

Kathryn (Katie) Sparks

Success & Engagement Librarian (Assistant Professor)
University of Colorado Boulder, University Libraries
katie.sparks@colorado.edu

EDUCATION

MLIS, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA May 2022
M.A. with Honors, Museum Studies (Natural History); University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS May 2013
M.A., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS May 2011
B.S., Biology with minor in Chemistry; Denison University, Granville, OH May 2007

LIBRARY WORK EXPERIENCE

Success & Engagement Librarian

University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO December 2022-Present

Resource Description Specialist, Sr.

Emory University Libraries, Atlanta, GA May 2021-November 2022

Desk Associate

Emory University, Woodruff Health Sciences Center Library, Atlanta, GA April 2019-May 2021

Bookbinding Specialist (Part-time)

Emory University Libraries, Atlanta, GA Dec 2018-Sept 2020

PRESENTATIONS

- Sparks, K. 2024. Meaningful Moments: Adding Micro-Education to your Outreach Efforts. Presentation for the Workshop for Instruction in Library Use. In Progress. Accepted November 2023.
- Sparks, K., and Powell, K. 2023. Assessing Predatory Journal Publishing Within Health Sciences Authors. Presentation for the Association of College and Research Libraries. 15% acceptance rate.
- Sparks, K., and Rogers, H. 2020. Open for Business: Offering Physical Library Spaces in the COVID Era, a poster presentation for the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association. Virtual Conference. Also presented at Emory University Libraries Professional Development Forum, 2020.
- Sparks, K.A. 2016. The Prairie ABCs, an invited presentation for the Midwest All-Indian Center geared toward a young audience. Wichita, KS.
- Sparks, K.A. 2016. Picky Prairie Pollinators, an invited presentation for the Midwest All-Indian Center geared toward a young audience. Wichita, KS.
- Sparks, K.A. 2016. Dance Crazes through the Ages, a presentation for the Lawrence, KS

chapter of Nerd Nite. Lawrence, KS.

Sparks, K.A. Program presenter, pre-school-8th grade science programs. University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. 2009, 2013-2014.

Sparks, K.A. 2009. Nitrogen Availability and Plant-Pathogen Interactions. Graduate Student Organization Retreat, University of Kansas.

Sparks, K.A. and Alexander, H.M. 2009. Using herbarium data to study sunflower rust (*Puccinia helianthi*) incidence in the sunflower species *Helianthus annuus* and *Helianthus petiolaris*. National Sunflower Association Research Forum. Fargo, ND. Also presented at the Graduate Student Organization Retreat, University of Kansas, 2009.

Alexander, H.M. and Sparks, K. 2008. Population biology of wild sunflowers and studies of rust incidence using herbarium data. National Sunflower Association Research Forum. Fargo, ND (paper based on talk available at www.sunflowernsa.com).

PUBLICATIONS

Sparks, K. Review of *The College Student's Research Companion: Finding, Evaluating, and Citing the Resources You Need*, 6th edition by Arlene Quaratiello for College & Research Libraries. Accepted. In Progress 2023.

Sparks, K., and Powell, K. 2022. Assessing Predatory Journal Publishing Within Health Sciences Authors. Special Libraries Association Contributed Paper, 2022.

Smith, G.R., A.A. Burgett, K.G. Temple, and K.A. Sparks. 2016. Differential effects of bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*) on two fish-tolerant species of tadpoles (*Anaxyrus americanus* and *Lithobates catesbeianus*). *Hydrobiologia* 773: 77-86.

Alexander, H.M., J. Emry, B.A. Pace, M.A. Kost, K.A. Sparks, K.L. Mercer. 2014. Roles of maternal effects and nuclear genetic composition change across the life cycle of crop-wild hybrids. *American Journal of Botany*, 101: 1176-1188.

Smith, G.R., A.A. Burgett, K.A. Sparks, K.G. Temple and K.E. Winter. 2008. The ability of three species of tadpole to differentiate among potential fish predators. *Ethology* 114: 701-710.

