



**Date:** 02/01/2024

**To:** Andrew Harris, EVCAA, and Danelle Pettersen, Academic HR Personnel Manager  
**From:** Dr. Ali Modarres, Dean of the School of Urban Studies (SUS)  
**Re:** Affiliate Professor for 02/01/2024 to 06/30/2024 – Chris Jowaisas

Dear Dr. Harris,

The School of Urban Studies would like to offer an appointment to Chris Jowaisas as an Affiliate Instructor for 02/01/2024 – 06/30/2024.

Chris Jowaisas' appointment was reviewed by our SUS Faculty. They have approved this appointment as follows:

- Date of Review & Vote: 01/12/2024
- Total number of eligible voters: 11
- Total number of eligible voters present: 9
- Total number of eligible positive votes: 8
- Total number of eligible negative votes: 0
- Total number of eligible abstentions: 1
- Total number of eligible absent voters: 2
- Total number on sabbatical: 1
- Total number on leave: 0

Mr. Jowaisas graduated from the University of Michigan in 1995 with a Masters of Information and Library Studies. Mr. Jowaisas is currently a Senior Research Scientist at the University of Washington Seattle. If approved, Mr. Jowaisas will become the principal investigator for former faculty member Emma Slager's grant, CATS WITH BBR, Connect Across Tacoma.

I concur with their recommendation, and would appreciate your support and approval as well for this request.

Thank you,

Dr. Ali Modarres, Dean of the School of Urban Studies

Approved by Andrew Harris, EVCAA: \_\_\_\_\_



10 January 2024

Dear Urban Studies colleagues,

I write this letter in support of Chris Jowaisas's application to become Affiliate Faculty in our unit. Chris currently serves as Senior Research Scientist in the UW Seattle Information School, and his experience and expertise make him well suited to an affiliate appointment in SUS at UW Tacoma.

A key motivation for Chris to pursue this affiliation is to enable him to serve as the Principal Investigator on a grant that I will lead until my departure from UWT, which is funded for another two years after I leave. The structure of the grant requires that it remain at UWT, rather than UW Seattle, where Chris has an existing research staff position, and Chris therefore needs to be affiliated with an academic unit at UWT in order to serve as PI. The grant is a \$2.9 million award from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which will address digital inequities in Tacoma and the South Sound region. Chris's willingness to seek affiliation in the School of Urban studies will allow the already well underway project to continue.

Chris's research and leadership experience, as well as his existing familiarity with the project's community partners, prepare him excellently to lead the project. But beyond that, his affiliation with SUS will also offer additional benefits to our School community. Chris has a strong scholarly record, and his research on libraries, digital access, and community development intersects with the interests of numerous of our faculty and career interests of our students. Chris has worked previously in Tacoma, and one of his recent projects – a partnership with Tacoma Public Libraries to develop the Community Archives Center for Tacoma – was featured in [the News Tribune](#).

For all of these reasons I fully support Chris Jowaisas's application to become Affiliate Faculty in the School of Urban Studies.

Sincerely,

Emma Slager  
Assistant Professor  
School of Urban Studies

## Chris Jowaisas

University of Washington - Information School  
Email: chrisjow@uw.edu

### Education

MLIS, University of Michigan, 1995.

### Positions Held

#### Professional

Senior Research Scientist, University of Washington. (January 2017 - January 2024).

### Professional Memberships

Public Library Association. (January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2023).

## RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

### Published Intellectual Contributions

#### Refereed Journal Articles

Lynch, R., Young, J. C., Jowaisas, C., Boakye-Achampong, S., & Sam, J. (2022). What makes an ideal partner? African libraries and neoliberal discourses in international development, *Applied Linguistics*.

R, L., Young, J., Jowaisas, C., & Garrido, M. (2021). Data challenges for public libraries: African perspectives and the social context of knowledge., Volume 37(2), 292-306. *Information Development*.

Young, J., Lynch, R., Boakye-Achampong, S., Jowaisas, C., & Sam, J. (2021). Public Libraries and Development Across Sub-Saharan Africa: Overcoming a Problem of Perception, *Libri*.

