

Library Advisory Committee for the Humanities and Social Sciences Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2010

2:30 – 4:00pm

Stauffer Library, Room 121

Present: C. Adamson (Stauffer), S. Andrychuk (Stauffer), A. Burfoot (Sociology), M. Chittenden (Stauffer), J. Druery (Stauffer), E. Gibson (Stauffer), A. Godlewska (Geography), S. Greaves (Stauffer), J. Kaminskas (French), C. Kolsarici (Business), F. Lock (English), J. Miller (Religious Studies), J. Moon (Stauffer), S. Murphy (Academic Services), J. Nesbitt (Stauffer), N. Rewa (Drama), K. Romba (Art), A. Smithers (Collections), J. Stevenson (Kinesiology & Health Studies), A. Thomson (Collection Development), M. C. Vandenburg (Stauffer), D. Wilson (psychology)

1. Welcome, Introduction and Adoption of Agenda

- The agenda was approved. J. Druery introduced Anne Smithers, Acting Collections Coordinator and Sharon Murphy, Division Head, Academic Services.

2. Approval of the Minutes of 30 March, 2010

- The minutes were approved.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

1. Item 6b: J. Druery reported that Summon, the Library's new discovery system, and a new version of the Library Catalogue (QCAT) interface were introduced during the summer of 2010. She asked for comments and the following discussion ensued:
 - QCAT should be the default on the Library homepage, rather than Summon.
 - Access to information is made easier with Summon. Perhaps some tweaking is needed but things are moving in the right direction. On the whole, the search interface has become significantly better.
 - Undergraduates especially need to be made aware that Summon search results can be from many disciplines. Without instruction, undergraduates may not have the skills to choose sources that reflect the literature of specific disciplines.
 - It is hoped that Summon will be available when QCAT is down. J. Druery will clarify this and post the answer to the Advisory Committee listserv. QCAT has been down on fewer occasions than in the past. (Addendum: Answer from M. Vandenburg, Library Systems) We are exporting all of our record updates from Voyager to Serials Solutions on a daily basis, so when QCat is down, our records can still be found in Summon. However, since our records in Summon link back to QCat for full details including their availability, those links will be broken when QCat is down and we will not be able to tell if the items are actually on the shelf.
2. Item 7: J. Druery reported on the question of removing or increasing the borrowing limit of 100 books. A decision on this issue has been delayed largely

due to the organizational restructuring that is underway in the library. J. Druery will post the outcome to the listserv when a decision has been finalized, hopefully by the end of December. (Addendum: From Sharon Musgrave, Division Head, Collection Management and Services) The Collection Services Working Group is mandated to explore the impact that the PeopleSoft implementation is going to have on how we currently control and ensure equitable access to material. This will necessitate a review of the entire patron contract. In addition to a review of the existing blocks and fines structure, we also plan to review book limits. The current patron contract is a set of checks and balances that needs to be reviewed in its entirety. Changing one policy can negatively impact on another one. For instance, raising faculty limits from 100 to 500 would create unreasonable fines (\$200 per day). Once we have developed a new patron contract, it will go as a recommendation to the Senate Library Committee for review and approval.

4. **Collections Update and Discussion**

0. Acquisitions budget update (A. Smithers)

A. Smithers reported on the overall acquisitions budget for library materials. The Library has a healthy budget which has been protected through the current round of budget cuts. However, because there has been no increase to cover inflation this translates to a budget decrease. We were hoping for vendors to propose a 3-5% increase for 2011 but in some cases are faced with 10-20% increases and 630% in the case of one medical journal. Substantial increases are being questioned and in some cases vendors have proposed a lesser increase. The budget situation means we will have to make difficult decisions regarding purchases and cancellations in the future.

J. Druery reported on a new position in the library that will help us to make those difficult decisions. The Collections Assessment Librarian position, which has been posted internally, will evaluate and assess collections in all formats by collecting and analyzing data. This data will help the liaison librarians in collaboration with the academic departments make informed decisions about both purchases and cancellations. J. Druery emphasized that this position will be filled internally, therefore the librarian appointed will come from the existing complement.

