

# CHAPEL D. COWDEN

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## Education

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M.S., Information Science, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, 2012

B.S., Anthropology, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, 2003 (magna cum laude)

## Experience

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### University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN

Health & Science Librarian, UC Foundation Professor, 2025-present

Health & Science Librarian, UC Foundation Associate Professor, 2019-2025

Health & Science Librarian, UC Foundation Assistant Professor, Liaison Program  
Coordinator, 2017-2019

Health & Science Librarian, UC Foundation Assistant Professor, 2014-2019

- Subject-specific library instruction in Nursing, Physical Therapy, Health and Human Performance, Biology, Chemistry, and Engineering, among others. Foundational library instruction in introductory Composition courses and other courses as requested.
- Primary campus support, via instruction, research consultations, and the creation of support tools for EndNote (Desktop & Online)
- Research consultations with faculty, staff, and students
- Specialization in bibliometric consultation and evidence synthesis consultation and work.
- Reference desk work
- Collaboratively redesigned & implemented new liaison program. Managed the program to include assignments, onboarding new liaisons, streamlining communication, working with the Collections Dept., surveying & evaluation of program and liaisons, leading meetings, etc.
- Liaison duties for Chemistry, Biology/Environmental Science/Geology, & Physical Therapy
- Creation of new instructional opportunities and materials including tutorials, LibGuides and more.

Health & Sciences Librarian, Lecturer, 2013-2014

- Subject-specific library instruction in Nursing, Occupational and Physical Therapy, Health and Human Performance, Biology, Chemistry and Engineering, among others.

- Foundational library instruction in introductory Composition courses and other courses as requested.
- Campus support, via instruction, research consultations, and the creation of support tools for EndNote (Desktop & Online)
- Research consultations with faculty, staff, and students
- Reference desk work
- Liaison and collection development for assigned departments
- Creation of new instructional opportunities and materials

#### Archives Specialist, 2009-2013

- Develop and administer digital initiatives and presence for the Special Collections department including wiki, blog, social media, website and digital collections
- Implement new technologies (e.g. Archivist's Toolkit) and function as administrator for these technologies in the Special Collections
- Accession, process, arrange, and describe archival materials (physical materials, born digital materials, and digitized materials)
- Provide reference assistance both in the Special Collections and on the library Reference desk.
- Develop exhibits and events held within the Special Collections

#### Circulation Day Supervisor, 2008-2009

- Managed all aspects of the circulation of library materials
- Managed desk schedules for 12 staff members and up to 10 student workers
- Directly managed 2 staff members
- Managed 2 service desks and all procedures for those desks
- Led Access Services monthly meetings
- Created web-based materials using content management systems, blogs, and wikis
- Responsible for the front-line interpretation of library circulation policies to users

#### **Nashville Zoo at Grassmere, Nashville, TN**

##### Manager of Onsite Interpretation, 2005-2007

- Managed and designed all onsite interpretive programs
- Managed 50+ education volunteers, 30+ teen volunteers, and 1 (seasonal) employee
- Developed the Docent Program (education volunteers) to include: recruiting, training and management. Designed and conducted a 9-week training course for new docents
- Developed a teen volunteer program to include: research and implementation, training, management, etc.
- Responsible for institutional educational information

- Designed and produced interactive interpretive displays and activities.
- Managed extensive collection of biofacts (biological artifacts) to include acquisition, accessioning, conservation, statistics, and usage.
- Managed a budget
- Taught classes related to environmental issues

## Credit-bearing Teaching Experience

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### University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Adjunct, Honors College, UHON 3530r: Perspectives on Death & Dying, 2018-present

Adjunct, Honors College UHON: Minding the Gap: Discrimination in the Sciences & Behavioral Sciences, 2022

