

The Progressive Librarians Guild's (PLG) Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize Committee is pleased to announce that Matthew Weirick Johnson from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is the 2017 winner of the Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize for his essay "Personal Health Data, Surveillance, & Biopolitics: Toward a Personal Health Data Information Literacy." Johnson earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Virginia Tech and is currently a Research and Education Library Intern at Duke University Medical Center. He will earn his MSLS in 2018.

Johnson's essay promotes the use of information literacy skills for managing user-generated personal health data. He argues "for an expansion of data information literacy to provide the necessary skills for users and researchers to critically assess their relationship to personal health data, understanding the concurrent modes of doing and undergoing surveillance."

The Braverman Memorial Prize is awarded annually to a student in Library Science or Archival Studies for an essay submitted on the theme of progressive or activist librarianship. As winner of the prize, Johnson receives a \$500 stipend toward expenses at ALA Annual, and his essay will be published in an upcoming issue of *Progressive Librarian*, the PLG journal. Additionally, he will be given the opportunity to apply his perspective in writing about the conference for the PLG bulletin.

The award honors Miriam Ruth Gutman Braverman (1920-2002), who was a socialist, writer, activist librarian, and longstanding member of the Progressive Librarians Guild, a founder of the ALA's Social Responsibilities Round Table (<http://libr.org/srrt/>), and a proponent of the social responsibilities perspective. The award is intended to celebrate Miriam's spirit of activism and faith in the power of people's collective social justice efforts and inspire future generations of librarians. The award has been given annually since 2003, most recently to Sarah Kortemeier in 2016, for her essay "I'll Drown My Book: Visibility, Gender, and Classification in The University of Arizona Poetry Center Library." Past prize-winning essays can be found on PLG's website (<http://progressivelibrariansguild.org/content/award.shtml>).

The Progressive Librarians Guild is committed to providing a forum for the open exchange of radical views on library issues, as well as taking stands on issues confronting library workers and the world around them. Its members reject the sterile notion of the neutrality of librarianship, and strongly oppose the commodification of information which turns the 'information commons' into privatized, commercialized zones. For more information or to join PLG, visit the group's website

(<http://progressivelibrariansguild.org/>). If you are at ALA Annual in Chicago, please plan to join members of PLG at their meeting on Sunday June 25th from 4:30 – 5:30 at the Swissotel, Room Lucerne III where the Braverman Prize winner will present his work.

For information about the Braverman Prize, please contact 2017 Braverman Prize Committee Chairs Julene Jones at julene.jones@uky.edu or Madeline Veitch at veitchm@newpaltz.edu.