WHAT’S YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AND HOW HAS IT SHAPED YOU?
My greatest achievement personally is becoming a husband and father. Those are my two most important roles in life, and getting married and having children provided me with purpose. Professionally, I would say winning the AALL Innovation Tournament. I submitted an idea with no expectation of being a finalist, let alone winning. Also, I had a fear of public speaking, and the thought of pitching my idea to an audience of judges and my peers was daunting. I also had to overcome a technology issue during my presentation that caused me not to finish my pitch. Despite the circumstances, I won the audience vote. Winning the Innovation Tournament has provided me with phenomenal opportunities that have advanced my career. Winning also helped me overcome my fear of public speaking and actualize the belief that perseverance plus preparation equals a successful outcome.

ADVICE TO YOUR 20-YEAR-OLD SELF?
Don’t ambush your own ambition.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?
My favorite thing about my job is that I can integrate research and technology to help our patrons be more efficient. My wife says I am in the right profession because I am nosy. I prefer the term inquisitive, which speaks to my passion for research. The application of technology fulfills my desire to create and innovate. I am fortunate to be in a role that combines both of my interests.

IF YOU COULD BE ANY CHARACTER IN FICTION, WHO WOULD YOU BE?
Kal-El, aka Superman. The S on his chest does not stand for Superman: it is the Kryptonian symbol for hope. Superman believes in people, inspires them to be better, and helps others look forward to a better tomorrow. Despite the circumstances we have experienced the past year, I am optimistic and hopeful about the future.

A SKILL YOU’D LIKE TO LEARN?
Coding. Learning to code would allow me to be self-sufficient in bringing my ideas to reality.