## Professional Service (volunteer)

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### National

Association of College & Research Libraries, Science & Technology Section

- Awards Committee, Co-chair, 2025-present
- Liaisons Committee, *Co-chair*, 2024-2025
- Development Committee, *Chair*, 2023-2024
- Development Task Force, *Chair*, 2021-2023
- Future Modalities Task Force, *Member*, 2022-2024
- Nominating Committee, *Member*, 2021-2022
- Research Committee, *Co-chair*, 2019-2021
- Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Implementation Team, Member, 2020-2021
- Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Task Force, *Member*, 2018-2020
- Professional Development Committee, *Co-chair*, 2017-2019
- Hot Topics Discussion Group, *Member*, 2016-2018
- Professional Development Committee, *Member*, 2015-2017

Association of College & Research Libraries, Instruction Section

- Peer Mentor Program, *Mentor*, 2019-2021

American Library Association, New Member Roundtable

- Liaison Coordination & Support Committee, *Chair*, 2016-2017
- Liaison Coordination & Support Committee, *Member*, 2015-2016

## Science Boot Camp for Librarians, Southeast

- 2016 Conference Programming Committee, *Member*, 2015-2016

## Regional

### Tennessee Library Association

- Instruction Roundtable, *Co-chair*, 2016-2017
- Scholarship Committee, *Member*, 2014-2016
- Intellectual Freedom Committee, *Member*, 2013-2014

### Society of Tennessee Archivists

- Tennessee Archivist (Newsletter), *Co-editor*, 2011-2013

### University of Tennessee at Knoxville, School of Information Science

- Chattanooga Cohort, *Founder and Co-leader*, 2010-2011
- TLA/ALA Peer Mentor Program, *Peer Mentor*, 2011-2012

## Honors & Awards

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- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2024-2025
- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2023-2024
- *ALA Library Instruction Roundtable Librarian Recognition Award*, ALA, 2023
- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2021-2022
- *Exceptional Merit Nomination*, UTC, 2020-2021
- *Exceptional Merit Nomination*, UTC, 2019-2020
- *Alpha Society (Faculty)*, UTC, 2019
- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2018-2019
- *UC Foundation Professorship*, 2018
- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2017-2018
- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2016-2017
- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2015-2016
- *James E. Ward Library Instruction [Award](#)* from TLA, April 2016
- *Exceptional Merit*, UTC, 2014-2015
- *UTC University Service Award*. Awarded to all library faculty, 2015

## Grants

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- *Honors College Research Fellowship Student*, \$1200, UTC, 2024

- *Honors College Research Fellowship Student*, \$1200, UTC, 2022
- *Library Enhancement Grant*, \$750, UTC, 2019/2020 (fully funded)
- *Walker Center for Teaching & Learning Classroom Mini Grant*, \$300, UTC, 2020 (fully funded)
- *Carnegie-Whitney Grant*, \$4155, ALA, 2019/2020 (fully funded)
- *Faculty Development Grant*, \$1475, UTC, 2018/2019 (fully funded)
- *American Chemical Society Travel Grant*, \$2,500.00 to attend the ACS bi-annual meeting in New Orleans, March 2018.
- *Faculty Development Grant*, \$1387, UTC, 2017 (\*not used due to cancellation of conference, due to a hurricane)
- *Provost's Innovation Grant*, ~\$700, UTC, 2017
- *Provost's Innovation Grant*, \$350, UTC, 2016
- *Faculty Development Grant*, \$750, UTC, 2014
- *Career Development Fund Grant*, ~\$200, UTC, 2012

## Presentations | Workshops

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Cowden, Chapel (2024, July). *Navigating an evidence synthesis project with an interdisciplinary team: A case study*. Great Lakes Science Bootcamp, Toronto, ON.

Cowden, Chapel (2024, April 22-26). *Breaking the mold: Transforming faculty workshops through customized learning spaces*. 2024 Distance and Online Learning Virtual Poster Session, Virtual.

Seaman, Priscilla, Cowden, Chapel, and Gao, Lu. (2024, April). *Culturally responsive pedagogy in library instruction*. LIS Pedagogy Chat, Virtual. **[INVITED SPEAKER]**

(Cowden, Chapel (2023, March). *The academic library's role in conducting anti-racist research*. Roundtable at ACRL Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. [Accepted, but unable to attend.]

