Stewarding Indigenous Knowledge through Ethics, Law, and the Archive

Guest Editors of the symposium and the IFLA Journal Special Edition:

**Jade Alburo** is the Librarian/Curator for Southeast Asian, Pacific Islands, and Asian American Studies at UCLA Library. Prior to UCLA, she was a Reference Librarian in the Library of Congress’ Main Reading Room and a CIRLA Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution Libraries. Jade holds an MLS from the University of Maryland, College Park, an MA in Folklore from Memorial University of Newfoundland, and a BA in English and Religious Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. She is currently serves on the IFLA Indigenous Matters Standing Committee (2021-2025) and was previously chair of the 2016 National Diversity in Libraries Conference (NDLC, now IDEAL) and president (2012-2013) of the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA).

**Sara Benson** is the copyright librarian and an associate professor at the Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and an affiliated associate professor with the Center for Global Studies, European Union Center, and the School for Information Science at the University of Illinois. She currently serves as Head of the IFLA delegation to the World Intellectual Property Organization. She holds a JD from the University of Houston Law Center, an LLM from the School of Law at Berkeley, and an MSLIS from the School of Information Science at the University of Illinois. Prior to joining the library, Sara was a lecturer at the University of Illinois College of Law for ten years. Sara is the bestselling editor of the ACRL book titled “Copyright Conversations,” and the author of the ALA Editions book titled “Compact Copyright.”

**Collence Takaingenhamo Chisita** is a research fellow based at the University of South Africa, (UNISA) and a National Research Foundation (NRF) South Africa C2-rated researcher (2023-2028). He is an author of five books, numerous journal articles and book chapters. Collence has been a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of South Africa from 2018 to 2021. He has served as a Standing Committee (SC) for the IFLA Literacy and Reading Section (2009-2013). Collence is currently the Secretary of the Africa Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AFLIA) Library Education and Training Institutions Section (LETIS). His current co-edited book “Fombad, Madeleine C., Chisita, Collence Takaingenhamo, Onyancha, Omwoyo Bosire and Minishi-Majanja, Mabel K., Information Services for a Sustainable Society: Current Developments in an Era of Information Disorder, Berlin, and Boston: De Gruyter Saur, 2023.” is gaining traction on a global scale within the Information Science landscape. Collence is a knowledge activist with a voracious appetite to collaborate and build a better world. Collence has traveled the world as a presenter and keynote speaker at international LIS, ICT and humanities conferences.

**Dr. Raj Kumar Bhardwaj** is the recipient of the Commonwealth Professional Fellowship in the UK, he’s committed to excellence. Notable honours include the Informatics Innovation Award 2022, Informatics Outstanding Researcher Award 2022, and ASIALA Outstanding Research Award. Currently Chief Librarian at St. Stephen’s College, University of Delhi, he’s been pivotal as Assistant Professor at the Central University of Punjab. He introduced four new courses aligned with the National Education Policy 2020. Holding a Doctorate from the University of Delhi, he has over 65 research publications, and delivered more than 100 talks, and trained 500+ Government school librarians in Delhi. Dr. Bhardwaj completed
several major research projects and was involved with IFLA's IM section as an Information Coordinator. He is also the founder of startup ISVI which works for visually impaired students.

**Dr. Mohit Garg** is working as Assistant Librarian (Senior Scale) at Central Library, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi. Before joining the IIT Delhi, he worked as Assistant Librarian at Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (A Central University), Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh. He has qualified UGC-NET-JRF and Ph.D. from IGNOU, New Delhi. He holds B.Tech (IT) from USICT, GGSIPU, New Delhi, and MSLIS from Indian Statistical Institute Bangalore. He is a two continuous term (2017-2021, 2021-2025) Standing Committee Member of IFLA Indigenous Matter Section, Netherlands, and other international and national associations. He has published Research papers in Scopus Indexed, and UGC CARE Listed Journals. His areas of interest are Application of ICT, Open Science, Research Methodology, Research Ethics, Information Retrieval, Data Science, and Machine learning.

**Dr. Melissa G. Ocepek** is an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in the School of Information Sciences. Her research draws on ethnographic methods and institutional ethnography to explore how individuals use information in their everyday lives. Her research interests include everyday information behavior, critical theory, copyright, and food studies. She received her Ph.D. at the University of Texas at Austin in the School of Information.

**Melissa Minds VandeBurgt**, throughout her nearly 20 years in academic libraries, has sought to integrate the work of archives, special collections, museums, and digital initiatives in an effort to share the human experience. Melissa will begin her tenure as Director, Special Collections Research Center at Temple University in April 2024. She served as Director, University Archives and Special Collections at Florida Gulf Coast University for 12 years. Ms. VandeBurgt holds a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Her research and scholarly work is focused on social justice, the material culture of the Holocaust, and developing archival collections that equitably represent all people that create the historical record. She has served on IFLA’s Indigenous Matters Section since 2017.

**Carissa Vogel** is the Law Library Director of the University of Iowa Law Library, one of the largest academic libraries in the United States, and a Professor of Instruction at the University of Iowa College of Law. In addition to numerous academic service and board positions, she serves as a Commissioner for the Iowa Access to Justice Commission and has led a team of academic and government librarians on the creation and development of the [People’s Law Library of Iowa](https://peopleslaw.library.uiowa.edu), an easy-to-understand, basic information website about the law. Carissa holds a JD from the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law, a MLIS and Special Certificate in Law Librarianship from the University of Washington iSchool, and a BA from the University of California, Berkeley. Prior to her time at the University of Iowa, she was and Associate Dean for Library Services, Director of the Law Library, and Professor of Legal Research at the Dr. Lillian and Dr. Rebecca Chutick Law Library at the Cardozo School of Law where she was received the Monroe Price Award for Distinguished Service. She regularly presents on leadership and management of academic law libraries as well as the future of collections. Carissa has served on IFLA’s Advisory Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) since 2023.