

THERE'S A GOVDOC FOR THAT

Government
Documents and
Information in
Teaching, Learning,
and Research

Mary Elizabeth Schiavone (she/her/hers)

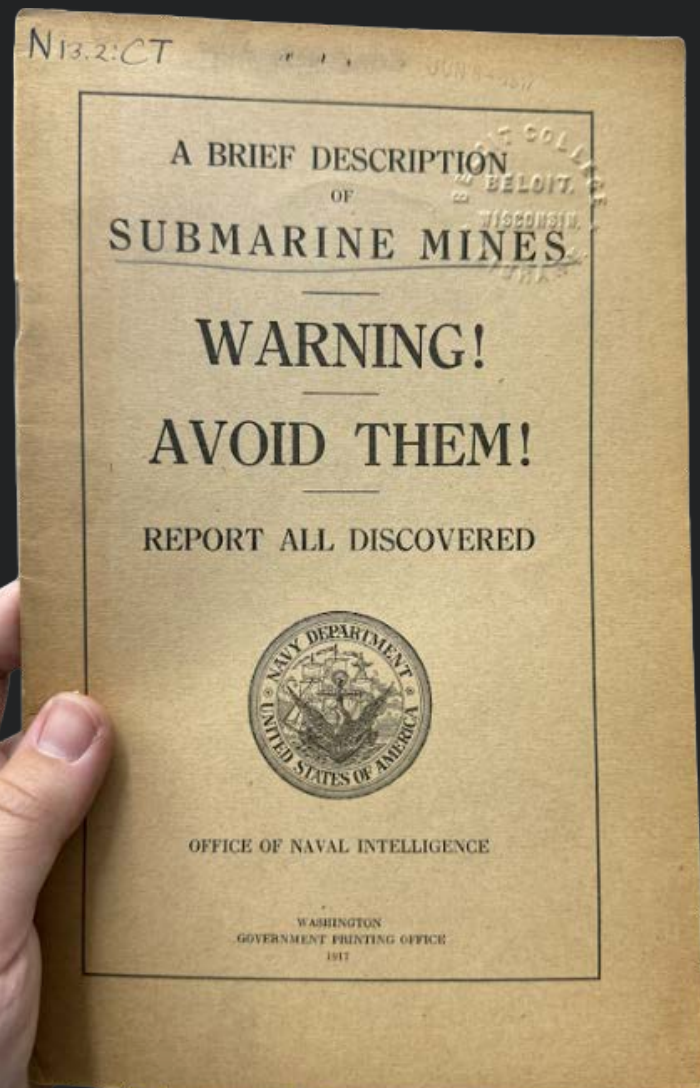


HI, I'M MARY

Student Success & Engagement Librarian and FDLP Coordinator @ Beloit College*
(Jan 2024 - Aug 2026)

MY RESEARCH

- humanized outreach
- improving how we teach students to contextualize and communicate STEMM and government information
- LIS student experiential learning
- Research ethics



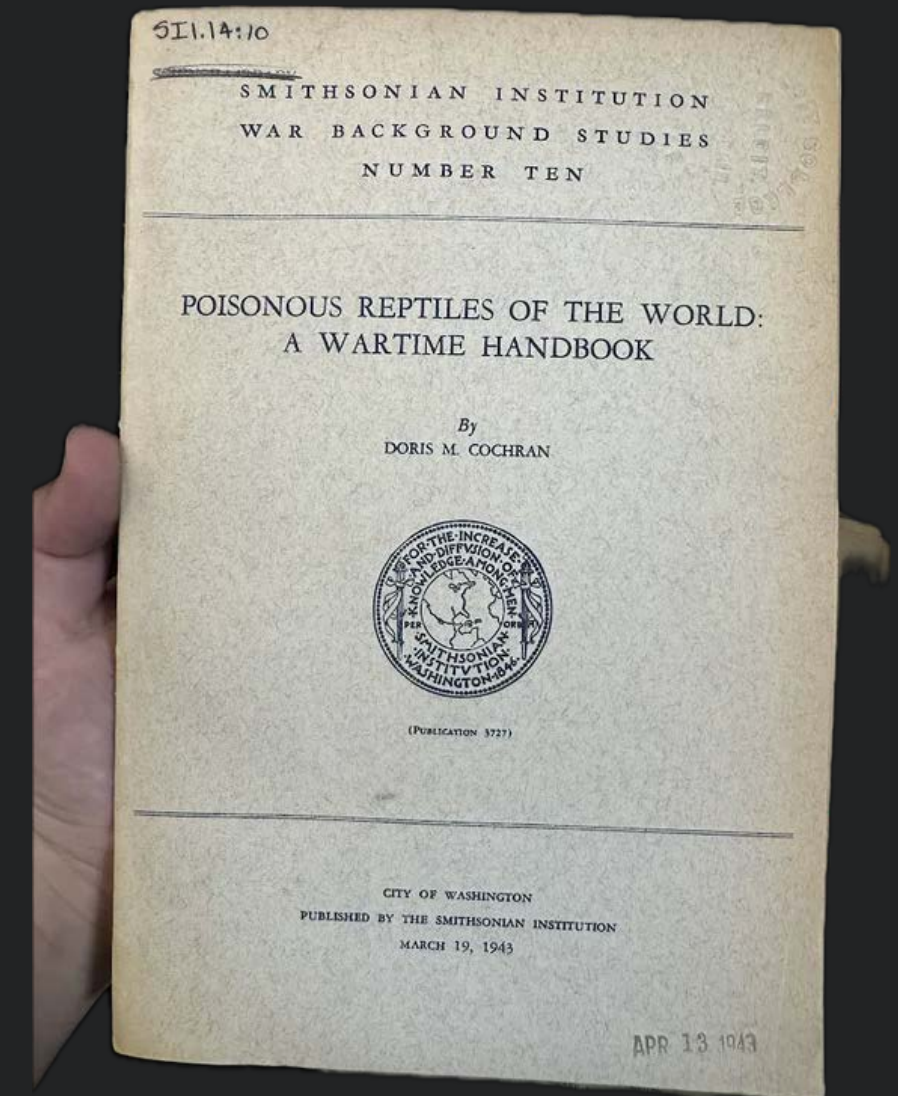
*now the Education & Curriculum Librarian @ Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science

