

ALA Annual 2022 | Virtual

Combined Update for ALA Core Chief Collection Development Officers of Large Research Libraries and ALA Core Technical Services Directors of Large Research Libraries. Combined Summary of activities by provided by:

Erin Grant, Director for Cataloging and Metadata Services (CAMS)

Stephanie Lamson, Director for Preservation Services (Preservation)

Corey Murata, Director for Collection Analysis & Strategy (CAS)

Denise Pan, Associate Dean for Collections & Content (C&C)

Siôn Romaine, Director for Acquisitions & Rapid Cataloging Services (ARCS)

Top of mind

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism (EDIAR) Initiatives

- Task Force on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI), and Anti-racism in Collections
 - Charged a task force with, “leading the UW Libraries in an examination of how the structures of racism, inequity, and privilege shape the work of building and maintaining collections at the UW Libraries.”
 - Task force started working in June 2021 and delivered a draft report in April 2022. The draft was discussed in the April 2022 Collections & Resources Council meeting.
 - The final version of the report, which we will share publicly, is expected at the beginning of July.

Staffing and Organizational Changes/Updates

New Hires & Recruitment

- Alex Hines, Preservation, Project Conservation Technician for [Sustainable Cooperative Conservation Services project](#)
- Katrina Belton, Preservation, Preservation Specialist
- Moné Eppel, Preservation, Conservation Technician
- Martha McTear, CAMS, Special Collections Cataloging Librarian (first day September 16, 2022)
- Recruitment for CAMS, E-resources Metadata Librarian

Retirements - many thanks and best wishes on happy and healthy retirement to:

- Mary Mathiason, Library Specialist II, Humanities and Special Collections Cataloger, effective June 30, 2022, after 47 years, 364 days of service with the Libraries.

Librarian Promotions and Reappointments

- Erin Grant - granting of permanent status, Associate Librarian (2022), Director, CAMS.
- Hana Levay - promotion to Associate Librarian with permanent status (2022), Collection Assessment Librarian, CAS.
- Karen Spence - promotion to Senior Assistant Librarian (2022), Serials & Electronic Resources Librarian, ARCS.

Budget & Space Updates

- [Libraries Offsite Shelving + iSchool Retrofit](#)
 - One floor of the Allen wing of the Suzzallo/Allen library is being reprogrammed for use by the UW iSchool for offices and collaboration space.
 - New climate controlled off-site shelving is being built to house shared print commitments and other “medium-rare” items currently in Seattle campus locations.
 - Project includes additional off-site shelving for 628,800 volumes.
 - 251,000 items from the Suzzallo/Allen library identified for relocation to new off-site shelving. An additional 377,800 items identified for relocation from an on-campus auxiliary shelving location to the new off-site shelving.
 - Used Greenglass to help identify items for relocation.
 - Construction beginning on off-site shelving. Collection move and construction in the Allen library to begin in fall. Construction of the iSchool space to begin in early 2023.
- Budget/PRF requests
 - Submitted a successful Provost Reinvestment Fund request for \$500,000 in new permanent funds for FY23.
 - \$500,000 is approximately 4% of the “serials” share of the annual collections budget.

- The serials share of the collections budget will still be over 80%, but the “inflation” funding will help slow the erosion of the “monographs/one-time purchases” share of the budget.

Initiatives & Developments by Department

Acquisitions & Rapid Cataloging Services Department

- Most staff are now working on-site 4-5 days/week. A pandemic physical inventory backlog of ~11k unprocessed monographs and ~20k unprocessed periodicals/newspapers has been reduced to ~5k unprocessed monographs & ~10k unprocessed periodicals. All students hired & trained before the pandemic left or graduated prior to our return to on-site work; we are ramping up slowly, as training takes time and fewer students are applying for or interested in our jobs.
- The Microsoft Access database used to determine whether incoming monographic bibliographic records can be copy cataloged or need original cataloging has been significantly updated to take greater advantage of Alma’s APIs. Staff doing copy cataloging now spend less time flipping between screens, and some ebook activation & copy cataloging can now be done by student assistants from within Access.
- We are now successfully using Alma APIs to batch update license records, PO Lines, vendor records and inventory records. (There are limitations to what we can do with APIS and would still prefer that it be possible to perform some of these batch updating operations from within Alma.)
- New (small) Portuguese approval plans being initiated with Susanne Bach and Casalini for materials from Portugal, Brazil and Lusophone Africa.
- Collaborated with EBSCO to beta-test a renewal integration between EBSCONET and Alma.

