

ELUNA Steering Committee Nominations 2021

Candidates in alphabetical order. Link to nomination letters below:

Contents

- Greg Argo 2
- Pascal Calarco 4
- Jason Griffith 6
- Daricus Larry 7
- Geoffrey Morse 8
- Geoffrey (Jeff) Peterson 9

Greg Argo

Thank you for considering my nomination for the ELUNA Steering Committee. My inspiration to serve comes from a desire to take what I've learned as chair of the ELUNA Leganto Working Group, and use it to strengthen the partnership between ELUNA, IGeLU, and Ex Libris. Experience working with these groups has shown me that strong partnerships come from establishing effective communication channels and routines, developing and nurturing relationships, being open to new ideas, setting expectations, and making sure procedures are followed to guide development of products according to the needs expressed by their user communities.

I have been involved in ELUNA since 2016, attending all Annual Meetings, presenting frequently, and chairing the Leganto Working Group. I've also recently presented on experiences with Ex Libris products at Educause, ER&L, and Charleston. In my role as Associate Director for Access & Digital Services at the University of St. Thomas, I am a working manager who has acquired a great deal of experience migrating and implementing Ex Libris systems since 2016, including:

- Managing our migration in 2016-17 from Innovative Millennium to Alma/Primo within a consortial environment
- Leading our current migration of all our Ex Libris products as we join a different consortium
- Leading our implementation of Leganto and its integration into Canvas LMS in 2017-18
- Currently leading our efforts as a Rapido development partner
- Using Ex Libris APIs to develop dynamic, contextual web services that integrate into university enterprise systems

Chairing the ELUNA Leganto Working Group, I've led a nascent group from its infancy into a fully-fledged working group that puts ideas into action for the benefit of ELUNA members. Since becoming chair of the group, we've been able to:

- Produce webinars for customers by customers on community of practice topics identified noteworthy from discussions on Leganto-L (e.g.: managing the Course Loader in Alma and Leganto)
- Conceptualize and facilitate customer focus groups to help steer Ex Libris development toward customer needs. Focus group topics have included Alma-Leganto purchase request integration, Leganto UX redesign, and export of student success measures into university enterprise systems
- Collaborate with the Ex Libris Customer Engagement team to conceptualize and develop a Leganto new customer onboarding program

As the Ex Libris higher education platform continues to expand and new products spin off of current ones, overlaps in product functionality and competing user needs necessitate a coordinated effort within ELUNA. My experiences as a development partner for Rapido and coordinating the enhancement process for Leganto NERS would bring a practice-informed perspective on the issues that need to be managed as the platform moves forward on the backs of individual but related products.

Leaders in volunteer organizations need to roll up their sleeves, dig into the details, and hold themselves responsible for the results they produce. My track record of building productive working relationships with Ex Libris, working closely with IGeLU, and engaging and advocating for the user community

demonstrate the skills I would bring to a role on the ELUNA Steering Committee. I have the full support of my institution.

Pascal Calarco

My name is Pascal Calarco. I currently serve as University Librarian for the J. Francis Leddy Library at the University of Windsor, in Windsor, Canada. I currently serve as a member of the ELUNA Steering Committee.

I have been involved with supporting or managing Ex Libris products since 2000, replacing our NOTIS 7.2 LMS with Aleph 15.01, at Virginia Commonwealth University, and I served as Head, Library Information Systems there. In subsequent roles, I served as technical manager from 2004-2011 for the Michiana Academic Library Consortium (MALC), hosted at the University of Notre Dame, which to this day runs a shared system for that institution and three other college libraries with Aleph, Primo and SFX. I next served in an Associate University Librarian role at the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada from 2011-2016, where we supported the TriUniversity Group (TUG) which provided a shared system with Voyager, Primo and SFX with the University of Guelph and Wilfrid Laurier University. I joined the University of Windsor in 2016, completing my five year term as University Librarian at the end of June this year. Following that, I intend on returning as a systems librarian, supporting Ex Libris products and technology needs in the Library. University of Windsor currently licenses Alma, Primo VE, Leganto and Rialto. The University of Windsor served as the only Canadian library in a cohort of six additional American academic libraries and five academic libraries in the UK that worked closely with ProQuest in developing Rialto.

Since 2019, I have also served as the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) Collaborative Futures Chair, leading a group of sixteen library directors in Ontario who belong to our shared Alma/Primo VE system, and coordinate communication and strategic efforts of OCUL CF committees that have involved nearly 100 other individuals over the past five years.

