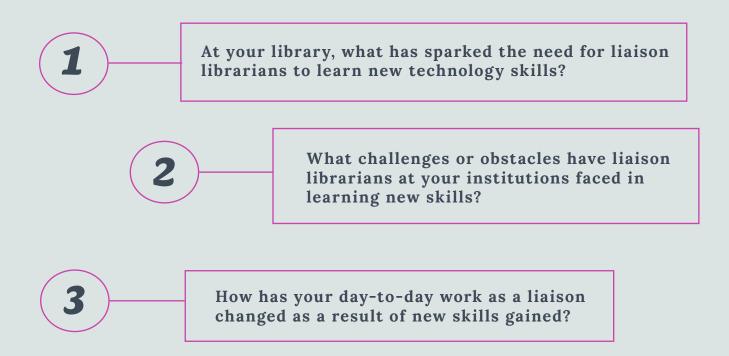# "UPSKILLING" LIAISON LIBRARIANS

Code, Community, and Change

Library liaisons are developing existing technology skills in order to meet evolving user needs. This "upskilling" co-occurs with a shift toward a hybrid model where liaisons fulfill functional roles in emerging technologies, user experience, student learning, and digital scholarship while sustaining traditional public services. This roundtable will discuss experiences with "upskilling." We will exchange ideas about learning opportunities and platforms, organizational challenges, and means of leveraging new and existing skills to meet evolving user and organizational needs. The evolving roles of traditional liaisons will be discussed in conjunction with increased demand for technology skills in specific areas.

1 — At your library, what has sparked the need for liaison librarians to learn new technology skills?

2 — What challenges or obstacles have liaison librarians at your institutions faced in learning new skills?

3 — How has your day-to-day work as a liaison changed as a result of new skills gained?

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Code Rascals

Inaugural post on our blog, "Code Rascals"

"In April 2014, Jenifer Baldwin, Brian Boling, John Pyle, Caitlin Shanley, and Jackie Sipes formed a small work group with the aim of providing mutual support and encouragement in the development of code skills. Spurred by calls for liaison librarians to "up-skill" in new areas, but honoring the practical reality of heavy workloads in our current areas of expertise and responsibility, the aim of the group was, initially, to keep each other motivated while completing a series of online tutorials over the course of the summer.

Since our choice of online-learning platform was Treehouse.com, we took inspiration from TV's Little Rascals, who often met in their own treehouse, and named ourselves Code Rascals. We committed to set aside a single hour each week on our calendars, to meet whenever possible, or otherwise use the hour for work time. We proceeded in a spirit of friendly experimentation, information sharing, and non-judgmental collaborative learning. We launched ourselves with no specific charge, agenda, or deadline, trusting instead that our goals, direction, and priorities would emerge and evolve with time..."

sites.temple.edu/coderascals

New tools/ learning platforms

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