OK-ACRL 2025 Annual Conference

UNLOCKING LIBRARIES

Expanding Access & Opportunity for All

21 NOVEMBER 2025 | KEITH LEFTWICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY AT OCCC | 9:00AM-3:30PM

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Time	Session	Location
8:15-9:00	**Registration & Breakfast Refreshments**	**Room 407**
9:00-9:15	**Welcome & OK-ACRL Business Meeting**	**Room 407**
9:15-10:15	**Keynote: Suzette V. Chang** *Accessing and Leveraging AI within Academic Spaces from the Lens of Cultural Anthropology*	**Room 407**
10:15-10:30	**Break**	
10:30-11:15	**Breakout Sessions 1**	
11:15-11:30	**Break**	
11:30-12:15	**Breakout Sessions 2**	
12:15-1:30	**Lunch in Room 407**	
1:30-2:15	**Lightning Talks**	**Room 407**
2:15-2:30	**Break**	
2:30-3:15	**Breakout Sessions 3**	
3:15-3:30	**Closing Remarks and Door Prizes**	**Room 407**

OCCC Parking

7777 S May Ave, Oklahoma City

Parking is free

Enter campus from May Ave. or 74th St.

Parking Lot B is closest to the Library

www.occc.edu/myway

Keith Leftwich Memorial Library

Once inside the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library,
take the elevator or stairs to the **4th floor**.

Need directions? Ask at the library's Circulation Desk.

Opening events will be in **room 407**.

www.occc.edu/myway

8:15-9:00	Registration Check-in and Refreshments	Room 407

| 9:00-9:15 | **Welcome and OK-ACRL Business Meeting**
President: Amanda Schilling
President-Elect: Matt Upson
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Member At-Large: Ona Lou Britton-Spears
Member At-Large: Risa Jensen-Jones
COIL Chair: Chris Rosser
OK-ACRL Archivist: Andy K. Taylor | Room 407 |

Keynote: Suzette V. Chang

Accessing and Leveraging AI within Academic Spaces from the Lens of Cultural Anthropology

| 9:15-10:15 | *Are you afraid/uncomfortable/indifferent about AI? You are not alone. As of September 2025, over 50% of Americans are more concerned than excited regarding the growing usage of AI within our daily lives and we need to talk about it and, thoughtful embrace AI because it is here to stay. Suzette Chang, Founder and CEO of Thick Descriptions, keynote speaker and practicing anthropologist will assist attendees to peel back the layers of their AI pauses. She will take a deeper dive into the anthropology of AI meaning it's archeology, the languages and cultural understandings linked to this form of technology and, address opportunities, responsibilities and foster resiliency within our network of academic librarians. Attendees will be exposed to generative AI and ways to create and maintain frameworks regarding this ever growing and shifting technology. Be prepared to laugh and learn!* | Room 407 |

| 10:15-10:30 | Break |

ROOM 401

Authorship, Copyright, and AI: Legal and Scholarly Perspectives

Clarke Iakovakis
Oklahoma State University

This session explores the legal and scholarly implications of authorship and generative AI for faculty and students, using major lawsuits–such as *Authors Guild v. OpenAI*, *Bartz v. Anthropic*, *Getty Images v. Stability AI*, and *New York Times v. OpenAI*–as case studies to examine differing perspectives on fair use and infringement. AI developers argue that training is transformative: outputs are new works created for learning and research, not direct copies. Copyright holders and authors counter that their works were used without permission, sometimes sourced from pirated copies, replicating their style or even reproducing content verbatim. We will discuss the implications of these cases for academia; for example, what happens when scholars use AI outputs that reproduce copyrighted passages or images without citation or permission? What tools and best practices are emerging for managing text corpora, including in academic data mining? What ethical questions arise around style appropriation and attribution? Participants will leave with an understanding of these landmark cases, their relevance to scholarly authorship, and practical approaches for responsibly integrating AI into research and teaching.

