

# Allegra Swift

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS LIBRARIAN

Led by the LAUC-SD Mentoring Committee, Librarian Profiles offer background information and career-related advice from UC San Diego librarians to MLIS students and graduates.

**Which institution did you earn your MLIS or other graduate degree?**

San Jose State University

**Do you currently or did you ever hold a professional library position related to the focus you pursued in graduate school?**

No

**Did you have work experience at any level in a library of any type prior to attending library school?**

Yes

**Do you have another advanced degree(s) in addition to any MLIS?**

No

**Did you focus on a particular area of librarianship while earning your MLIS?**

Yes, Archives and Records Management, Digitization, and Digital Libraries

**Beyond the MLIS, do you feel that any additional advanced degree is essential to success in your current position?**

No

### **What are some of your current tasks and responsibilities?**

- Publishing opportunities & UCSD journal editor resources
- Copyright & author rights
- Research impact & scholarly identity
- Open educational resources/open textbooks (OER)
- Open access advocacy and guidance

### **What do you like best about working in an academic or university setting?**

On a campus there is a pervasive atmosphere of learning, exploration, and problem solving. It's also a beautiful campus so every aspect, the work and the environment, is inspiring.

### **What are some skills or core competencies you feel are essential to success in your current position?**

- Persistence, adaptiveness, constant learning, and a thick skin
- Willingness to do outreach, network, and build partnerships
- Knowledge of best practices in publishing and copyright
- An ability to assess how the systems of scholarly communication do or do not work together or for the author
- An understanding of how the system and practices are evolving across disciplines

### **What is something that you think contributed to you getting your first professional job following graduate school for your MLIS?**

I was working in an academic library, checking in every journal issue the UC subscribed to and doing an internship with the digital library...So, transferable skills and strategic volunteering.

### **What do you like best about being a librarian or about your current role or responsibilities?**

My favorite part about this job is working on the cutting edge of scholarly communication. It's also the most challenging aspect of the role.

### **What is your advice to MLIS students seeking or entering their first professional library position?**

Work in a library and explore your options. I worked in libraries in a cultural center, 2 major law firms, a public library, and academic libraries.

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Please contact me to further discuss my work or background.

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**Visit my websites: [ORCID](#) and [UCSD Library](#)**