

Candidates

Nancy Babb, University at Buffalo, SUNY	1
Meghan Burke, Queen's University	1
Shaye Caban, University of Central Oklahoma	2
Edgar Garcia, Northwestern University	3
Christina Hennessey, California State University, Northridge	3
Jessica Kruppa, University of California, Riverside	3
Daniel Naas, University of Kentucky	4
Andrew Parker, Brandeis University	4
Rachel Roche, Library of the Marine Corps	5
Ray Schwartz, William Paterson University	5
Timothy Siegel, Virginia Commonwealth University	5
Deborah Tomaras, Marist College	5

Nancy Babb, University at Buffalo, SUNY

I am interested in volunteering to serve on the ELUNA Primo Working Group. I have been working with Alma/Primo VE since my consortia began preparing for migration in 2017; we went live in 2019. Since our Vanguard phase, through implementation, and continuing today, Primo VE has been a primary focus of my daily work, both on the local and consortial levels; I also chair discovery-oriented working groups at both levels.

I am very appreciative of the opportunities for national and global collaboration and community action that ELUNA provides, and I would like to contribute to these activities in any way I can.

Professional service is an important part of my responsibilities as a tenured faculty librarian, so my university strongly supports this kind of participation.

Meghan Burke, Queen's University

Experience

Over the last four years I have been closely involved with the implementation, maintenance, and improvement of Primo VE at two libraries. Prior to my current position as Metadata & Discovery Librarian at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, I served as the Metadata & Electronic Resources Librarian at Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. Marymount is part of the Washington Research Library Consortium, which was one of the first library consortia to go live with Primo VE. I have continued my work in Primo VE at Queen's starting in November 2020.

My experience with Primo includes the initial set-up of Primo VE, CDI implementation, troubleshooting Primo issues internally, customizing the interface in response to patron needs and requests, and

participating in choosing which NERS submissions to support. I also have experience working with Primo Analytics, Primo normalization rules, and limited experience with Primo Studio.

Interest in ELUNA

I am interested in getting more involved with ELUNA and the Primo Working Group after years of being solely an attendee and a passive participant in ELUNA. The ELUNA community has provided me with a great deal of information and support over the past four years. I appreciate the collaborative nature of the organization, the ability for user voices to be heard, and the opportunity to improve ExLibris products and services both for my institution and the wider ELUNA community.

Organizational Support

My colleagues at Queen's University Library and at our consortium, OCUL, fully support my application to serve on the Primo Working Group. Thank you for your consideration.

[Shaye Caban, University of Central Oklahoma](#)

My name is Shaye Caban, and I am interested in becoming a member of the ELUNA Primo Working Group. Currently I am the Web Developer for the Max Chambers Library at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO). I have been a member of the UCO library staff since January 2018 and took on the role of Primo Administrator in January of 2020.

I am interested in becoming a member of the Primo Working Group to connect with other professionals, increase my knowledge of Primo, and help others within ELUNA. In my career as a Librarian, usability and accessibility within ILS systems has been at the forefront of my work, and I would like to continue that work in the ELUNA Primo Working Group.

As a new Primo administrator, I have much to learn, but I am committed to continuing education opportunities. This includes completing self-guided tutorials and attending live trainings and discussions. I am involved in learning about and improving both the Primo BO interface that UCO currently uses and the Primo VE interface:

- Earned "Primo Certified Administrator" certificate
- Regularly attend Primo Quarterly Update sessions
- Attended all sessions in the Primo VE - Become an Expert series
- Involved in the AngularJS to Angular transition discussion
- Read and contribute to the Primo listserv
- Vote within the Idea Exchange
- Submit UCO's institutional votes for Primo NERS enhancements

The University of Central Oklahoma and Max Chambers Library support my involvement in ELUNA. I was able to attend ELUNA in person in 2018 and 2019, attend virtually in 2020, and have registered for 2021 virtual sessions. My supervisor recommended I apply for this spot in the Primo Working group and supports the time commitment. I want to be part of solutions that benefit all members of ELUNA and users of Primo, so I am interested in committees and service opportunities within the community. If I am selected for the ELUNA Primo Working Group, I will be diligent about attending meetings and making positive and meaningful contributions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Edgar Garcia, Northwestern University

Hello, I am re-applying for a position in the ELUNA Primo Product Working Group. For the past few years, I have served as the Primo representative for the ELUNA Conference Committee and have also participated in the separate DevDay+ Committee. One major contribution I provided was the suggestion that we have DevDay Workshops and I worked with the planning committee over two years to improve on the process. As the current Communications liaison for the Steering Committee, I am in an optimal place that would benefit I retain my position within the PWG and maintain the Conference liaison position.

