

# ILERT!



South Carolina Library Association

The Official Newsletter  
of the  
Information Literacy  
Round Table

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Fall 2016

Oh, the Places We'll Go!



SCLA Annual Conference 2016 • November 9-11 • Columbia Marriott

View the [Annual Conference Schedule](#)

**Make sure to check out the ILRT-Sponsored talk, Teaching Digital Natives New Techs: Implementing Digital Humanities in a Liberal Arts Classroom—presented by Luke Meagher and Emily Witsell.**

**Thursday, November 10, 9:00-9:50 am in Carolina E**

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## DISCUS Databases for Lifelong Learning

by Sara Shiver McBride

Research Librarian, Richland Library

Most DISCUS databases support the academic mission of the state's K-12 schools, colleges, and universities. However, some statewide offerings supplement collections of public libraries that facilitate lifelong learning and pleasure reading. Here are two EBSCO databases providing access to quality information off the academic path.

**Auto Repair Reference Center** offers repair and maintenance information on more than 37,000 domestic and imported vehicles from 1945 to the present. The level of information varies by vehicle but can include technical bulletins and recalls, diagnostic information, labor time estimates, suggested maintenance intervals, repair information, and specifications. The repair information is specific, illustrated, and printable. Public library copies of Haynes and Chilton manuals are often missing or returned damaged; this can serve as a substitute that can't acquire oil stains.

Most patrons will start with a vehicle search with fields for year, make, an model, and then choose their specific

trim level from a list. A list of topics for each vehicle clearly indicates what information is available, and complex topics like repair information and labor times are nested into easy to understand structures.

**Auto Repair Reference Center** is useful both for the experienced mechanic seeking OBDII codes and wiring diagrams and for the layman who wants to compare a labor time quote from a local garage or find out exactly how difficult it is to replace a specific headlamp bulb.

**Novelist Plus** is a powerful resource for readers' advisory, providing information on over 26,000 popular fiction and non-fiction titles. It includes author read-alikes, book discussion guides, subject reading lists, searchable award lists, curriculum information, and a very flexible search engine.

Readers often approach the database by searching for authors or titles of books they enjoyed. Book records include a brief description, "appeal terms" that attempt to describe the book's appeal using a controlled vocabulary for genre,

characters, storyline, tone, and writing style ("coastal towns", "revenge", "people who are blind", "melancholy,") professional reviews, a popularity ranking, read-alikes, and a form to search for similar books. Lists and articles written by readers' advisory specialists are also helpfully cross-linked; for example, *Brave New World* can take you to an essay and book list which will suggest *Station Eleven* and Margaret Atwood.

The **Novelist Plus** search engine is particularly powerful for librarians; in addition to date and age group, it includes fields like author's nationality and cultural identity, audiobook run time, and number of pages. Search is invaluable for helping patrons find dimly remembered books, while the author read-alike suggestions are very useful for readers' advisory.

Both **Auto Repair Reference Center** and **Novelist Plus** are available at [scdiscus.org](http://scdiscus.org) or through your local library. ♦

## Health Literacy Resources

by Amy Edwards

Health Sciences Librarian, University of South Carolina

October was Health Literacy Month. Librarians can serve a vital role in addressing health literacy in our communities. Let's look at a few of the available resources.

### Getting Started:

[Health Literacy](#) — Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
This site is a great starting point for those new to health literacy. It begins with a discussion of both health literacy and numeracy. This site is filled with links to additional resources.

[Health Literacy Online](#) — Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

If you are responsible for the creation of health information online, this comprehensive site is worth exploring. Its contents are divided into six easily navigated sections: what we know, write, display, organize, engage, and test. An extensive reference list is provided.



### For our patrons and families:

[Ask Me 3: Good Questions for Your Good Health](#) — National Patient Safety Foundation

This program encourages patients or family members to ask three questions during health appointments. This site provides a helpful video demonstrating the technique.

[MedlinePlus](#) — U. S. National Library of Medicine

This extensive site provides health and drug information on a wide range of topics. [Easy-to-read materials](#) are available in both English and Spanish. Videos, a medical dictionary, and games are also provided. Health information is available in [46 languages](#). For additional multilingual health information, a link is provided to [HealthReach](#).

