



NEWSLETTER

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION NETWORK
MEMBER NEWSLETTER | FALL 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS

USAIN 2020: CALL FOR PAPERS

Share your hard work with your colleagues! Information on how to submit contributed papers, lightning rounds, and posters for USAIN 2020 can be found at <https://usain.org/2020-CallforPapers>

PUBLICATIONS

Innocent Awasom authored the book chapter “**Library Orientation and Outreach to International Students and Scholars**” in *Improving Library Services in Support of International Students and English as Second Language Learners* (ACRL, 2019, alastore.ala.org/content/improving-library-services-support-international-students-and-english-second-language).

Michael Haddock co-authored *Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines in Kansas* with **Craig C. Freeman** (University Press of Kansas, 2019, kansaspress.ku.edu/978-0-7006-2768-4.html).

Lutishoor Salisbury published the article “**INSPEC on two platforms: Elsevier Engineering Village and Clarivate Analytics’ Web of Science**” in the *Charleston Advisor* (volume 20, number 3, pages 5-13, doi.org/10.5260/chara.20.3.5).

Lutishoor Salisbury, Abayomi Omotola Omolewu, and Jeremy J. Smith published “**Abstracts Presented at the American Chemical Society National Meetings: Analysis of their Characteristics**” in *Science and Technology Libraries* (volume 38, number 3, pages 334-348, doi.org/10.1080/0194262X.2019.1620150).

CONFERENCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Innocent Awasom and co-authors presented their paper “Political instability, Lingua Francas, and Engaging the Local Communities: Exploring the Challenges Facing Africa's Scholarly Communications Ecosystem” at the 6th Annual Altmetric Conference held at the University of Stirling in Scotland. They also presented at the Cameroon Bioscience Society conference on "Scholarly/Science Communication for Early and Mid-Career Scientists" and facilitated a workshop on Research Data Management in the Biosciences.

Kristen Mastell has been selected as a delegate for the University of Minnesota to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25) being held in December 2019 in Madrid, Spain.

PROMOTION & TENURE: CONGRATULATIONS!

Leyla Cabugos, Plant Science Subject Specialist Librarian at the University of California-Davis, was promoted to Associate Librarian effective July 1, 2019.

Stephanie Ritchie was awarded permanent status with University of Maryland Libraries effective July 1, 2019.

RECOMMENDED READING

Collaboration and the Academic Library: Internal and External, Local and Regional, National and International (2018)
by Jeremy Akinson

Making Things Happen: Mastering Project Management (2008)
by Scott Berkun

A MOMENT WITH CLAUDINE JENDA, USAIN PRESIDENT

BY PATRICIA HARTMAN

Claudine Jenda has been a member of USAIN since the early 1990s, when she took on the role of Agriculture Librarian at Auburn University. She recognized the organization's strong connection to agricultural information and its many users, and was quick to embrace the opportunity to network with and learn from librarians with specialized knowledge in the field.

Then new to the field of agriculture, Claudine discovered in USAIN an instant pool of wisdom from which to draw. Although the organization lacks a formal mentoring program, the informal mentoring that occurs within it invaluable impacted her career trajectory and still does today. A self-described "forever mentee," she understands the impact of affirming professional relationships built on trust and that even a simple word can empower a colleague to meet new challenges with confidence. Now a mentor to many, Claudine's biggest piece of advice is to get involved early and to challenge yourself with a task even when you may not know you are ready. In USAIN, you will find individuals who will back you up in words and in action.

Claudine believes USAIN's ongoing commitment to understanding the information needs of its users and creators is one of the organization's most outstanding contributions. Perhaps her most rewarding experience in this regard was the opportunity to learn from the Agricultural Economics Reference Organization (AERO). Formed in the early 1980s, AERO grew out of an awareness that agricultural economics and rural sociology researchers required unique resources, including data, papers, and reports. Not only did this group of librarians wrestle internally with questions about how to obtain materials, they also travelled to Agricultural Economics departments across the country and assessed their information needs directly. The robust researcher-librarian partnerships that developed resulted in the creation of a database of agricultural economics papers maintained by University of Minnesota Libraries, now AgEcon Search (<https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/?ln=en>).



As for the future of agricultural librarianship, Claudine asserts that making scientific information accessible is our most pressing concern. Not only is this information essential for researchers, it is also vital to farmers, policymakers, students, and the public. As long as publishers continue to value profits over access, librarians have an important role to play in open science. Whether we are packaging the information ourselves, increasing the usage of institutional repositories, or educating scientists about where to publish, we should be leading the charge. "It's easy to identify the problem. Don't wait for someone else to fix it." She smiles, "Maybe it will take a group like ours...to come up with best practices."

Claudine Jenda is the Interim Associate Dean of Public Services, Head of Research & Instruction Services, and Agriculture Librarian at Auburn University Libraries.

"A leader serves."

— CLAUDINE JENDA

Project CERES Awardees Preserve Raisin & Viticulture Research from the Past

BY SADIE SKEELS

Britt Foster, Public Services Librarian, and **Polly Peralta**, Digital Projects Manager, know what research looks like. The dynamic duo are intimately familiar with the various forms that research can take, even in the form of dusty, disorganized boxes filled with documents (and other treasures) that have been hidden away for years. When Foster and Peralta learned of a collection of documents left in an old raisin processing facility (which had doubled as a research facility for California State University at Fresno), they discovered decades of research and development for key technologies and processes in the raisin industry.

Armed with their trove of dusty documents and a Project CERES award, Foster and Peralta began the V.E. Petrucci Library Grape and Wine Research Gray Literature project. The day-to-day project work included tackling damaged or lost documents, scanning documents on flatbed scanners, and adapting their Dublin Core metadata scheme to accurately describe the research output. Fresno county, a cornerstone in the grape and wine industries, produces 99% of raisins available in the United States. In addition to digitizing and preserving vital research from CSU-Fresno's history, the project also documented the Fresno community's commitment to agriculture and research.

Many of the research projects detailed in the documents were completed in conjunction with local growers, co-ops, and businesses, but the results haven't been made available until now because they were never published in the scholarly literature.

Foster and Peralta both agree that their favorite unexpected find was a collection of experimental paper trays used for drying raisins. The different paper tray types (trays with different fiber content, coatings, layers, etc.) were used in experiments to see which ones would prevent mold and speed up the drying process. Peralta noted, "to actually see and touch these parts of agriculture was really cool." Now that they've finished their original project, the team is looking forward to how they can continue to collect and preserve similar literature, ultimately hoping to make it accessible to the community. The V.E. Petrucci Library Grape and Wine Research Gray Literature can be found in the CSU-Fresno Digital Repository (<https://repository.library.fresnostate.edu/>)