Christina Hennessey, California State University, Northridge

I am the Systems Librarian at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). I have worked with library systems since 2002, including Innovative products Sierra, Millennium and INNOPAC. This is only my third year with ELUNA and working with Ex Libris products, but I have been active in the community since being hired at CSUN in 2018, including being on the steering committee for ELUNA Developers Day (2019), had presentations accepted for ELUNA 2020 main conference and Developers Day, and I just had an ELUNA Learns presentation accepted for the 2021 ELUNA Learns series. Once the 2020 ELUNA in-person presentations were cancelled, I presented on similar topics instead at several of the regional Ex Libris conferences and at the 2020 IGeLU conferences. My Ex Libris presentations have many Primo-related elements to them.

The California State University (CSU) consortium is currently beta-testing Primo VE consortial migration, so I have extensive experience with both Primo VE and Primo Back Office configurations over the last three years, especially the particulars of consortial installations and making local code customizations. I have voted in all the Ex Libris enhancement cycles since 2018 for our institution and submitted my own enhancement in the 2021 cycle (thanks to the great "Make 'em sparkle" presentation the WG held in January this year with tips on creating an enhancement!).

I have institutional support to have the time to serve on the ELUNA Primo Working Group. I would be very interested in being able to impact the direction of Primo and Primo VE development over the coming years at the national level.

Jessica Kruppa, University of California, Riverside

I am the Metadata and Discovery Librarian at the University of California, Riverside, and I am interested in joining the ELUNA Primo Working Group. When I ran the possibility of joining the Primo Working Group past my supervisor she said good idea and good luck.

I have spent the past year as the primary contact for discovery related work in Primo VE at my institution. I handle discovery support tickets and communicate our staff and patron needs with Ex Libris support. I write, review, and drum up support for existing enhancement requests. And I troubleshoot implementation issues as we move into a consortium environment.

I am interested in ELUNA because of its work advocating for flexible software enhancements that take into account the many types of libraries that use the Ex Libris software. At my previous institution, which used Worldshare Management Services, I was involved with the Record Manager focus group and I would love to be involved in a similar process again.

[Daniel Naas, University of Kentucky](#)

I'm Daniel Naas, the Library Discovery Systems Coordinator at the University of Kentucky. I've been our Primo Back Office administrator and an assistant Alma administrator for just a bit over three years now. My current work touches on all aspects of our institution's use of Primo, like customizing normalization rules to enhance how our the system utilizes our metadata, publishing tutorials and guides for both internal library colleagues and the greater campus community, and integrating new features into our customization package. Aside from managing our Primo on the inside, I'm also charged with maintaining and improving its connections to other third-party systems like ILLiad and BrowZine. Our Systems Librarian and I are preparing to move our institution to Primo VE, so over the last few months I've become pretty handy with that development model as well.

Before I moved into systems administration I spent about ten years attached to the service desk of a busy branch library managing electronic reserves, audiovisual equipment, and a physical multimedia collection. I've seen the challenges our users face when navigating our systems and accessing content. Part of my motivation to join the Primo Working Group comes from that work; I'm thoroughly familiar with both the back-end and front-end experience. While I was reviewing the recent enhancements ballot, I could imagine the inquiries my peers at other institutions received that led to those suggestions: "Why does Primo do this?" "Why can't Primo do that?" "Is this working right?"

Now that I've been plugged in to the ELUNA community for a few years, I've enjoyed seeing first-hand how we come together to share our knowledge and develop solutions. As a longtime member of my university's staff senate, I identify with the goals of advocacy and open communication. I see our relationship with Ex Libris as one that is not only mutually beneficial but also helps us all strive toward our greatest shared goal: giving our researchers exactly what they need, even if they didn't know they were looking for it.