[NIHSeniorHealth](#) — National Institute on Aging and the National Library of Medicine

Focusing on the needs of seniors, this site provides information on 71 health topics. Options are available to resize the text and change the contrast. There are some empowering exercise stories to help motivate viewers. Videos are also available.

### For professionals:

[Health Literacy Out Loud Podcasts](#) — Helen Osbourne, host  
In these monthly podcasts, you can hear from experts who put the issues of health literacy into action as they cover a range of topics. Additional resources are provided for most podcasts. Helen Osbourne is the founder of [Health Literacy Month](#). See the website for additional information on what libraries can do to promote health literacy.

[Health Literacy Tool Shed: A database of health literacy measures](#) — Boston University

This searchable database provides information on 128 measurement tools for health literacy. Multiple limiters are available to help refine your search including health literacy domain measured, specific content, modern approach for tool development, approximate administration time in validation study, sample size in validation study, validation sample ♦

## Election Resources

by Rachel Zitzman

Reference Librarian, Midlands Technical College—Beltline Campus

With Election Day nearly upon us, many patrons have questions about national and local candidates as well as national and local issues. As we all know, there is a ton of information available online concerning this year's election; are there any truly non-partisan resources out there that we can recommend? Here is a short selection of websites that I have found that seem to provide objective information relevant to the upcoming election:

[Ballotpedia](#) is an online encyclopedia that focuses on election and political information in the United States. The site is committed to providing objective information and attempts to do so by having their own staff produce the site's content. Federal, state, and local election information are provided.



Continued on Page 3

[Commission on Presidential Debates](#) - Debates.org is the official website for the Commission on Presidential Debates. The site provides the schedule for the most recent debates as well as transcripts from debates from previous elections. There is also a link to watch recorded debates from 1988-2012.

[FactCheck](#) - Sponsored by the Annenberg Public Policy Center, FactCheck.org aims to provide information that can help clear up voters' confusion. FactCheck does its best to check candidates' statements in debates, television ads, news statements, and other forums for accuracy. This site is nonpartisan and primarily covers presidential candidates.

[OpenSecrets](#) is sponsored by the Center for Responsive Politics. OpenSecrets focuses on making information about campaign spending and finances open to the public.

[Politwoops](#) archives tweets that U.S. politicians and candidates have deleted. They follow the accounts of presidential candidates, House and Senate candidates, and gubernatorial candidates, as well as the politicians who currently hold these positions.

[Vote Smart](#) - According to their About Vote Smart page, "Vote Smart's mission is to provide free, factual, unbiased information on candidates and elected officials to ALL Americans." This site provides options to search for biographies, records of past votes by issue, positions on controversial issues, ratings, speeches, and funding information. Vote Smart covers local as well as national political candidates. ♦

## ILRT 2016 Review

by Stacy Winchester

Sciences and Engineering Librarian, University of South Carolina

The Information Literacy Round Table has had another successful year. On June 8, 47 librarians and library school students from around the state gathered at Midlands Technical College Northeast Campus for *iTeach3: Lifelong Information Literacy*. This third annual day-long workshop featured 7 speakers:

- Darrin Freeburg (keynote speaker): ***Preparing Knowledge Workers: Knowledge Literacy for the Workplace.***
- Jade Geary, ***Bridging the Gap: Instructional Design and Information Literacy***
- Stacy Winchester and Amie Freeman, ***Navigating Open: What Every Librarian Needs to Know***
- Jenny Colvin and Robyn Andrews, ***Promoting Leisure Reading to Students***
- Kathy Snediker, ***Unearthing the Internet's Treasures: Finding Free Primary Sources on the Web***

This year, the ILRT partnered with SCLA's College and University Section to host the event. Thanks so much to the officers of both groups for all the hard work, to Carla Rennick, our SLIS student volunteer for taking a ton of great pictures and helping with logistics, and to all of the attendees, who made it a great day.



Photographs by Carla Rennick

If you are planning to attend the annual conference this year, don't forget to check out our featured talk, *Teaching Digital Natives New Techs: Implementing Digital Humanities in a Liberal Arts Classroom—Thursday, November 10 from 9-9:50 in Carolina E.* ♦