



ARCLIB Conference 2026

July 1-3 | Liverpool

Conference schedule

School of Arts Library, University of Liverpool

Wednesday 1 July

13:30 - 14:15 **Registration**

Refreshments available

14:15 - 14:30 **Welcome**

Richenda Gwilt | Chair of ARCLIB

14:30 - 16:30 **Open Mind – a practical workshop: how Liverpool School of Architecture introduces 1st year students to conceptual thinking and reflective practices.**

Lucretia Ray and Luke Bushnell-Wye, University of Liverpool Architecture department

16:30 **Check in to accommodation**

2-minute walk to Crown Place

18:10 **Depart for dinner**

Meet in lobby for 15-minute walk to The Botanist

Thursday 2 July

08:45 - 9:15 **Registration**

Refreshments available

09:15-09:30 **Welcome**

Richenda Gwilt | Chair of ARCLIB

With a little help from my friends. Or: Collaborative teaching in civil and architectural engineering

Clair Sharpe | University of Liverpool Library

Clair shares her experience of collaborative teaching on a first-year project module with academic colleagues from Civil Engineering and Architecture. Students worked in groups to plan low-cost solutions to real-world design challenges, run by Engineers Without Borders, based in Kenya. This year, the teaching programme included more time for library input on information discovery, critical awareness and referencing.

Uniquely, the students were given access to the University's reading list system to share the resources they found and to help format their references.

Library staff gave feedback to students at interim and final group presentations, giving insight into how effective our teaching has been.

How many references to Beatles song titles can you spot in the presentation?
With love, from me to you!

They Say They Love Us, But Do They? Early Findings from an Architecture Faculty Survey

Sara Mautino, Amy Hunt, Stefanie Hiles |

Architecture librarians are often asked to support two very different worlds: the fast, visual pace of studio teaching and the more traditional expectations of academic research. We hear "we love the library" a lot, but what does that actually mean in practice, and what do faculty really want from us?

In this short talk, Sara Mautino, Amy Hunt, and Stefanie Hiles share early themes from a multi-institution survey of American architecture faculty perceptions of architecture libraries and librarians. We will sketch our method and highlight the patterns emerging in faculty language about student research, teaching support, and "library value."

There will be take-home ideas: questions that open better conversations with faculty, studio-friendly information literacy micro-interventions, and simple approaches to showing impact without turning your life into spreadsheets.

Refreshments

Modern Construction Online database

Anne O'Riordan | De Gruyter

Raffle of lovely Birkhauser publications

Working with student partners: improving engagement with architecture resources

Liz Peet | Manchester Metropolitan University

In this talk, Liz will provide background on Manchester Met's collaboration with student partners and the variety of work and projects they have done with the

Academic Engagement and Teaching Services Team and other teams within the Library. This provided library staff with valuable insights into students' perceptions of the library, enabling the use of this feedback to enhance library spaces, teaching sessions, and online tutorials.

Liz will share her experience of working with one of the student partners, an MArch student, on projects including collating a resource list of architectural resources from India, reviewing teaching material and gathering feedback on how architecture students use print journals.

Lunch

Hearing *Eyes of the Skin*

Greta Friggens | University of Portsmouth

Have you ever considered what it might be like to reimagine the concept of a book? As we stand on the precipice of the 4th Industrial Revolution, how can we encourage students to move beyond the AI summary and find value in the effort of immersion in a good book?

Greta shares her experience of collaborating with academics, students, an architect and a musician in creating an audio soundscape of Juhani Pallasmaa's seminal architectural text, *The Eyes of the Skin*, originally published in 1996. Might this approach encourage students to connect with this poetic and important text?

Refreshments

Pidgeon Digital update

Round table discussion

Sharing practice and collaboration on themes arising from the conference. Delegates' submissions, including publishing and e-resources.

16:45

Close of day

18:45

Depart for drinks reception and conference dinner

Meet in lobby for 10-minute walk to Hope Street Hotel

Friday 3 July

08:45 - 09:10

Registration

Refreshments available

09:10 - 09:15

Welcome

Richenda Gwilt | Chair of ARCLIB

RIBA Library & Collections: On the move

Speaker

The RIBA Library & Collections are undergoing a series of complex moves, with the Library and Photographs collection having left 66 Portland Place for the refurbishment of the building, and the upcoming move of the Drawings & Archives collections from the V&A.

Dr Adrian Steel, Director, Library and Collections, and Cathy Wilson, RIBA Library Services Manager, will discuss how these temporary services were planned and set up and in particular how we foregrounded the needs of our users throughout. We'll outline the interim services, problems encountered and lessons learnt so far, hoping that this may help others who may find themselves having to deliver a temporary relocation and service.

The overlap of Librarianship and Learning Development in Higher Education

Megan Luke | University of the West of England

This talk explores the relationship between librarianship and learning development in supporting students of Architecture and related disciplines. It will consider approaches used to make texts and sources accessible to students, and pedagogical approaches to support analysis and reflection.

Refreshments

Teaching Information Literacy to Architecture Students in a Post-Truth Society

Catherine Essinger | University of Houston

This paper will summarize changes in information literacy instruction at the University of Houston's Architecture, Design, and Art Library and offer a framework for presenting the qualities of misinformation, methods of disinformation, and the psychology of information processing.

By teaching students to examine how and why they value, organize, and either accept or reject information, instructors can prepare them to engage more deeply with their data and address it from multiple perspectives in their output, whether that output is a research paper or a design.

12:50 - 13:50	Lunch
14:00 - 16:00	Walking tour: The Merchants & The Masterpiece Luggage can be stored in the conference venue during the tour
16:00	Conference ends