute. New York, NY, May 11, 2018. **Keynote panelist.**
- 2018 "The Power of Words: Library Knowledge Systems and their Impact on Access." Beinecke Speaker Series. New Haven, CT, April 18, 2018. **Invited panelist.**
- 2018 "Organizing for Power." New England Archivists/Archivists Round Table Spring Meeting. New Haven, CT, March 24, 2018. **Plenary speaker.**
- 2018 "Instant Organizing: Lessons from a Faculty in Crisis." University of West Georgia AAUP Spring Program. Carrollton, GA, March 7, 2018. **Invited speaker.**

- 2018 "Teaching Straight/Teaching Queer: Mobilizing Controlled Vocabularies to Queer Pedagogy." ARLIS/NA Annual Conference. New York, NY, February 28, 2018. **Invited panelist.**
- 2018 "Are Libraries Neutral?" ALA Midwinter Meeting President's Program. Denver, CO, February 11, 2018. **Invited speaker.**
- 2018 "Organizing for Opposition: How to Build Power to Contest Power." METRO: Libraries in the Context of Capitalism. New York, NY, February 2, 2018. **Individual paper.**
- 2017 "Fighting for Libraries, Fighting for Librarians." New York Library Association Annual Conference. Saratoga Springs, NY, November 9, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Shifting Shelves: Time, Place, and the Politics of Space." Long Island Libraries Resources Council Symposium on the Future of Libraries. Bethpage, NY, October 27, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Critical Librarianship in Challenging Times." Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference. Wisconsin Dells, WI, October 20, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Teaching in Time: Connecting to Collections Past and Present." University of the Philippines, Diliman. Quezon City, Manila, Philippines, July 19, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Putting Critical Theory to Work: Pedagogy and Praxis for Librarians." With James Elmborg and Heidi LM Jacobs. WILU 2017. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, May 24, 2017. **Panelist.**
- 2017 "Engaging, Expanding, Exploring Information Literacy Through Critical Theory and Writing." With James Elmborg and Heidi LM Jacobs. WILU 2017. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, May 23, 2017. **Workshop organizer.**
- 2017 "What's so Critical About CritLib?" Michigan Academic Library Association Annual Conference. Grand Rapids, MI, May 18, 2017. **Keynote speaker.**
- 2017 "Local Contexts, National Demands: Navigating Standards in Academic Libraries." New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference. Atlantic City, NJ, April 26, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Narratives of Library Power: The Stories Library Shelves Tell." New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference. Atlantic City, NJ, April 26, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Making it Work: Ideology and the Infrastructure of the Library." British Columbia Library Conference. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, April 21, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Selling Information Literacy: Critical Approaches to the Classroom." University of Victoria. Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, April 19, 2017. **Invited speaker.**

- 2017 "Instant Organizing: Union Power in the Wake of Crisis." Pennsylvania AAUP Northeast Alliance Conference. Scranton, PA, April 8, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Who Steers the Boat? On Women in a Feminized Profession." With Roxanne Shirazi. ACRL 2017. Baltimore, MD, March 24, 2017. **Panelist.**
- 2017 "Cataloging, Gender, and RDA Rule 9.7." With Amber Billey. ALCTS. March 15, 2017. **Webinar.**
- 2017 "What's Critical About Critical Librarianship?" Hawaii Library Association. Honolulu, HI, February 23, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "The Future of Librarian Labor." With Eamon Tewell. Future of Libraries Symposium, ALA Midwinter. Atlanta, GA, January 21, 2017. **Panelist.**
- 2017 "The Power of the Catalog: Inclusion and Advocacy in Cataloging and Description/Knowledge Organization." ALCTS 2017 Midwinter Symposium. Atlanta, GA, January 20, 2017. **Invited speaker.**
- 2017 "Librarians as Labor: Lessons from Past and Present." With Aliqae Geraci. METRO Annual Conference. New York, NY. January 11, 2017. **Panelist.**
- 2016 "Librarians & Labour: Making Information Work Visible." University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. December 6, 2016. **Invited speaker.**
- 2016 "Instruction Standards and Professional Power." ACRL/NY Symposium. Baruch College, New York, NY. December 2, 2016. **Panelist.**
- 2016 "Considering CritLib: Inclusion and Diversity in Libraries." ACRL Maryland/MILEX Fall Workshop. November 11, 2016. **Keynote address.**
- 2016 "Librarians As Labor: Lessons from the LIU Lockout." Rutgers University, Beta Phi Mu Fall Lecture. October 19, 2016. **Invited speaker.**
- 2016 "The Politics of Classification." Amherst College Library. October 6, 2016. **Invited speaker.**
- 2016 "We Are What We Do: Labor and Knowledge in Open Access." Syracuse University. September 29, 2016. **Invited speaker.**
- 2016 "Flipping to Open: The Implications and Opportunities for Libraries as Journals Transition to Open Access." ALA Annual Conference. June 25, 2016. **Invited speaker.**
- 2016 "Intersections with Power: Critical Teaching and the Library Catalogue." WILU Annual Conference. Vancouver, British Columbia. May 30, 2016. **Keynote address.**