Smith, G.R., A.A. Burgett, K.A. Sparks, K.G. Temple and K.E. Winter. 2007. Temporal patterns in bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*) tadpole activity: A mesocosm experiment on the effects of density and bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*) presence. *Herpetological Journal*. 17: 199-203.

McCall, A.C., J.M. Drizin, S.D. Fettig and K.A. Sparks. 2007. Phenological differences in *Veronia gigantea* affect seed predation but not pollination success. *Journal of the Ohio Academy of Sciences*. 107: A28 (peer-reviewed abstract).

SERVICE

- Faculty Council Communications Committee member, September 2023-present
- Volunteer for the Jaipur Literature Festival at the Boulder Public Library, September 2023
- Mentored an undergraduate student for Recruitment to the Profession Guild, March-May 2023
- Vice Chair for the Emory Library Employee Advocacy Forum, 2020-2022
- Vice Chair and Chair of Georgia Library Association's Professional Staff Division, 2021-2022
- Served on the Emory University Senate Campus Development Committee, 2020-2022
- Served on the Professional Development Committee at the University of Kansas, 2015-2016

LIBRARIANSHIP

LIBRARY WORKING GROUPS

- Recruitment to the Profession Guild member. February 2023-present. Chair, January 2024-present
- Summer Schedule Pod. March 2023
- Backup Pool Pod. June 2023
- Open Access Guild member. July 2023-present
- Liaisons Guild member. July 2023-present

SELECTED LIAISON WORK

- Collaboratively developed and user tested a Russian extension for Chinese Japanese Korean Material Processing (version 2.0, Windows) throughout 2023
- Provided in-class instruction for Business, Writing, and Psychology & Neuroscience courses throughout 2023
- Accepted temporary Liaison duties for Psychology and Neuroscience; and Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences from May-October 2023
- Updated all LibGuides for Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Slavic Languages and Literatures following accessibility best practices. September 2023
- Developed and ran "Fall in love with Data" tabling event. September 2023
- Taught research skills for the Veterans Bridge program. August 2023
- Co-created "Searches, Citing, and Scholarly Communication for STEM Graduate Students," a half-day workshop. May 2023

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- DeEtta Jones and Associates "EDI in Action" trainings - all sessions throughout 2023
- Attended Open Ed Conference. November 2023
- ALTEC ASL Beginning 1 for Library & Museum Staff (20 hours) September-November 2023
- Center for Inclusion and Social Change training "How to Support Trans Students on Campus." October 2023
- Attended "Legal Issues in Computational Research Using Text." October 2023
- Attended Thriving at CU program "Thriving in the First Year: What I Wish I had Known" September 2023
- Attended CALM conference. June 2023
- Safe Zone training May 2023
- UndocuAlly training. April 2023

- Attended “Engaging in External Service Opportunities.” February 2023
- DEI Community of Practice Training “Supporting Veterans.” January 2023
- Grey (Literature) Matters: Structuring your Google Search. 1.5 Medical Library Association CE Credits. November 2020
- Fundamentals of Cataloging, American Library Association. August 2021
- Subject Analysis and Subject Representation, Library Juice Academy. September 2021

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Library Association, 2021-2023
 Association of College and Research Libraries, 2021-2023
 Georgia Health Sciences Library Association, 2020-2023
 Georgia Library Association, 2021-2022

TECHNICAL AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

- OCLC Connexion software proficiency
- Database management (Specify, MuseumPlus, PastPerfect, Alma, Symplectic Elements)
- Microsoft and Adobe Suites, including Word, Excel, Photoshop, and Illustrator
- Functional Spanish fluency and some Russian and ASL language proficiency
- Citation Management programs (EndNote, Zotero)
- Network analysis using Gephi and VOSviewer
- GIS systems (ArcGIS, Google Earth, GeoLocate)
- WordPress, Drupal, and LibGuides development and maintenance.