**Alberta Davis Comer**

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-0860

**EDUCATION**

Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

Master of Library Science GPA 4.0

Bachelor of General Studies GPA 4.0 Summa cum laude

Minors: Sociology, History

Certificate: Jewish Studies

**ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

*Dean and University Librarian* August 2013 – Current

J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah Salt Lake City, UT

*Dean* January 2009 – August 2013

*Interim Dean* July 2008 – December 2008

*Acting Dean* September 2007 – June 2008

*Associate Dean* July 2004 – August 2007

*Head, Circulation Department* July 2002 – June 2004

Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State University Terra Haute, IN

*Interim Director* Spring 2009

Student Academic Success Center (SASC), Indiana State University Terra Haute, IN

**LIBRARY POSITIONS**

*Access Services Manager* 1985 – 1989

*Interlibrary Loan Supervisor* 1982 - 1985

McFarlin Library, University of Tulsa Tulsa, OK

*Library Manager* (part-time position) 1988 - 1989

Temple Israel Synagogue Tulsa, OK

*Assistant Youth Services Coordinator* 1981

Muskogee Public Library Muskogee, OK

*Library Technician* 1979 - 1981

Department of the Army Germany

*Library Assistant* 1978 - 1979

Austin Public Library Austin, TX

*Library Assistant* 1976 - 1978

USAFE Command Library Germany

**FUNDRAISING**

$2,000,000 Katherine’s Courtyard, multi-level outdoor project 2014

$1,200,000 Special Collections support over four years 2014-2017

$250,000 John J. Audubon oversized prints 2016

$3,000,000 Original documents of the Church of Latter Day Saints 2016-2017

$1,000,000 Digital Matters Lab 2017

$100,000 On-going humanities support 2017

$7.8 million Gifts-in-kind donations 2013-2017

$5,000,000 Private foundation request to support library projects 2017

$500,000 Co-PI for Mellon Foundation Proposal 2017

*Landscape, Land Art, and the American West: A Joint Research and Engagement Initiative of the Utah Museum of Fine Arts and the J. Willard Marriott Library*

**PROJECT AND INNOVATION HIGHLIGHTS**

Family Reading Room 2014

Purpose: to support students with children; first of its kind on campus

Library Reorganization 2015

Purpose: to meet rapidly changing role of libraries and expanding needs of the campus

Digital Matters Lab 2016

Purpose: a collaborative venture with College of Humanities, College of Architecture and Planning, and the College of Fine Arts to provide space, tools, and expertise for computationally-enhanced research and teaching

Salary Reprioritization 2014-2017

Significantly increased salaries through reorganization and reassigning salary lines

Utah Asia Campus Librarian 2016-2017

Assigned a librarian to the Utah Asia Campus

**PUBLICATIONS**

Anderson, R., Comer, A., Maringanti, H., Soehner, C., and Thompson, G. (book in progress*) Strategic Planning for Academic Libraries: A Step by Step Guide*. ALA Editions.

Gritten, T. and Comer, A. (2017). Venturing across Borders: Collaborating on a New Discovery System between Academic and Public Libraries. IFLA Annual Pre-Conference Proceedings. Warsaw, Poland. August 2017. [In press]

Whitchurch, J. and Comer, A. (2016). Creating a culture of philanthropy. *The Bottom Line, 29*, *1,* pg. 114-122.

Comer, A. (2012). From the editor’s desktop. *Indiana Libraries, 31, 1*, pg 1.

Wilkinson, B. and Comer, A. (January 2012).Unstable shelves put the shake in Shakespeare. *Structure Magazine*, pg. 23-25.

Comer, A. (November 4, 2011). Redefining relevancy in the electronic age: The Library as a real place. [From a 2011 conference presentation]. In F. Baudino (Ed.), Brick and click libraries: Proceedings of an academic library symposium, pg. 1-5. Maryville, MO: University of Missouri. ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED526899 [Peer reviewed].

Comer, A. (2008). From the editor’s desktop. *Indiana Libraries, 27, 2,* pg 1.

Comer, A. (2008). From the editor’s desktop. *Indiana Libraries, 27, 1*, pg 1.

Comer, A. (2007). From the editor’s desktop. *Indiana Libraries, 26, 3*, pg 1.

Comer, A. (2007). From the editor’s desktop. *Indiana Libraries, 26, 1*, pg 1.

Comer, A. and Lorenzen, E. (2007). Is purchase on demand a worthy model? Do patrons really know what they want? In B. R. Bernhardt, T. Daniels, K. Steinle (Eds.), 26th Annual Charleston Conference Proceedings, pg. 171-79. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited.

