

by Sveta Stoytcheva 3 years ago

#critlib: environmental and labor implications of library technology


Storify of the #critlib chat from 7/14/2015 on environmental sustainability in libraries, moderated by @ibeilin, & @cat_lager. For more information about #critlib, including past & future chats, please see <http://tinyurl.com/critlibx>

[The usual disclaimer: I tried to include all of Tweets from the chat and string Tweets from the same thread together as best as I could. Retweets, favorites, & tweets without the hashtag omitted on purpose. Lacunae, misreadings, or other mistakes my own.]

Recommended readings:


1) "You're No Fun Anymore: The Ethics of Acquiring Electronic Devices in Light of E-Waste, Sweatshops, and Globalization" by Jennifer Poggiali: ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org/...


2) "Beyond Swag" by Dave Hudson. Mostly readable from the Google books link, ping [@ibeilin](https://twitter.com/ibeilin) or [@cat_lager](https://twitter.com/cat_lager) for pre-pub PDF. books.google.ca/books?id=GT...



Ian Beilin
ibeilin @ibeilin


Welcome (back) to #critlib everyone! Let's start with intros! I'm Ian, academic librarian in NYC!

 3 YEARS AGO




Ian Beilin
ibeilin @ibeilin

Tonight was billed as being about environmental & labor impacts of tech in libs, but the labor part will be picked up in a future #critlib


 3 YEARS AGO

Introductions



Ellen MacInnis
ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

Hi #critlib! Ellen, pt circulation assistant at an academic library, last semester MLIS student from Virginia. They/them pronouns please. :)

 3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

Excited about tonight's [#critlib](#) topic. Both articles helped clarify a lot of questions I'd had re: environmental efficacy and LIS.



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

Which is to say, they helped clarify WHAT my questions should be, not so much handed me the answers. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyes@foureyesoul

[@ecmacinnis](#) That's so much of why I like [#critlib](#) — it helps me think of better questions I might not realize on my own.



3 YEARS AGO



Heidi Berthoud

@heidylibrarian

Hi [#critlib](#). I'm Heidi, academic librarian in NY state.



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lager@cat_lager

Evening, everyone! I'm Leanne, metadata person/cataloger in Philly. Co-modding this evening. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

Hi [#critlib](#)! Newbie librarian (currently) in Illinois. Super excited about the topic tonight.



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Schlesselman-Ta

ginaschless
ginaschless

Hi [#critlib](#), acad inst lib in SoCal



3 YEARS AGO



Joanna Gadsby

jkgadsby
jkgadsby

[@ibeilin](#) Hi everyone in [#critlib](#) land. Putting kids to bed so I'll be in & out. Joanna in Baltimore, UMBC!



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian
lisalibrarian

[@ibeilin](#) Hello! Lisa, info lit librarian in Illinois. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Laura Mitchell

dignityjones
dignityjones

Hello [#critlib](#), I'm Laura, library student working in children's services at a public library in Melbourne, Australia.



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Murrell

GinaMurrell1
GinaMurrell1

Hello from Eugene! I'm Gina, project coordinator at University of Oregon Libraries. *waves*
[#GoDucks](#) [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Elise Dunham

elisedunham
elisedunham

Hi [#critlib](#)! Elise here, data curator metadata person in Illinois. Probably lurking tonight.



3 YEARS AGO



Aimee S. Goodson

asgoodson@asgoodson

Aimee, Library Specialist at a community college. Likely mostly lurking while on the Circ desk.

[#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyed@soureyedsoul

Hi [#critlib](#)! Ryan here, finishing up MLS degree in ridiculously verdant Bloomington, IN



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida@nora_almeida

Hi [#critlib](#). I'm Nora, academic librarian from NYC



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratans@eiratansy

Hi [#critlib](#), archivist here dialing in from Cincinnati and keeping one eye on the All Star Game happening in our fair city



3 YEARS AGO



Lauren Wallis

@LaurenMWallis

Hello, [#critlib](#)! I'm Lauren, instruction librarian in Virginia.



3 YEARS AGO



Genna D

historivist@historivist

Good evening [#critlib](#)! I'm Genna, university archivist/spec coll librarian in RI.