Cataloging & Metadata Services Department

- Most staff working 1 day or more a week on-site; Libraries material delivery/pick up continues to support remote work.
- Partnering with Backstage Library Works on cataloging books in Vietnamese and Burmese languages in support of [Henry Luce Foundation grant awarded to Southeast Asia Digital Library](#).
- Completed a 9 year project to resolve ~60,000 duplicate Law and Main bibliographic records.
- Transitioning from Marcive to the Cataloging Record Distribution Program for government document records, saving the Libraries ~\$2,000 annually.
- Continued work on [MARC2RDA/RDF Mapping Project](#) to create an open source, robust mapping between the MARC21 bibliographic format and RDA-RDF and a corresponding conversion tool.
- Staff supported June 2022 migration from Primo PBO to Primo VE, including configuring FRBR/dedup and normalization rules for record display.
- Published the [Newspaper Genre List](#) created by Government Publications, Maps, Microforms & Newspapers as open linked data on Github, available in multiple RDF serializations and MARC.
- Developed brittle books workflow with ARCS and Preservation to facilitate providing HathiTrust access to online works.
- Developed method to record digitally preserved items in Alma.
- Continued participating in the [PCC Wikidata Pilot](#) coordinated by the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC).

Collections Analysis & Strategy

- Completed a [subscription review and cancellation project](#). Canceled over \$900,000 in subscriptions including unbundling the Wiley package and reducing the Wiley spend by approximately \$400,000.
- Reviewed Nexis Uni database for news content and legal and government research outside of the Law School. This review resulted in the decision to [switch from Nexis Uni to Westlaw Campus Research](#) (WCR). WCR subscription started January 1, 2022, Nexis Uni subscription ends June 30, 2022.
- We shared our principles and actions regarding concerns about the potential harm caused by Thomson Reuters, RELX, and other research companies that also serve as data brokers to governments and law enforcement with a blog post [No Easy Answers: Big Data Vendors, Information Access and Libraries](#).
- Implemented Greenglass to support the collection relocation project (see above) and ongoing weeding.
- Starting negotiations with Elsevier
 - Current contract ends December 31, 2022
 - Convened [negotiating team](#) including four faculty members and four Libraries team members
 - Faculty Council on University Libraries proposed and UW Faculty Senate approved a [Class C resolution](#) in support of the Libraries Principles in Licensing Scholarly Resources and our intentions to begin “*shifting spending away from purchasing content from proprietary, closed, for-profit scholarly information providers and increasing investments to create and support community-owned infrastructure and shared digital resources.*”
- Open access investments: [ACM Open](#); [PLOS Community Action Publishing and Global Equity Model](#); Punctum Books.

Preservation Department

- All staff are now working on-site 4-5 days/week and we continue to make significant progress on backlogs accumulated during COVID. Much of the Fall was devoted to recruiting for vacant positions and rebuilding our student staffing to previous levels. Vendor capacity, supply-chain issues, and inflation remain a challenge.
- Completed [National Film Preservation Foundation Grant](#) (\$17,168) to preserve live performances filmed by Professor Robert Garfias, the founder of the Ethnomusicology Program and Archives at the University of Washington, in the 1960s and 1970s. Three performances by John Lee Hooker, Mance Lipscomb and Son House at the University of Washington were preserved through the creation of new film prints and digital proxies.
- Made significant progress on [Mellon Sustainable Cooperative Conservation Services at the University of Washington](#) grant and received a two-year extension due to the pandemic.
- Continued our participation in the [Mellon Library of Congress Assessing the National Collection](#) grant led by the Library of Congress and the Mellon-funded [Pacific Northwest Conservation Science Consortium](#) grant led by Portland State University, including preparing research on the materiality of orotones for publication in *Materia: Journal of Technical Art History* in summer 2022. Completed work on Lully manuscript and created video for Advancement, [Leafcasting and conservation of a 17th century music manuscript](#).
- Completed digitization of rare Vietnamese materials in support of [Henry Luce Foundation grant awarded to Southeast Asia Digital Library](#), hosted by Northern Illinois University. Deposited digital files into the HathiTrust.
- In support of digital preservation, upgraded Archivematica software to version 1.12, completed migration of 5TB of legacy content to cloud storage, and processed 418 new archival packages containing over 9 TB of new files (since July 1, 2021).
- Developed and implemented a new workflow for the reformatting of optical media using an Acronova Nimble USB AutoLoader robot. This has allowed the successful preservation of 792 CDs and DVDs from our collections, representing 641 hours worth of content.