Cowden, Chapel, Gao, Lu, and Priscilla Seaman. (2022, January). *Culturally responsive pedagogy: Building cultural competence through critical self-reflection*. Rutgers-New Brunswick Library Faculty Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Retreat. **[INVITED SPEAKER]**

Cowden, Chapel & Gao, Lu. (2021, November). *Building cultural competence through critical self-reflection: Tools for the librarian*. University of North Georgia Libraries Faculty & Staff Training. **[INVITED SPEAKER]**

Cowden, C.D. (2021, August). *Separating science from sensationalism: A workshop in three modalities*. The American Chemical Society Bi-annual Meeting, Hybrid Conference.

Cowden, C.D. & Gao, L. (2021, April). *Building cultural competence through critical self-reflection: Tools for the instruction librarian*. The Innovative Library Instruction Classroom Virtual Conference.

Howard-Baptiste, S., Cowden, C.D., Zelin, A. (2021, April). *Conducting research through an anti-racist lens*. Panel presentation at UTC's Research Dialogues Conference, moderated by Haber, N.

Fong, B., Bogucka, R., Cowden, C.D., Putnam, S., Johnson, N., Lafferty, M., Romito, D., Wood, P. (2020, July). *Equity, diversity, and inclusion in the Science & Technology Section: Task force report and implementation & discussion groups*. Given online by ACRL Science & Technology Section. [Formerly scheduled for ALA Annual 2020 which was canceled by Covid-19]

Copeland, S., Cowden, C.D., Gao, L. (2020, May). *Culturally responsive public services*. The Exchange: An ALCTS/LITA/LLAMA Collaboration, Virtual Conference.

Cowden, C.D. (2019, June). *Science & the media: Exploring the complexities of science communication with non-science majors*. [Poster] American Library Association Annual Conference, Association of College & Research Libraries-Science & Technology Section Research Forum, Washington, D.C.

Cowden, C.D., Seaman, P., Copeland, S.S., Gao, L. (2019, April). *Promoting learning in the culturally diverse library instruction classroom: An active exploration*. [Workshop] Association of College and Research Libraries Conference, Cleveland, OH. **[Workshop sponsored by Five Colleges of Ohio, Inc.; 8% of program sessions sponsored]**

Cowden, C.D. (March 2018). *Building competency: Scaffolding information literacy skills throughout the Chemistry curriculum*. American Chemical Society National Meeting & Exposition, New Orleans, LA. **[INVITED SPEAKER]**

Thompson, E., Cowden, C.D., Holcombe, J. (2018, March). *Collabor(d)ating and other ways to have a helluva time in academia*. The Collective, Knoxville, TN. <http://sched.co/CvGQ>

Cowden, C.D., Thompson, E., Holcombe, J., Vogel, C. (2017, June). *Stop, collaborate, & listen: The library as core of an interdisciplinary campus*. [Poster] American Library Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. <https://www.eventscribe.com/2017/ALA-Annual/fsPopup.asp?Mode=posterinfo&PosterID=108817>

Cowden, C.D., Berman, E., Fong, B.. (2017, January). *Information literacy framework: STEM applications*. [Panel] American Library Association Midwinter Conference, Association of College & Research Libraries-Science & Technology Section Hot Topics Discussion Group, Atlanta, GA. **[INVITED SPEAKER]**

Holcombe, J., Cowden, C.D., & Ormsby, S. (2016, October). *Evaluation capacity building: Using problem-based learning to develop critical thinking*. [Workshop] American Evaluation Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Cowden, C.D. (2016, July). *The second time's the charm! Improving integration of information literacy concepts in an advanced Biochemistry class*. [Lightning talk] Science Boot Camp for Librarians, Southeast, Athens, GA.

