



Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together



**Strengthening ties between
public libraries and Wikipedia**



**KNIGHT
FOUNDATION**



**WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION**

Your presenters



Monika Sengul-
Jones
Wikipedian-in-
Residence, OCLC



Merrilee Proffitt
Senior Program Officer,
OCLC Research

Wikipedia + Libraries project team



Monika Sengul-Jones
Wikipedian-in-Residence, Instructor
jonesm@oclc.org



Betha Gutsche
Instructor
gutscheb@oclc.org



Mercy Procaccini
Project Coordinator
procaccm@oclc.org



Dale Musselman
Technical Support
musselm@oclc.org



Merrilee Proffitt
Senior Program Officer
proffitm@oclc.org



Sharon Streams
WebJunction Director
streamss@oclc.org

Wikipedia + Libraries overview

1

Research public library connections
Build awareness/recruit US public library staff;
design curriculum; recruit Wikipedia guides

2

Deliver 9-week online training program;
Sept. 13 - Nov. 15, 2017
Enrolled ~300 U.S. public library staff

3

Collect / publish case studies and resources
Evaluate and share learnings

December 2016 – May 2018

Learning, the WebJunction way

Focus on the needs of adult learners

Put the “why” before the “how”

Meet people where they are

Show, don't tell

Librarians Who Wikipedia



www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/wikipedia-libraries/stories-from-the-library.html

The human-to-human connections – Wikipedia guides

Susan Barnum
Rob Fernandez
Paul Flagg
Rajene Hardeman
Jim Hayes
Emily Jack
Avery Jensen
Jackie Koerner
Sara Marks
Merrilee Proffitt
Kerry Raymond
Jacinta Sutton
Megan Wacha
Rachel Wexelbaum

Practitioner guest speakers

Sherry Antoine

Susan Barnum

Tom Boeche

Denise Davis

Samantha Dodd

Kim Gile

Rajene Hardeman

Emily Jack

Bob Kosovsky

János McGhie

Kerry Raymond

Jacinta Sutton



ART + FEMINISM
Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon
 at Carnegie Mellon University

Friday, February 26, 2016
 12:00 - 7:00pm

BEGINNER WIKIPEDIANS WELCOME
 Come learn with us!
 Tutorials starts at 12:00 and 4:00pm

Frank-Rachye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry
 College of Fine Arts - Room 111
 5000 Forbes Ave
 Pittsburgh, PA



WikiProject Women in Red



Events



Article alerts



Worklists



Resources



Metrics



Showcase



About us



Pres

Welcome to WikiProject Women in Red (WiR), a [WikiProject](#) whose objective is to turn "re within the project scope: women's biographies and works by women.

We recognized a need for this work as, in November 2014, only about 15% of the English were about women. Founded in July 2015, WiR strives to improve the figure which has re: June. But that means, according to [WHGI](#), only 250,234 of our 1,472,810 biographies ar "Content gender gap" is a form of systemic bias, and WiR addresses it in a positive way th

[Learn more about our work »](#)

Course features and curriculum

- **Nine-week course** with six live online sessions (299 enrolled)
- **Safe, private course space** on WebJunction
- Supportive **community** of peers, instructors, and guides (experienced Wikipedians)
- Course materials and assignments **customized** to meet the needs of U.S. public library staff

**Librarians have the power
to make Wikipedia
better and more reliable.**

What are participants *doing* with their learnings?



We provided the **tools and resources** for participants to figure out where they wanted to go **on their own terms**

