



MEMO

To: Certification Subcommittee

From: Tracy Cook, Lead Consulting & Learning Librarian

Subject: Follow-up on recommendations from Commissioner Burnett

Date: September 21, 2026

Recommendation for alternative content

At the August 2026 Commission meeting, Commissioner Burnett recommended creating courses that cover content from Heterodoxy in the Stacks -

<https://hxllibraries.substack.com/p/contributors>. He provided a list of articles he has found interesting with a suggestion they be turned into 3-4 courses.

Staff recommend asking one of the contributors of Heterodoxy in the Stacks to create courses for us. This allows a subject matter expert to create the content which usually results in a richer, deeper learning experience for students, and is consistent with the continuing education policy.

Questions

- As you review the list, what major areas would you like covered? What would you like people to learn?
- Would you like staff to explore working with the contributors of Heterodoxy in the Stacks? This would involve finding out whether the contributors would create and deliver the content, how much that would cost, and then staff would follow the policy which means proposals for the courses would be submitted for committee and Commission review.

Writings recommended by Commissioner Burnett

Resources for Library Trustees and Librarians About Viewpoint Neutrality

From [Heterodoxy in the Stacks \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[New Report Condemns Gender Activism Among Children's Librarians in the UK \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[Introducing the Association of Library Professionals' Statement on the Academic Freedom of Librarians \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[Does DEI Strengthen or Harm Intellectual Freedom? \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[Required to Recite the Mainstream Narrative to Graduate \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[The "Reimagining" of Libraries \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[Live Not by Lies: ICE, Libraries, and the "Dual State" \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[One of Those Dead Who Give Us Energy: Edmund Burke's Wisdom for Archivists
Comment on "Seven Theses Against Viewpoint Diversity" \[hxllibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxllibraries.substack.com)

[Reflecting on Reflecting, After Thirty Years \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[One Anti-Censorship Project in Massachusetts: First Year Report \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Neutrality as a Service: Libraries in the Attention Economy \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Incuriosity of Librarians and Media in Non-Traditional Content and Sources: The Twitter Files as a Case Study \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Higher Ground: Truth, Power, and Responsibility \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[How Archival Digitization Fosters Viewpoint Diversity and Enriches Academic Life \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Purple-haired people eaters \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[When is a nothingburger just a nothingburger? \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Better Influencing and Viewpoint Diversity \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Controversy Over Gender Identity Ideology in Children's Picture Books, pt. 1 \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Controversy Over Gender Identity Ideology in Children's Picture Books, pt. 2 \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Controversy Over Gender Identity Ideology in Children's Picture Books, pt. 3 \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Book Bans and Literary Greatness \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Shadow Hanging Over "Freedom to Read Week" \[Revised and Corrected\] \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Defending Neutrality and Pluralism in Libraries: Heterodoxy in the Stacks, 2022-2025 \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Librarianship and Political Philosophy: Seven Arguments for Neutrality and Intellectual Freedom \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Counterculture of Pluralism \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Good Projects \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Wicked Problems and Comprehensive Doctrines: Interventionism and Social License in Librarianship \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Unconscious Bias or Deliberate Censorship at Your Local Public Library? \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[How Big is Libraries' Insider Threat Problem? \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Make Book Bans Boring Again \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Culture War, the Library Bill of Rights and the Protection of Minors \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The Yearly Charade of "Banned Books Week" \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The West is Worth Saving and So Are Our Libraries \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Battle of the Book Bans \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Philosophical Foundations for a Pluralist Librarianship \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[These Books Are\(n't\) Harmful \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Ministry of Truth to Open Library School \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Library Neutrality and Pluralism: A Manifesto \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Toxic Femininity, Surveillance Capitalism, and Libraries \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)



[Only You Can Prevent Book Burnings \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Do Libraries Have a Political Orientation? \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Degrees of Disagreement \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[Speaker Controversies, Library Spaces and the "Right to the City" \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[The New Smut \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)

[New Puritans in the World of Libraries \[hxlibraries.substack.com\]](https://hxlibraries.substack.com)