Cowden, C.D. (2016, June). *Student-centered information literacy assessment in the sciences: A constellation of choices*. [Poster] American Library Association Annual Conference, Association of College & Research Libraries-Science & Technology Section Research Forum, Orlando, Fla.

Cowden, C.D. & Holcombe, J. (2016, May). *Incorporating information literacy into the curriculum: A problem-based learning approach*. University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Instructional Excellence Conference, Chattanooga, TN.

Holcombe, J. & Cowden, C.D. (2016, April). *Collaborative campus partnerships: Experiences, strategies, and reflections*. [Poster] University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Research Dialogues, Chattanooga, TN.

Cowden, C.D. & Santiago, M.F. (2016, April). *Interdisciplinary explorations: Promoting critical thinking via problem-based learning in an advanced Biochemistry class*. [Poster] University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Research Dialogues, Chattanooga, TN.

Cowden, C.D. & Holcombe, J. (2016, March). *Problem-based learning as change agent for library instruction*. [Workshop] The Collective, Knoxville, TN. <http://sched.co/4c4A>

Cowden, C.D. & Holcombe, J. (2015, June). *Moving past traditional models of library instruction: A collaborative problem-based approach*. Atlanta Area Bibliographic Instruction Group Conference, Athens, GA.

Cowden, C.D. (2015, April). *No low-hanging fruit on this STEM! The tricky business of collaborating with STEM education programs*. Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference, Memphis, TN.

Cowden, C.D. & Kutz, B. (2015, April). *Ringmasters of the EndNote circus: Orchestrating citation management software literacy efforts from the R&I perspective*. Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference, Memphis, TN.

Cowden, C.D. & Kutz, B. (2014, October). *Ringmasters of the EndNote circus: Orchestrating citation management software literacy efforts from the R&I perspective*. Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy, Savannah, Georgia.

Cowden, C.D. & Seaman, P. (2014, June). [Modified]*Giving up the driver's seat: Using student-led demos in the library instruction classroom*. Invited speaker for library staff training at Chattanooga State Community College. **[INVITED SPEAKER]** \*Invited speaker for Library staff training at Chattanooga State Community College.

Cowden, C.D. & Seaman, P. (2014, June). *Giving up the driver's seat: Using student-led demos in the library instruction classroom*. Atlanta Area Bibliographic Instruction Group Conference, Cartersville, GA.

Cowden, C.D. & Tekulve, N. (2014, May). *The Brain Campaign: Effective marketing of library services during special events*. Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference, Murfreesboro, TN.

Cowden, C.D. & Rogers, B. (2013, April). *Cultivating digital access to the archives: A case study of the Hood-Williamson Serpent Handling Collection*. Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference, Chattanooga, TN.

Carter, A.J. & Cowden, C.D. (2012, March). *Reimagining the attic: Creating user-centered services for your special collections*. Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference, Knoxville, TN.  
<http://www.slideshare.net/AmandaCarter3/tla-conference-2012-12148900>

Cowden, C.D. (2011, October). *On the record: Students speak out on genealogy and other hot topics of the archive world*. [Panel, creator & moderator] Society of Tennessee Archivists Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN.

## Moderated Sessions

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Anantachai, T. & Hodge, T. (2021, February). *Equity starts before hire: A look at equitable approaches to hiring and retention*. Moderated by Cowden, C.D. & Palumbo, L. for the ACRL STS Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Implementation Team.

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

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McCarragher, S., Acuff, C., Cowden, C., and Beasley, D.E. (2024) A bibliometric analysis of urban greenway literature: Implications for interdisciplinary research on urban systems. *Discover Cities* 1(25). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s44327-024-00027-1>.

Swaren, C., Cowden, C.D., & Smith, W. (2022). Exploring new narratives to overcome historical assumptions. *portal: Libraries & the Academy* 22(1), 111-126. doi:10.1353/pla.2022.0012.