The following points were raised:

- At one time lists of journal titles by disciplines to which the library subscribes were distributed to faculty. This is much more difficult to do now because so many of our journals are purchased through electronic journal packages such as Oxford, Elsevier and Wiley-Blackwell. Many disciplines have become much more interdisciplinary as well so what was thought to be a key journal for one discipline may now be used by other disciplines.
- Quite often there is room to cancel subscriptions and replace them with new resources but this requires careful analysis and collaboration.

- Humanities, Social Sciences and Business journals that we currently only get in print will be assessed in 2011. This will require considerable collaboration with the academic departments, because unlike the project we did in 2009 to move print journals to electronic where available, if the remaining print journals are cancelled current issues of them will no longer be available at Queen's.
- A question was asked about the availability of usage data for electronic journals. A. Smithers explained that we can obtain this data in various ways. Many journal publishers are now COUNTER-compliant, which means they follow an agreed international set of standards and protocols governing the recording and exchange of online usage data. We can also track the use of some electronic materials through our own website. Scholar's Portal, a consortium of Ontario College and University Libraries, is also working on methods to track the use of electronic resources that are used through the portal and to track the overlap in journals available through various packages. The library also has access to other tools for conducting overlap analysis.

1. Monitoring of monograph purchasing by LC call number (J. Druery)

J. Druery reported that a report listing firm order purchases by call number until the end of September indicates that departments are not spending more than they would have when there were individual departmental fund codes and therefore the distribution of funds across departments appears to be equitable. However, the data will be more meaningful at the end of the fiscal year. Ordering is not even throughout the fiscal year, we cannot compare part of a fiscal year with last year, and some materials have been received but have not been processed and do not currently have call numbers. The monograph budget remains healthy and faculty are encouraged to let librarians know their needs so that orders can be submitted.

5. New Developments in Practices for Academic Library Collections

0. Trends in Book and Serial Acquisitions: Report from Charleston Conference 2010 (S. Andrychuk)

Sylvia outlined and there was discussion about the following trends, some of which may affect the way that collection activities are carried out at Queen's in the future:

- Diminishing financial resources for purchasing books, journals and databases was the overall climate of the conference. It was recognized that everything is not available online and that print collections are still necessary.
- Content is no longer sufficient in itself. Functionality and value-added content is also important especially for born digital resources. Social content and the idea of embedding social software in journal articles is also becoming more prevalent.

- The journal is being transformed in ways that allow for customization by the user; that allow for the ability to manipulate data and to link to supplementary materials.
- Increasingly digital content is being purchased through packages.
- Lack of space and the need to repurpose space in libraries is forcing decisions about discarding print journal back files and replacing with electronic.
- Patron driven acquisition is a model that many libraries are adopting that allows users to select what the library purchases. Libraries are rethinking their roles and resolving the tension between library as custodian and demand driven, point-of-need collections. Currently libraries have adopted this model only for electronic books. Some libraries feel that there is no longer a need for just-in-case book collections. There is also a move toward a purchase and print only what is wanted model for books (print on demand) and purchasing of journal articles instead of journals (users want individual articles, not journals). A. Godlewska raised the point that purchasing journal articles instead of journals will have serious ramifications for societies and organizations that publish their own journals.
- Forty North American libraries and book stores (about 8 in Canada) have purchased Espresso Book Machines that print on-demand bound books directly from digital files at the point of sale (<http://www.ondemandbooks.com/home.htm>). Four million titles are available. The cost to print a book is \$4.00 U.S. per book plus the cost of the book. This service makes it more difficult for libraries to manage their acquisition budgets since the amount of use cannot be easily anticipated.

Sylvia also reported on the [Ithaka S+R Faculty Survey](#).

