Budget Update
For FY2020, Duke received a 2.7% increase in university-allocated funding in support of collections. Funding for operational and other expenses remained essentially flat beyond support for university-wide merit increases to salary.

Staffing and Organizational Changes/Update
Recent retirements and resignations offered Technical Services an opportunity to consider the efficacy of our organizational structure and it's alignment with strategic and operational priorities. As a result, we enacted several changes. The most significant being the dissolution of a serials focused department. Staff comprising its two units (Holdings Management and Serials Description Librarians) have been moved to departments with whom they share a natural affinity. Holdings Management has been rebranded Serials Management, refreshing a legacy charge in support of the format life cycle. Serials Description Librarians joined other colleagues focused on original cataloging and bibliographic standards application. The former head of the department stepped into a new role focused on assessment of and access to government documents. Her work as processing coordinator will bring sustained review of a somewhat atrophied physical government document collections for retention priorities.

New Programs or Initiatives, including Local, National, International Partnerships
Duke University Libraries and Duke University Press are working to digitize (via Scribe) all monographs ever published by the Press. These will go into IA and HT, with selected titles (~750 in 2019 alone) opened for access through TOME and other press initiatives over time.
Linked Data for Production Cohort: Last fall Duke was selected to join the Linked Data for Production Cohort. Since then DUL has established a local cohort leadership team, the Duke LD4P Core Group, who have been working to develop a blueprint for participating in the project. The group has drafted an internal white paper that articulates vision for authority control modernization as a critical linchpin. Next steps include roadmapping targeted local projects that build on Duke’s updated authorities service.

As mentioned above, authority control has become even more essential for quality and consistency in our metadata processes to enhance discovery. Last summer Duke’s long-time vendor, LTI, announced it would be discontinuing its service in the spring. Based on programmatic needs assessment and evaluation of service providers, MARCIVE was selected as our new authority control vendor. Staff have been working with the company to implement a new authority control workflow.

Collection Assessment Activities
Duke is participating in Ivy Plus collection assessment and resource sharing data initiatives.

In June of 2019, Duke began a project to look at organizing and building out a small infrastructure around our journal deals with major suppliers. Initially we are focusing on Elsevier, but hope to have something generalizable. Data sources may include downloads (COUNTER JR1 from vendor), Duke publication and citation activity (Clarivate/InCites and Duke Elements), Duke editorial board participation (TBD), and overall institutional spending related to journals (APC and page charges, university financial systems). See also the appeal for student participants

Scholarly Communication Initiatives and Developments
Duke University Libraries are establishing a Center for Scholarly Publishing. Its mission is “to make scholarly publishing better: more sustainable, fair, and open.” The focus is particularly on how to help Duke researchers to benefit from changes in scholarly publishing and in turn to help them create positive change in the broader publishing ecosystem. Our efforts are concentrated around three main areas of activity: consultation and training, ongoing publishing initiatives, and transformative scholarly publishing projects. This is being done with a reorganization of existing staff, as well as the creation of an “Affiliate” program to allow other members of the Duke community from both inside and outside the library to participate. The Center will serve as the home for both local services as well as programs to instigate change across the broader publishing ecosystem, such as through Duke’s Mellon-funded “Scholarly Communication Institute”, which is now in its sixth year with further funding requested, and the IMLS-funded “Library Copyright Institute.”

Notable Acquisitions, Grants, Exhibits
Special Collections/Archives
During Winter/Spring 2019, DUL staged the first exhibit from the Lisa Unger Baskin Collection, see https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/bingham/lisa-unger-baskin for information about the collection. The exhibit was entitled “500 Years of Women’s Work” (https://exhibits2.library.duke.edu/exhibits/show/baskin/introduction). From the exhibition introduction:

“Baskin reveals what has been hidden—that women have long pursued a startling range of careers and vocations and that through their work they have supported themselves, their families, and the causes they believed in. Over the course of forty-five years, Baskin acquired more than 11,000 printed books, thousands of manuscripts and photographs, and artifacts ranging from an anti-slavery token to Virginia Woolf’s writing desk. In 2015, Baskin placed her collection at the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History & Culture in the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library at Duke University so that it might be used by scholars, students, and members of the public. This exhibition and accompanying catalogue provide a first glimpse of the diversity and depth of the collection, revealing the lives of women both famous and forgotten and paying tribute to their accomplishments.”