I have contributed to ELUNA in many ways over the years, including:

- Listowner, 34 ND, ELUNA and IGeLU mailing lists, 4,200 unique subscribers, 2004-2011
- Digitool Track Program Chair, ELUNA 2006 Annual Meeting
- Communications Officer, Digitool Product Working Group, 2006-2007
- Program Chair, ELUNA 2007 Annual Meeting
- Local arrangements, 2009 Great Lakes User Group, Notre Dame, IN
- ELUNA representative, URM Community Metadata Advisory Committee, 2010- 2011
- Institutional representative, 2005-2011, MALC
- Institutional representative, 2011-2016, TUG
- Chair, ELUNA Eastern Canada Regional User Group, 2011-present
- ELUNA Steering Committee, 2007-2011, 2013-2015, 2018-2021: Chair-elect 2008-2009; Chair 2009-2010; Past Chair 2010-2011; Secretary 2013-2015; current Liaison to Content Working Group and Leganto Working Group
- Chair, Rialto Advisory Committee, 2020-2021

In my time of service to ELUNA, I am proud to have contributed to helping coordinate customer communication, contributing to planning for 15 years of regional and international meetings, helping Ex Libris think through the transition from on-premise to cloud-based hosting, working closely with IGeLU colleagues on shared concerns, product development agreements, and supporting new products over the years, revamping the ELUNA website in 2015, and leading investigation of Rialto as a supported, in-scope

product for ELUNA.

With Ex Libris' acquisition by ProQuest, we need to work with the new company to represent the customer perspective in an organization that is expanding their portfolio of products for libraries and higher education. I have strong, established relationships with Ex Libris and ProQuest executives, and offer strong customer representation, strategic perspective, and deep knowledge of the history of the company and our user community. Thank you for considering my continued service to ELUNA in representing your concerns to Ex Libris/ProQuest and moving us forward as a vibrant customer community.

Jason Griffith

Position Title: Systems Librarian

Institution: University of Kentucky

Email Address: Jason.Griffith@uky.edu

Ex Libris Products that your site licenses: Alma, Primo, RapidILL

Statement of interest and qualifications:

I am currently serving as the Systems Librarian at the University of Kentucky (January 2021-present), following three years' experience as the Systems Librarian at Morehead State University (January 2017-December 2020). Both sites use Alma as an ILS and Primo as a Discovery System. In my time as Systems Librarian I have coordinated several upgrades, including upgrades to the Alma user interface, Primo user interface, implementation of Primo VE (all at Morehead State University). I am currently embarking on an implementation project for Primo VE at the University of Kentucky. I attended the ELUNA Annual Meeting and Knowledge Days in 2017, 2018, and 2019 and have been a member of the Ex Libris Bluegrass User Group (eBug) and attended its annual meeting since 2014. I presented at the eBug Annual Conference in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 and will submit a proposal to present at the ELUNA 2021 Annual Conference. I monitor the Alma and Primo list servs regularly and contribute to them, when appropriate. I have collaborated with Ex Libris to implement Primo VE as well as through Sales Force/Support Portal to troubleshoot a variety of issues and ask technical questions as Systems Librarian.

I am interested in serving on the ELUNA Steering committee for many reasons. In my new role as Systems Librarian at UK, I have more time to exclusively focus on administering Alma/Primo, whereas at my previous institution, I had many responsibilities in addition to administering the systems. As such, I would like to offer my insight and experience with Ex Libris products to the ELUNA Steering Committee and help in any way I can. I would also welcome the opportunity to network with and get to know a broader range of librarians at Alma institutions outside of my region, as well as representatives from Ex Libris. I am also looking for opportunities to bolster my resume as I look towards becoming tenured at my institution in the future, and I believe service on the Steering Committee would be an excellent opportunity to do that.

If elected to serve on the Steering Committee I will bring an enthusiasm and willingness to participate in the Steering Committee's mission. Having attended the ELUNA Annual Conference and Knowledge Days from 2017-2019, I believe I have a firm grasp on what the conference is about and I can contribute many good ideas to the Steering Committee to plan future ELUNA conferences. I will also bring a dedication to the work I will contribute to and a forward-thinking approach to the work that needs to be done. I have the full support of my institution to commit the time and funding necessary to properly contribute to this position, as well. I fully support the committee's commitment to diversity and will contribute to that commitment in any way I can.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Daricus Larry

Position Title: Systems and Metadata Librarian

Institution: The University of Arizona

Email: dlarry@arizona.edu

Ex Libris Products: Alma and Primo

ELUNA Nominations Committee,

I am writing you today to offer my nomination for the ELUNA Steering Committee. I currently have over five years of experience with Ex Libris's Alma and Primo and four years of experience with Ex Libris's Voyager Library Management, including being a part of a migration from Voyager to Alma where I contributed extensive workflow documentation and data clean up. I was scheduled to give a presentation at the annual ELUNA meeting last year, but due to the circumstances surrounding the pandemic that opportunity was cancelled. I was however able to contribute during the December ELUNA Learning Days session by presenting on the COVID response from the University of Arizona Libraries and how we utilized Alma to increase electronic resource discoverability.