ROOM 402

"Alone Until the Bell Calls Us": How Playful Design Unlocks Campus Connections for First-Generation Students

Chris Rosser and Jamie Autry
Oklahoma State University

What happens when you transform mentoring through play? In 2024-25, Oklahoma State University's Edmon Low Library reimagined its First-Generation College Student Program through gamification, creating "Bell Song in Agoness" and "Branches"–two semester-long adventures that guide students from feeling "alone" to discovering "belongingness."

This innovative approach addresses a critical access barrier: many first-generation students arrive on campus feeling disconnected and uncertain about available resources. Our playfully designed mentoring program creates meaningful pathways to discovery, pairing first-gen mentees with peer and senior mentors in collaborative problem-solving adventures that unlock campus services, library resources, and support networks.

ROOM 402

"Alone Until the Bell Calls Us": How Playful Design Unlocks Campus Connections for First-Generation Students

Chris Rosser and Jamie Autry
Oklahoma State University

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The results demonstrate how creative programming can deepen connectedness. In 2024-25, our mentee-mentor teams attended nearly 400 campus events, with several mentees from the previous year volunteering to become peer mentors–a powerful indicator of the program's impact on student engagement and belonging. The program's success has also unlocked new partnerships with campus offices like Student Life and First-Gen Forward, while deepening connections with program donors.

Through storytelling, puzzle-solving, and the Hero's Journey framework, we transformed traditional orientation from a passive experience into an active exploration. Students discover that the real treasure isn't hidden gold, but the wealth of knowledge, opportunities, and connections available to them. By gamifying the first-year experience, we've created a transferable model that libraries can adapt to unlock access and belonging for underserved student populations.

This presentation will share practical strategies for implementing gamified programming, demonstrate how storytelling can make resource discovery engaging rather than overwhelming, and showcase measurable outcomes that illustrate the power of playful approaches to student success.

This program directly addresses *"Unlocking Libraries: Expanding Access & Opportunity for All"* by demonstrating how creative programming can remove barriers to resource discovery and campus engagement for first-generation students. Rather than waiting for students to find resources, our gamified approach actively guides them to services, creates multiple support networks, and transforms potential intimidation into excitement and a sense of belonging.

ROOM 403

Checked Out, Plugged In: Lending the Tools for Academic Success

Johnny Hill and Katie Chestnut
Oklahoma City Community College

In today's higher education landscape, access to technology, including library resources, is essential for student success–but not all students arrive on campus with the tools they need to thrive. *(continued on next page)*

ROOM 403

Checked Out, Plugged In: Lending the Tools for Academic Success

Johnny Hill and Katie Chestnut
Oklahoma City Community College

(continued from previous page)

This presentation explores how our the OCCC library developed and scaled a laptop and hotspot checkout program to break down barriers and promote digital equity across our campus community.

Designed to meet the needs of students facing financial, technological, or logistical challenges, the program provides free access to laptops and hotspots for long-term checkout. This session will share the practical steps taken to launch the service, including securing funding, selecting devices, establishing circulation policies, and collaborating with IT and campus partners. We'll also share key data on usage, student impact, and how the program has become a cornerstone of our library's access and inclusion efforts.

Ultimately, the laptop checkout program serves as a powerful example of how libraries can unlock opportunity, level the playing field, and ensure that all students have the tools they need to succeed.

ROOM 407

Access Denied: Addressing Digital Accessibility in Academic Libraries

Danielle Kirsch and Cristina Colquhoun
Oklahoma State University

Libraries have adapted and expanded their resources and services over the decades to match increasing use of and reliance on digital content. These efforts are right in line with core librarianship values, as they provide increased opportunities for people to access information, resources, and services, while also attempting to lower barriers to access these digital spaces. Library catalogs, institutional repositories, and LibGuides are just a few examples of such digital library assets, which make the impending digital accessibility compliance deadlines set by recent updates to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) relevant for many libraries. However, compliance should not be the sole motivator; rather, librarians should view the creation of accessible digital content as another piece of the overall information access puzzle.

