# **Situating** the **self** : teacher-librarian narratives within and beyond institutional spaces
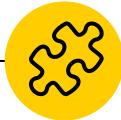
Speakers

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In 1992, historically colonized peoples of the western hemisphere and their allies organized events to denounce the errant voyage by Columbus in 1492 and the ensuing 500 years of colonialism, genocidal conquest and racism. In Cleveland, a multi-racial group formed to plan a remembrance...the group held a major protest at Public Square and named itself the 'Committee of 500 Years of Dignity and Resistance.'

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Learning outcomes

- ◉ Critically analyze how your personal and professional identities affect the spaces in which you teach

- ◉ Reflect on the systems of power and authority both within libraries and the institution, and how you and your teaching practices are impacted

- ◉ Identify tools for self-reflection in order to consider changes to your practice and paths towards more collaborative relationships
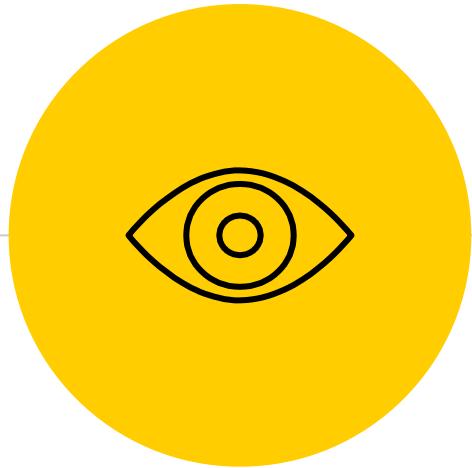
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Identity

1 How do our **identities** such as race, ethnicity, ability, gender, and sexual orientation impact how and to whom we teach?

**2** How do our identities **shift** depending on the role we're taking on? Why?
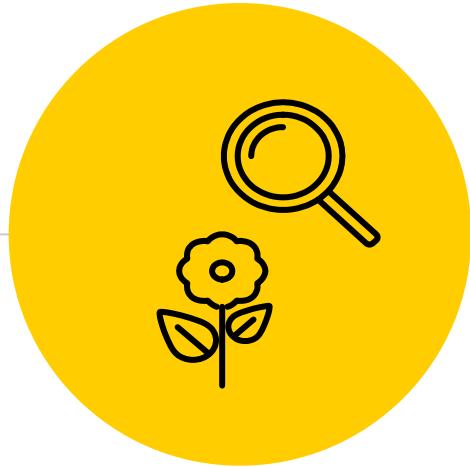
Reflective question #1

If you're a new instruction librarian, what is/was the biggest surprise you've encountered?

If you're a more experienced teacher, do you still encounter new surprises?
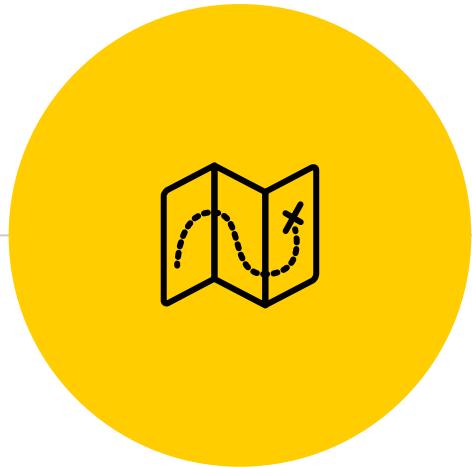
Experience

3

How does having prior teaching experience change what we do in our instruction?

Is preparation for teaching in libraries an **oxymoron**?

If minimal support is given to new library instructors, what does that say about how teaching in libraries is **valued**?

4
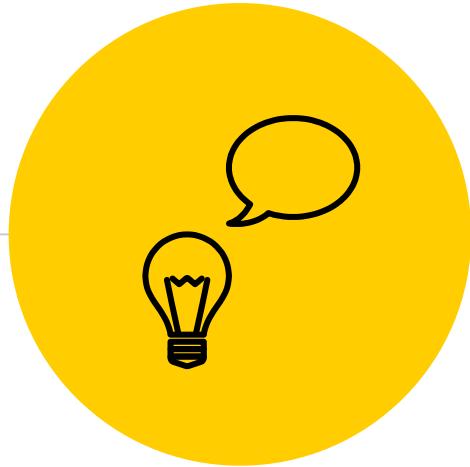
Reflective question #2

What factors have contributed to your feeling supported as a teacher?
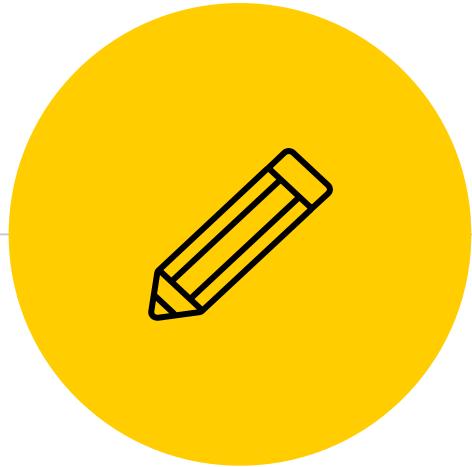
Workplace

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How do we **"teach to the moment"** and give our full attention to each class if we're overworked or have taught a similar class many times before?

5

6

What **strategies** can we use to say no to unreasonable instructional requests, and develop more collaborative relationships with faculty?

Reflective question #3

How do we feel set up to fail, and set up to succeed? What does success look like?
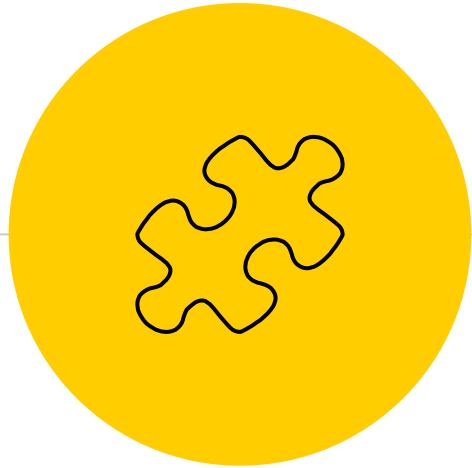
Think-Pair-Share

What themes are present among your reflections?

What is one action you can take?

Recommended readings

◎ Almeida, Nora. "Librarian as Outsider." *Hybrid Pedagogy*. July 2015. https://hybridpedagogy.org/librarian-as-outsider/

◎ Chou, Rose L., & Pho, Annie. "Intersectionality at the Reference Desk: Lived Experiences of Women of Color Librarians." In *The Feminist Reference Desk*. Sacramento, CA: Library Juice Press, 2017.

◎ Douglas, Veronica Arellano, & Gadsby, Jo. "Gendered Labor and Library Instruction Coordinators: The Undervaluing of Feminized Work." *Proceedings of the 2017 ACRL Conference*, Baltimore, MD. March 2017.

◎ Wallis, Lauren. "Smash All the Gates, Part 2: Professional Silenc*." *DIY Library Instruction* (blog). https://laurenwallis.wordpress.com/2015/05/12/smash-all-the-gates-part-2-professional-silenc/

Additional readings and tools for reflection: tinyurl.com/acrl2019teaching

Thanks!

Any questions?

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