OVERVIEW

About Beloit College & Other Context

Outreach Plan Stages

Examples & Strategies



BELOIT COLLEGE

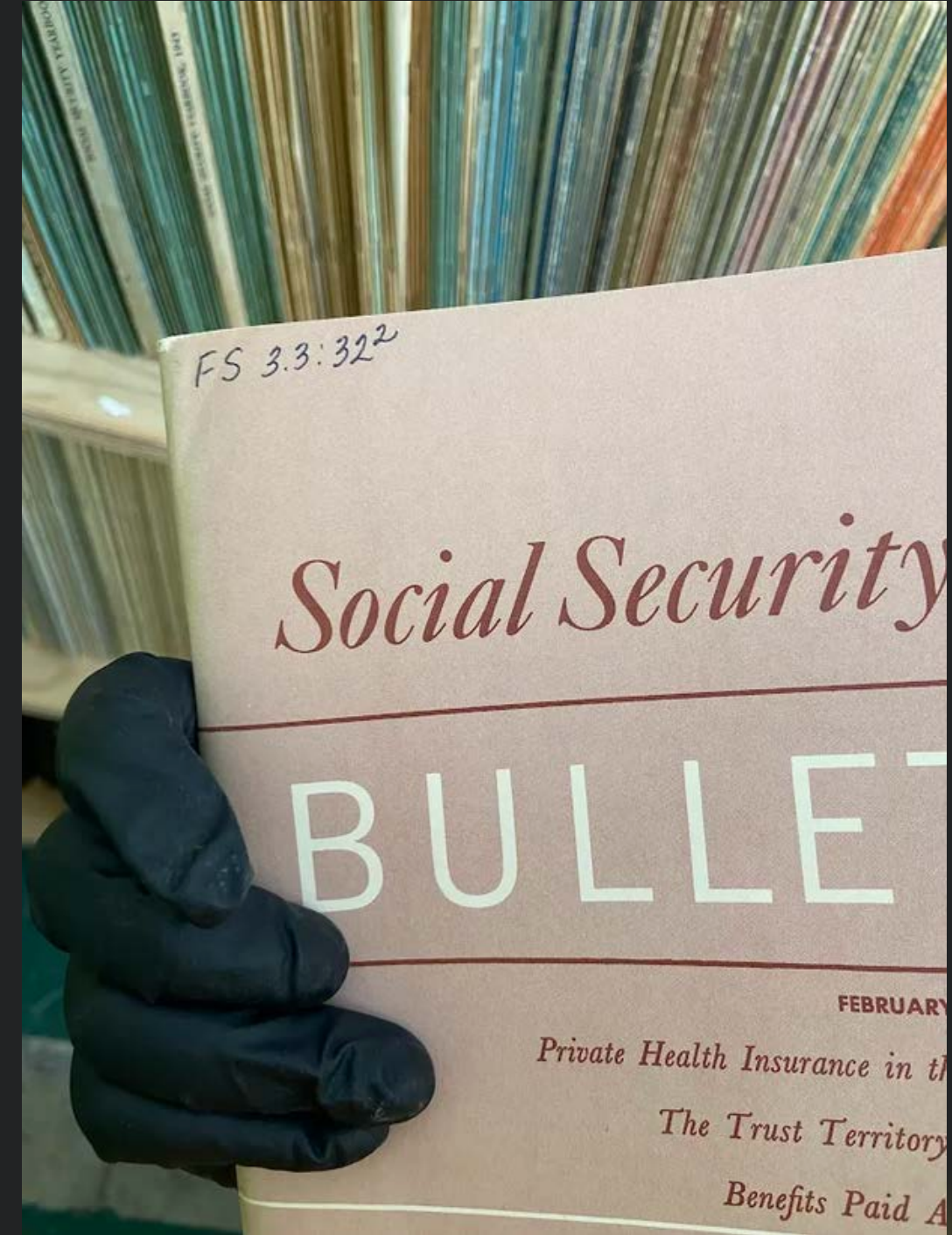
- Located in Beloit, Wisconsin (on the IL/WI border)
- Full Time Enrollment (FTE) of approximately 1,000 students