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholson@nicholsonkp

Hi [#critlib](#), Karen, IL librn from Guelph, Ontario. Didn't do the readings 🙄 so probably lurking more than participating)



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweys@coleragsnotdead

@nicholsonkp (I didn't do the readings either...) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@deweysnotdead @nicholsonkp you don't have to lurk if you didn't read - you two should have plenty to say! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



ifrank

@ifrank

Hi, #critlib - I'm an academic librarian in Tampa FL



3 YEARS AGO



Derrick

@geekandahalf

Hey #critlib, Derrick here. Lurking from the District of Columbia, reference and instruction lib at American U.



3 YEARS AGO



Sarah

s_green@s_green

Hi, #critlib. Sarah from Baltimore. I'm at a gov't library.



3 YEARS AGO



Kara Plamann Wagoner

KaraKara@KaraPW

Hi, #critlib! I just finished temp job as a ref lib @ a CC. #alaac15 inspired me to explore opportunities @ public libraries next.



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweys@coleragsnotdead

Hi #critlib! Turner here. Access Services dood from Portland, OR :-)



3 YEARS AGO



Joshua Beatty

beattyjf@beattyjf

Hi #critlib. I'm Joshua, an instruction/reference/IR librarian in upstate NY. Lurking tonight.



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

seems to me that tonight's #critlib has representatives from a wider than usual variety of libraries... which is awesome



3 YEARS AGO



Kimberly Britt

LilleLib @LilleLib

Hi #critlib, I am Kimberly from GA. I will also be lurking.



3 YEARS AGO

Q1 What are the problems with the idea of 'ethical consumerism' in general and for libraries in particular?



Leanne

cat_lage@cat_lager

Alright all! Keep the intros coming, but let's get things started. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lage@cat_lager

Q1 What are the problems with the idea of 'ethical consumerism' in general and for libraries in particular? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Kara Plamann Wagoner

KaraKara@KaraPW

Love how consumerism & consumption are applicable across all lib environments & into personal realm. So excited to read other POV. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida @nora_almeida

A1: all those invisible parts of the supply chain make it easy to ignore reality of labor practices

CC: @jenpoggiali #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

@nora_almeida @jenpoggiali Absolutely! Is staggering to think of who and what I rely on to maintain my cushy life. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweysnotdead @deweysnotdead

A1. Hmm... I want to just blame capitalism. But is that too wide a target? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

These readings made me more conscious of how consumerist much of the library world is/has become #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida @nora_almeida

@ibeilin and capitalism is sooo baked into the language #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

@ibeilin So strange because I expected libraries to be inherently anti-consumerist and yet, here we are. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

@ecmacinnis @ibeilin [side note, i love it when #critlib chats make me realize 'i guess i assumed x about libraries, but there's more to it]



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratans@eiratans

Q1 I'm skeptical of a lot of ethical consumerism for many of the reasons in the readings #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinn@ecmacinn

A1: 'Ethical consumerism' gives us (general professional community) an easy 'out' when dealing with enviromental or sj issues. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyed@foureyedsoul

A1 It skips over reduce, reuse, recycle hierarchy of cultural change to opt for product distinction (tho some choices are better!) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Genna D

historivist@historivist

Q1 I see conflict bt serving users & consuming ethically when latter is often more expensive (e.g. shopping cheaper not greener) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida@nora_almeida

@historivist Totally true. Reality of workflow and convenience also a factor. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

A1 'ethical consumerism' limits frame of reference to individual action, closing doors to collective action [which is very needed] [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Eamon Tewell

@EamonTewell

A1 Consumption models remain intact. Instead of buying dozens of ipads to lend b/c you can, ask: What does it mean to buy this? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Eamon Tewell

@EamonTewell

A1 Ethical consumerism individualizes the issue of environmental responsibility & says it's solvable by buying the "right" products [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Laura Mitchell

dignityjones

[@EamonTewell](#) Given ineffectiveness of ethical consumerism, I would prioritise a culture of shared access to prohibitively \$\$ tech [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Eamon Tewell

@EamonTewell

[@dignityjones](#) yes! Resharing and reusing are already core organizing principles of libraries--not a big stretch! [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Laura Mitchell

dignityjones

[@EamonTewell](#) sharing is the value of librarianship that most resonates with me, and I wonder why its not highlighted/extended more [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

...all while further perpetuating structural issues (capitalism) at the heart of the problem to begin with [#critlib](#) twitter.com/EamonTewell/st...



