“THE ACADEMIC LIBRARY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT: EXPERIENCES, EXAMPLES, AND RESOURCES”

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“Practicing the arts of democracy can be infused across disciplines, and it can be built into nearly all structures on campus, such as student clubs and activities, athletic programs, cultural and intellectual events, residential life, and volunteer opportunities. There are no venues on campus that could not be practice grounds for democracy.” (Nancy Thomas, 2007, p. 7).
“DEMOCRACY’S HUBS”

Deliberative Democracy & Collaborative Governance

- Education
  - Civic/adult educ.
  - Dewey/Freire
  - Experiential and service learning

- Communication
  - Conflict resolution
  - Small group/org. comm.
  - Intercultural dialogue
  - Rhetoric/political comm.

- Natural Resources/Environmental Studies
  - Multi-stakeholder dispute resolution

- Urban Planning/Civil Engineering
  - Public role in design charrettes

- Sociology/Social Work
  - Power/conflict
  - Diversity studies
  - Community organizing

- Philosophy
  - Public reason
  - Habermas/ Rawls
  - Public sphere
  - Ethics, logic, and judgment

- Information Technology
  - Online deliberation
  - Group decision support systems

- Journalism
  - Public and civic journalism
  - Mediated delib.

- Law
  - Public law
  - Mediation
  - Public role in policy decisions

- Public Health

- Political Science/Public Affairs
  - Democratic theory
  - Local/state politics
  - Public opinion
  - Civil society
  - Collaborative problem solving
  - Community building
  - Cooperative Extension

- Public Administration
  - Democratic governance
  - Collaborative decisionmaking and public participation
Spectrum of Participation

Inform
Low level of public engagement

Consult
Mid level of public engagement

Involve

Collaborate

Empower
High level of public engagement

Increasing Level of Public Impact
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT CONTINUUM

GIVING INFORMATION

INFORM / EDUCATE

Library plans services and informs the public of the services.

OUTREACH
LIBRARY BOOTHS
MARKETING
PROGRAMMING
ICT TRAINING
LITERACY PROMOTION
PRESS & PAMPHLETS
OPEN HOUSES

CONSULT

Library asks the community what it wants or finds important.

SURVEYS
POLLS
OVER-THE-DESK CHATS
FEEDBACK FORMS

GETTING INFORMATION

DISCUSS / DEBATE

Library asks the community what it wants or finds important.

FOCUS GROUPS
PUBLIC MEETINGS
SEMINARS

ENGAGING

ENGAGE / PARTICIPATE

Library involves community in library activities.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES
EXPERT ADVISORS
COMMUNITY PANELS

PARTNERING / COLLABORATING

PARTNER / COLLABORATE

Library works with community members to plan services.

COLLABORATIVE
SERVICE DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY-LED
SERVICE PLANNING

Source: Working Together Project, Community-Led Libraries Toolkit, p. 16,
Role of Academic Libraries

"citizenship centers... more relevant now than ever in history"
Informing and Consulting

Building Collections, Reference, Instruction, LibGuides
RU Voting and Other Civic Activities

- Voter Registration
- Constitutional Café
Provide Civic Information

- Government documents
- E-Government
- Local information sources
- Emergency providers
- 2020 Census
- Government and community organization partnerships
Involving
Participated in campus American Democracy Project
- Voter Registration
- Service Learning Partner
- Social Issues Fair
- Candidate Debates

Led research effort for Illinois budget forum

Foster Public Scholarship
Collaborating

Foster Civic Literacy

- Add 3rd "C"—Citizenship to Information Literacy Framework
- Include Civic Literacy as part of 21st Century literacy skills
- Teach students to distinguish between fact and fiction
- Join campus Service Learning initiatives
- Partner with civic organizations including public libraries
- Carnegie 2020 Community Engagement Classification
Empowering

Public Deliberation

Rutgers U Libraries-Newark
Public Deliberation

- Host **public deliberative forums** for citizens to work together across the spectrum of thought
- **Name and frame** public issues
- **Partner** with campus and community groups
Who do I trust to protect my privacy?

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<th>Approach 2</th>
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Citizen Deliberating about Climate Change

Photo Credit: Worldwide Views
Goals of Dialogue & Deliberation

First-Order Goals
- Issue Learning
- Improved Democratic Attitudes & Skills
- Improved Relationships

Second-Order Goals
- Transformed Conflicts
- Individual & Collective Action
- Improved Institutional Decision Making

Third-Order Goals
- Improved Community Problem Solving
- Increased Civic Capacity

Graphic created by Sandy Heierbacher, NCDD (August 2009). Its content is a slightly adapted version of the "Goals of Deliberation" figure in Beginning with the End In Mind: A Call for Goal-Driven Deliberative Practice (Summer 2009, Public Agenda's Center for Advances in Public Engagement), by Martin Carcasson of Colorado State University's Center for Public Deliberation, available at www.publicagenda.org/cape.
Learn More
Community Engagement

- **Communities of Practice**
  - ALA Libraries Foster Community Engagement Membership Initiative Group
- 1000s of librarians trained through the **Library Transform Communities** initiative
- ALA training initiative: **Libraries Transforming Communities: Turning Outward** and **Models for Change**

Because our divided nation needs conversation more than ever.

A free learning series from ALA and the National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation

Online sessions start Feb. 9.
WELCOME TO NCDD

The National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation is a network of thousands of innovators who come together across divides to tackle today’s toughest challenges. NCDD serves as a gathering place, a resource, and a facilitative leader for this extraordinary community. More about who we are and what we do.
Communities have challenges. Libraries can help.