MORSE LIBRARY

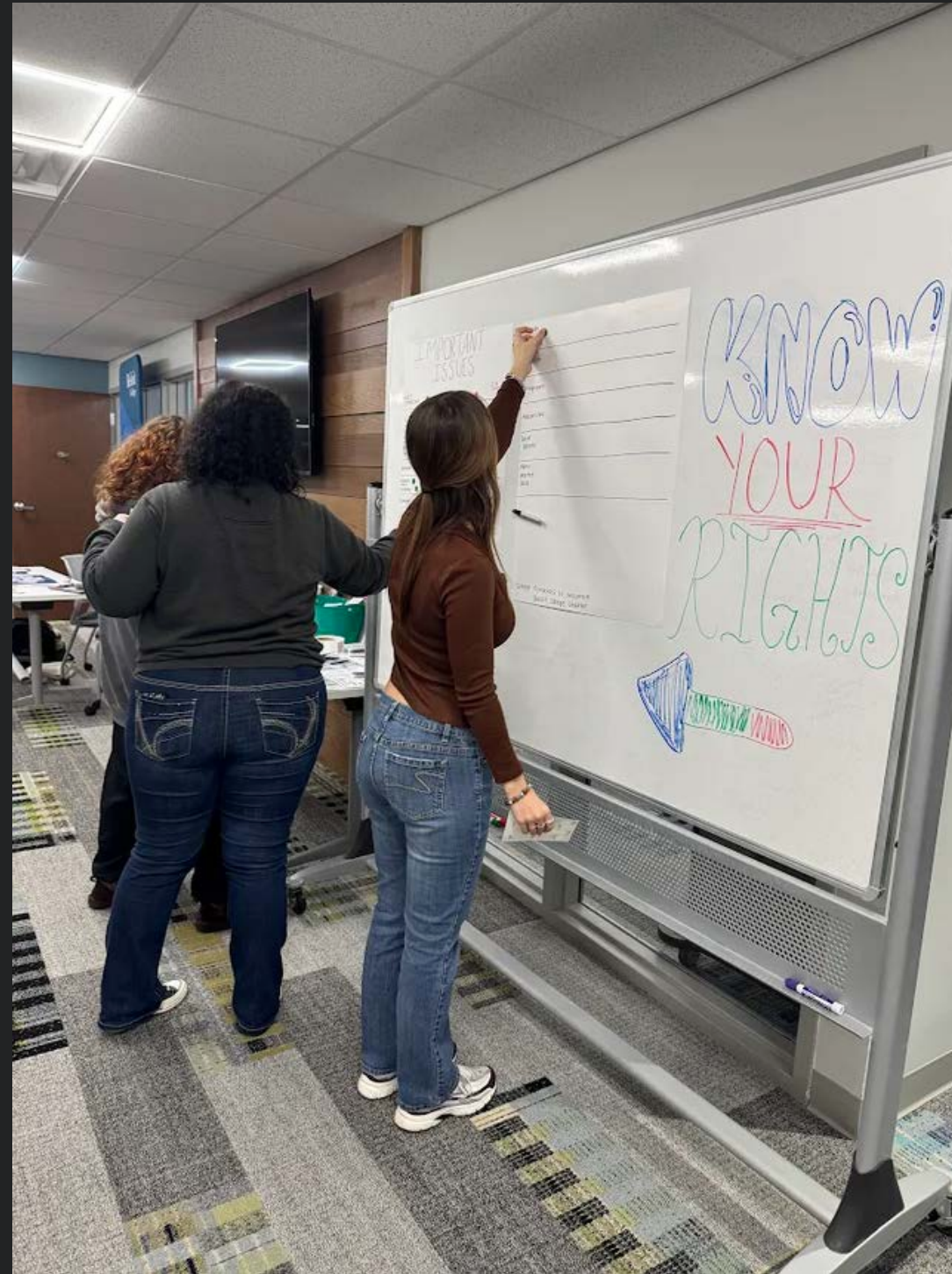
- Combined Library & Information Technology Services (LITS) Department
 - 5 Library staff (1 FDLP Coordinator), 9 IT staff
- Partially renovated in 2023-2024 through a \$9 million Wisconsin Neighborhood Investment Fund grant
- Oldest depository in the state of Wisconsin!