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

[@oksveta](#) Confronting capitalism is so much harder than buying yet another set of ultra-recycled vegetarian shopping bags though! [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Heidi Berthoud

@heidylibrarian

[@ecmacinnis](#) [@cat_lager](#) [@oksveta](#) and it feels like a nearly impossible task when your institution doesn't support the confrontation [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

[@heidylibrarian](#) [@ecmacinnis](#) [@cat_lager](#) def. also think there's a distinction to make b/w what we do at level of institution [1/2] [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

[@heidylibrarian](#) [@ecmacinnis](#) [@cat_lager](#) vs. at some sort of professional level/as library workers collectively -- still pondering it [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



A1 #critlib credit: 30 Rock pic.twitter.com/Chh6An6UCw

 LAUREN WALLIS @LAURENMWALLIS · 3 YEARS AGO



Karen Nicholson

[nicholsonk](#) [@nicholsonkp](#)

A1: feeling dumb asking this since I didn't do readings but Is there a distinction bet consumerism & consumption? Or is that naive? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

[ibeilin](#) [@ibeilin](#)

[@nicholsonkp](#) good point -not really addressed explicitly in readings; though Dave does make point that consumption itself is a prob #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Kara Plamann Wagoner

[KaraPW](#) [@KaraPW](#)

A1: "ethical consumerism" seems like a way to assuage the guilt of the consumer w/o cutting back on exploitation/production #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sarah

[s_green](#) [@s_green](#)

A1: consumerism is focused more on how individuals should purchase/live, which means more guilt, less change #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratansy @eiratansy

A1 reading Klein's "This Changes Everything" for my climate change research and it's making me question consumer-based solutions #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonk @nicholsonkp

@eiratansy I was thinking along same lines in sense that some consumption is unavoidable #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Murrell

GinaMurrell @GinaMurrell1

Desire for ethical consumerism in libraries might be curbed due to admin decisions, budget limitations & contract stipulations. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

A1: participating in ethical consumption is a privilege. allows a certain segment to feel like superheroes thru shopping choices. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@ecmacinnis and the corollary for a library is that it feels virtuous for consuming (and producing) 'ethically' #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

@ibeilin Yessss. Self righteousness is a heckuva drug. (I say this as a consumer regularly duped by ethical consumption.) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweyscolleasnotdead

A1. I think "ethical consumerism" is also a smoke screen for class privilege and corporate green washing... #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Schlesselman-Ta

ginaschless

ethical consumerism also available only to those w the means -- ethics only for the rich #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida

@ginaschless Fair labor costs \$ and if lib is trying to serve populations that don't otherwise have access what is priority? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

for some reason I keep picturing Whole Foods - is there a library version of that place? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eamon Tewell

@EamonTewell

@ibeilin I kept thinking of the "green" disposable cups on the campus here. Ethical consumption everywhere! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Murrell

GinaMurrell1

A1. How much support do you have within your department to be an ethical consumer? From within the larger library administration? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

A1: Makes me think about hope as a resource. Enviro and sj work is exhausting b/c how do we dismantle the capitalist kyriarchy? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonk @nicholsonkp

@ecmacinnis hope as resource makes me think about emotional labour & public service in a corporatized higher Ed environment #critlib



3 YEARS AGO

Q2 Does a consumerist model of library service encourage a consumerist model of environmental responsibility in libraries?



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

#critlib Q2 Does a consumerist model of library service encourage a consumerist model of environmental responsibility in libraries?