A step-by-step guide to “turning outward” to your community.
Libraries and Community Engagement blog
ALA Connect: Libraries Foster Community Engagement
Libraries Foster Community Engagement Membership Initiative Group (MIG)
Subscribe to ALA’s Community Engagement listserv: deliberate
Libraries Transform Communities Grant Fund
ALA Libraries Transform Communities web site
Learn to convene and moderate deliberative forums
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT - OFFERINGS FROM A SMALL CAMPUS LIBRARY

Maria Deptula, Berkeley College
Let’s begin at the beginning

- **DISRUPTION** - “A new method, so much better that it makes current methods obsolete” There are winners and losers in every disruption. [https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/playback/Playback.do](https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/playback/Playback.do)

# TYPES OF ACTIVITIES/ LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT

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<th>Type of program</th>
<th>Library Role</th>
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**Library Role**
- Ideas / Topics
- Collaboration
- Coordination

**Group Debates**

**Case Studies Shows**

**Invited Experts**

**Invited Officials**

**Monitored discussions**
Debates

■ LIBRARY CONTRIBUTION:
  - Collaboration with the faculty
  - Selecting/recommending the topic
  - Creating libguide for each debate
  - Securing judges
  - Providing technology (and food)

■ TOPICS:
  - “Globalizations”
  - “Presidential Candidates”
Case Studies

- Library engagement/contribution:
  - Resources (including Libguides)
  - Establishing the rules
  - Inviting audience
  - Securing the room (workflow)
  - Assisting with technology

- “Enron” and its ‘legacy’

- “Electoral Process & Finances”
Panel Presentations

- Civil Rights topics (with lawyers and BLM activists)
- Opportunities in the criminal justice field
- Fake News awareness and ‘damage’
- Privacy and technology
Officials’ Visits

- Bergen County Clerk – John Hogan– pre-election visit combined with voters’ registration
- Black Lives Matter - Zellie Imani, an activist from Black Lives Matter (engaging our evening students)
BERK TALKS

- Informal but slightly led discussions
- Collaborations with faculty – curriculum related
- Topics: Ethics in Politics; Women Can’t Have it All; Healthcare for All
  - Selecting TedTalks on topics
  - Preparing questions pertinent to selected videos
  - Moderating the discussion
WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN’T

■ Location! Location! Location! - Berkeley College – Paramus campus
  - Smaller community
  - Faculty visits the library
  - Library – most “cozy” place on campus

■ “Non-course coordinated” events, waiting for someone to come

■ Assessment – head count, comments, questions asked, registrations, grades.
A COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC LIBRARY

FOSTERING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Raritan Valley Community College

Suzanne Kosempel
Adjunct Librarian
Suzanne.kosempel@raritanval.edu
Voting Initiatives

- Voter registration station
- LibGuide
  Library.raritanval.edu/Vote
- Engage the Elections 2018
- Special event
Immigration Services

- Immigration Information Sessions
- Comprehensive LibGuide
  Library.raritanval.edu/Undocumented
- Physical Resource Station
Resources for the Undocumented

- Immigration basics
- On-campus help
- Legal services and rights
- Scholarships
- New Jersey Dreamers
- DACA
- Health resources
Activism through One Book

- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
- Community Fund Grant
- Library/College partnership
Activism through One Book

- Faculty support
- Student group involvement
- LibGuides

Library.raritanval.edu/onebook
Library.raritanval.edu/THUGresources
Working on a smaller scale

- Take advantage of existing college partnerships and community groups
- Partner within the college on initiatives in civic engagement
- Take advantage of students' connection to the local community
Civic Engagement & Civic Literacy
William Paterson University
Gary Marks, Jr.
Civic Engagement & the Library

The Civic Literacy Initiative
A library commitment to Civic Engagement

Information Literacy
ACRL Framework

AAC&U Civic Engagement
Value Rubric

Civic Engagement
WP Leads Badge Components

Civic Literacy Framework
Student Partnerships for Civic Engagement

Model UN Club Global Citizenship Workshop
A National Library Week event
Developed LibGuide to prepare students for Model UN events.
Hosted Model UN “Meet & Greet”, discussing the value of global citizenship.
Knowledge Growth and Civic Literacy

Library programming for the WPUNJ Civic Engagement Badge Program

❖ “In a Fake News Era, the Role of Journalism in Democratic Society”
   featuring Journalism faculty and student newspaper editor and contributors

❖ “Local Government Resources: Getting Involved in the Community”
   a discussion with a River Edge City Council member (WP Alumni)

❖ “The Role of Health Services in the Community”
   featuring Monmouth County Health Officer (WP Alumni) Partnership with Counseling Health & Wellness Center
Civic Literacy in the Classroom

Expansion of library support for

UCC area 5 academic courses.

- LibGuides for UCC 5 courses with Civic Engagement & Civic Literacy Resources
- General Civic Engagement LibGuide for campus community
- LibGuide for Student Development Division focused on high impact civic engagement and service learning research and resources.
Civic Engagement in New Jersey

How are academic libraries contributing to the civic engagement landscape in New Jersey?

Civic Engagement & Academic Libraries: A Roundtable Workshop
April 2018
Gathered academic librarians from around the state to share and discuss!

Civic Engagement Website
Civic Engagement in New Jersey

Forging new partnerships!
Sharing experiences!
Discussing opportunities!

Civic Engagement
NJ Librarians Come Together
Coming in 2019!

Gathering public, school, special, and academic librarians from around the state to share, discuss, and launch new opportunities!


For further reading (cont)


Questions? Comments? Engagement?