WHERE IT STARTED



WHERE IT WENT



OUR PLAN

Stage 1: Assessment

Stage 2: Connections

Stage 3: Stories

STAGE 1: ASSESSMENT

- What do you have in your collection?
- What do your patrons need?
- What's your ideal connection or scenario?

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- What do you have in your collection?
 - Materials back to the 1860s, covering topics like war, rights, and UFOs
- What do your patrons need?
 - Support with source navigation
 - Community building opportunities
- What's your ideal connection or scenario?
 - Tying GovDocs to student research, instruction, programming, and the real world

STAGE 2: CONNECTIONS

- Who would be most interested at your institution?
- How do government documents or information tie into your other work?

STAGE 2: CONNECTIONS

- Who would be most interested at your institution?
 - History Department
 - Political Science Department
- How do government documents or information tie into your other work?
 - Goal 1: Expand instructional session offerings
 - Goal 2: Increase patron familiarity and use of the Library

STAGE 3: STORIES

- What stories can you tell based on the materials you have?
- How would those stories fit into outreach, instruction, and research support?
- What outcomes did this lead to?

STAGE 3: STORIES

Example 1: Student thesis on the Vietnam War

- What stories can you tell based on the materials you have?
 - U.S. Government war considerations, based on Congressional hearings
- How would those stories fit into outreach, instruction, and research support?
 - Exploring primary source material in student political science research
- What outcomes did this lead to?
 - Student advocacy for GovDocs collection to other students and faculty (and in tours!)

STAGE 3: STORIES

Example 2: Social Media

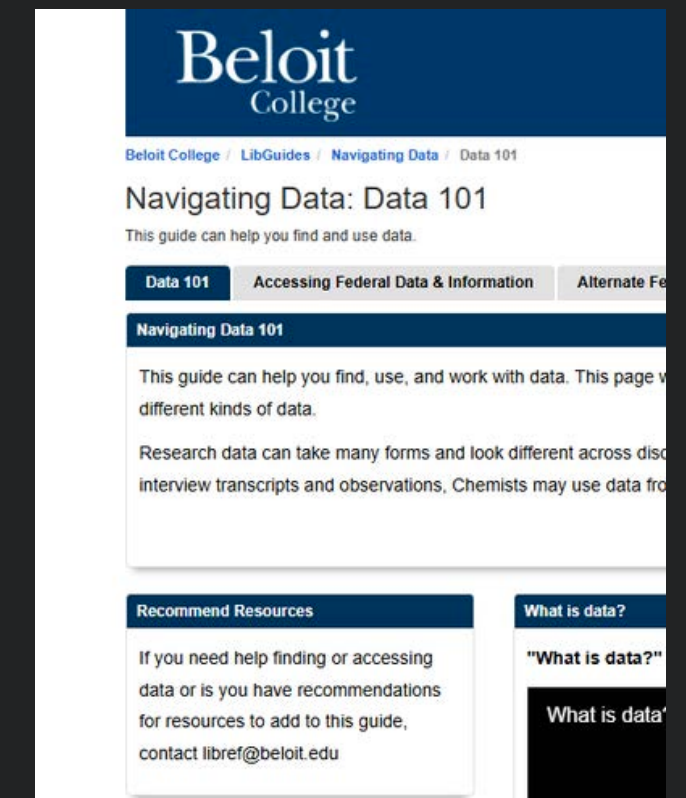
- What stories can you tell based on the materials you have?
 - Materials on unexpected topics
- How would those stories fit into outreach, instruction, and research support?
 - Quick highlights on social media
- What outcomes did this lead to?
 - Patron engagement & questions about GovDocs



STAGE 3: STORIES

Example 3: Class Assignments Using Government Data

- What stories can you tell based on the materials you have?
 - Where data comes from and how policies change
- How would those stories fit into outreach, instruction, and research support?
 - Sociology course assignment using government data
- What outcomes did this lead to?
 - New patron guides and online resources



STAGE 3: STORIES



Example 4: Constitution Day Programming

- What stories can you tell based on the materials you have?
 - How the U.S. Constitution affects our patrons
- How would those stories fit into outreach, instruction, and research support?
 - Programming & games tied to the U.S. Constitution
- What outcomes did this lead to?
 - New event formula & collaborations

THE KYR EVENT SERIES

Round 1: Constitution Day

Clue 5:

According to Article 1, section 9, clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution, known as the Appropriations Clause, there are regulations on how to use the money in the Treasury.

