The Liaison Librarian’s Role in Supporting Diversity Initiatives:  
Developing a Black History Month Exhibit in a College of Nursing

Amanda Haberstroh, PhD, MLIS  
Liaison Librarian to the College of Nursing  
Laupus Health Sciences Library

Wendy Bridgers, MSN, RN-BC  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing

East Carolina University  
Greenville, NC
ISO: Collaboration

• Liaison Librarians: What is our role?
• Partnerships establish rapport, deepen trust, improve service
• Opportunities include:
  • Volunteering for committees
  • Attending & participating in department-specific events
• Diversity Advisory Council at the College of Nursing, ECU
  • Black History Month Event Planning Subcommittee
    • Led by Wendy Bridgers
Digging Deeper: Finding the Resources

• “A look back at Trailblazers in African American Nursing”
  - On display during the month of February 2019 in celebration of Black History Month
  - **Amanda Haberstroh**: consulted history collections for records of African American nurses in the College of Nursing; Greenville, NC; and the region of Eastern North Carolina; designed the posters that were displayed in the exhibit
  - **Wendy Bridgers**: conducted interviews with surviving family members of trailblazers, collected key information and photographs of trailblazers, and arranged for Dean of the College of Nursing to speak at ribbon-cutting ceremony
Unveiling the Exhibit
Lessons Learned & Future Planning

- Get started early
  - Scope was reduced in the interest of timeliness of locating resources
- Market the event to all potential interested parties
  - Guests came from the College of Nursing, Laupus Health Sciences Library, and the surrounding community
- Use a sign-in sheet to track attendance
- Start a collection for future projects
Recommended Reading

