



Mortenson Center Advisory Committee Meeting

MINUTES

November 11, 2025; 10:00-11:00am

Hybrid meeting:

In person: 428 Main Library, 1408 West Gregory Drive Urbana IL 61801

Zoom link: <https://illinois.zoom.us/j/85737714469?pwd=wNDCOhQlFdPbbsONubX5KqsdDLWb07.1&jst=1>

Meeting ID: 857 3771 4469 Password: 123582

<http://www.library.illinois.edu/mortenson/>

* = Discussion/participation items

Present: Online > Steven Anderson, Scott Schwartz, Kyungwoh Koh; In person: Clara Chu, Ellen Moodie, Diana Eynon, Mandi Arlain, Bing Wang, Qiang Jin
Absent: Laila Hussein Moustafa, Sarah Park, Peggy Nzomo

Meeting commenced at 10:15am after some Zoom connection issues.

1. Welcome and Introductions with **ice breaker of favorite library or international place to visit.**
2. Approval of the agenda - approved as presented
3. Approval of April 7, 2025 minutes - Moved by Qiang and seconded by Ellen, minutes were approved with correction (Qiang in attendance and not Ellen)
4. Departmental updates - 2025-26 Center Goals (see 2024-25 Annual Report); staff; Library Leadership Group and Library re-organization; new Mortenson Center website; **considerations in conducting international work**
 - Professional and academic international work in the US is facing challenges due to the limitations of who may obtain a visa to the United States and US government funding to support international work (campus area studies centers have been impacted), research (indirect funds for library to support research projects) and library projects.
5. Training:
 - 1) Associates Program
 - 2025 Associates Program, Theme: *Libraries Unbound: Open, Inclusive and Engaged*, June 2-25, 2025. 16 Associates from 14 countries.
 - [2026 Associates Program](#), Theme: *Poised for Impact: Data, User, Strategy-Driven Libraries*, June 1-24, 2026. Application reviews will be conducted by Center staff.
 - Scholarships [R1] - Suggestions of sources of funding discussed and ideas may be emailed to Clara.
 - Application and reviewer platforms (available to Center: Flywire, Webtools, Google; recent recommendation: SmarterSelect <https://www.smarterselect.com/>) [R2] - Suggestions for a free system that doesn't require an Illinois netID, and provides easy access to multiple reviewers and collates scores may be emailed to Clara.
 - 2) Strengthening Innovative Library Leaders ([SILL](#)) - training program is being converted to online delivery.

- 3) Community Libraries International Portal (CLIP) [R3] - Website (as a community of practice) and community library startup guide and toolkit to be launched in 2026. Suggestions of online learning management systems that don't require an Illinois account and generate automatic certificates after completion of module or test may be emailed to Clara.
 - 4) IDEA Institute on Artificial Intelligence <[website](#)> - This IMLS-funded project, is now offered as an online program by ASIS&T <https://www.asist.org/meetings-events/idea-institute/>, starting in 2024.
 - TACTIC in Lib: Transforming AI Consumers to Innovative AI Creators in Libraries - Clara will serve on the Advisory Board of this newly IMLS-funded project to train librarians to implement AI in their libraries, using ready-made software and through coding.
6. Professional Development Programs:
- 1) Lecture:
 - 35th Annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecture, September 4, 2025: "The THIRD REICH OF DREAMS: Hallucinations, Literary Imagination, and (Un)conscious Archives," by Amanda Rubin, Documentary Filmmaker and Journalist <https://www.library.illinois.edu/mortenson/lectures/>. Plus an interdisciplinary panel and visual storytelling workshop, book signing, CHAI Seniors Luncheon (by the Champaign-Urbana Jewish Foundation), and co-sponsorships with campus units and community organizations.
 - 36th Lecture [R4] - Suggestions for lecturer recommendations may be emailed to Clara.
 - 2) Community-Library Inter-Action (CLIA) <http://librariesforpeace.org/clia>
 - [CLIA Colombia Universidades](#) - monthly meetings with university libraries in Colombia to support implementation of CLIA projects.
 - 3) Project Welcome <https://publish.illinois.edu/projectwelcome/>
 - Welcoming Week (University Y [New American Welcome Center](#) event): The Human Library, Sept. 21, 2025, co-organized with the [Illinois International- Global Relations](#), held at the Champaign Public Library.
 - World Refugee Day (June 20) - co-presented webinar on "[Libraries Supporting Displaced Persons: International Guidelines \(IFLA\) and Global Experiences](#)" with ALA and IFLA, May 27, 2025 (see Annual Report).
 - 4) [Libraries for Sustainable Development](#) and [Information Action Briefs](#) - resources online, workshops to be presented upon invitation/request
 - Sustainability and Libraries: ROOTS Library Leadership Summit, August 6, 2025. <https://libguides.ala.org/SustainableLibraries/ROOTS>
 - 5) Workshops (upon invitation/request): Engineering Change in Libraries
 - 6) Minitalks - on hold for collaboration, as time allows or a topic needs attention
7. Partnerships/Collaboration:
- Naseej Academy - Applications for the Naseej Academy Grant to Attend the Mortenson Center Associates Program are open.
 - [JASPUL](#) - will send an Associate in 2026
 - Bulgarian Library and Information Association ([BLIA](#)) will send two Associates in 2026
 - School Libraries Collaborative - developing a Global South school libraries community and resource sharing portal; meeting with Karen Bentall to learn about and ways to address the [2023 GEEAP Report](#), which reports that school libraries are a bad buy.
 - Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) - ongoing collaboration to offer SILL training.