I would like to serve on the ELUNA Steering Committee because I believe that I bring a unique perspective of someone with extensive systems and cataloging experience when engaging with and utilizing Alma and Primo. By joining the Steering Committee, I hope to bridge the communication gap between the technical services and systems aspects of Alma and Primo and facilitate a dialogue that could help each group work together to maximize the performance of Ex Libris products. I also bring extensive Alma/Primo workflow knowledge that I believe would assist in helping new institutions that join the user group community get off to the right start when migrating to those products.

I have the assurances of both my department head and dean that I will have the administrative and financial support to contribute fully to the Steering Committee if I am nominated. I will have the time and financial resources to fully commit to all meetings and to attend the annual ELUNA meeting and the mid-year ELUNA Retreat.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my nomination for the ELUNA Steering Committee.

Geoffrey Morse

- Interim Head, Research Services Work Group
- Northwestern University Libraries
- gmorse@northwestern.edu
- Alma, Primo

I am interested in serving on the ELUNA Steering Committee, as I have had considerable experience with a variety of Ex Libris products over the past 18 years. While the majority of my experience has been with Primo (10 yrs) and Alma (5 yrs) of which I am Ex Libris certified in both, I previously have worked with MetaLib, Voyager, and SFX.

In addition to my experience with ELUNA and with Ex Libris products, I have been a member of the *NISO Open Discovery Initiative Standing Committee* since 2017. During this time I have worked with committee members to revise the [Recommended Practices for Discovery Providers, Content Providers, and Libraries](#) and also co-authored a white paper, [Bridging the Gap Between Abstracting & Indexing Provider Needs and Discovery Service Approaches](#). My work on this standing committee has allowed me to gain perspectives on discovery from a variety of viewpoints including discovery providers, content providers, and librarians.

I have also served on a number of committees in the RUSA (Reference and User Services Association) section of the American Library Association (ALA) including chairing the Services for Systems and Discovery Committee (2015-2016) and being Emerging Technologies Section chair, 2019-2020.

I have presented at several ELUNA conference beginning in Milwaukee in 2011. The presentations I have been involved with have focused on ingesting external Metadata into Primo from a variety of sources, something that Northwestern was an early leader in. At Northwestern I have been heavily involved with the configuration of several Primo implementations beginning with our locally hosted Primo, and continuing with the cloud hosted Primo and then Primo VE. I also was involved with the migration from Voyager to ALMA and I am certified in ALMA, Primo, and Primo VE configuration by Ex Libris. My position as a public services librarian also provides me insight into how library patrons interact with Primo and related systems which has been invaluable in helping me with configuration work.

I believe I bring a unique perspective from my work with a variety of constituencies in the configuration of Primo. I have needed to work with developers and catalogers in the ingestion of metadata, reference librarians on how to effectively use Primo, and with end users who I am assisting with their research. This perspective provides me with a holistic view of what is required of library systems and the variety of user groups they support. In addition, my work on other external committees has brought me into contact with representatives from other libraries, content providers, and other discovery systems which has contributed to a better understanding of some of the issues that face information professionals in regard to discovery.

My institution is able to support my role in the steering committee both in terms of time and fund allotments.

Geoffrey (Jeff) Peterson

Position Title: Software Developer

Institution: University of Minnesota

Email Address: gpeterso@umn.edu

Ex Libris Products: Alma, Primo, Leganto, bX

I've worked in technology for about 20 years, focusing primarily on software development and systems analysis/design/architecture. Since 2010, I have been the Primo technical lead at the University of Minnesota. In that time, I've overseen local topology changes, hosted environment migrations, user interface overhauls, and many upgrades and customizations. In addition to Primo front-end development and back-end administration, I also work on Alma/Leganto integration development and have past experience with SFX, Aleph, MetaLib, and PDS.

The University of Minnesota has a long history of active involvement in the ELUNA community. Some of my own involvement has included the 2014 ELUNA Primo Summit in St. Louis, the 2018 ELUNA/IGeLU Primo VE Summit in Jerusalem, the Primo New UI Beta Testing Group (2015-2017), the Primo FRBR / Dedupe Advisory Group (2019), and the Alma CloudApps Focus Group (2019-2020). My less formal participation in the community has included virtual hackathon and "show & tell" events, ELUNA conference presentations, open-source contributions (such as the HathiTrust plugin), and countless conversations, emails, and Slack chats with ELUNA/IGeLU colleagues.

We have benefited tremendously from the ELUNA community, and I'd love the opportunity to give back. In particular, I think I'd be a good Steering Committee liaison to the ELUNA development community. Thanks for considering my nomination.

