

## Miriam Libby Panel Discussion

### GHSLA 2016 Annual Meeting

<http://ghsla.org/meetings/miriam-libbey-lecture-series/>

#### **“The importance of increasing the health knowledge of your community”**

**Preston Burt** is a Health Communications Specialist in the Environmental Public Health Tracking Branch in CDC’s National Center for Environmental Health. He is dedicated to educating communities about the importance of the environment and how it affects health. In his current position, Preston designs Web and print products to increase awareness among various audiences about the valuable environmental health data accessible on the Tracking Network. In addition, he ensures that the Tracking Network’s content and data are helpful, understandable, and accessible to all users. Prior to his position at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Preston taught elementary and middle grades in several Georgia public school districts. Preston earned his Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Mississippi.

**Laura Hauser** is responsible for literacy services for the DeKalb County Public Library. Before that she taught college and high school English and worked as a private school librarian after earning an undergraduate degree in English and masters in Library and Information Management from Emory University. She also has a master’s degree and the course work is for a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction at Georgia State University. Laura’s passion for public libraries is based on her belief that access to free information in numerous formats is necessary for participation in all levels of democratic government. She believes libraries provide great opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to find pleasure and learn firsthand the value and satisfactions of sharing resources responsibly with others in their community. When we enjoy and value what we share, we are more likely to value each other. For many years now, she has also taught GED classes after work at a large, local jail. More recently she has helped organize a range of one-off classes each week so inmates can choose to participate in learning, creativity and social engagement in an otherwise barren environment.

**Dr. Glenda Knight** earned her PhD in Adult Education with a concentration in Health Literacy from Auburn University. She also holds master’s degrees in Public Health (MPH) and Gerontology where she focused on Health Education and Human Service Administration respectively. Her research interest is in chronic disease self-management and self-management support. During her early career years, Dr. Knight served as medical technologist and clinical laboratory supervisor. She later founded and operated a licensed home care agency in the state of Georgia. Dr. Knight is passionate about the need to provide health information in a way that people understand. She currently serves as executive director of Cutting Edge Health Options (a health education/health communication firm) as well as co-chair of the Diabetes Community Action Coalition.