Breakout Sessions 1 *(continued)*   **10:30-11:15**

ROOM 407

Access Denied: Addressing Digital Accessibility in Academic Libraries

Dani Kirsch and Cristina Colquhoun
Oklahoma State University

(continued from previous page)

This presentation will first overview digital accessibility – including its importance, breadth, and recent statistics – and then discuss laws and standards, implications for libraries, and what individual librarians can do to make digital content more accessible. There will also be a robust resources section provided so that attendees can explore applicable articles, organizations, services, and resources related to digital accessibility.

11:15-11:30 | Break

Breakout Sessions 2   **11:30-12:15**

ROOM 401

Ambiguity, Overload, and Affective Reactions: Connecting the Work Environment to Academic Librarians' Turnover Intentions

Dr. Christine R. M. Edwards
University of Central Oklahoma

This presentation will discuss findings from a mixed-methods research study into the lived work experiences of academic librarians in the South Central U.S. (i.e., Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas). Data collection included a survey consisting of four validated instruments as well as personal interviews with 10 diverse academic librarians representing all four states and serving in various professional librarian roles. Data analysis included a multiple linear regression using SPSS and coding and theming with the help of the Dedoose platform. Statistically significant and socially impactful connections were revealed between role ambiguity, role overload, affective reactions, and turnover intentions in the academic library work environment.

thickdescriptions.org

ROOM 402

Come On In! Making an Academic Library Makerspace More Welcoming

Karl G. Siewert
University of Central Oklahoma

Since taking the helm of the Innovation Studio (Max Chambers Library's makerspace) in 2022, Karl has taken a number of steps to make the space more welcoming and less scary to students, faculty, and staff. These include the purchase of new and different equipment, changes to the layout and functionality of the space itself, and programming marketing and outreach efforts.

ROOM 403

Getting the Word Out: Forming New Library Partnerships Across Tulsa Community College

Andy K. Taylor, Ashley Bean, Crystal Brownstone, and Adam Brennan
Tulsa Community College

Over the last two years, the Library at Tulsa Community College has reimagined ways to form new partnerships with different student organizations across the College. This opportunity has been addressed by having the Library not only create a liaison position with Student Life and Wellness, but by also including Librarians as advisors in student groups across the College. This new form of outreach has helped the Library to vastly increase numbers in the area of student engagement. This presentation seeks to explain to participants how the TCC Library started down this path to increased student engagement and what our plans are moving forward. Our goal in this session is to identify the benefits and strategies of building and maintaining strong working relationships between the Library and other departments, with a focus on how these collaborations can enhance student participation and engagement. We will also include an audience participation portion of our presentation that will allow attendees to discuss how they are addressing the issue of student engagement at their college or university in such a way as to provide new ideas to those in attendance.

12:15-1:30

Lunch

- Baked potato bar with a variety of toppings
- Chocolate cake or carrot cake
- Iced tea and water

Room 407

ROOM 407

Integrating AI Literacy into Academic Library Instruction: A Framework-Based Approach
David Rankin
University of Oklahoma
As artificial intelligence continues to reshape information landscapes, academic libraries play a critical role in preparing students to navigate and evaluate AI-generated content. Recognizing this imperative, the University of Oklahoma (OU) Libraries have adopted the ACRL Choice AI Literacy Framework to guide their instructional efforts. This framework outlines six core learning objectives essential for student understanding of AI tools and large language model outputs. To operationalize these objectives, the OU Library Instruction & Liaison Services team streamlined the framework into three thematic areas and incorporated them into their existing information literacy checklist. This integration enables librarians to track which AI literacy concepts are being taught across instructional sessions. Looking ahead, OU Libraries will be positioned to generate meaningful data for internal and external stakeholders—quantifying student exposure to AI literacy education and informing future curriculum development. This initiative exemplifies how libraries can lead in fostering critical engagement with emerging technologies in higher education.