- [Partners in Literacy Haiti](#) - the development of the [Haiti Libraries Alliance](#) is on hold while we wait to hear from Erick Toussaint and the new Executive Director Fatima-Iram Din.
 - Building Strong LIS Education (BSLISE), a working group of IFLA <https://bslise.org/> - ongoing development of a Resource Guide for the implementation of the [IFLA Guidelines for Professional Library and Information Science \(LIS\) Education Programmes](#), translations, presentations and workshops.
8. Visitors:
- 1) [Michelli Costa](#) (Visiting Scholar, August-October 2024): Chu co-authoring paper on “Local knowledge and decolonial futures: A comparative study of Global South and Global North academic library pathways to decoloniality and open scholarship”
 - 2) US academic librarian for campus visit and to discuss collaboration on open access; visit and library tour with librarian, professors and students from Bangladesh
9. Mortenson Center Initiatives, Grants and Staff Activities
- 1) [Catalyzing African Community Archives for Social Good Project](#) (Clara is Co-PI and Peggy is a contributor), completed 2024-25 grant from the Chancellor’s Call to Action Research Program - Forum held with team members from Africa and Europe, May 19-23, 2025 to review and finalize the co-developed training materials on African community archiving. Poster presented at [Research Symposium](#) on October 3, 2025 and [webinar](#) for the Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) on October 14, 2025.
 - 2) Libraries for Peace <http://librariesforpeace.org/> | [Libraries for Peace Day](#) (September 21) - presented 35th Annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecture and Welcoming Week event (see above), resources online.
 - Chu, C.M. “Information with the Intent to Harm - Opportunities for Anti-Oppressive Information Literacy” on Literacies of Power and Resistance in Digital Spaces Panel, Addressing Discrimination Through Education - Interdisciplinary Approaches and International Perspectives Conference, 3-4 November 2025; University of Münster, Germany. Webpage [<link>](#) and Conference Program (PDF) https://www.uni-muenster.de/imperia/md/content/zit/programm_tagung_discrimination.pdf
 - 3) “GREAT Customer Service” Workshop, 2025 Chinese Librarians Scholarly Exchange Program (CLSEP); Tuesday, July 8, 2025, 8:15-11:15am.
 - 4) Chu, Editorial Board Member of new Journal of Academic Library Practice <https://journals.uct.ac.za/index.php/JALP>
 - 5) Recent and upcoming publications and presentations (see below)
10. Fundraising: Kathleen Weibel Memorial Fund - first scholarship was awarded to Hien Tran (see *Friendscript*, 47(1), Fall 2025; p. 7. <https://www.library.illinois.edu/friends/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/FriendscriptV47N1.pdf>)
- 11. Alumni**
- 1) Ideas for alumni engagement and promotion may be emailed to Clara.
12. Suggestions and Input from Advisory Committee to be emailed to Clara by December 1, 2025
- R1. Scholarship funding sources, R2. Application and reviewer platform, R3. Learning management system, R4. 36th Annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecturer
13. AOB - none
14. Next meeting - to be scheduled in Spring 2026