Kerico, J. and Comer, A. (2006). Searching for clarity among many voices: Collection development as a collaborative endeavor. In B. R. Bernhardt, T. Daniels, K. Steinle (Eds.), 26th Annual Charleston Conference Proceedings, pg. 3-8. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited.

Comer, A. (2006). From the editor’s desktop. *Indiana Libraries, 25, 3*, pg 1.

Comer, A. (2006). From the editor’s desktop. *Indiana Libraries, 25, 1*, pg 1.

Comer, A. (2006). In step with Indiana authors…this month featuring an interview with Michael Koryta. *Indiana Libraries, 25*, *1*, pg. 5-6.

Comer, A. (June 2005). Studying Indiana public libraries: Usage of Internet filters. *Computers in Libraries, 25*, pg. 10-15. (Reprinted in *Indiana Libraries*, *25, 1,* 2006, pg. 19-23).

Comer, A. and Lorenzen, E. (February 2005). Is purchase-on-demand a worthy model? Do patrons really know what they want? *Against the Grain, 17, 1*, pg. 75-78.

Comer, A., Okada, E., Stinnett, R., Swinson, B., and Watkins, N. (2005). Managing student employees. *Indiana Libraries*, *24*, *1,* pg. 47-51.

Comer, A. (2005, Annual Conference Highlights). ‘The Fonz’ thrills at closing session. *Cognotes*, pg. 1.

Comer, A. (2005, June 28). ALA President’s program: Coming full circle. *Cognotes*, pg. 1. (Reprinted in *Cognotes* Annual Conference Highlights 2005, pg. 2).

Comer, A. (2005, Annual Conference Highlights). Authors share stories at FOLUSA tea. *Cognotes*, pg.10.

Comer, A. (2005, June 28). Fundraising in libraries. *Cognotes*, pg. 11.

Comer, A. (2005, June 27). Print or electronic? How to decide. *Cognotes*, pg. 11.

Comer, A. (2005, June 27). Swap and shop. *Cognotes*, pg. 8.

Comer, A. (2005, Midwinter Meeting Highlights). Gladwell speaks at president’s program, *Cognotes,* pg. 1.

Comer, A. (2005, January 17). Gladwell discusses social epidemics, advocacy during president’s program. *Cognotes*, pg. 2.

Comer, A. (2005, January 16).Update on patron-focused services. *Cognotes*, pg. 8.

Comer, A. (2004). Docutek: Past and future. *Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery, & Electronic Reserve,* *15, 1,* pg. 5-9 [Peer reviewed].Co-printed simultaneously in J.M. McCloskey (Ed.), *A Guide to Docutek, Inc.’s ERes software: A way to manage electronic reserves,* pg. 5-9. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Information Press.

Comer, A. (2004). Gloria Steinem and the power of books. *Indiana Libraries,* *23*, pg. 45-46.

Comer, A. (2004) Annual Conference Highlights. Libraries still fighting censorship. *Cognotes*, pg. 10.

Comer, A. (2004, June 29). Innovative plans for serving boomers. *Cognotes*, pg. 4.

Comer, A. (2004, June 28). Clarke asks librarians to defend constitution. *Cognotes*, pg. 1, 4. (Reprinted in *Cognotes* Annual Conference Highlights 2004, pg. 1).

Comer, A. (2004, June 28). Collaborating with other libraries in your community. *Cognotes*, pg. 8.

Comer, A. (2004, June 27). Grijalva champions libraries, domestic investment. *Cognotes*, pg. 3.

Comer, A. (2004, January 12). Issues in electronic reserves. *Cognotes*, pg. 11**.** (Reprinted in *Cognotes*, Midwinter Meeting Highlights 2004, pg. 11).

Comer, A. (2004, January 12). Journal costs still a concern in libraries. *Cognotes*, pg. 12.

Comer, A.(2004, January 11). Planning and evaluation of library services. *Cognotes*, pg. 10.

Comer, A., Stinnett, R., and Watkins, N. (October 10, 2003). Supervising student assistants: Planning for success. [Revised from a 2003 conference proceedings]. In Brick and Click Libraries: The Shape of Tomorrow, October 10, 2003, pg. 41-46. Maryville, MO. ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED489983 [Peer reviewed].

Comer, A. (2003).Searching for solutions: Supervising student employees. *Journal of Access Services,* *1*, *4,* pg. 103-113 [Peer reviewed].

Comer, A. (2003, Annual Conference Highlights). Globalization and humor highlight closing session. *Cognotes*, pg.1.

