News - Kennesaw State University

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Kennesaw State University

New Library Personnel

Paula Adams is the new director of the Reference and Instruction Unit at Kennesaw State University (KSU). Previously, she was the head of user services at Columbus State University Library in Georgia.

Jackie Watkins is in the newly created position, electronic resources collection development librarian. She was a library assistant at Georgia State University. While working on her undergraduate degree at KSU, Jackie had been a library student assistant.

The Access Services Department recently hired four new paraprofessionals, Haley Ryles, Kristoffer Johnson, Matt Dinoff, and Josie Carter.

There were several retirements at KSU this spring. Yongli Ma was a librarian with Southern Polytechnic State University (SPSU) before the consolidation with KSU. In total, she has served 24 years in many capacities over the years including positions of acquisitions librarian, associate director for technical services, and head of access services.

Elisabeth Shields has served as the graduate librarian for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences since 2011. Prior to coming to KSU, she worked at Georgia Institute of Technology’s Enterprise Innovation Institute for 10 years. She is the driving force behind KSU’s national conference, Transforming Libraries for Graduate Students, a conference that attracts attendees from all the country.

Rita Spisak has 33 years of service with the KSU Libraries. She has worked in the Serials, Access Services, Reference, and Instruction Units. Her positions ranged from library associate, librarian, and interim director of two departments.
On March 22 and 23, 2018, Kennesaw State University Graduate Library Team hosted over 100 participants from universities all over the country for the Transforming Libraries Graduate Students Conference. This two-day national conference included formal presentations from visiting and KSU speakers, informal pop-up sessions, and plenty of time between sessions for networking and casual conversations. The original brainchild of librarian, Elisabeth Shields, the conference materialized with great success after over a year of planning and teamwork from the entire Graduate Library team.

Sharing the title of the conference, the book, *Transforming Libraries for Graduate Students* brought together the ideas of 50 contributors and organized into 34 chapter submissions. The Graduate Library’s Crystal Renfro and Cheryl Stiles worked closely with the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) for the publication.