Meeting adjourned at 11:03am

Documents:

1. April 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes
2. 2024-25 Annual Report

Recent and Upcoming Publications and Presentations

- Bilal, D., Chu, C.M., Rieh, S.Y., & Khalique, N. (2025). "Fueling Conversations: AI Education Across the iSchools in the US and Canada", *Proceedings of the 2025 ASIS&T Annual Conference*. <https://www.asist.org/meetings-events/am/am25/am25-papers/>
- Jamieson, V. & Chu, C.M. (2025). "Disrupting Informed Consent: Refusal and Cultural Sovereignty in Indigenous Knowledge Practices" [Poster], *Proceedings of the 2025 ASIS&T Annual Conference*.
- Bilal, D., Chu, C.M., Young, S.Y., & Choi, Y. (2025). Bridging the AI Education, Knowledge, and Skills Gap of Library and Information Professionals: Evaluation of the Innovation, Inquiry, Disruption, and Access (IDEA) Institute on Artificial Intelligence (AI). *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*, 66(4). <https://doi.org/10.3138/jelis-2024-0033>
- Chu, C.M. (2025). "Individual and Collective Library Practice and Research Toward Building Inclusive Communities," *Innovative Libraries, Inclusive Communities: Building Bridges Through Knowledge*" National Institute of Library and Information Sciences, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, 30 October 2025. <https://nilis.cmb.ac.lk/home/nrs25/>
- Chu, C.M. (2025). "Global Perspectives on Public Libraries," In: *Introduction to Public Librarianship*, edited by J.S. Bossaller & D. Adkins. 4th Edition. Chicago: ALA Neal-Schuman, 2025. Revised in 2024 with contributions from Barbara J. Ford, Kodjo Atiso (Africa), Kathleen McCook (Canada), Lin Wang (Asia Pacific), Alicia Long (Mexico), Tatjana Aparac-Jelusic (Europe), and Loida Garcia-Febo (Caribbean and South America).
- Caidi, N., Chu, C.M., Knox, E., Meyer, E., Million, A.J. (2025). "Academic Speech in Times of Political Disruption: Implications for Information Scholarship and Practice", *Proceedings of the 2025 ASIS&T Annual Conference*.
- Chu, C.M. (2025). "Foreword" In: *Advancing Social Justice Through Curriculum Realignment: Centering Scholarly Communication in LIS Curricula*, edited by Andiswa Mfengu and Reggie Raju. University of Cape Town Press, September 2025; pp. i-iii. <https://doi.org/10.15641/978.0.7992.2561.7>

<><><>

Mortenson Center Advisory Committee Charge and Membership

<https://www.library.illinois.edu/staff/committee/mortenson-center-advisory-committee-charge-and-membership/>

Charge: The Advisory Committee advises the Director on center policy and procedures.

(* = Second Consecutive Term)

Clara M. Chu, Chair

Steven Anderson (Aug 2024 - Aug 2026)

Mandi Arlain (Aug 2024 - Aug 2026)

Diana Eynon (Aug 2025 - Aug 2027)

Laila Hussein Moustafa (Aug 2024 - Aug 2026)

Qiang Jin (Aug 2024 - Aug 2026)

Kyungwoh Koh* (Aug 2025 - Aug 2027)

Sarah Park (Aug 2024 - Aug 2026)

Ellen Moodie (Aug 2024 - Aug 2026)

Scott Schwartz* (Aug 2024 - Aug 2026)

Bing Wang* (Aug 2025 - Aug 2027)