

## Annual Conference Keynote Speaker Information

**MI-ALA is pleased to announce that Carrie Donovan will be the keynote speaker on Thursday, May 12th, at the inaugural MI-ALA Annual Conference.**

**Title: Making Bold Moves: Letting Go of Our Professional Pasts to Find Opportunity in the Unknown**

With the first conference of the Michigan Academic Library Association upon us, the members of this new grassroots organization find ourselves at the precipice of possibility. As with any endeavor that is worthwhile, we will be called upon to move beyond our comfort zones and to face uncertainties - and we will do so together, building our community of practice along the way. While we work toward charting a course for our organization's roles in advocacy, innovation, collaboration, and professional development, MI-ALA will find and fulfill its mission through the power and creativity of its membership. Together, we will develop our collective strengths, seek out new possibilities, and make bold changes that will direct our work state-wide and define our professional practice moving forward.

Carrie is new to Michigan and new to library administration, so her daily activities require her to put aside past experiences, practice critical reflection, and embrace the unknown. She looks forward to sharing her thoughts related to the processes of letting go and moving on, as well as learning from new colleagues, at the inaugural MI-ALA Conference.

**Carrie Donovan** is the Assistant Dean for Research and Instruction Services of the Ferris Library for Information Technology and Education (FLITE), overseeing the research and teaching, user engagement, and experience functions of the library. She has presented at conferences internationally, most recently co-presenting Assessment and Academic Library Value at the November 2015 Charleston Pre-Conference, providing the keynote address of the May 2015 The Innovative Library Classroom (TILC) conference, and serving as panelist and workshop co-facilitator at the 2015 ACRL Conference. Donovan currently serves as ACRL Assessment in Action, Curriculum Designer & Facilitator, ACRL Instruction Section Member-at-Large, and as the ACRL Liaisons Training and Development Committee Vice-Chair. She has actively served the academic library community in many leadership and advisory roles throughout her career and is the author of many peer-reviewed articles, book reviews, and book chapters, including the forthcoming chapter "Understanding our Students and Ourselves" in *UX in Libraries*.