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

@ibeilin A2: At the very least it doesn't HELP things. Assumptions that libraries = good meand no questioning implications. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweysnotdead @deweysnotdead

I know we are not talking about labor tonight but... A2 addressing neoliberal administrative structures, policies and practices #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratansy @eiratansy

@deweysnotdead tbh it's hard to separate environmental justice from labor justice #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

~~eiratans~~@eiratans

@deweysnotdead lots of research showing that shitty labor laws track with massive environmental destruction #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

~~deweysnotdead~~@deweysnotdead

@eiratans exactly. My undergrad was environmental sociology. in my studies, I was amazed how much they were intertwined #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

~~deweysnotdead~~@deweysnotdead

@eiratans evidence showing strong correlations between ecological degradation and social degradation throughout history :-(#critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

~~oksveta~~@oksveta

@deweysnotdead @eiratans discourse of ethical consumerism obscures exactly these kinds of connections b/w issues structurally #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

~~cat_lager~~@cat_lager

@flippychippynip What was the impetus to "go green"? Were implications not discussed? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

~~nora_almeida~~@nora_almeida

A2: I keep wondering how this conversation relates to the library scrambling to "stay relevant" and seem "cool" conversation #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

[@nora_almeida](#) yes - I had the same thought; I think we're very much pressured all the time to get all the shiny new things [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

[@ibeilin](#) [@nora_almeida](#) 3-D printers for everyone everywhere. :P [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratans@eiratansy

i think someone said it somewhere in a previous [#critlib](#) but the whole makerspace emphasis on printing plastic tchotchkes to be "cool"...



3 YEARS AGO



Aimee S. Goodson

asgoodson@asgoodson

[@eiratansy](#) Is that part of the push to use PLA instead of ABS? So they're biodegradable tchotchkes? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonk@nicholsonkp

[@nora_almeida](#) buschman may talk about this: he's done a bunch of work rel to generational mktng and neoliberalism in libraries [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida@nora_almeida

[@nicholsonkp](#) Maybe anti-capitalism will become cool soon? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul

A2 Seems likely. More we encourage our publics to see us as access points instead of stewards/guides, more expectation of *~stuff~* #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul

A2.1 That said, our efforts probably most legible through consumerist lens because it's dominant social frame & patron need #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida

@foureyedsoul I agree. This is the same reason that Bernie Sanders will never be president. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonkp

a2: I think "user experience" while perhaps? a worthy pursuit also falls into consumption paradigm #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lauren Wallis

@LaurenMWallis

A2 When we assume students are consumers of education, all that matters is what they're consuming--pencils, ipads, instruction, etc #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian

@LaurenMWallis Also matters what institution consumes from the students? I really resent the time the uni consumes fr me in S role. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibra@isa
librarian

@LaurenMWallis If you have insights as to how I to do this as a student when the uni has procedures that demand consumption ... :) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonk
nicholsonkp

Yup #critlib [twitter.com/laurenmwallis/...](https://twitter.com/laurenmwallis/)



3 YEARS AGO



Genna D

historivist
historivist

A2 The phrase "romanticized notions of innovation" from Poggiali reading sticks out for me as a dangerous trend in librarianship #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Kara Plamann Wagoner

KaraKaraPW
KaraPW

A2: Where does the idea of teaching consumer literacy fall in our professional duty?
#questioningconsumption #critlib



3 YEARS AGO

Q2.5 Does this tendency undermine the 'core values' of librarianship?



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

Q2.5: does this tendency undermine the core values of librarianship? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida
nora_almeida

A2.5: I think there is a lot of compromising. We don't have a real sounding board. Thinking of this: laurenwallis.wordpress.com/2015/05/12/sma... #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

@ibeilin A2.5: Can/should we assume the core values of librarianship are automatically anti-consumerist? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@ecmacinnis no I guess not - but maybe they're 'neutral' (?!!) on consumerism? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

@ibeilin My immediate response to that was 'but nothing is ever neutral!' Librarianship developed in a consumerist context, ergo.. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lager@cat_lager

The marriage of "green" and consumerist ideas seems really prevalent in the lit on new lib bldg construction these days. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lager@cat_lager

Like, here's this new LEED certified building complete with an Apple store-like service model. Thanks. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sarah

s_green@s_green

Related to recycling, there was a great WaPo article on how it's changed since the '90s: [washingtonpost.com/local/dc-polit...](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dc-polit...) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eamon Tewell
@EamonTewell


A2.5 We should consider the impacts our purchases have on other communities in terms of "the public good," not just on our own [#critlib](#)

 3 YEARS AGO



Eamon Tewell
@EamonTewell

A2.5 Contributing to oppressive working conditions in China by purchasing Apple products is a problem in terms of "public good" [#critlib](#)

 3 YEARS AGO



Leanne
cat_lager@cat_lager

This is great. So much to chew on. Next question! [#critlib](#)

 3 YEARS AGO

Q3 How can libraries not only be more environmentally responsible but also consume and produce less?