Comer, A. (2003, Annual Conference Highlights). Steinem speaks on feminism, libraries, and politics. *Cognotes*, pg.1.

Comer, A. (2003, June 24). Nader emphasizes importance of libraries. *Cognotes*, pg. 1. (Reprinted in *Cognotes* Annual Conference Highlights 2003, pg. 6).

Comer, A. (2003, June 24). Using persistence to provide persistent URLs. *Cognotes*, pg. 3.

Comer, A. (2003, June 23). Managing libraries in the age of terrorism. *Cognotes*, pg. 3. (Reprinted in *Cognotes,* Annual Conference Highlights 2003, pg. 4).

Comer, A. (2003, Midwinter Meeting Highlights). Budget constraints become hot topic. *Cognotes*, pg. 12.

Comer, A. (2003, Midwinter Meeting Highlights). Electronic reserves mean accessibility for all. *Cognotes*, pg. 8.

Comer, A. (2003, Midwinter Meeting Highlights). Feminist task force plans June program. *Cognotes*, pg. 12.

Comer, A. (2003, January 27). Campaign aims to promote the profession. *Cognotes*, pg. 8.

Comer, A. (2003, January 26). ACRL discusses intellectual freedom. *Cognotes*, pg. 4.

**EDITORSHIP**

Guest Editor, *Indiana Libraries. Special Issue: Academic Libraries*, *31, 1.* June 2012

Editor, *Indiana Libraries*. 2005-2008

Editor, *Cognotes*, American Library Association, Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. June 2005

Editor, *Cognotes*, American Library Association, Midwinter Meeting, Boston, MA. January 2005

Assistant Editor, *Cognotes*, American Library Association, Annual Conference, Orlando, FL. June 2004

Assistant Editor, *Cognotes*, American Library Association, Midwinter Meeting, San Diego, CA. January 2004

**PRESENTATIONS**

Gritten, T. & Comer, A. “Venturing across Borders: Collaborating on a New Discovery System between Academic and Public Libraries.” International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Annual Conference. Warsaw, Poland. August 2017.

Comer, A. “Moving up the Ladder in Librarianship.” Innovative Libraries Explore, Apply and Discover USA (ILEAD USA). Utah State Library. October 28, 2015.

Comer, A. “Marriott Library.” Park Lane Senior Living. Salt Lake City, Utah. September 30, 2015.

Comer, A. “Academic Libraries: Your Ticket to Success.” American Indian Science and Engineering Society, Joint Regions 1 and 3, Conference, March 6, 2015.

Comer, A. “The Importance of Access to Books for Different Communities. Freedom to Read Foundation Reception. January 17, 2015.

Comer, A. “Hitting the Right Notes.” Utah Library Association. Snow College, UT, August 4, 2014.

Comer, A. “Learning isn’t a four year prospect.” Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Initiation Ceremony. University of Utah, April 17, 2014.

Comer, A. “Redefining relevancy in the electronic age: The library as a real place.” Brick and Click Academic Library Symposium, Maryville, MO, November 4, 2011.

Gritten, T. and Comer, A. “All that jazz: The rhythms of creating an academic-public library ILS consortium.” ACRL sponsored program, American Library Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, June 27, 2011.

Comer, A. “Trends in library science and services in higher education.” Rajabhat Mahasarakham University, Muang, Maha Sarakham, Thailand, July 22, 2011.

Comer, A. “Trends in library science and services in higher education.” Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, Bangkok, Thailand, July 21, 2011.

Comer, A. “Leadership roles: Lessons I have learned.” Indiana’s Librarians Leading in Diversity, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, March 21, 2011.

Gritten, T. and Comer, A. “Gneiss libraries: Finding consortial partners for an ILS." Indiana Library Federation Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN, November 17, 2010.

Comer, A. “The library is the place to go.” Indiana Academic Library Association (IALA) Conference, Terre Haute, IN, April 2008.

Kerico, J. and Comer, A. “Searching for clarity among many voices: Collection development as a collaborative endeavor.” Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC, November 2006.

Lorenzen, E. and Comer, A. “Moving toward a patron-centered collection model: A purchase-on-demand project at Indiana State University.” Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians, Bloomington, IN, May 2006.

Comer, A. and Lorenzen, E. “Is purchase-on-demand a worthy model? Do patrons really know what they want?” Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC, November 2005.

Comer, A. and Lorenzen, E. “Is purchase-on-demand a worthy model? Do patrons really know what they want?” ILLiad Users Group, Purdue University (presented via teleconference), November 2005.

