

Ellen Rubenstein

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Ph.D., Library and Information Science

August 2011

Indiana University, Bloomington
Master of Library Science

May 2006

State University of New York, College at Fredonia
Bachelor of Arts, English

May 1978

DISSERTATION TOPIC

“It’s a Microcosm of Life”: Weaving a Web of Information and Support in an Online Breast Cancer Community

This ethnographic study used participant-observation, interviews, and archives analysis to understand and investigate the ways that interpersonal communication in an online support group provides social support, information exchange, and community for breast cancer patients, survivors, and significant others, and how the community is integrated into participants’ daily lives.

Committee Members: Lori Kendall, Linda Smith, W. John MacMullen, Caroline Haythornthwaite

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Online communities and communication; health information; health literacy; information behavior; social capital; social networks; ethnography

RESEARCH

Publications

Rubenstein, E. (2012). “Things my doctor never told me”: Bridging information gaps in an online community. Proceedings of the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, October 26-30, Baltimore, MD.

Rubenstein, E. (2012). From social hygiene to consumer health: Libraries, health information, and the American public. *Library and Information History*, 28(3), 202-219.

Rubenstein, E. (2010). *Researcher subjects: Gaining access and building trust in an online breast cancer support group*. Proceedings of the iConference, February 3-6, Champaign, IL.

Rubenstein, E. (2009). *Dimensions of information exchange in an online breast cancer support group*. Proceedings of the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, November 6-11, Vancouver, BC.

Rubenstein, E. (2008). *The intersection of information behavior and coping among women undergoing breast lump diagnosis*. Proceedings of the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, October 24-29, Columbus, OH.

Shachaf, P. & Rubenstein, E. (2007). A comparative analysis of libraries’ approaches to copyright: Israel, Russia, and the U.S. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 33(1), 94-105.

Publications, cont.

Rubenstein, E. (2006). *Montreal Jewish Public Library Sheet Music Collection Finding Aids*. Published on library's website, at <http://www.jewishpubliclibrary.org/site/archives/isheetmusicaid.html>

Chicago blues: From delta to world; E-reference services: What users tell us; Race/ethnicity, recruitment, retention; Bradbury chronicles his love for libraries. Contributions to coverage of 2005 ALA Annual conference; appeared in *American Libraries*, August 2005; 68-69.

Presentations

Rubenstein, E. L. (2012). "Things my doctor never told me": Bridging information gaps in an online community. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, October 26-30, Baltimore, MD.

Veinot, T., Souden, M. et al. (2012) "Information, Interaction and Innovation in Consumer Health: New Directions at the Intersection Of Information Science and Informatics." Panel presentation at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, October 26-30, Baltimore, MD.

Rubenstein, E. (2011). *Information and social support in an online breast cancer community*. Presented at the annual meeting of the Breast Cancer Mailing List, October 21-23, Philadelphia, PA.

Rubenstein, E. L. (2011). "*It's a microcosm of life*": *Weaving a web of information and support in an online breast cancer community*. Paper presented at a workshop of the Special Interest Group – Social Informatics at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, October 9-12, 2011, New Orleans, LA.

Rubenstein, E. (2011). *Intersecting constructs in an online community*. White paper submitted to SIG-USE (Information Needs, Seeking, & Use) Symposium at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, October 9-12, 2011, New Orleans, LA.

Rubenstein, E. L. (2011). "*It's a microcosm of life*": *Weaving a web of information and support in an online breast cancer community*. Poster presented at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science Research Showcase, April 8, 2011.

Rubenstein, E. L. (2011). "*It's a microcosm of life*": *Weaving a web of information and support in an online community*. Invited talk, University of Oklahoma, March 2, 2011.

Rubenstein, E. L. (2011). "*It's a microcosm of life*": *Weaving a web of information and support in an online breast cancer community*. Invited talk, Florida State University, February 24, 2011.

Rubenstein, E. L. (2011). "*It's a microcosm of life*": *Weaving a web of information and support in an online community*. Invited talk, University of Arizona, February 17, 2011.

Rubenstein, E. L. (2011). "*It's a microcosm of life*": *Weaving a web of information and support in an online breast cancer community*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Library and Information Science Education, January 4-7, San Diego, CA.

Rubenstein, E. L. (2011). *Disease and social mission: Libraries, health information, and the American public*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Library and Information Science Education, January 4-7, San Diego, CA.

Presentations, cont.

Souden, M., Rubenstein, E. L., Genuis, S. K., Hogan, T. P., & Veinot, T. C. E. (2010). *Listening to patients: How understanding health information use can contribute to health literacy constructs*. Panel presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, October 22-27, Pittsburgh, PA.

Rubenstein, E. (2010). *Role play: Gaining access and building trust in an online breast cancer support group*. Presented at the Sixth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 26-29, Champaign, IL.

Guest Lecturer, "Ethics in Online Research," MGMT5004: User Experience, School of Information Management, Dalhousie University, March 12, 2010.

Guest Lecturer, "Online Privacy and Security," INFO202: Social Aspects of Information Systems, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, March 4, 2010, & April 20, 2009.

Rubenstein, E. (2010). *Researcher subjects: Gaining access and building trust in an online breast cancer support group*. Poster session presented at the iConference, February 3-6, Champaign, IL.

Rubenstein, E. (2009). *Dimensions of information exchange in an online breast cancer support group*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, November 6-11, Vancouver, BC.