Leanne
cat_lager@cat_lager

Q3 How can libraries not only be more environmentally responsible but also consume and produce less? [#critlib](#)

 3 YEARS AGO



ifrank
@ifrank

Anyone got an environmental sustainability initiative on their campus? [#critlib](#)

 3 YEARS AGO



Andrew Kosmowski
@BroAJK

[@ifrank](#) [#critlib](#) [@univofdayton](#) does. Big time one

 3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonk@nicholsonkp

@ifrank at my previous POW, the library had one. It kind of sputtered tho but it was a good idea
#critlib



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonk@nicholsonkp

@ifrank and current POW dies as well. Also ethical investing of endowment funds etc. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibra@lisalibrarian

@ifrank Yes and in fact our library was awarded two of the campus awards last spring. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweys@colleynotdead

@ifrank It's a big deal here at @Portland_State with initiatives, programs, classes, etc.
pdx.edu/sustainability... #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinn@ecmacinnis

@cat_lager A3 serve as ROLE MODELS examining consumption habits. Model real change to each other, to our patrons. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinn@ecmacinnis

A3: I think too learning to model sustainability w/out being preachy or condescending. Being honest w/ourselves about our impact. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Kara Plamann Wagoner

KaraKaraPW@KaraPW

My stepmom is watching a video on "Amazon Prime Day" as we speak! I think it's a good reflection of consumer mindset #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida@nora_almeida

@KaraKaraPW Yes! Ethical consumerism as pedagogy. Perhaps unrealistic to expect systematic changes in how / what we consume #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

a3 need to learn to balance professional drive to preserve/acquire as much as we can afford to w/concerns re sustainability #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

a3.1 & these are sometimes [often] conflicting concerns/values & we have to learn to live with/acknowledge/work with this tension #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Murrell

GinaMurrell@GinaMurrell1

A3 Within my library department, we compost and have different receptacles for recycling printer paper, glass & plastic, etc. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratansy@eiratansy

A3 I think Mandy Henk's book on sustainability & libs suggested that lib admins should subsidize greener transportation to confs #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

~~eiratans~~@eiratansy

A3 I'd love to see a funding model that incentivizes better transit, inc more time off work to do longer-form transport like trains #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

~~nora_al~~@nora_almeida

A3 Aside from taking discarded books home for art projects? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

~~deweys~~@deweysnotdead

A3. Awareness is essential. And learning and teaching each other. Two things I think librarians are already pretty good at. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

~~deweys~~@deweysnotdead

A3 Fight global warming, circulate bicycles! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lauren Wallis

@LaurenMWallis

Seek out student groups interested in the environment and listen to their ideas about e-waste issues on campus #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lauren Wallis

@LaurenMWallis

A3: Straight to librarian jail for anyone who prints an email :D #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andrew Kosmowski

@BroAJK

@LaurenMWallis #critlib (psst...I do print off copyright permissions I receive via email)



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

@LaurenMWallis haha yes! but also must remember that 'limitless' cloud storage also has a carbon footprint, not better by default #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweys@oksveta

@oksveta @LaurenMWallis Yes!! The internet uses up a lot of energy!! youtu.be/iuZDyIVFbhs
@SciShow #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eamon Tewell

@EamonTewell

A3 Don't always assume more collections or tech=better. Instead, how can we achieve our goals through means other than consumption? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

what do you think libraries consume too much of? #critlib - what can we cut out more of or entirely?



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida@nora_almeida

@ibeilin we consume (read: perpetuate) products of unethical labor. There's a reason #OA has adopted enviro speak. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@nora_almeida yes, the labor issues are inextricably entwined, hence the original plan for this #critlib convo!



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

@ibeilin some colleagues' work: digital preservation is often done at a higher quality than needed #critlib [s/o @_karin_jones_ :)]



3 YEARS AGO



Heidi Berthoud

@heidylibrarian

@cat_lager I'm an acq person, so my brain immediately goes to collaborative coll dev and shared print archives. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

#critlib 1/2 Also sometimes accessibility and sustainability conflict. I process onscreen words slower than printed - should not stigmatize



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

#critlib 2/2 resources being used to make materials and services more accessible. We can't all "be green" in the same way.



