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Multicultural Research Issues and Perspectives—how do you Frame it?

Abstract
This workshop explores issues surrounding faculty recruitment and research efforts of both faculty and students from multicultural perspectives. Presenters will utilize a panel perspective and lead audience discussion sharing tips from personal experiences.

Charlene Maxey-Harris
Diversity Librarian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Jolie Ogg Graybill
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This workshop explores issues surrounding faculty recruitment and research efforts of both faculty and students from multicultural perspectives. Session will present panel perspective and audience discussion sharing tips from personal experiences. Objectives include: sharing information about the barriers to locating research on multicultural perspectives; demonstrate and discuss newer electronic resources in libraries; connect diversity initiatives of libraries; share tips and challenges. The session begins an introduction of Case scenarios, concrete examples from experiences and interactions with Ph.D. students, administrators, and faculty in terms of multicultural research topics and resources. Information is shared regarding barriers to locating research from "our" multicultural voice/perspectives: terminology, identifying the right words; interdisciplinary databases; and it takes time, patience, and persistence to find alternative pathways to information – networking, conference proceedings, grey literature. The session continues with a Hands-on Website Tour showcasing new research resources such as multisearch tools, new databases, e-journal subscription packages, and research guides. An open discussion follows focusing on research collaboration and partnerships between academic and library liaison faculty – and the importance of libraries providing both multicultural resources and actual librarians of color with perspective to understand issues in identifying specific/relevant information answering and addressing researchers' needs.

A panel discussion closes the session, focusing on difficulties and challenges of experiences, suggestions and tips including discussion of strategies increasing people of color at university libraries as well as discussion of diversity initiatives nationwide.

Presenters
Charlene Maxey-Harris joined the University Libraries in 1999, as a Reference Librarian at C.Y. Thompson Library - UNL East Campus and has been in her current position as Diversity Librarian for one year. As Diversity Librarian, Ms. Maxey-Harris is responsible for planning and implementing diversity initiatives of the libraries. Prior to UNL appointments, Ms. Maxey-Harris held librarian positions at UN Medical Center and Dartmouth College.

Jolie Ogg Graybill joined the University Libraries on July 1, 2005, as Assistant Professor and Multicultural Services Librarian. She received her MA in Library Science from the University of Arizona and has a Master's degree in education from the University of Minnesota. Since 1998, Ms. Graybill worked for the University of Arizona Maricopa County Cooperative Extension as Assistant Agent in 4-H youth development. As Multicultural Services Librarian, Ms. Graybill's responsibilities include working with the Diversity Librarian and other librarians to develop multicultural collections and serving as liaison librarian to International Studies, Native American Studies, Latin American Studies, Ethnic Studies, African and African American Studies, and related areas.