



2016 VLACRL Election of Officers  
Candidate Statements and Biographical Information

**Stefanie Metko, Candidate for Co-Chair of VLACRL  
Biographical Information**

Stefanie Metko is the Online Learning and Education Librarian at Virginia Tech University Libraries. In her current position, she is coordinating a team of librarians, instructional designers and web developers to develop an online learning program for the libraries. She is also the liaison to the School of Education, teaching classes and serving as a research consultant to faculty and students in the School. Stefanie is also leading library efforts to partner with various campus units as the University implements the new Canvas Learning Management system.

Prior to coming to Virginia Tech, Stefanie worked at the University of Rhode Island as a Lecturer in the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies in the Harrington School of Communications and Media. In this position, Stefanie advised students in the School Media program, taught online and blended classes and worked on a \$500,000 IMLS grant that included a 1:1 match. Stefanie also served on various committees for the University, including the curriculum committee, the orientation committee, and the social committee.

Although new to the Virginia area, Stefanie was involved in her local community in Rhode Island since 2011 when she entered library school. Stefanie contributed to her state association first by serving as the student liaison to the library school and then by serving on the membership committee and presenting at the annual conference. Stefanie also participated in various events, including the annual Library Legislative Day at the State House and the Coalition for Library Advocates events throughout the year. In November 2013, Stefanie was presented with an award from the library school for being one of the fifty most recognized alumni from GSLIS in the fifty years since the school's inception.

In 2012-2013 while still a library school student, Stefanie served as President of the Student Chapter of the American Library Association. Before taking office, the chapter had a membership of only two people, and was quite inactive. Stefanie recruited students who were interested in reinvigorating the chapter and together they spearheaded over 10 events throughout the year, including programs and outreach to distance education students. In this capacity, Stefanie also chaired a committee of librarians and students throughout Rhode Island to create the first career conference at GSLIS that included national keynote speaker, Peter Bromberg as a special guest and had attendance of just under 100 people. As a result of the successful efforts of this team, the student chapter was awarded the Student Chapter of the Year Award through



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the American Library Association's New Members Round Table and Stefanie was able to travel to ALA annual to accept the award.

Stefanie also has a background in business and strategic planning, and was part of a two-person team that completed a comprehensive needs assessment for the Cranston Public Library system, the second largest system in Rhode Island. Stefanie was then asked to serve as the Strategic Planning facilitator for CPL, and was later asked to work as the Digital Learning Librarian, a position that was funded through an IMLS grant that sought to bring workforce development training into libraries and to partner with community agencies across the state. In this position, Stefanie presented her work at ALA Annual and is currently publishing an article on workforce development and community partnerships in libraries.

**Candidate Statement**

I am extremely excited to have been nominated as a candidate for VLACRL Co-Chair. While I am new to the Virginia library community, I am eager to get involved and get to know great librarians around the state. While being involved in my state association in Rhode Island, I build friendships that will last throughout my career and lifetime and I have had the opportunity to learn from other librarians and to be part of the development of new librarians. It would be such an honor to serve in this capacity here in Virginia. While a new member of VLA, I am extremely motivated and eager to begin a new journey here and to contribute as much as I can to the Virginia library community and to VLACRL.

**Elisa Rollins, Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer of VLACRL**  
**Biography Information**

A work study position at a small private library in Baltimore, Maryland introduced Elisa Rollins to the library profession. Working a few hours per week processing donations or helping patrons check out materials gave her enough exposure that, upon return to her hometown of Forest, Virginia, she decided to pursue a Youth Services Manager position advertised at the Bedford Public Library System (BPLS).

The library profession was a natural fit and Elisa soon decided to pursue a Masters in Library and Information Science degree from the University of South Carolina. With a year of public librarianship under her belt, she moved into an Administrative Librarian position at BPLS and began to oversee technology training, staff development, programming and special projects. As part of her work on staff development, Elisa created an online knowledge management system to assist with technology training and presented the project at the 2010 Computers in Libraries conference. After six years at BPLS, Elisa relocated to the Lynchburg area and transitioned into an Reference Librarian position for the Lynchburg Public Library. This gave her the opportunity to experience



2016 VLACRL Election of Officers  
Candidate Statements and Biographical Information

the process of planning and developing programming and reference services for an urban library and to participate in a strategic planning process for Lynchburg City.

In November 2013, Elisa accepted a position at the Liberty University Jerry Falwell Library as a Research and Instruction Librarian. In this position, she served as the liaison to two academic departments and provided research and instruction to online and residential students. In the fall 2014, she designed and implemented a pilot program, which combined collaborative classroom technology and active learning strategies to teach information literacy skills.

In December 2014, Elisa accepted the challenge of leading the Jerry Falwell Library Scholarly Communications department. In this role, she began developing a digital scholarship initiative that would showcase student and faculty research and scholarship using the library's innovative technologies. She pursued her interest in using inventive strategies to further information literacy by promoting online student journals as an instructional tool that both encouraged student scholarship and built information literacy skills. This project led to a conference presentation at the May 2015 Digital Commons Southeast User Group.

Currently, Elisa holds the position of Associate Dean for Research and Customer Service at the Jerry Falwell Library. Her interests remain in developing and promoting the Jerry Falwell Library's information literacy and scholarly communications services. She continues to liaise as a liaison to the School of Business and serves Liberty University as a member of the Faculty Senate, the Quality Enhancement Plan Steering Committee, and the College of General Studies Core Competency Committee.

**Statement from Candidate**

I am pleased to be nominated as a candidate for VLACRL Secretary/Treasurer. During my time as a librarian in Virginia, the time I have spent collaborating with colleagues throughout the state has been one of my most valuable experiences. The opportunity to learn from each other, and consequently grow together, as we endeavor to improve information access and services is one of our strongest assets. I would look forward to fostering and supporting these opportunities as the VLACRL Secretary/Treasurer.