Comer, A., Okada, E., Stinnett, R., Swinson, B., and Watkins, N. “Supervising student employees.” Pre-conference, Indiana Library Federation Conference, Indianapolis, IN, April 2004.

Comer, A., Stinnett, R., and Watkins, N. “Supervising student assistants: Planning for success.” Bricks and Clicks Symposium, Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, MO, October 2003.

**TEACHING**

* John Comer and Alberta Comer. “History and Geology of Utah’s National Parks.” College of Mines and Earth Sciences, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Utah Asia Campus, South Korea. GEO 5920. November 2017
* John Comer and Alberta Comer. “History and Geology of Utah’s National Parks.” College of Mines and Earth Sciences, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Utah Asia Campus, South Korea. GEO 5920. October 2016
* John Comer and Alberta Comer. “History and Geology of Natural Parks.” College of Arts and Sciences, Earth and Environmental Systems Department, Indiana State University. ENVI 497. Spring 2012

**CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS**

* American Library Association (ALA)
* Association of Research Libraries (ARL)
* Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC)
* Utah Library Association (ULA)
* Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA)

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

* Chair. Associate of Research Libraries (ARL) Academy Advisory Group. 2016-2017
* Executive Board. Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA). 2016-2017
* Summit Taskforce. Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) 2016-2017
* Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) Site Visit. University of Delaware. August 2017
* UCLA Senior Fellows Advisory Committee. 2016
* Outgoing Chair. Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC). 2017-2018
* Chair. Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC). 2016-2017
* Incoming Chair. Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC). 2015-2016
* Directors’ Board. Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC). 2013-current
* LYRASIS Board of Trustees. 2013-2016
* Personnel Committee. LYRASIS Board of Trustees. 2014-2016
* Committee on Diversity and Leadership. Association of Research Libraries (ARL). 2014-2016
* Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce. Selection Committee. Association of Research Libraries (ARL). 2014 and 2015
* Membership Criteria Committee. Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA). 2015
* Nominations Committee. HathiTrust. 2015
* External Peer Review. Indiana-Purdue University at Fort Wayne, Walter E. Helmke Library. October 2013
* Chair. Poster Session Committee. Indiana Library Federation, Annual Conference. 2011
* Academic Libraries of Indiana (ALI). 2010-2012
* Board of Directors. Academic Libraries of Indiana (ALI). 2012
* Outgoing Chair. Indiana Academic Library Association (IALA). 2011
* Chair, Nominating Committee. Indiana Academic Library Association (IALA). 2011
* Chair. Indiana Academic Library Association (IALA). 2010
* Chair Elect. Indiana Academic Library Association (IALA). 2009
* Program Committee. American Indian Library Association. 2007-2008
* Publications Committee. Indiana Library Federation. 2005-2008
* INCOLSA Advisory Committee for Library Products Group. 2005-2006
* IALA-ACRL Continuing Education Program Committee. Indiana Library Federation. 2003-2006

**UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

* Co-facilitator. Community Read, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah. November 10, 2016
* American Indian Resource Center (AIRC) Advisory Council Member. 2014-current
* Salt Lake City Public Library Board of Trustees. 2014-2017
* Secretary. Executive Committee. Salt Lake City Public Library Board of Trustees. 2016-2017
* Dean Representative. University of Utah Academic Faculty Senate. 2016-2018
* Co-chair. Search committee for Dean of the College of Social Work. 2014-2015
* Co-chair. Early Career Faculty Development/Professional Networking Initiative. Indiana State University Faculty Mentoring Initiative. 2011- 2012
* Co-chair. United Way Campus Committee. Indiana State University. 2012
* Co-chair. United Way Campus Committee. Indiana State University. 2011
* Indiana University Alumni Board. 1998-2001
* Hoosier Hills Food Bank. 1996-2005
* Board of Directors, School Fund, Monroe County School Corporation. 1996-2005

**AWARDS, HONORS, AND INTERNSHIPS**

* International Service Award.Received on behalf of Cunningham Memorial Library. 2011
* Director’s Unsung Hero Award, International Programs. Indiana State University. 2010
* Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Internship, U.S. Library Program. 2001-2002
* Mary Krutulis Graduate Award, Indiana University-Bloomington. 2001
* Indiana University Credit Union Graduate Scholarship Recipient. 2001
* Indiana Council of Continuing Education Student of the Year. 1997
* Chancellor’s Scholar. 1996
* Honors Division Scholarship, Indiana University-Bloomington. 1995-1997
* Golden Key National Honor Society, Indiana University-Bloomington. 1995-1997
* Honors Division Minority Scholarship, Indiana University-Bloomington. 1993-1995