Cowden, C.D., Seaman, P., Copeland, S., Gao, L. (2021) Teaching with intent: Applying culturally responsive teaching to library instruction. *portal: Libraries & the Academy* 21(2), 231-251. DOI: [10.1353/pla.2021.0014](https://doi.org/10.1353/pla.2021.0014)

\*\*Selected as a **Top 20 Instruction Article**, 2021 by the American Library Association's Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT).



**\*\*Selected for inclusion in the ACRL Instruction Section Teaching Methods Committee's *Selected Resources of the Year for 2021-2022*.**

**\*\*Acknowledged in the *2023 ACRL Environmental Scan* by ACRL Research Planning and Review Committee**

Cowden, C.D., & Holcombe, J. (2019). When will I ever use this again? Cultivating motivation through an authentic learning environment. in *Motivating Students on a Time Budget: Pedagogical Frames and Lesson Plans for In-Person and Online Information Literacy Instruction*. ACRL Publishing.

Cowden, C.D. (2018). Digging deeper at the ACS Conference: A librarian's perspective. *ACS Axial*. Retrieved from <http://axial.acs.org/2018/04/12/digging-deeper-at-the-acs-conference-a-librarians-perspective/>

Cowden, C.D. (2017). How sweet it is! Making library orientations palatable again with Library Mythbusters. In R. Pun & M. Houlihan (Eds.), *The First Year Experience Library Cookbook*. ACRL Publishing.

Cowden, C.D., & Santiago, M.F. (2016). Interdisciplinary explorations: Promoting critical thinking via problem-based learning in an advanced Biochemistry class. *The Journal of Chemical Education: Chemical Information Special Issue* 93(3), 464-469. doi: 10.1021/acs.jchemed.5b00378 (612 downloads from ACS site from publication to 4/2017)

Tekulve, N., Cowden, C., & Myers, J. (2015). The Game of Research: [Board] gamification of library instruction. *The Journal of Creative Library Practice*, Sept. 23, 2015. Retrieved from <http://creativelibrarypractice.org/2015/09/23/the-game-of-research/>.

Cowden, C.D. (2015). Selected internet resources on Herpetology. *Issues in Science & Technology Librarianship*, Spring 2015(80). doi: 10.5062/F4ST7MTC

Cowden, C. & Kutz, B. (2015). Ringmasters of the EndNote circus: Orchestrating citation management software literacy efforts from the R&I perspective. *Tennessee Libraries*, 65(2). Retrieved from [http://www.tnla.org/?page=TL65\\_2\\_endnote](http://www.tnla.org/?page=TL65_2_endnote)

Cowden, C.D. & Tekulve, N. (2014). The Brain Campaign: Effective marketing of library services during special events. *Tennessee Libraries*, 64(2). Retrieved from [http://www.tnla.org/?page=TL64\\_2\\_campaign](http://www.tnla.org/?page=TL64_2_campaign)

## **Peer Review & Editorial Work**

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Issues in Science & Technology Librarianship, (2023) Review of two articles for the special issue on Science Librarianship & Social Justice.

Journal of Librarianship & Information Science, (2022) Review of article *Librarians' competencies for implementing embedded librarianship in university libraries*.

Journal of Chemical Education, (2021) Review of article *Combining Lecture- and Problem-Based Learning for Precise Teaching of Medicinal Chemistry*. (Reviewed article & article revision)

Journal of Chemical Education, (2020) Review of article *Thinking Based Learning at Higher Education Levels: Implementation and Outcomes within a Chemical Engineering Class*. (Reviewed article & article revision)

## Research Centers

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Urban Greenspace Research Collaborative:

<https://greenspaceresearchcollaborative.wordpress.com/>, 2020-present

## University Service (general)

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- *Chair*, Undergraduate Admissions Committee, 2025-2026
- *Co-organizer*, Women & Nonbinary Faculty Writing Group, 2025
- *Faculty Advisor*, Men's Lacrosse Club, 2023-present
- *Member*, Faculty Athletics Committee, 2024-2025
- *Member*, Faculty Development Grants Committee, 2023-2024
- *Member*, History & Values Committee, 2021-2023
- *Chair*, Undergraduate Admissions Committee, 2022-2023
- *Member*, Undergraduate Admissions Committee, 2020-2022
- *Member*, First Gen Mentor Program, 2021-2022
- *Mentor*, UT Promise Mentor Program, 2020-present
- *Member*, Faculty Athletics Committee, 2019-2020
- *Member*, Environmental Task Force, 2018-2019
- *Member*, Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Committee, 2018-2019
- *Instructor/Group Leader*, Read2Achieve First Class, August 2018
- *Presenter*, MOCS I<sup>3</sup> Faculty Group on Measuring & Maximizing your Research Impact (w/Prof. Fleming), November 2017
- *Instructor/Group Leader*, Read2Achieve First Class, August 2017
- *Member*, Read2Achieve Book Club, February-March 2017
- *Co-founder & Co-organizer*, MOCS I<sup>3</sup> Faculty Group, Fall 2016-2021
- *Instructor/Group Leader*, Read2Achieve, August 2016
- *Member*, FYRE Book Club, February-March 2016

- *Member*, Research Center for Applied Biomolecular, Behavioral, and Health Studies faculty, 2015-2017
- *Member*, Petitions Committee, 2015-2018
- *Member*, Interdisciplinary Research Group, 2015-2016
- *Member*, Partnership in Research & Laboratory Learning Program, 2015
- *Member*, UTC Sustainability Committee, 2014-2015
- *Mentor*, Freshman Mentor Program, 2013
- Commencement (annually)

## UTC Library Service

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- *Chair*, Strategic Planning: Engaging with Diverse Perspectives, 2025-2026
- *Member*, Collection Development Committee, 2025-2026
- *Member*, Public Services Task Force, 2022-2023
- Delivered training to Research & Instruction and Studio employees on developing cultural competence through critical self-reflection, 2021
- *Co-chair*, Staff & Student Development Committee, 2018-2019
- *Member*, Instruction Librarian Search, 2018
- *Mentor*, Faculty Mentor Program, 2017-2018
- *Coordinator*, Liaison Program, 2017-2019
- *Chair*, Studio Librarian Search, 2017
- *Member*, Guides Migration Task Force, 2016-2017
- *Member*, University Archivist Search Committee, 2016
- *Member*, New Library Assessment Task Force, 2015-2016
- *Chair*, WorldCat Discovery Implementation Team, 2015-2015
- *Member*, Library Electronic Resources Committee, 2014-2017
- *Member*, Outreach Committee, 2008-2012, 2013-2015
- *Member*, Web Team Committee, 2008-2009, 2012-2014
- *Co-editor*, Lupton Library Lines blog, 2011-2012
- *Member*, Head of Access Services Search Committee, 2010
- *Member*, Circulation Day Supervisor Search Committee, 2010

## Professional Development (selected)

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Faculty Fellows in Course Development, Walker Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Summer 2022 (stipend provided).

Systematic Reviews and Evidence Synthesis Beyond the Health Sciences, Cornell University, August 3-5, 2020.

ACRL Immersion, Teacher Track, 2015

## **Professional Association Memberships**

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American Library Association, 2010-present

- New Member Roundtable (2010-2017)
- Sustainability Roundtable (2015-2022)

Association of College & Research Libraries, 2013-present

- Science & Technology Section (2013-present)
- Health Science Interest Group (2013-present)
- University Libraries Section (2010-present)

Tennessee Library Association, 2010-2017

Society of Tennessee Archivists, 2010-2013

## **Volunteer Work (community)**

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Foster, Humane Educational Society, Chattanooga, TN, 2019-present

Collaborator, Welcome Home, Chattanooga, TN, 2019-present

Film Screener, Lookout Wild Film Festival, Chattanooga, TN, 2018-2021

## **Research Profiles**

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**Research Gate Profile:** [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Chapel\\_Cowden](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Chapel_Cowden)

**Google Scholar Profile:** <https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=JXogp8oAAAAJ>

**ORCID:** <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-4906-0007>