Library Technology: A History of the Future
Liorah Golomb and Laurie Scrivener
University of Oklahoma
In the July 1945 issue of The Atlantic Monthly, Vannevar Bush published "As We May Think," essentially predicting the GoPro camera, the Dictaphone, improved microform storage, automated information retrieval, and the internet itself. An examination of the ALA Bulletin, Library Journal, and Wilson Library Bulletin in the years following Bush's article suggests that librarians paid little to no attention to it. Were they opposed to the idea of new technology? Or did they have more relevant and immediate concerns such as providing services to returning soldiers? This talk will present a historical look at which technologies mattered to librarians in the decade or two following the Second World War.

A Spoonful of Sugar: Sneaking Important Topics Into Workshops
Courtney Oliphant
Oklahoma City Community College
Accessbiltiy is everyone's responsibility. However, it can be challeging to get everyone to attend needed trainings. In this session, see how OCCC has incorperated that information into tool demo in the library's Tech Corner Workshops.

Lightning Rounds Session *(continued)* — 1:30-2:15

ROOM 407

Zine Creation and Collection at OU-Tulsa
Bethie Seay
University of Oklahoma-Tulsa
The Schusterman Library at OU-Tulsa created its Graphic Scholarship Collection in 2021 in an effort to combine art and learning through comics. In 2024, Bethie Seay (Assistant Technical Services Librarian, at the time) began work on a zine initiative to augment the Graphic Scholarship Collection. This new initiative includes a fledgling zine collection, a zine makers kit, and a recurring workshop for students, faculty, and staff to create their own zines to submit to the library's collection. The goal for the initiative is to use zines to include student voices in the library collection and university narrative. This talk will briefly discuss the collection, the workshops, and the zines created so far by the campus community.

2:15-2:30 | Break: *Snacks will be available in Room 407*

Breakout Sessions 3 — 2:30-3:15

ROOM 401

De-identified yet Insightful: Assessing Usage with Limited Demographic Data

Megan Macken, Ana Parrett, Rebekah Silverstein, and Jenny Bodenhamer
Oklahoma State University

Patron privacy impels us to de-identify our library circulation data. Even so, the available data can reveal insights into equitable delivery and usage of resources, particularly e-resources. This presentation will demonstrate how Oklahoma State Libraries has begun examining usage alongside institutional analytics for a fuller understanding of how we can better serve all library patrons.

OCCC Scholar's Day 2025 student posters and exhibits are up in the **OCCC Main Building Lobby** all day. If you are exploring the campus, stop by and explore!

LibGuide Link

ROOM 402

Inviting Belonging: Creating Welcoming Library Spaces through Relax and Read & Scenes from Back Home

Simon Ringsmuth and Jennifer Nabicht
Oklahoma State University

How can academic libraries design spaces that invite people to pause, breathe, and feel a sense of belonging? This session shares two initiatives at Oklahoma State University that reimagine the library as a welcoming destination for all. Relax and Read offers a browsable collection of leisure reading in the library lobby, giving students, faculty, and staff a respite from coursework and research while signaling that the library is for curiosity and enjoyment as well as scholarship. Scenes from Back Home transforms a high-traffic study area into a gallery celebrating the places OSU students call home, featuring rotating photographs submitted by students and displayed on a large digital art screen. Together, these projects cultivate connection, highlight community diversity, and demonstrate how even modest interventions can reshape how users experience library spaces. Presenters will describe planning, implementation, and lessons learned, encouraging attendees to consider low-cost, high-impact approaches for welcoming everyone into their own libraries.