Use the [GovInfo.gov](https://www.govinfo.gov) Trending section on its home page to find another document tied to government spending and include it below:

Learn about the U.S. Constitution and your rights!

U.S. Constitution

SEARCH

STARTS WITH A U.S. CONSTITUTION-THEMED JEOPARDY GAME!

9/17

7:00-8:30PM

1ST FLOOR, MORSE LIBRARY

Join us on 9/17 at 7pm to play Constitution-themed Jeopardy and enjoy snacks, then start the search using your free Pocket Constitution!



THE SEARCH RUNS

9/17 - 9/24

Complete the passport and turn it in by 9/24 at 11:59pm to be featured on the virtual victory wall and be entered for a chance to win an exclusive tote bag!

Joining after the kickoff event? Stop by Morse Library for your Pocket Constitution and Passport!

BTYB: LITS & The Political Science Dept.

TDD: 9/25

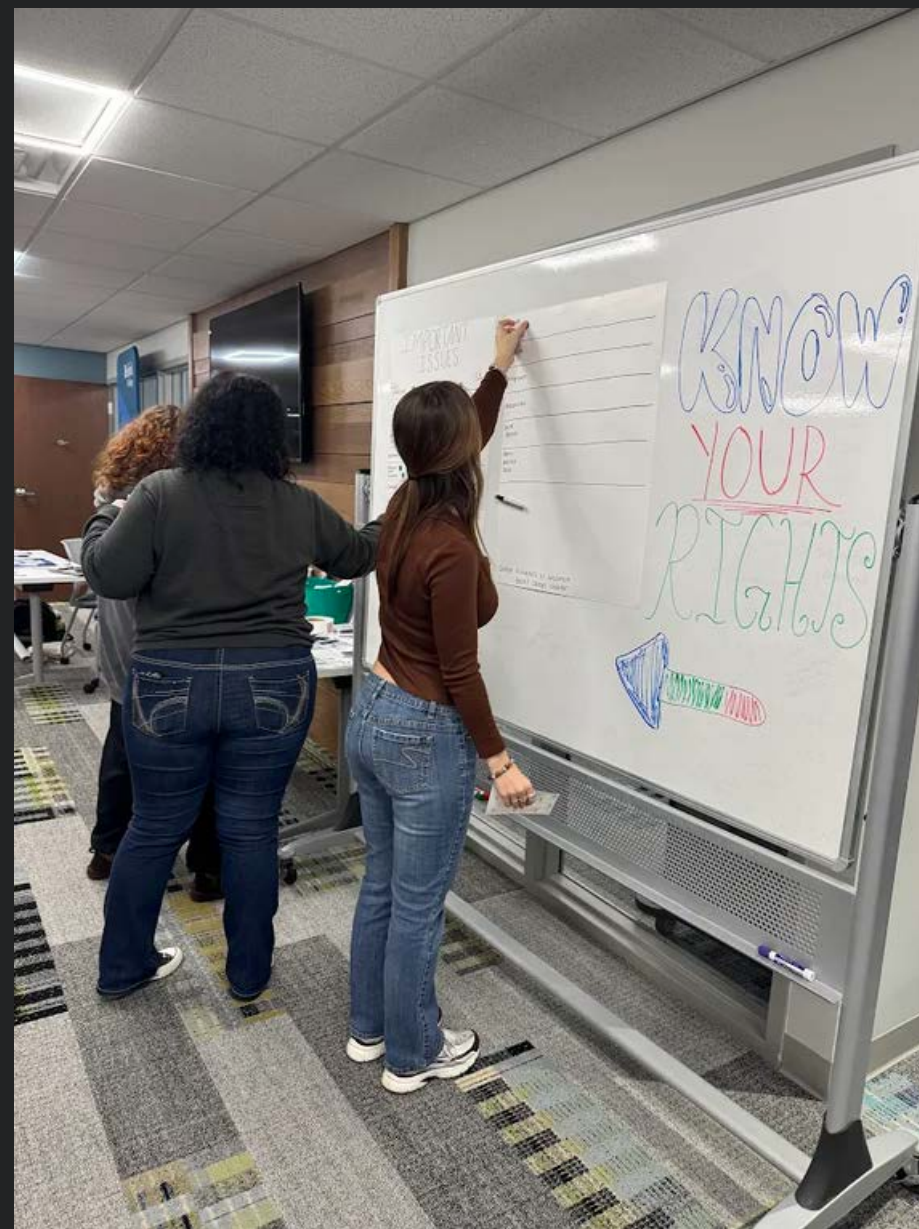


CONSTITUTION SEARCH



THE KYR EVENT SERIES

Round 2: Local Rights (Beloiter Edition)