Lynch, R., Young, J., Boakye-Achampong, S., Jowaisas, C., & Sam, J. (2020). Benefits of Crowdsourcing for Libraries in the Global South: A Case Study from Africa, *The IFLA Journal*.

Lynch, R., Young, J., Jowaisas, C., Boayke-Achampong, S., & Sam, J. (2020). African Libraries in Development: Perceptions and Possibilities, *International Information & Library Review*.

Lynch, R., Young, J., Boakye-Achampong, S., Jowaisas, C., Sam, J., & Norlander, B. (2020). Benefits of Crowdsourcing for Libraries in the Global South: A Case Study from Africa, *IFLA Journal*.

Young, J., Lynch, R., Boakye-Achampong, S., Jowaisas, C., Sam, J., & Norlander, B. (2020). Volunteer geographic information in the Global South: barriers to local implementation of mapping projects across Africa, *GEOJOURNAL*.

## Refereed Conference Contributions

Jowaisas, C., & Norlander, B. *E-rate Funding and Libraries: Preliminary Analysis of Trends Post-Modernization*. [Link](#)

Bugre, C., Jowaisas, C., & Young, J. (2023). Making Ends Meet in a Pandemic: African Library Initiatives During COVID-19. *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, 60(1), 895-898. Somerset, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (Acceptance Rate: 54%). [Link](#)

## Other Conference Contributions

Wedlake, S., Iribé Ramirez, Y., Carson, K., Jowaisas, C., Keyes, D., & Houghton, M. (2021). Creating a Digital Bridge: Lessons and Policy Implications from a Technology Access and Distribution Program for Low-income Job Seekers. *TPRC49 (Policy Research Conference on Communications, Information and the Internet)*. [Link](#)

## Presentations

### Invited Talks and Keynote Addresses

Wedlake, S., Iribé Ramirez, Y., Carson, K., Jowaisas, C., Keyes, D., Houghton, M., "Creating a Digital Bridge: Lessons and Policy Implications from a Technology Access and Distribution Program for Low-income Job Seekers," TPRC2021: The Research Conference on Communications, Information, and Internet Policy., Virtual. (September 22, 2021 - September 24, 2021).

### Conference Presentations

Jowaisas, C., Young, J., Trammell, A., Barrow, d., Larsen, K., Nguyen, S., "Collecting Stories from Underrepresented Communities: How to Co-Design a Community Archive at Your Public Library," American Library Association Annual Conference, Wenatchee, WA, USA. (June 2023).

Jowaisas, C., Wedlake, S., Young, J., Aden, C., "Countering Misinformation, Strengthening Democracy," NEXT Library Festival, Aarhus, DK. (May 2023).

Jowaisas, C., Young, J., Cifor, M., Trammell, A., Barrow, d., "Collecting Stories from Underrepresented Communities: How to Co-Design a Community Archive at Your Public Library," Washington Library Association Annual Conference, Wenatchee, WA, USA. (March 2023).

Jowaisas, C., Norlander, B., "E-rate Funding and Libraries: Preliminary Analysis of Trends Post-Modernization," iConference 2021, Beijing, China. (March 2021).

Jowaisas, C., Young, J., "Advancing Library Visibility in Africa," 3rd African Library & Information Associations & Institutions (AfLIA) Conference & 5th African Library Summit, Nairobi. (May 24, 2019).

Hildreth, S. H., Tennis, J. T., Tench, B. A., Jowaisas, C., "Ensuring the Future of Libraries: Connecting the Academy and the Profession," Public Library Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA. (March 23, 2018).

## Other Presentations

Young, J., Jowaisas, C., Barrow, d., Trammel, A., Larsen, K., Nguyen, S., "Collecting Stories from Underrepresented Communities: How to Co-Create a Community Archive at Your Public Library," BiblioCommons, Online. (October 2023).

## Media Participation and Recognition

The News Tribune. Research conducted by Jason Young, Marika Cifor, and Chris Jowaisas as part of The Community Archives Center for Tacoma project was featured in a News Tribune piece this week: "\$250K grant aims to fill the gaps in Tacoma's history. Your photos, stories will help.". (August 2021).

