

Introducing Mentors for the 2020 Leadership Institute!

Prescott, AZ | June 7 – 12

Mickey Coalwell, Executive Director of the Mid-America Library Alliance
An MPLA Past President, MPLA Leadership Institute Alum and Mentor



Before accepting his current position as Executive Director of the Mid-America Library Alliance, a nonprofit organization serving libraries since 1978, Mickey Coalwell spent the last four years as Regional Director for Library Systems & Services, LLC, overseeing public library operations in four different states: Kansas, Texas, Tennessee, and Florida. He also managed LS&S's Centralized Collection team, based in Riverside, California. Before that, for over 10 years, Mickey was the Library Development Consultant with the Northeast Kansas Library System in Lawrence, KS. He has worked at the Kansas City Public Library, the North Kansas City Public Library, and as a manager at Borders Books and Music. He received his MLS from the University of Missouri, and holds a second Master's degree from Baker University. He has a secondary teaching certification and has coached high school debate and forensics. Mickey has been active in library association leadership at state, regional and national levels. He is a Past President of the Kansas Library Association, and Past President of the 12-State Mountain Plains Library Association. He is an alumnus of the Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute, and served as a Mentor in that program in 2012. He is a longtime member of ALA and PLA, and in past years, has been active with the Special Libraries Association and the Asian Pacific American Librarians Association. He has served as Secretary and Treasurer on the board of the Heart of America Japan-America Society, sponsors of the annual Kansas City Japan Festival.

Annie Epperson, Natural Sciences Librarian and Coordinator of Engagement and Academic Programming, Colorado State University, Greeley, CO
An MPLA Past President and Leadership Institute Alum



Annie Epperson completed both a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Management and a Master of Arts in Environmental Sociology at Colorado State University; she also holds a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas. Epperson joined the University of Northern Colorado's University Libraries' faculty as an Assistant Professor for Library Instruction in 2004, and currently serves as Natural Sciences Librarian and Coordinator of Engagement and Academic Programming. Most recently, Epperson was named as the Associate Director for Community and Civic Engagement (CCE), a half-time administrative fellow position that allows her to dedicate time to the intersections of the academic work of the University in conjunction with the needs and opportunities presented in the community of Greeley, Weld County, and the State of Colorado. Additionally, Epperson has served MPLA in a

number of roles, including as Colorado Representative to the Board, and as President. For fun, she gardens, makes beer, keeps bees, and reads!

Aubrey Madler, Assistant Director, Technical Services Coordinator, & Instructor - Mayville State University, Mayville, ND
MPLA Leadership Institute Coordinator



Aubrey has worked in libraries for nearly 20 years – fulfilling roles in public services, technical services and administration. Most recently an academic librarian, she also has experience in a military library that functioned as a public library, special, and academic library, and she worked as an Information Specialist for a special library with a strictly digital collection. Aubrey earned her MLS from Texas Woman’s University, holds a BS in Elementary Education, and is currently in her final semesters of a PhD program through the University of North Dakota. Aubrey has studied and practiced leadership through various programs and avenues including academic courses, MPLA’s and PNLA’s leadership institutes, iLEAD USA - North Dakota, and Toastmasters International. She was also active in the North Dakota Library Association while serving as their president and leading the development of a mentorship program. Aubrey lives in rural North Dakota with her husband and dog; they enjoy being outdoors as much as the weather allows, escaping to warmer locales for scuba diving, and exploring countries and cultures while embracing the simple things in life. Ask her about writing personal mission statements, developing grit, speaking strategies and tips, and minimizing clutter to enhance efficiencies (physical, mental, and digital).

Eileen Wright, Reference Librarian/Archivist, Montana State University – Billings, MT
An MPLA Past President | Leadership Institute Alum and Mentor



Eileen has worked at the Montana State University Billings Library for 18 years as a Reference Librarian/Archivist. She teaches a 3-credit general education course (Research in the Information Age) plus basic library instruction for various departments. She also serves as the City College librarian, and the library liaison to College of Education and Social Sciences and Cultural Studies (Native American Studies). She thrives when leading outreach activities for students including running a book club, hosting murder mystery nights or trivia nights in the library. She also leads two very different book clubs for faculty and staff members. Her current committee work includes being an Ambassador to the statewide Montana Memory Project (MMP), and governor appointed committee member to SHRAB: State Historical Records Advisory Board. She also completed the Digital Archivist Specialist (DAS) certification through Society of American Archivists.