



Name: Fannie M. Cox  
University rank: Professor  
Title: Community Engagement Consultant & Liaison Librarian  
Location: University of Louisville Libraries  
2215 S. Third Street  
Louisville, KY 40292-0001

**Statement of Professional Concerns:**

As a member of the Executive Board, I will utilize my knowledge, very broad, and diverse experiences to further the goals of ALA to continue to serve our members. As someone who has brought together all sort of organizations and people together for collaborating, I would like to explore the possibilities of forging new partnerships, build new relationships, to increase services to members, enhance efficiencies, fiduciary prowess, and a willingness to re-think how we do things, listen to others both in and outside of librarianship, to formulate new, strategic ways of what we do and how we do things.

For years, the overarching theme that embodies the focus and goals of my work has been community engagement (CE). One aspect of it at the University of Louisville’s (UofL) is the Signature Partnership Initiative (SPI). I represent the University Libraries as the faculty representative on SPI. The goal of this initiative is “to work with various community partners to improve the educational, health, economic and social status of individuals and families who live in our urban core. Working closely with community residents, the Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville Metro Government, Metro United Way, the Urban League, faith-based organizations, and many others, the university has coordinated and enhanced existing programs and launched new programs designed to eliminate or reduce disparities that West Louisville residents experience in education, health, economic and social conditions. “

For many years, I have provided information literacy, financial literacy, and computer literacy sessions to organizations and school systems outside of the University of Louisville (UofL). On weekends, I have worked with the Louisville’s Lincoln Foundation’s and the YMCA’s Black Achiever’s high school students and their parents to provide financial literacy classes on using the library’s resources, both print and online to find credible sources for scholarships and grants, to finance a college education. For the homeless at Wayside Christian Mission’s shelters, I have developed computer and information literacy skill programs that allows residents to move toward a more computer literate user to apply for jobs, build resumes and gain employment to help them develop financial stability and hopefully a better quality of life.

As someone who has worked in a variety of settings in and out of the library developing partnerships to promote information literacy. The experiences listed here represent collaborations, meeting the needs of users where they are, learning new skills and strategies to perform and promote library services internally and externally, networking, building relationships, and assessing impact. These skills were not acquired in library school, but from working and actively participating on local, state, national, international communities, and committees, and taking advantage of professional development opportunities, and appointments to be a conduit for wellbeing and change. I want to help ALA to continue to be a change agent and explore new and perhaps enhance olds ways to empower ourselves and our users.

**Previous Positions:**

- Outreach and Reference Librarian, UofL Libraries 9/2006-5/2023
- Interim Head of Reference, UofL Libraries, 7/2011-10/2011

- Electronic Resources Coordinator, UofL Libraries, 1999-2006
- Reference Librarian, Ivy Tech Community College, Indianapolis, IN 1998
- Government Documents, Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis (Library Staff), Indianapolis, IN 1990-1998

**Education:**

- Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) Qualified Administrator (QA) Certification 8/2023
- eCornell (Cornell University) Online Certification Program for Diversity and Inclusion Practice for Human Resources, 3/2022
- Indiana University, Masters in Library and Information Sciences (MLS), 1998
- Kentucky State University, Masters in Public Administration (MPA), 1990
- Indiana University, Bachelor's Degree in Sociology, 1982

**Affiliation(s):**

- Louisville Free Public Library Foundation, Louisville, KY
  - Capital Campaign
  - Diversity Committee
  - Governance and Nominating Committee
- Friends of the Louisville Free Parkland Library, KY
- Wayside Christian Mission Trustee (Homeless Shelter)

**ALA and/or ALA-APA Activities (Selected):**

- ALA At-Large Councilor 7/2021-6/2024
  - Planning and Budget Assembly and Committee On Committees (COC) term 2023-2024.
- Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) Education and Behavioral Sciences Section Research Committee, 7/2020-6/2021
- ACRL University Libraries Section Conference Planning, 7/2020-6/2022
- ACRL Budget & Finance Committee 7/2016 – 6/2020
- BCALA, Elected Executive Board member 2023-
- BCALA appointment, Conference Planning Co-Chair 50th Anniversary and XI<sup>th</sup> National Conference of African American Libraries (NCAAL), 2/2021-9/2021
- BCALA Executive Board 2017-2018
- BCALA, appointment Conference Planning Co-Chair 8th National Conference of African American Librarians 7/2011-6/2014
- ALCTS (Association for Library Collections & Technical Services) Chair, 2013 Coutts Award for Innovation in Electronic Resources, 7/2012-6/2013
- ACRL, Moderator Contributed Papers Panel, Philadelphia, PA, 3/30/2011-4/2/2011
- ALA Advocacy Training Subcommittee, 2008-2010
- ALA Annual ALCTS President's Program: Who Owns Antiquity? Museums and the Battle over Our Ancient Heritage, 2009
  - Appointment, 2009 ALCTS President's Program Planning Committee, 2008-2009
- Appointment, ALCTS, Leadership Development (LD) Committee, 2005-2008

