



2026 Conference Program

San Luis Resort and Conference Center, Galveston, TX

All sessions will take place in the Mainsail room unless specified

Sunday, September 20, 2026

6:00 - 7:00 PM **Welcome Happy Hour**

Monday, September 21, 2026

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM **Registration**

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM **New Deans, Directors, and Interim Directors**
Meet and Greet with the TCAL Board

9:30 - 9:45 AM **Conference Opening & Welcome**
TCAL Chair, Lee Andrew Hilyer, MLIS, M.Ed., PMP
University of Houston at Clear Lake

9:45 - 10:45 AM **Keynote: Stewarding Scholarship in an Era of Uncertainty**
Melanie Dolechek, Executive Director,
Society for Scholarly Publishing

10:45 - 11:00 AM **Networking Break**
Visit with Sponsors

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM **Panel Discussion: Leading the Shift: Putting Innovation into Practice in Scholarly Publishing**
Clara Fowler, EdD, MSLS, AHIP; & Shalin J Shah MD
MD Anderson Cancer Center

12:30 - 2:00 PM **Working Lunch**
Concurrent Division Meetings

TCCJCL (Texas Council of Community/Junior College Libraries)

TCSUL (Texas Council of State University Libraries)

TICUL (Texas Independent College and University Libraries)

Concurrent University System Meetings

Texas A&M

Texas State

University of Texas

2:00 - 2:30 PM

Networking Break

Visit with Sponsors

2:30 - 4:00 PM

Round Table Discussions

SACSCOC and Accreditation

AI-impact on research and library business model

Shifting Carnegie classification: R2 to R1

Digitization

Accessibility

Changes to federal funding: OMB rule proposals

4:00 - 5:00 PM

Networking Reception

Light Refreshments

Dinner on own

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

8:00 – 10:15 AM

Registration

8:30 - 9:30 AM

Plenary Session: Optimize Access, Invest in Connection:

Considerations for the Role of AI in Academic Libraries

Kimberly A. Conner, JD, Director, University Innovation

Lamar University

9:30 - 10:00 AM

Networking Break

Check-out and Visit with Sponsors

10:15 – 11:30 AM

TCAL Business Meeting

Secretary/Treasurer TCAL Budget Report

TSLAC Update

Texas Digital Libraries Update

TLA Update

THECB Update/Legislative Session Update