LINE UP

DEAN OF STUDENTS

Campus & Personal Security

(STUDENT ORG)

Local Government

(STUDENT WORKER UNION)

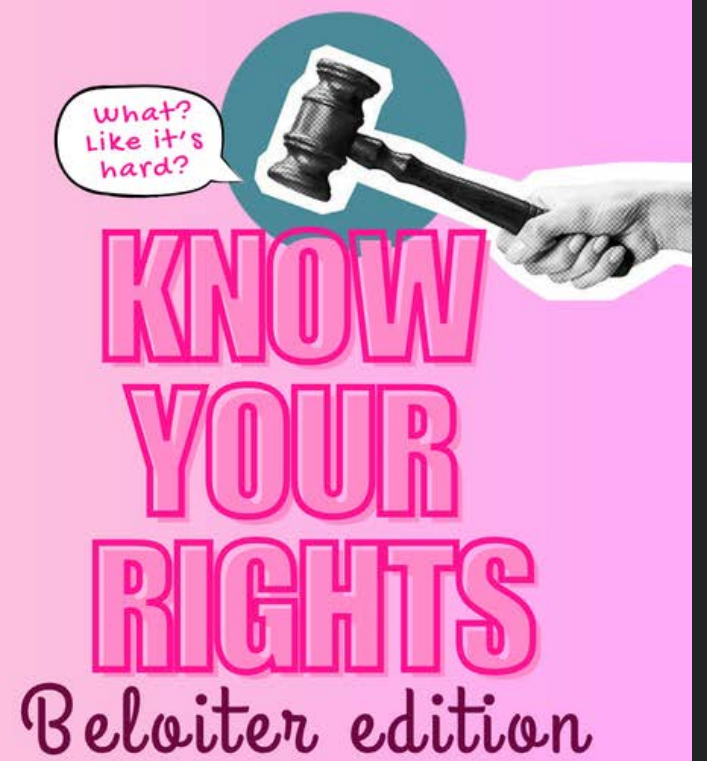
Workers' Rights

LIBRARIANS

Censorship

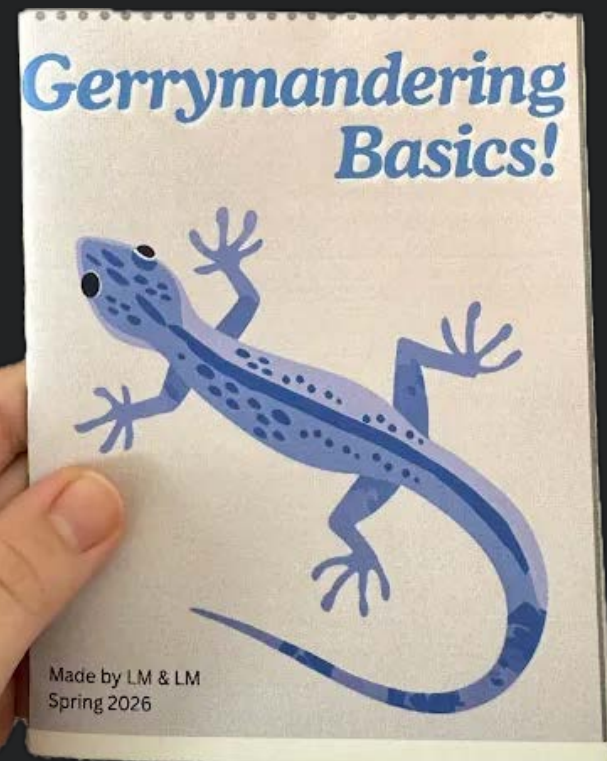
Book Banning

Zine Mini Workshop



THE KYR EVENT SERIES

Round 3: Navigating Structures of Government



THE KYR EVENT SERIES

Round 4: Reproductive Justice Exhibit (Self-Guided Programming)

I'm a GovDoc!

This item is
building use only.

Please bring back to the InfoDesk
or display when you're done.