## Sponsored Research

### Submitted to Sponsor

Young, J. (Principal), Jowaisas, C. (Co-Investigator), Wedlake, S. (Co-Investigator), "Libraries in Recovery: Developing Wireless Connectivity Strategies Through and To Small and Rural Libraries For Increased Inclusion and Resilience," Sponsored by Califa, \$84,498.00.

Young, J. (Co-Principal), Jowaisas, C. (Co-Principal), "Expanding Library Networks to Promote Digital Inclusion for Marginalized Urban Communities," Sponsored by Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), \$249,969.00.

Young, J. (Co-Principal), Jowaisas, C. (Co-Principal), Cifor, M. (Co-Principal), "The Community Archives Center for Tacoma," Sponsored by Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), \$247,462.00.

Young, J. (Principal), Jowaisas, C. (Co-Principal), "Expanding Library Networks to Address Digital Divides during COVID-19," Sponsored by Tacoma Public Library.

Young, J. (Co-Principal), Jowaisas, C. (Co-Principal), Davis, K. (Key Personnel), "Low-Cost Mapping Technologies for Mobilizing Youth Citizenship toward Gender Equality," Sponsored by Misk Foundation, \$100,000.00.

### Funded

Jowaisas, C. (Principal), "ALA E-Rate Research," Sponsored by American Library Association.

Jowaisas, C. (Principal), Norlander, B. (Co-Principal), Young, J. (Co-Principal), "E-Rate Commitments: Utilization, Trends, and Impacts on Public Libraries, 2016-2020," Sponsored by American Library Association (ALA), \$29,839.00. (July 1, 2021 - August 31, 2021).

Young, J. (Principal), Cifor, M. (Co-Principal), Jowaisas, C. (Co-Principal), "The Community Archives Center for Tacoma," Sponsored by Tacoma Public Library, \$247,545.00. (September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2023).

Jowaisas, C. (Co-Principal), Wedlake, S. (Co-Principal), "Digital Navigators Program," Sponsored by Equity in Education Coalition, \$34,157.00. (January 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022).

Young, J. (Principal), West, J. (Co-Investigator), Davis, K. (Co-Investigator), Bergstrom, C. T. (Key Personnel), Starbird, C. (Key Personnel), Jowaisas, C. (Key Personnel), Aden, C. (Key Personnel), Levy, D. M. (Key Personnel), Turns, J. A. (Key Personnel), Caulfield, M. (Key

Personnel), Weber, N. (Key Personnel), Wedlake, S. (Key Personnel), Mitra, T. (Key Personnel), Jalbert, M. (Key Personnel), Moran, R. (Key Personnel), "Co-designing for Trust: Reimagining Online Information Literacies with Underserved Communities," Sponsored by National Science Foundation (NSF), \$5,000,000.00. (October 1, 2022 - September 1, 2024).

Jowaisas, C. (Principal), Wedlake, S. (Key Personnel), "Digital Literacy Skills," Sponsored by Seattle Jobs Initiative, \$5,000.00. (June 1, 2020 - September 15, 2020).

Jowaisas, C. (Co-Principal), Wedlake, S. (Co-Principal), Houghton, M. (Co-Principal), Sebold, M. (Co-Principal), Keyes, D. (Co-Principal), Davis, R. (Co-Principal), "Exploring Physically Distant Technology Access and Assistance to Support Workers in a New Economy," Sponsored by UW Population Health Initiative, \$18,699.00. (July 1, 2020 - November 30, 2020).

Jowaisas, C. (Principal), Norlander, B. (Co-Principal), "Leveraging Use of Open Data by Public Library Staff for Community Benefit," Sponsored by Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), \$100,000.00. (September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021).

## **SERVICE**

### **Information School Service**

Committee Member, MLIS Program Committee. (September 2023 - Present).

Committee Member, MSIM Admissions. (September 2021 - August 2022).

Committee Member, MLIS Admissions. (September 2020 - August 2021).

### **Professional Service**

Committee Member, Public Library Association, Budget and Finance Committee. (July 1, 2020 - Present).

Committee Member, Public Library Association, Measurement, Evaluation and Assessment Committee. (February 1, 2018 - June 30, 2022).