Rubenstein, E. (2009). *Dimensions of information exchange and health literacy in an online breast cancer support group*. Presented at the annual conference of the Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR 10), October 7-10, Milwaukee, WI.

Panel Chair, Online Social Support, Information, and Health Communication Session at International Communication Association, May 20-25, 2009, Chicago, IL.

Rubenstein, E. (2009). *Acquiring health literacy through participation in an online breast cancer support group*. Presented at the Ohio State University Expanding Literacy Conference, April 3-5, Columbus, OH.

Rubenstein, E. (2009). *Multidimensional facets of information exchange among members of an online breast cancer support group*. Work-in-Progress poster session at the annual meeting of the Association for Library and Information Science Education, January 20-23, Denver, CO.

Rubenstein, E. (2008). *The intersection of information behavior and coping among women undergoing breast lump diagnosis*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, October 24-29, Columbus, OH.

Rubenstein, E. (2008). *Coping, communication, and information behavior among women undergoing breast lump diagnosis*. Presented at the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, April 17-19, Lexington, KY.

Rubenstein, E. (2007). *Online breast cancer support groups: Interweaving folklore, learning and community*. Presented at the American Folklore Society Annual Meeting, October 17-21, 2007, Quebec City, Quebec.

Rubenstein, E. (2007). *The Monroe County Public Library: Its place in the community*. Presented to Indiana School of Library and Information Science as recipient of Beta Phi Mu Award and Scholarship, Bloomington, IN.

Research Work Experience

- COPY EDITOR, *LIBRARY TRENDS* Jan. 2010 – June 2010
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois
- RESEARCH ASSISTANT TO PROFESSOR TERRY WEECH May – July 2010
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois
Project: Research and writing related to paper about volunteers, librarianship, and digital libraries
- RESEARCH ASSISTANT – DATA CURATION EDUCATION PROGRAM Aug. 2007 – July 2008
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois
Projects: Interviewing research subjects, Grant preparation
- RESEARCH ASSISTANT – LIBRARY RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 2007 – July 2007
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois
Projects: Interviewing research subjects, Analysis of data

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND HONORS

- Faculty Summer Funding Grant, University of Oklahoma, 2012.
Research Topic: The Role of Informal Peer Support Networks on Health Literacy
- Eugene Garfield Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (Beta Phi Mu), June 2010
- Certificate of Merit, ASIS&T SIG-USE Poster Competition, November 2009
- Teachers Ranked as Excellent List, University of Illinois, May 2009
- Beta Phi Mu (Indiana University Chapter) Award and Scholarship, April 2007
- ASIS&T SIG-USE PhD Student Conference Travel Award, November 2006
- ALA-SC Scholarship to ALA Annual Conference, Spring 2005
- Lois Eleanor Kidwell Scholarship, Indiana University, Fall, 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES Fall 2012
School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma
- INFORMATION USERS IN THE KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY Spring-Fall 2012
School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma
- DIGITAL INFORMATION ETHICS Spring 2012
School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma
- ACQUIRING KNOWLEDGE IN THE DIGITAL AGE Fall 2011
School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma
- LIBRARIES, INFORMATION & SOCIETY Spring 2011
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois
- ETHICS IN CYBERSPACE Spring 2009; Fall 2010
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois
- INFORMATION ORGANIZATION AND ACCESS Fall 2006; Fall 2008
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois

SERVICE

- Ad Hoc PhD Committee, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma 2012-2013
- Undergraduate Studies Committee, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma 2011-2013
- Admissions Committee, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma 2011-2012
- Program Committee for American Society for Information Science & Technology, Information Use Track 2010
- Reviewer, Library Student Journal 2009-2010
- Reviewer, HICSS (Hawaiian International Conference on System Sciences) Mini-Track, Social Networking & Communities 2009, 2011
- Ph.D. Student Representative to the Curriculum Committee 2009-2010
- Ph.D. Student Representative to the Faculty 2008-2009
- Ph.D. Student Representative to the Doctoral Studies Committee 2007-2008
- Doctoral Research Showcase Committee 2008-2010
- Organizer of New Ph.D. Student Orientation 2007-2009

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Society for Information Science & Technology
- American Library Association
- Association of Library and Information Science Educators
- Association of Internet Researchers
- International Communication Association
- Medical Library Association
- National Communication Association

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Tenure Workshop, University of Oklahoma February 2012
- Journal Writing Workshop, University of Oklahoma Spring 2012
- New faculty seminars, University of Oklahoma Fall 2011
- Faculty writing group, University of Oklahoma Fall 2011-Spring 2012

NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

Library Experience

REFERENCE ASSISTANT Sept. 2005 – May 2006
Business/School of Public Affairs and Environment Library
Indiana University-Bloomington

ARCHIVES INTERN July - Aug. 2005
Montreal Jewish Public Library

ALA CONFERENCE INTERN/PRESS ASSOCIATE June 2005
American Libraries Association Annual Conference, Chicago

LIBRARY ASSISTANT II Sept. 2004 – May 2005
Technical Services, Indiana University

Other Professional Experience

MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Jan. 2000 – Aug. 2004

Good News Garage, Burlington, VT

Responsibilities: Fundraising, Grant-writing, Public Relations

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Dec. 1991 – Jan. 2000

Burlington Community Land Trust, Burlington, VT

Responsibilities: Fundraising, Grant-writing, Public Relations