- 2016 "What Standards Do, and What They Don't." Pennsylvania Association College and Research Division Spring Workshop. Scranton, Pennsylvania. May 20, 2016. **Keynote address.**
- 2016 "Librarian Engagement and Social Justice in Publishing." Panelist. Library Publishing Forum. Denton, Texas. May 18, 2016. **Plenary session.**
- 2016 "Pedagogy in a Time of Compliance." Information Literacy Summit. Chicago, Illinois. April 29, 2016. **Keynote address.**
- 2016 "Queering the Catalog, Queering the Classroom." Associated College Libraries of Central Pennsylvania Spring Conference. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. April 15, 2016. **Keynote address.**
- 2016 "Leading Together: Archivists and Historians Shaping the Digital Archive." Organization of American Historians Annual Conference. Providence, Rhode Island. April 8, 2016. Panelist.
- 2016 "Infrastructures of Practice: Standards & Everyday Librarian Life." UCLA Information Studies Colloquium. Los Angeles, California. March 10, 2016. **Invited speaker.**
- 2016 "What Standards Do, and What They Don't." Purdue University Libraries Spring Workshop. West Lafayette, Indiana. March 3, 2016. **Invited speaker.**
- 2016 "Instruction for Inclusion: Addressing Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the LIS Curriculum." Association of Library and Information Science Educators Annual Conference. Boston, Massachusetts. January 6, 2016. **Panelist.**
- 2015 "The Kairos of Information Literacy as Professional Practice." Canadian Association for Information Science Conference. Ottawa, Ontario. June 3, 2015. **Individual paper.**
- 2015 "On Critical Practice: Opening Reflections." Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians Conference. Ottawa, Ontario. May 31, 2015. **Invited speaker. Plenary session.**
- 2015 "Scholarly Communication as a Tool for Social Justice." ACRL 2015. Portland, OR. March 27, 2015. **Panelist.**
- 2014 "Teaching in Time: Toward a *Kairos* of Library Instruction." LACUNY Institute. New York, NY. April 6, 2014. **Individual paper.**
- 2014 "Fitting In: Queer Theory and the Politics of Knowledge Organization." Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY. April 8, 2014. **Invited speaker.**
- 2013 "Imagining the Future of Library Instruction: How Feminist Pedagogy Can Transform the Way You Teach and How Students Learn." ACRL 2013. Indianapolis, IN. April 30, 2013. **Panelist.**

- 2013 "Questioning Authority: Standard Three and the Critical Classroom." ACRL 2013, Indianapolis, IN. April 29, 2013. **Panelist.**
- 2013 "Sustaining Scholarship: Librarians and the Political Economy of Print." LACUNY Institute. April 5, 2013. **Individual paper.**
- 2012 "Shifting Conceptions of Literacy Terrains: Writing Center and Library Instruction in Third Spaces." International Writing Center Association Annual Conference. October 26, 2012. **Panelist.**
- 2012 "Queering Library Classification." Queer Places, Practices, and Lives. The Ohio State University. *Queer Places, Practices, and Lives*. May 18, 2012. **Individual paper.**
- 2011 "Reading Lesbians in the Library." Reception Studies Society Annual Conference. Marysville, Missouri. September 9, 2011. **Individual paper.**
- 2011 "Sexing the Algorithm: Thinking Critically About Digital Information Organization." LGBT Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference. Los Angeles, CA. May 12, 2011. **Individual paper.**
- 2010 "Classification As Text: Legible Ideologies, Resistant Readings." Libraries in the History of Print Culture Conference. Madison, Wisconsin. September 11, 2010. **Individual paper.**
- 2009 "Gendered S(h)elves: Gender and Sexuality in the Library." National Popular Culture and American Culture Conference. New Orleans, LA. April 10, 2009. **Individual paper.**
- 2008 "Queering Library Space: Notes Toward a New Geography of the Library." Thinking Critically: Alternative Methods and Perspectives in Information Studies Conference. Milwaukee, WI. May 16, 2008. **Individual paper.**
- 2008 "Pedagogical Implications of GLBT Cataloging Practice." *LGBTQ Museums and Special Collections Conference*. New York, NY. May 9, 2008. **Poster.**

## EDITORIAL WORK

- 2020- Book review editor, *College & Research Libraries*
- 2020- Editorial board, *Philippine Journal of Librarianship and Information Studies*
- 2017- Editorial board, *College & Research Libraries*
- 2016- Editorial board, *Journal of Critical Library & Information Studies*
- 2007- Editorial board, *Radical Teacher*
- 2011- Series editor, *Gender & Sexuality in Information Studies* (Litwin Books)
- 2010 Co-editor, *Critical Library Instruction: Theories and Methods* (Library Juice Press)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2017-20 American Library Association Councilor-at Large  
2019-20 ALA International Relations Committee, Chair  
2017-20 ACRL Information Literacy Frameworks and Standards Committee, Member, Chair,  
2019-2020