3 YEARS AGO



Genna D

historivist@historivist

A3 I wonder how we can share more resources w/o increasing dependence on electronics or fossil fuels for ILL delivery #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonk@nicholsonkp

Q3: ask vendors & assocos not to produce print flyers, conf programs; same for #PD programs (thinking of Immersion @lisalibrarian) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian@lisalibrarian

@nicholsonkp while could decrease # of pages thru careful edits w/o paper at all... requires e which is also consumption? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonkp@nicholsonkp

@lisalibrarian sure, there's no way to avoid but IMO would be + step. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian@lisalibrarian

@nicholsonkp Friend+fellow UIUC fac Eric has this awesome site w resources for green design incld printing: re-nourish.com/?l=home #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul@foureyedsoul

A3 Maybe switch to using less resource-heavy *nix OSes instead of Win/Mac, although that'd be a ^HUGE^_ cultural/resource shift #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul@foureyedsoul

A3.1 As corollary: if policies => can't buy devices with that goal in mind, try to set up program for end-of-library-life donation #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



ifrank

@ifrank

During the Carter administration, campus raised temp in bldings = mold in the library!. Conservation in 1 area led to problem! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO

Q4 How can libraries/librarians take collective approaches, rather than consumerist-individualist ones, to environmental problems?



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

Q4: How can libraries/librarians take collective approaches, rather than consumerist-individualist ones, to environmental problems? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida @nora_almeida

A4: Stop the textbooks. Lifecycle problem. Sustainability problem. Pedagogy problem. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

@nora_almeida Reminds me of issue w/planned obsolescence in the readings. Consumerism sustains itself easily. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@ecmacinnis @nora_almeida and we have SO MUCH planned obsolescence in our library tech! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida @nora_almeida

@ecmacinnis For sure. I think it's about resistance and about alternative pathways. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sarah

s_green@s_green

A3: libraries could continue to do what they do well: enabling people through education, showing how to contact their reps, etc. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweyscolleasnotdead

A4 consortial purchasing allows for fewer materials to be shared among a group of materials
[#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Murrell

GinaMurrell1

A4: Library-wide recycling (& composting) initiatives. At some academic libraries, I've seen limits enforced on printer output. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

[@GinaMurrell1](#) that's such a hard one to enforce! patrons get angry about it. But it needs to be done [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian

[@ibeilin](#) [@GinaMurrell1](#) challenge-cuts against addressing inequality. some students have \$ to copy/print elsewhere but some don't [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis

[@GinaMurrell1](#) Have experienced conflict between professors' expectations and libraries' limits.. can be rough as a student. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



karen nicholson

nicholsonkp

[@GinaMurrell1](#) uni where I taught before had limits on number if photocopies/printouts faculty could make for courses [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Aimee S. Goodson

asgoodson@asgoodson

@GinaMurrell1 We have a per-printjob limit & someday will have a per student per semester limit (unless they buy more). #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul@foureyedsoul

A4 Consortial purchasing/use, esp of specialized/"demo" devices? Also workshops to teach patrons how to reuse tech, how to ILL, etc #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

@foureyedsoul & our maker spaces/labs/etc should have tools & emphasis on maintenance, repair, and reuse #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweysnotdead@deleag

@oksveta @foureyedsoul excellent point! We need to remember how much energy is consumed in the recycling process... #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul@foureyedsoul

@oksveta Absolutely! #makerspace folks, please incorporate/prioritize repair & reuse into your previously-scheduled awesomeness. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

a4 build relationships/provide resources & expertise to activists & scholars working on climate change & enviro justice issues #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lager @cat_lager

Great example of sharing resources to reduce waste, but getting stuff from one place to another takes fuel! #critlib twitter.com/historivist/st...