ROOM 403

"You Have to Talk to the Librarian?" Using Required Librarian Consultations to Identify Skills Gaps in Community College Students

Dana Tuley-Williams and LiErin Probasco
Oklahoma City Community College

Community college libraries face unique challenges with student engagement. Underprepared and underserved students may be unfamiliar with the concept of scholarly research and many are never on the physical campus. OCCC librarians collaborated with sociology faculty to improve research skills by incorporating required individual interactions with librarians into a scaffolded research project teaching students how to locate, read, interpret, and analyze advanced scholarly literature. Together, faculty and librarians developed a rubric for identifying credible sources, piloted an assignment, and deployed the revised assignment in the Fall 2025 semester to over 740 students across 27 in person, online, and dual-credit/concurrent Intro to Sociology sections. This presentation details the cross-disciplinary benefits of collaboration, practical considerations for scaling mandatory library contacts in coursework, preliminary engagement and outcomes data for the students involved, and the ways OCCC's librarians are using data from these student contacts to identify skills gaps that can inform future library programming.

ROOM 407

Digital Accessibility Panel: Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act Title II Regulations

Moderator: Zane Ratcliff
Oklahoma State University-Tulsa

Panelist: Ann Raia
Oklahoma City Community College

Panelist: Brent Greyson
Norman Public Library East

Panelist: Casey Lowry
University of Central Oklahoma

Panelist: Cristina Colquhoun
Oklahoma State University

Title II of the ADA requires state and local governments to ensure services, programs, and activities are accessible to people with disabilities. In April 2024, Title II was updated with specific requirements about how to ensure that web content and mobile applications are accessible. The deadline for compliance for larger institutions is April 2026. This panel session will feature four accessibility professionals from the library field who will discuss various aspects of digital accessibility in relation to the 2026 deadline for ADA Title II compliance.

| **3:15-3:30** | **Closing Remarks and Door Prizes** | **Room 407** |

Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone at **Oklahoma City Community College's Keith Leftwich Memorial Library** for graciously hosting the conference.

Thank you to Keith Leftwich Memorial Library Director **Ann Raia** and **Courtney Oliphant**, OCCC Instruction and Virtual Services Librarian, for generously helping with logistics and planning.

Thank you to our sponsors: **University of Oklahoma Libraries** and **Oklahoma State University Library**.

Thank you to our keynote presenter and special guest **Suzette V. Chang**.

Thank you to all our **presenters** and all of our **attendees**. We hope to see everyone at next year's conference!

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

University Libraries is the intellectual and cultural crossroads of the University. It serves as a central hub for information discovery, research, learner collaboration and scholarship across campus and beyond.

libraries.ou.edu

JOIN OK-ACRL

The Oklahoma Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries is one of the 42 chapters of the Association of College and Research Libraries. Membership in OK-ACRL and our subgroup COIL is FREE!

- Join OK-ACRL for free by signing up for our mailing list at okacrl.org/join/ok-acrl-listserv

- Join the Community of Oklahoma Instruction Librarians (COIL) for free by signing up for the mailing list at lists.onenet.net/mailman/listinfo/coil-l

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Expanding Access & Opportunity for All

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CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS

Visit the link or scan the QR code to share feedback on the conference. The form will close **November 30, 2025**.

bit.ly/okacrl2025ac

OK-ACRL BOARD ELECTIONS

Voting is open to all OK-ACRL members **November 17-30, 2025**. Visit the link or scan the QR code to vote.

forms.gle/He5MUfUq1Q9Yj6YX7

OK-ACRL ENDOWMENT

OK-ACRL is working to create an endowment fund to ensure the continuity of OK-ACRL as an organization, allow us to continue to not charge membership fees, and to keep our conference registration rates affordable. This endowment fund will also provide annual travel scholarships to support Oklahoma librarians in attending out-of-state conferences and workshops.

We need your help!
Donate securely at paypal.me/okacrl
or visit okacrl.org for more information and a donation link.

We are a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit with a transparency award from Candid, an information service that reports on all IRS-registered nonprofit organizations.