

**January 10, 2017**

**Call for LIS faculty teaching tech/media courses focussed on children and teens**

In winter 2017, ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) will launch *Ready to Code (RtC) Phase II: Embedding RtC Concepts in Library and Information Science Curricula*, a year long project building on work accomplished through the *2016 Libraries RtC Phase 1: Increasing Computer Science Opportunities for Young People* project. RtC Phase 1 examined ways in which youth library staff currently integrate computer science (CS) learning experiences into their programming. It helped uncover the opportunities libraries have to extend the national and local investments already made in promoting CS opportunities for the nation's youth. The RtC Phase 1 project found gaps in the depth and scope of coding activities among libraries and recommends focusing next step action on programs in Library and Information Science (LIS) schools for youth librarians. The RtC Phase 1 report [Ready to Code: Connecting Youth to CS Opportunity through Libraries](#) (pdf) was released January 6. An executive summary of the report will be available during the ALA Midwinter 2017 Meeting.

In order to move these recommendations related to LIS education forward, ALA OITP invites full-time faculty members at graduate schools of LIS that are ALA-accredited or graduate schools that provide school library certification programs in the United States, to apply to become RtC Faculty Fellows. Full-time faculty members MUST be teaching technology/media course(s) tailored for pre-service library staff planning on working with children and teens in Fall 2017.

RtC Faculty Fellows will work with the RtC Phase II project team to develop, revise, and pilot technology and media curricula that infuses existing courses with content and learning experiences grounded in RtC concepts. The resulting curricula will challenge future librarians working with children and teens to develop requisite teaching skills and pedagogical expertise to engage with children and teens through programs and experiences that foster computational thinking. RtC Faculty Fellows will be required to conduct the following activities throughout 2017:

- Attend a virtual meeting in April 2017 with the RtC team to set expectations and select the course that they would like to revise;
- Attend a one-day in-person workshop at the ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago in June 2017 (travel support will be provided) to work with the RtC team to infuse their technology/media courses with content and learning experiences grounded in RtC concepts and get feedback on their revised syllabus from other RtC Faculty Fellows;
- Teach the technology/media courses that were revised in Fall 2017;
- Continually reflect on the course experiences with the rest of the RtC faculty cohort on successes, challenges, and revisions to their courses;
- Assist the RtC team's external evaluator with any request for outcome assessments;
- Administer a survey (developed by the RtC team) with their students (at the end of the semester) on their satisfaction with the courses content, skills that they have learned,

how their behaviors and mindset about libraries and youth have changed, and any gaps that they wished that the course would have covered;

- Share their syllabi and experiences with fellow RtC Faculty Fellows in December 2017 and with other graduate schools of LIS and graduate schools that provide school library certification programs via a panel presentation and/or journal article in the following year.

RtC Faculty Fellows will receive a stipend of **\$1500**. To apply, please complete the following [form](#). You will also be asked to upload a letter of application indicating your interest and teaching approach/philosophy, a letter of support from your Dean/Associate Dean/Department Chair/Program Director confirming that you will be teaching a technology/media course(s) tailored for pre-service youth/teen/children/school librarians in Fall 2017, the syllabus for the course that you hope to redesign through the fellowship, and your CV. Applications are due on **Feb 28, 2017**. The RtC team will make decision and notify faculty on the outcome of their applications by **March 20, 2017**.

An informal in-person information session will be held at the ALISE 2017 Conference on **Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 6 pm**. Faculty that are interested are encouraged to meet at the conference hotel lobby (Sheraton Atlanta) with RtC team member, Dr. Mega Subramaniam for an informal discussion.

A **virtual** information session will be held on **January 27, 2017 at noon EST** via Adobe Connect. Please complete the following [form](#) if you are interested in attending the information session or would like to receive a recording of the session. Information about the virtual information session will be posted on the forthcoming RtC website.

For further information about the Libraries Ready to Code(RtC) project and questions about the application, contact Marijke Visser ([mvisser@alawash.org](mailto:mvisser@alawash.org)) or Dr. Mega Subramaniam ([mmsubram@umd.edu](mailto:mmsubram@umd.edu))

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