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweysnotdead @deweysnotdead

@cat_lager @historivist electric drones? maybe amazon had the right idea.... #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Laura Mitchell

dignityjones @dignityjones

A4. Collaboration with community based activist groups? Offering of support/space/solidarity? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

So much of the 'green movement' is inherently classist, ableist, etc. I suspicion 'ethical consumption' is part of the reason why. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

I learned last week (at ReCAP) that shared offsite storage can actually save a lot of energy and waste, and preserve #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

...of course, ReCAP required a massive investment from rich institutions first... #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Genna D

historivist

A4 Small step: find avenues (preferably local) other than the Dumpster for weeded materials or donations outside coll policy #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul

A good place for weeded materials would be pagestoprisoners.org — perhaps similar or start near other libraries? #critlib @historivist



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisa@lisa

@foureyedsoul @historivist challenge for state institutions. not always allowed to transfer state property. #ethicalquandry #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul

@lisa@lisa @historivist So state sometimes _requires_ discarding rather than transferring, even to another state facility? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisa@lisa

@foureyedsoul @historivist Can transfer (sometimes) to another state institution. But recall that most jails/prisons aren't "state" #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisa@lisa

@historivist @foureyedsoul Yes, if donated materials, can refer. But, not weeded which was what @foureyedsoul had mentioned #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian@lisalibrarian

@foureyedsoul @historivist and those volunteer organizations that serve prisoners definitely are not state institutions #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul@foureyedsoul

@lisalibrarian @historivist Far too many private/for-profit prisons. The state-run ones wld prob rely on 3rd party progs like p2p #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul@foureyedsoul

@lisalibrarian @historivist ARGH! I intended donated as well but only so many characters. Good to know at least those can be. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian@lisalibrarian

@foureyedsoul @historivist I just mean that they are county or federal rather than state. But, yes. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian@lisalibrarian

@foureyedsoul @historivist The library's labor costs for donated materials is HUGE tho. Very expensive to accept donations. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin@ibeilin

@lisalibrarian yes, I'm learning that now as I field all kinds of requests to donate in my new job! @foureyedsoul @historivist #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyed@foureyedsoul

@historivist @lisalibrarian I was thinking same thing—might be useful to have a "please consider these programs as well as us" #critlib



3 YEARS AGO

Q5 What are some 'ethical quandaries' that could become learning experiences for students, as Jennifer Poggiali suggests?



Leanne

cat_lage@cat_lager

Alright, last one. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lage@cat_lager

Q5 What are some 'ethical quandaries' that could become learning experiences for students, as Jennifer Poggiali suggests? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

A5: Tracking the life cycle of resources is a good place to start. Which people, which resources, were sacrificed for my laptop? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

A5: Challenge the fuzzy feel-good of 'going green.' Are we doing it for activist cookies, or because the world's falling apart? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis@ecmacinnis

A5: But at the same time, there are and should be different levels of engagement for different abilities and interest levels. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@ecmacinnis yes, because it can so easily become another cudgel wielded by the privileged to maintain their superiority #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis @ecmacinnis

@ibeilin Exactly! Dehumanizing to have to defend my choices. Puts systemic blame squarely on individuals' shoulders. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andrew Kosmowski

@BroAJK

Or do we do this to promote human dignity? #critlib [twitter.com/ecmacinnis/sta...](https://twitter.com/ecmacinnis/status/123456789)



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida @nora_almeida

@BroAJK I know that modeling + advocacy doesn't = collective action but I feel like it's a start #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andrew Kosmowski

@BroAJK

@nora_almeida I concur but I'm challenging why we do some things #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida @nora_almeida

@BroAJK I think it's easy to lose sight of the why. (ethical) consumerism is also about lifestyle. It's automatic (or not). #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisa@lisa@lisa
lisalibrarian

@cat_lager A5 re-use of paper printed on one-side can accidentally violate privacy #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lager@cat_lager

Eek. I've totally seen this happen before. #critlib [twitter.com/lisalibrarian/...](https://twitter.com/lisalibrarian/)



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida@nora_almeida

A5: Quandary to provide access using systems in place v. rejecting corrupt systems and not serving those in need (info, food, etc). #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

a4 obviously there are 1,000,000 things we need to consider 4 any decision, but sustainability shld be priority & not afterthought #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratansy@eiratansy

a library's carbon footprint is arguably much larger than "how many pages can students print?" look at building energy use... #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratansy@eiratansy

because I didn't see it a lot in this #critlib... libraries must consider how climate change threatens our missions in many concrete ways



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweysnotdead

@eiratansey as we see more extreme weather from climate change, libs are going to play an essential role in disaster response #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis

@deweysnotdead @eiratansey Would love to see a #critlib chat about disaster response and libraries' roles.