**Selected Officers held in state/regional library associations and other associations (Selected):**

- President, Kentucky Library Association (KLA), 2007-2008

- Host President and conference partner to the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) National Diversity in Libraries Conference (NDLC), Kentucky School Media Association (KSMA), and the Southeastern Library Association (SELA)
- Chair, KLA Recruitment, Mentoring, and Diversity Committee (RMD), 2005-2006
- Chair, KLA Poster Sessions for Annual Fall Conference, 2004-2006
- Chair, KLA Special Library Section, 2003-2004
- Chair, KLA Conference Planning Committee, 2005-2008
- Appointment, Kentucky [State] Virtual Library Advisory Committee (VLAC), 2005-2008
- State liaison to the ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom 2001-2003

#### **Honors and/or Awards** (*Selected*):

- 2023 Initiated and led UofL Libraries to earn the inaugural INSIGHT Into Diversity 2024 Library Excellence in Access and Diversity (LEAD) Award for academic libraries.
- Received UofL Certificate of Recognition, "In appreciation for your meritorious community engagement and outstanding contribution to the university and community," 2023
- Gheens Foundation Community Engagement Mini-Grant recipient, 2022
- Presidential Distinguished Faculty Career Service Award, 2022
- Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2020
- Association of Research Libraries (ARL) eighteen-month Leadership and Career Development Program (LCDP) 2013-2014
- Reviewer, *Serials Review*, a peer reviewed scholarly journal issued quarterly for the international serial's community, 2006-2007
- Reviewer, *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science* (JELIS), the official publication of the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), 2002-2003

#### **Major Accomplishments** (*Selected*):

- 2022 Gheens Foundation Community Engagement Mini-Grant UofL Libraries and the Friends of Parkland Library (FOPL) Partnership
- 2021 Awarded Full Professor (first African American Librarian to achieve rank of Full Professor at the UofL)
- Cox, F. M., Hines-Martin, V., Cunningham, H. R. (Eds). (2020). *Library Collaborations and Community Partnerships: Enhancing Health and Quality of Life*. (1st edition). Routledge. <https://www.routledge.com/Library-Collaborations-and-Community-Partnerships-Enhancing-Health-and/Hines-Martin-Cox-Cunningham/p/book/978113834329>
- Facilitated a university libraries-wide collaboration with Law Professor Enid Trucios-Haynes and Director of UofL's Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice.
  - **Phase I. The unveiling of Louisville Icon Muhammad Ali: A Transcendent Life: Social Justice and Civil Rights.** This university-wide collaboration began January 25, 2021 with multiple exhibits at the UofL Libraries showcasing different aspects of Muhammad Ali's legacy. A digital timeline [https://library.louisville.edu/ali/SocialJustice\\_CivilRights](https://library.louisville.edu/ali/SocialJustice_CivilRights) is available with several virtual story maps of Muhammad Ali's life in Louisville and beyond.
  - **Phase II. Muhammad Ali: A Transcendent Life Standing Up for Peace Symposium** occurred on March 31, 2022. It was planned as a Community Engagement event that sought community participation by asking people throughout the Louisville community to share their thoughts about: "What can we learn from Muhammad Ali about standing up for peace today?" An audio/video collection of community contributions were made and is available and accessible by the universe.

- Invited to serve as Skill Based Consultant to Metro United Way on Multicultural Pre-K Children's book lists 2014-2018
- Invited to participate as member of the UofL team representing the libraries, to explore continuing a 25-year partnership with Ghana, West Africa's University of Development Studies (UDS) and the country's Savanna Accelerated Development Authority (SADA) project and discuss developing an additional partnership to develop a medical school. UDS requested a librarian, because they wanted to know about having access to our electronic resources. 11/8-19/2011.
- 2006 Awarded Tenure (first African American Librarian to be awarded tenure Professor at the UofL)
- 2000 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Fellowship