Questions? Email Mary
(schiavonem@beloit.edu)



AND...

Practicum-student-made zine

Undergraduate co-curator with a
related thesis presentation

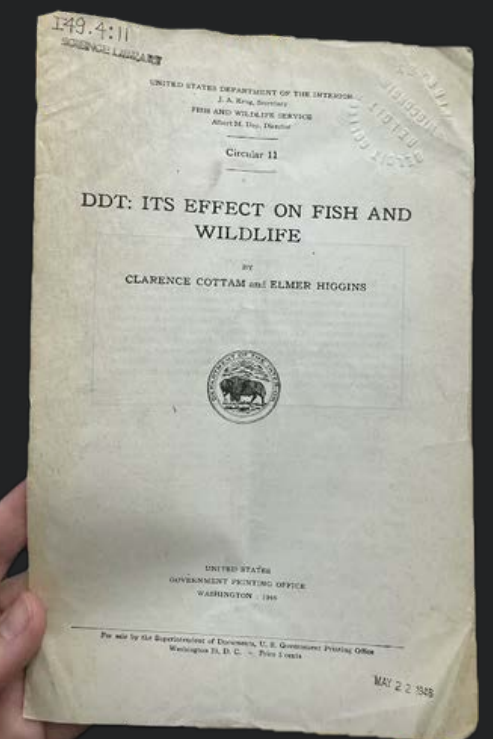
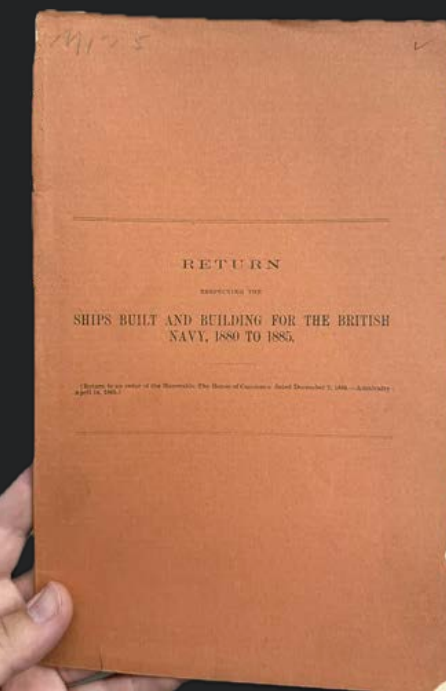
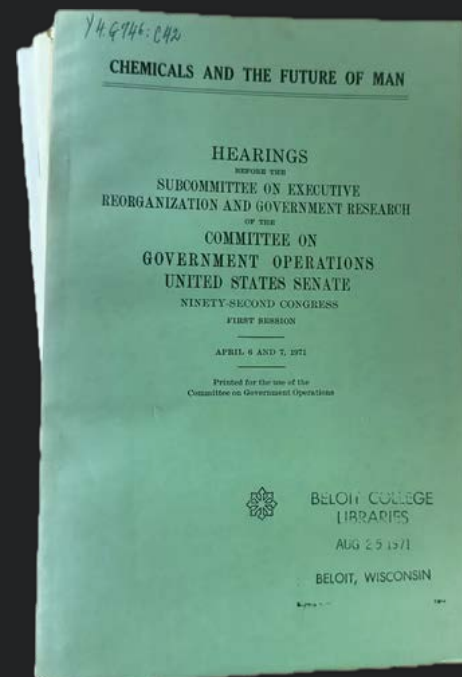
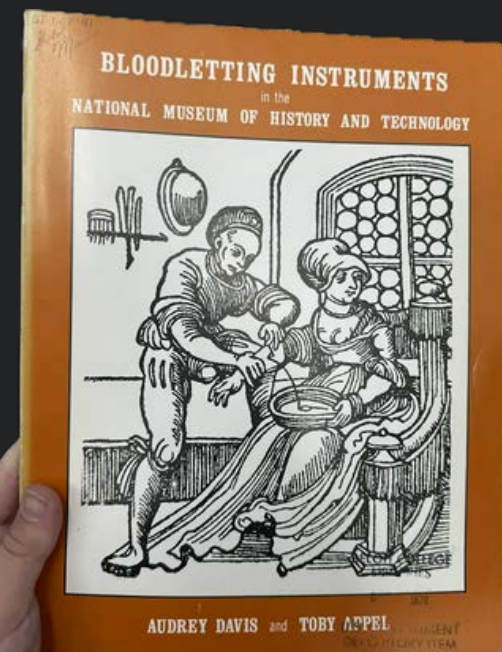
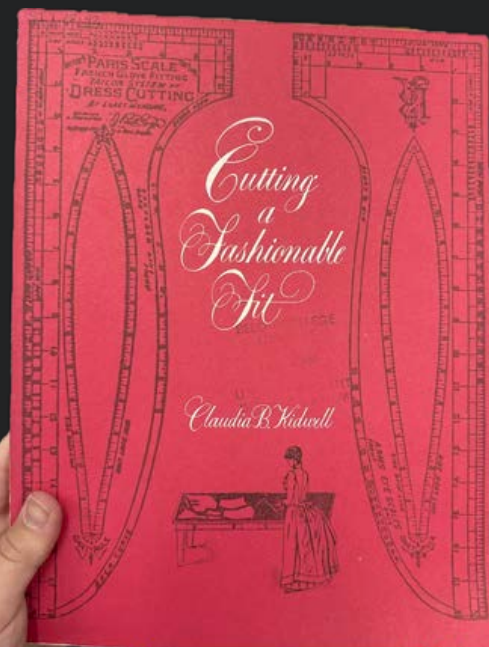
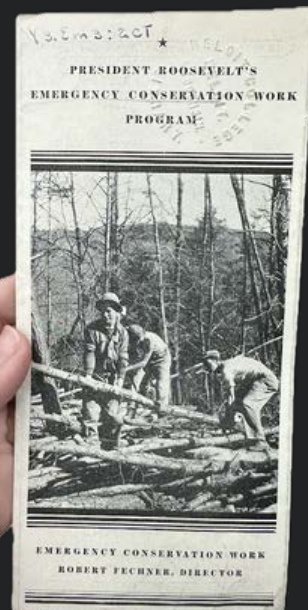
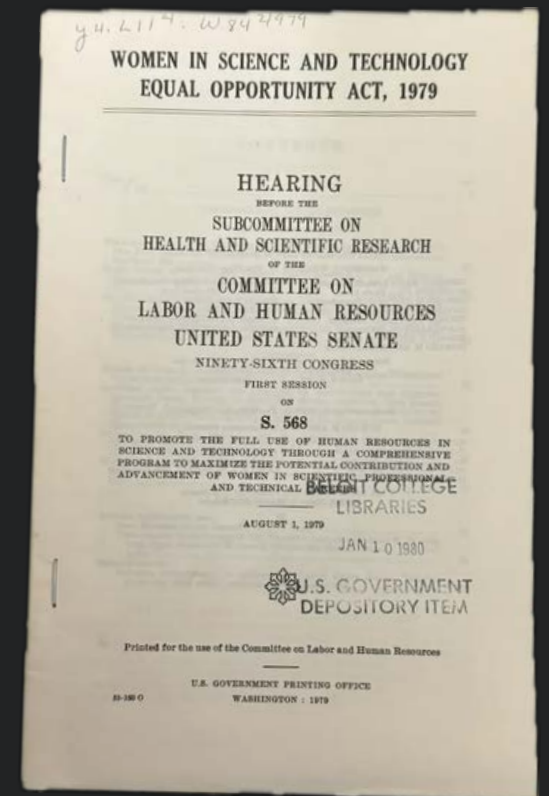
