

2020 Executive Board Candidate Bio

Alexandra P. Rivera
Student Success and Community Engagement Librarian
University of Michigan (UM) Library
Ann Arbor, MI

Type of Library: Academic

Statement of Professional Concerns:

As a longtime librarian and twenty year ALA member leader, I am proud of the work of our association. We are at a critical juncture as we re-envision ALA to meet the needs of the future. We must maintain our focus on the professional development and engagement of our membership so they (we) can continue to be effectively responsive to our communities' needs. We must also persist with advocating for our professional values, especially pertaining to intellectual freedom, equitable access to information, fostering critical thinking and embracing cultural intelligence as we promote diversity, equity, and inclusion across all library institutions. It sustain these critical initiatives and advance our professional mission.

Previous Positions:

Outreach and Instruction Librarian, University of Arizona Libraries, Tucson Arizona -
2005 - 2011
Interim Coordinator, Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives – 25%, UM Library, Ann Arbor, MI

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Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT)
Intellectual Freedom Round Table (IFRT)
Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT)
New Member Round Table (NMRT)

Ethnic Affiliates:

Joint Council of Librarians of Color, Inc. (JCLC)
National Association to Promote Literacy and Information Skills to Latinos and Spanish Speaking (REFORMA)
Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA)
Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)

ALA and/or ALA-APA activities:

ALA Council, Councilor-at-Large, 2012-present
2019 ALA Nominating Committee, Chair, Nov. 2017 - Feb. 2019
ALA Committee on Committees - Member, June 2016- 2

Technology and Research Initiative Fund Grant-Higher Education for Rural Southern Arizona Initiative – May 2009
UA International Travel Grant - August 2007
ACRL Conference Travel Grant - March 2007
Minnesota Leadership Institute - August 2006
UMSI Thomas E. Alford Award - 2004
American Library Association Spectrum Scholar – 2001

Major Accomplishments:

One meaningful accomplishment is my work with the highly successful UM Library Peer Information Consulting program. I direct this peer education program which is comprised of a large cohort of undergraduate students from culturally diverse backgrounds. These consultants support the academic success of their peers and the K12 students involved in initiatives that I coordinate on behalf of the library. They also assist with library instruction and special projects. The program is also a pipeline to librarianship by attracting these student employees to our profession as a means to diversify our workforce. Other accomplishments include my mentorship of many graduate students and new library professionals and my sustained efforts to foster diversity, equity, and inclusion across the library ecosystem.

Publications:

Downing, Karen; Rivera, Alexandra; Welburn, Janice; Welburn; William, Zaroni, Jean. (2015, August 23). #ButHowLongWillTheyMatter? Preserving Digital Artifacts of Acts of Remembrance and Resistance. Innovation: journal of appropriate librarianship and information work in Southern Africa, Volume 2016, Number 53, 1 December 2016, pp. 56-72(17)

Rivera, Alexandra. (2013, August 17-23). “Indigenous Knowledge Paradigms and Cultural Competencies in the Library profession from Theory to Practice”, IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Singapore. August 20, 2013.

Rivera, Alexandra. “Di