[Andrew Parker, Brandeis University](#)

I am hoping to have the chance to provide my input on various issues related to Primo accessibility, functionality, and performance as a member of the working group.

I currently work at Brandeis University as Systems Librarian, where I have had administrative responsibilities for Primo for the last two years. At Brandeis, we are currently in the process of moving from Primo Back Office to Primo VE, so I now have some experience with both systems. I have attended ELUNA and have provided my input into the NERS enhancement process here at Brandeis. I do have some experience writing AngularJS directives (and vanilla JavaScript / jQuery / CSS) to create Primo customizations and I have worked with Primo Studio and the development environment (but somewhat less with the former). I have the backing of my institution to participate in this work.

[Rachel Roche, Library of the Marine Corps](#)

I would like to participate in the Primo Working Group. I have two years of experience with Primo VE, and was on my institution's migration team as we migrated from OCLC WMS and Discovery to Alma and Primo VE. We use multiple views and the LibKey plugin. My institution supports my interest in participating in the wider ELUNA community.

[Ray Schwartz, William Paterson University](#)

During the time before our implementation in July 2019 and since, I have been instrumental in customizing our instance of the Primo service to be fully operational. Also, my unit which I oversee is primarily responsible for Primo's maintenance and liaison with Ex libris.

Concerning ELUNA interest, I am a regular attendee and often time presenter since 2000 of what was then VUGM, then Enduser, and now ELUNA. I am very involved with the regional user group since 2000, once as chair, as an often time meeting organizer and continuing member of the planning committee. I also help organize our NERS voting between the five institutions in our fulfillment network.

I have spoken with my Dean Edward Owusu-Ansah and I have confirmed institutional support for my participation.

[Timothy Siegel, Virginia Commonwealth University](#)

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination to the ELUNA Primo Working Group. Since my arrival to VCU in 2017, I have served as Enterprise Systems Librarian, charged with oversight and maintenance of our Alma and Primo environments. Partnering with others within the Library, we are now less than a month away from deploying Primo VE into production. Throughout my time in this position, I have gained significant experience with both Primo Back Office and the VE Discovery module. This experience has provided me with knowledge surrounding many of the challenges faced by users, internal and external, as well as ways to address them. Additionally, my familiarity with both platforms has taught me ways to translate and improve workflows between them, taking into account some of the discrepancies that currently exist.

I attended the 2018 and 2019 ELUNA Conferences in person, as well as the online 2020 ELUNA Learns sessions. I contributed sessions to all three of these conferences, with an emphasis on Primo in 2018 and 2019. Additionally, I served as a reviewer for the 2018 and 2019 NERS cycle, focusing on Alma administration. It is my desire to become more involved in this group, as I believe that it is a critical aspect of maintaining a strong relationship between Ex Libris and its users.

I have received the approval from and support of my immediate supervisor to submit this nomination and, if selected, engage in the work necessitated as a member of this group.

[Deborah Tomaras, Marist College](#)

Marist College is relatively new to Primo VE. We transitioned from Summon as a discovery layer in December 2020; I was the lead in studying the documentation and configuring our Primo VE instance. Since then, I've been active in discussions about further customizations for our view and performing/documenting our configurations in Alma, and I've been a certified Primo VE administrator

since February 2021. The only caveat I can offer to my usefulness is that our Digital Technologies Librarian Brian Norberg implements anything requiring CSS or apps for Primo; so although I work in conjunction with him to discover and evaluate the apps, he has more knowledge of web development aspects of Primo (i.e., Primo Studio etc.) than I do.

Previously, I served on the Summon Working Group, as a liaison to the Alma Working Group. And I am currently a member of the Alma Authorities Focus Group. You can speak to Nicole Trujillo of the Summon Working Group, or Pete Wilson from the Alma Authorities Focus Group, if you need information about my participation in those groups. I'm particularly interested in issues that cross working group boundaries, such as when authority problems impact patron discovery in Primo, and so on.

My library director has confirmed that I have institutional support for participation in the Primo Working Group, if I am selected.