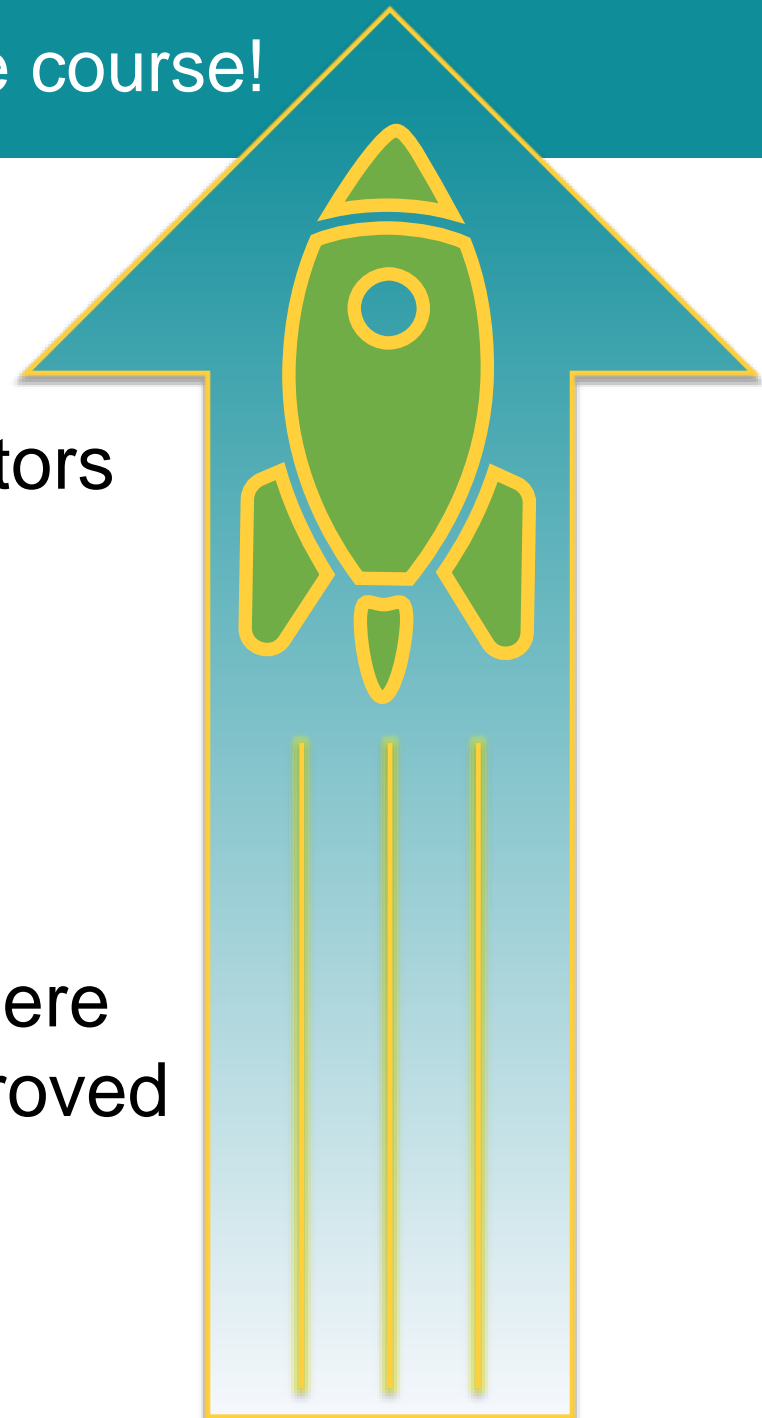
Librarians rocked the course!

By the numbers*

- The **236** active participant editors
- made over **5900** edits
- and **369** Commons uploads
- to improve **799** articles
- and create **6** new articles!

Since the start of the course, there have been **36.1m** views of improved articles

*as of 13 February 2018



The individual contributor

“ ...I like that I can add **sources that are credible** and I am able to find information using my databases that **others don't have immediate access to.**”

- **Jean King, West Hempstead Public Library, New York**

The information literacy instructor

“...I, too, used to poo-poo Wikipedia. Now I consider myself a **convert**. I am pushing its value to help students be **critical consumers of information**. ”

- **Denise Davis, Morton-James Public Library, Nebraska City, Nebraska**

The critical champion

“
...**Wikipedia has biases** –
and people need **librarians to**
help them gain skills to
navigate the digital
environments they’re going
every day.”

- **Layla Andros, Austin Public
Library, Austin, Texas**

The institutional connector

“ This is a **tremendous opportunity** here to make [Wikipedia] a very **robust resource for everybody**
I dare you not to get excited.”

Kim Gile, Kansas City Public Library
(Organized the Kansas City Jazz Wikipedia Edit-a-thon on March 5, 2018)

The staff trainer

“ ...Learning what I learned in the course is **important for our all staff**. We're a small rural library. We all do a little of everything. **Wikipedia fits in to all our work.**”

- **Karen Kast, Eagle Mountain City Public Library, Eagle Mountain, Utah**

How did the project take a feminist approach to Wikipedia training?

- Respect participants as **unique individuals with a diversity of perspectives, situated knowledges**
- Facilitate **human-to-human connections** to build a supportive, empathetic community
- Name Wikipedia's limits, gaps and biases, identify **opportunities to affect meaningful change**
- Feature & champion the **activist work** being done to address limits, gaps and biases
- Educate participants so they can **confidently decide for themselves how to engage**
- Recognize labors—and aim to enable library staff to incorporate Wikipedia into their **paid work**
- Stay positive and **be kind**

Accomplishments and Outcomes

We accomplished a lot!

See our final report for more learnings:

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Grants:Project/OCLC/A_Wikipedian-in-Residence_to_Engage_500_Librarians_and_their_Communities/Final



Thank you!

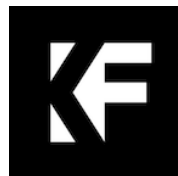
Monika Sengul-Jones

Wikipedian-in-Residence, OCLC
jonesm@oclc.org

Merrilee Proffitt

OCLC Research
proffitm@oclc.org

oc.lc/oclc-wikilib



**KNIGHT
FOUNDATION**



**WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION**

