

Purdue University  
**Purdue e-Pubs**

---

Charleston Library Conference

---

## When You Come to a Fork in the Road, Take It (15th Annual Health Sciences Lively Lunch)

Cunera M. Buys  
*Northwestern University Library, c-buys@northwestern.edu*

Jean Gudenas  
*Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Library, jgudenas@luc.edu*

Ramune K. Kubilius  
*Northwestern University, Galter Health Sciences Library, r-kubilius@northwestern.edu*

Elizabeth R. Lorbeer  
*Western Michigan University, Homer Stryker School of Medicine, elorbeer@gmail.com*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/charleston>

 Part of the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

An indexed, print copy of the Proceedings is also available for purchase at:

<http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/series/charleston>.

You may also be interested in the new series, Charleston Insights in Library, Archival, and Information Sciences. Find out more at: <http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/series/charleston-insights-library-archival-and-information-sciences>.

---

Cunera M. Buys, Jean Gudenas, Ramune K. Kubilius, and Elizabeth R. Lorbeer, "When You Come to a Fork in the Road, Take It (15th Annual Health Sciences Lively Lunch)" (2015). *Proceedings of the Charleston Library Conference*.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5703/1288284316272>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact [epubs@purdue.edu](mailto:epubs@purdue.edu) for additional information.

## When You Come to a Fork in the Road, Take It (15th Annual Health Sciences Lively Lunch)

*Cunera M. Buys, E-Science Librarian, Northwestern University Library*

*Jean Gudenas (speaker & moderator), Head of Collections Management, Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Library*

*Ramune K. Kubilius, Collection Development/Special Projects Librarian & interim Special Collections Librarian, Northwestern University, Galter Health Sciences Library*

*Elizabeth R. Lorbeer, Library Director and Chair of the Department of the Medical Library, Western Michigan University, Homer Stryker School of Medicine*

### Abstract

In this year's sponsored but no holds barred lunch, participants had the opportunity to contemplate examples of proactive approaches answering the question posed by the 2015 conference theme, "Where Do We Go From Here?" This year's lunch theme was inspired by a saying of Lawrence Peter "Yogi" Berra (May 12, 1925–September 22, 2015): "When You Come to a Fork in the Road, Take It." Researchers increasingly must meet various data management requirements and mandates, while educators are challenged by changing trends in providing curricular content. What choices do these challenges provide to libraries and librarians? In the best case scenarios, they utilize approaches espoused in Yogi Berra's advice—they follow paths (opportunities) that present themselves, and become partners.

In this year's sponsored but no holds barred lunch, participants had the opportunity to contemplate examples of proactive approaches answering the question posed by the 2015 conference theme, "Where Do We Go From Here?" This year's lunch theme was inspired by a saying of Lawrence Peter "Yogi" Berra (May 12, 1925–September 22, 2015): "When You Come to a Fork in the Road, Take It." Researchers increasingly must meet various data management requirements and mandates, while educators are challenged by changing trends in providing curricular content. What choices do these challenges provide to libraries and librarians? In the best case scenarios, they utilize approaches espoused in Yogi Berra's advice—they follow paths (opportunities) that present themselves, and become partners.

After greetings from Wendy Bahnsen on behalf of the lunch host, Rittenhouse, Ramune Kubilius presented the traditional brief "year in review" recap, highlighting news and trends that occurred or were noted since the Charleston Conference of

2014 that she listed on a handout entitled "Developments." The past year included anniversaries of independent publishers Karger (125 years) and Sage (50 years); retirements of the director of the US National Library of Medicine and of longtime key health sciences association personnel; industry mergers and acquisitions; a preponderance of news about datasets; open access developments; and critiques and initiatives in the realm of the peer review system.

Three panelists shared insights and opened the floor for lively discussion.

Are alternate open textbooks a solution for educators seeking health sciences curricular reading materials? In her presentation, entitled "Textbooks: Trends, Alternatives & Experimentation," Elizabeth Lorbeer discussed the current environment, experiments, and roles ("reinvented" expertise) librarians can share in order to help faculty and students. Her institution's library staff at a relatively new medical school has been able to become very

involved in the selection and acquisition process for course materials, and was tasked with running of the medical school's bookstore. Experiments and initiatives have included the use of Inkling and Apple iBooks, institution as publisher (creation of open textbooks with accompanying peer review of content questions), and the use of Wikis for course materials. She ended with points that are food for thought. There is often the challenge of print versus electronic selection that can sometimes be driven by student preference. Not all online (e-books) offer annotation features. How should class notes and lectures be addressed? As for "must have textbooks," if the instructor wants students to have a particular book, the library can purchase it on their behalf and charge as cost of attendance. Other challenges and concerns include the need to restrict access to course materials only on the Intranet to be in copyright and licensing compliance, and a demand on libraries to spend finite collection dollars on examination review materials and resources, often driven by students who focus on them as a way to help them pass tests.

Cunera Buys described work she and Pamela Shaw (Biosciences & Bioinformatics Librarian, Northwestern University's Galter Health Sciences Library) have done in the data management planning arena, as part of a university working group. She provided background and shared results of a survey conducted by Northwestern University's E-Science Working Group that were first presented at a Medical Library Association 2015 annual meeting in a poster presentation entitled "Disciplinary Perceptions of Data and Data Management Practices." Libraries have a role in helping researchers understand funders' data sharing requirements, developing LibGuides, and knowing their constituents' disciplinary repository options when there are no institutional repositories that can accommodate datasets.

Knowledge of our institutions' data management policies is key. Additional assistance includes help with and consultation on metadata, best practices (storing data on lab or personal computer desktops is not sharing or preservation), and the need to spell out specifics in data management plans. She shared some resources for librarians to become more familiar with data management issues and emphasized that datasets can and are part of libraries' collections. Librarians should consider what kinds of datasets they will store, what are their sizes, and how long will they be kept.

Moderator Jean Gudenas rounded out the panel by sharing highlights of a poster prepared for the 2015 Charleston Conference Friday evening poster session entitled "Expanding Limits with Get It Now." The question posed was whether access to material could be sufficient and provide cost-savings over ownership to a title. This is especially relevant considering that yearly journal subscription increases are not necessarily matched by yearly library budget increases and additional collection challenges such as expensive niche information needs that cater to a small population. As a supplement to document delivery solutions, Jean shared the steps her library took to identify a group of 100 high-demand, non-subscription journals to make available through Get it Now (Copyright Clearance Center), opting to make it an unmediated service. This solution was not set up lightly and incorporated an analysis of requests, exploration of cost per use in various alternative supplier (including publisher) options, a survey of users, and careful scrutiny concerning the expenditure of the amount in the deposit account.

Session participants took advantage of the opportunity to pose questions to presenters and share their own experiences and thoughts about best practices.