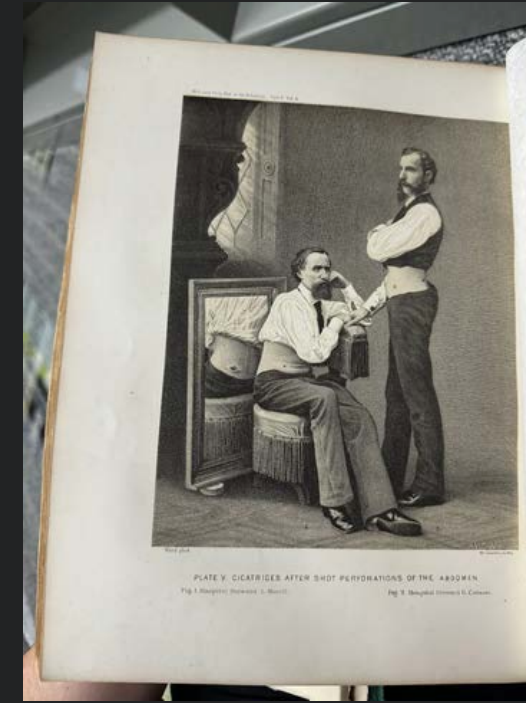
Items from the regular collection,
and the zine collection

REMINDERS

Tie GovDocs into work you're already doing

Focus on the human (your patrons, stories, interests)

Build relationships - you don't have to do this alone!



LET'S CONNECT!

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**Listen to (or read)
the podcast!**

librariansspillthetea.substack.com

