

Biography: Katy Webb, MLIS, MA

Katy Webb has been serving as the Betty Drees Johnson Dean of the Library and Learning Technologies at Stetson University's duPont-Ball Library since July of 2024. Prior to coming to Stetson, she held a variety of library positions at public and private institutions, as well as serving as a trustee on the board of a public library in Madison, CT. She received her MLIS degree from University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2011, having completed the technology track of the library science degree. Further coursework and areas of interest were in GIS, database design, website design, and library instruction. During her time at UW-Madison, Katy worked primarily at the MERIT (Media, Educational Resources and Information Technology) Library, which serves as the library, IT support, instructional design, and classroom support for the highly-ranked School of Education at UW. At MERIT, her primary function was to manage the circulating equipment for the library, as well as to teach course-integrated technology sessions that were built into Education courses to provide graduates with technology skills that they would use in the classroom with freely available creative media software and tools. This innovative position included helping with installation and support of interactive whiteboards, teaching students the Adobe Creative Suite, managing and fixing equipment, and later, planning for the combination of the research help desk with the computer help desk over a summer. In 2011, she started as the Instructional Design Librarian at East Carolina University in the Research and Instructional Services department. In this role, she was responsible for designing online tutorials for departments throughout the library, acting as the social media coordinator for the library, teaching information literacy instructional sessions, and serving as the library's LibApps administrator. Shortly after arriving at ECU, she became the Assistant Head of RIS, and in 2014, she assumed the role of Head of Research and Instructional Services, which included oversight for a team of 7 faculty librarians and 4 paraprofessional staff members. This team was responsible for teaching over 400 information literacy sessions per year, as well as conducting hundreds of one-on-one research consultations. During her tenure, the RIS team implemented a scaffolded instructional program, as well as engaging in curriculum mapping for each major in the university. This program was paired with a robust assessment program. Another important initiative that Katy headed up was to consider ways that the library was helping university faculty and programs engage in the High Impact Practices for Student Success, which are 10 practices that increase engagement on campus. She spoke at the High Impact Practices in the States Conference in 2019 and was the only librarian to attend this national conference. She was also the winner of the Charleston Conference's Up and Comer Award in 2017 (ATG Media).

In 2020, Katy Webb accepted the position of Director of Yale Access Services and Bass Library at Yale University. Starting this position during the depths of lockdown was a challenge, but Katy jumped into the role. She was one of the first back on campus, serving as the co-chair of the committee that brought many of the 570 employees of the library safely back to work. Bass Library is the undergraduate library, and she served on many key initiatives during her time there, including redesigning the website, renovating classrooms, and taking an active part in a reorganization to bring the Science and Social Sciences library under the same umbrella as Sterling and Bass libraries, the main campus libraries. She worked on many space projects in the libraries at Yale, as she was the space owner and representative

for the user experience for the Bass Library, and for iconic spaces in Sterling Memorial Library, including the Linonia and Brothers (L&B) Reading Room, Starr Main Reference Room, Wright Reading Room, the Periodical Reading Room, the Nave, and the 14-story book stack tower. She was actively involved in the renovation of the Linonia and Brothers Reading Room, a \$9M capital project, and coordinated the selection and reinstallation of the collection of 17,000 leisure reading books in the room. She additionally served on the Sterling 2031 committee as part of the executive committee. This group was created to look at Sterling Memorial Library holistically to rethink the historic main campus library before the centennial celebration in 2031, and considered space usage, building improvements, signage and wayfinding updates, and changes to services.

Research and Service

Katy Webb received tenure and promotion at East Carolina University to Associate Professor and holds the rank of Professor at Stetson University. She is deeply committed to being a teacher-scholar and has written and presented extensively, including the 2018 book, *Development of Creative Spaces in Academic Libraries: A Decisionmaker's Guide*, published by Chandos Publishing, an imprint of Elsevier. Katy's research interests include library space usage, library labs, library student employee engagement, how libraries can contribute to the High Impact Practices for Student Success (HIPs), and mindfulness, yoga, and burnout in libraries. She has spoken at national and international conferences on these topics and others. Her most recent publications include a co-authored article entitled, "Engagement Scenarios for Tomorrow's Library Labs," which is in the July 2024 issue of *portal: Libraries and the Academy*, and a co-authored book chapter about supporting student employees, which frames student employment as an extension of instruction. A full listing of her academic articles and books is available on ORCID, here: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5419-5251>

She has a lifelong commitment to global education and experiences, the love of which began when her family moved abroad to Heidelberg, Germany, during her high school years. Katy returned many times to Germany during her studies, as her bachelor's degree and Master of Arts is in German Linguistics. She also attended the Goethe Institut in Berlin and the Nederlandse Taalunie, a Dutch program sponsored by the government for non-native speakers, on a scholarship. She was selected for an arts residency at Cill Rialaig in beautiful County Kerry, Ireland for writing in 2019. She was also a recipient of a Fulbright Specialist grant that took her to Leiden, in the Netherlands in 2019 and 2022, to partner with the Centre for Digital Scholarship in the University of Leiden library. This productive collaboration resulted in three written articles and multiple presentations, some in conjunction with her Fulbright host, Dr. Laurents Sesink. The Fulbright project included reviewing the library's space to consider a lab for CDS, but additionally included research on the drivers of library labs and their impact on Open Science in the Netherlands and worldwide. In her service contributions to the academy, she has also focused on global education, including as the ACRL Academic Library Services to International Students, where she served as a co-convenor from 2019-2021.

In addition to her work experience, Katy is the mother of two children, Anson and Melody, as well as a wife, daughter, sister, and friend. She has many interests outside of work, including travel, crafts, disc golf, biking, and yoga.