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul

@ecmacinnis @deweysnotdead @eiratansey I know @TheresaQuill has led awesome workshops on mapping to help 1st responders #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratansey

@foureyedsoul @ecmacinnis @deweysnotdead @TheresaQuill ooh I'd be interested in (co-?)leading a #critlib on this several months from now



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweysnotdead

@eiratansey @foureyedsoul @ecmacinnis @TheresaQuill I would be happy to help out with that #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lager

At old POW we argued to shut down on Fridays during summer for this very reason. #critlib
twitter.com/eiratansey/sta...



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland

deweyscolleasnotdead

A5 #xcellent q 4 instruction/programming librarians, but I would say promote awareness building/cognitive dissonance #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Murrell

GinaMurrell1

A5 By purchasing this product/service or engaging in this initiative, what are my actions really supporting? And am I OK with that? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ellen MacInnis

ecmacinnis

Maybe ultimate sustainability questions: what actions preserve the most social good and how the heck do we tell? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

@ecmacinnis & how do we cope w/ the fact that there is no neutral/objective way to measure social good while still working for it? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@oksveta @ecmacinnis future #critlib topic!



3 YEARS AGO



Genna D

historivist

A5 Quandary: environmental impacts stemming from desire to teach/learn new technologies or do DH work #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

@historivist Topic opens up really rich conversations around enviro issues IMO #critlib – esp. as tech is oft marketed as 'green'



3 YEARS AGO

[#critlib](#) pitches & thanks to our excellent moderators



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

Yikes! the hour has almost passed. Keep on going, but please share your pitches! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratans@eiratansey

Pitching for @projectARCC tonight - a dynamic group of archivists coming together to respond to climate change #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Nora Almeida

nora_almeida@nora_almeida

Thanks, #critlib. Great Chat @cat_lager & @ibeilin



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne

cat_lager@cat_lager

@nora_almeida Thanks for joining! @ibeilin #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Kara Plamann Wagoner

KaraKaraPW@KaraPW

Thank you everyone for new resources to check out and new questions to consider. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin
ibeilin @ibeilin

This is another [#critlib](#) topic that should be revisited soon, as well as the labor connection...



3 YEARS AGO



Sarah
s_green@s_green

Thanks for the chat, [#critlib](#).



3 YEARS AGO



J. Turner Masland
deweysnotdead@deweysnotdead

A'right, [#critlib](#) - thanks for the great chat, as always! Hope you all have a great night :-)



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin
ibeilin @ibeilin

[@deweysnotdead](#) thanks for coming out of the urker position! [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Leanne
cat_lager@cat_lager

Thanks everyone for coming tonight! Again, if you'd be willing to storify, just holler. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Murrell
GinaMurrell1@GinaMurrell1

Another great [#critlib](#) chat! Thanks [@cat_lager](#) & [@ibeilin](#) for some very excellent moderating!



3 YEARS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

thanks for an informative [#critlib](#) on a subject I find totally overwhelming...



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

oksveta@oksveta

@cat_lager I can do it tomorrow evening while powering through last few episodes Twin Peaks
#critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Laura Mitchell

dignityjones@dignityjones

Thank you #critlib, thank you @cat_lager & @ibeilin. Plenty to ponder as always!



3 YEARS AGO



Eira Tansey

eiratansy@eiratansy

Thanks #critlib and @ibeilin and @cat_lager



3 YEARS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

foureyedsoul@foureyedsoul

Thanks for all the new people for participating in a great #critlib tonight. And thanks for topic & moderating, @cat_lager & @ibeilin!



3 YEARS AGO



Genna D

historivist@historivist

First time turning up at #critlib was very enjoyable. My thoughts are provoked. Thanks all!



3 YEARS AGO



Heidi Berthoud

@heidylibrarian

Fun #critlib tonight! Looking forward to next time.



3 YEARS AGO