MORTENSON ASSOCIATES PROGRAM

Accepting Applications!

Poised for Impact:
Data, User, Strategy-Driven Libraries

A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE (LIS) PROFESSIONALS

JUNE 1 - 24, 2026

Poised for Impact: Data, User, Strategy-Driven Libraries – A Professional Development and Leadership Program for Library and Information Science (LIS) Professionals will engage participants in learning about novel and inventive practices and services in areas such as:

- User-centered Services
- AI and Emerging Technologies
- Environmental Scanning
- Leadership, Communication and Strategic Change
- Library Assessment and Communicating Impact
- Multiple Literacies
- Digital and Print Collections and Repositories
- International Professional Networking

MORTENSON CENTER for International Library Programs

Applications are due 21 November 2025.
For more information and to apply, please visit the Mortenson Center website: www.library.illinois.edu/mortenson/associates

PARTICIPATE IN A UNIQUE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM!

"Poised for Impact: Data, User, Strategy-Driven Libraries"
June 1 - 24, 2026

The 2026 Mortenson Center Associates Program will offer professionals working in a library and/or information services setting outside the United States an opportunity to explore critical issues and trends in the library field and engage with librarians implementing cutting-edge programs and services.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

FIELD VISITS

SMARTER STRATEGIES

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Seminars and Workshops introduce and explore current trends in the field. Library experts will be invited to share their perspectives, offer expertise, and foster conversations on the themes of leadership and impact to build data, user, strategy-driven libraries.

Tours of a variety of libraries, including academic, public, and special libraries. We may also visit the American Library Association headquarters in Chicago, Illinois and other sites of interest.

Networking with dynamic group of international colleagues during and post-program.

Participants will develop **individual action plans**, appropriate to their professional and institutional needs, and will receive post-program implementation review.

Each participant will receive a **Certificate of Program Participation** upon completion.

Scheduling allows participants to attend the **Annual Meeting of the American Library Association (ALA)**, if they wish. The 2026 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition will be in Chicago, June 25–29, 2026. https://2026.alaannual.org/. Arrangements and registration for the conference must be made separately and are not included in the program costs.

SAVE THE DATE!
Join us online to learn about the program and meet past Associates.
Online Information Session
Tuesday, 30 September 2025; 7:00-8:00am Central Time (Chicago)
Register at:
http://go.illinois.edu/AssociatesInformationSession

To find your local time for this information session, visit www.worldtimebuddy.com

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

> Application must be submitted in English along with supporting documentation in order to be considered. See: https://www.library.illinois.edu/mortenson/associates

> Applicants must secure adequate funding to support participation in the program.

> Program is delivered in English only, and participants should be fluent in conversational English and possess a reading knowledge of English.

2018 Mortenson Associates engaged in a group project

COST

The 2026 program cost is $4,000 USD. It covers program fees, housing, some meals, local transportation and medical insurance. It does not cover expenses for visa application, and airfare and/or ground transportation to and from Champaign-Urbana.

READ ABOUT THE ASSOCIATES EXPERIENCE AT:
https://associates.web.illinois.edu/