ITHAKA S+R is the strategy and research arm of ITHAKA (a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to help the academic community use digital technologies to preserve the scholarly record and to advance research and teaching in sustainable ways, services include JSTOR and PORTICO), and works with initiatives and organizations to develop sustainable business models and conducts research and analysis on the impact of digital media on the academic community as a whole. The Faculty Research Survey surveyed faculty in US colleges and universities that grant bachelor's degrees or higher; of 35,000 surveys distributed, 3,000 were completed (response rate 8.6%).

The study found that:

- All signs indicate that faculty are widely prepared for a complete transition away from print to digital-only for current issues of scholarly journals and that print editions of current issues of scholarly journals are rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

- Faculty attitudes about journal backfiles have not yet experienced the same nearly-complete shift, they are changing in parallel with library resource constraints which may dictate that backfile print collections be replaced exclusively by digital versions.
 - Findings raise key strategic questions for publishers and libraries alike on when and how to wind down print publishing and collecting programs and on how digitization will reshape collections management for print collections of journal backfiles.
 - There is yet little evidence to suggest that a print-to-electronic transition for e-books is likely to play out in the same way.
 - Longstanding disciplinary patterns continue to hold: humanists remain more attached to print than their colleagues in the social sciences and the sciences. Support for cancelling local print subscriptions in favour of online-only access has grown steadily. All disciplines are moving in this direction, albeit some more slowly than others.
 - Certain disciplines such as art history and Asian Studies are outliers - less than a majority of faculty surveyed support the transitioning of current issues to electronic, while philosophers are relatively more accepting of this transition than are most humanists.
1. Library Users Making Purchase Decisions: Ontario Council of University Libraries Patron Driven Acquisition Pilot Project (J. Druery)

Patron driven acquisition is a growing trend in university libraries that allows library users to choose the books the library purchases. The Library participated in this pilot project in September 2010. Catalogue records for 38,000 individual electronic books were loaded into the library catalogues at sixteen Ontario universities. Each time an individual title was used twenty-five times or more four copies of the book were purchased and made available to all sixteen libraries. Although more analysis is required the following resulted:

- The money contributed by each library towards the project was spent in one week.
- 467 titles were purchased, twenty-two of those by Queen's users. The 467 titles are now available at Queen's.
- The majority of titles purchased were in science, health/medicine, business and economics.
- The majority of titles purchased were published by Wiley/Blackwell, Elsevier, and McGraw-Hill. These were also the publishers with the most titles included in the pilot project.

ACTION: J. Druery will clarify whether access to individual titles is unlimited or restricted and whether we have perpetual access. Addendum: It has been confirmed that we do have perpetual access to the electronic books purchased under the PDA Pilot project. We are limited to four consecutive users across the 16 participating Ontario libraries, ie. if two people at Queen's and two people at Western are using the same book at the same time, and a 5th person from Queen's

tries to use the book they will get a message saying that it is in use and will be asked if they would like to be notified when the book becomes available.

2. Electronic Approval Plans (M. C. Vandenburg)

M. C. Vandenburg reported on a recent initiative to automatically receive electronic copies of books that we would otherwise receive shelf-ready in paper through the Psychology approval plan. There is a preference in the department for electronic formats over print. The vendor provides an electronic instead of a print copy when the two formats are simultaneously available, and a print copy when not available electronically. Since July 2010 approximately ten electronic books were provided. Not all publishers make the print and electronic copies available at the same time.

A. Smithers stated that publishers are tending to hold back on publishing electronic books simultaneously with print as they would like libraries to purchase the print first and then later purchase the electronic. There are some exceptions such as Springer. The difference in price to purchase one print copy or an electronic copy that is available to the whole campus community is often minimal. Some vendors require you to lease the material and often specific titles are no longer available from year-to-year. Tracking these changes in packages is very time consuming for the library. Electronic book interfaces are still not that user friendly and are not always a comfortable substitute for the print.

6. Other Business

0. Faculty Publications: J. Miller stated that some university libraries collect faculty publications. Faculty is responsible for providing the library with a copy of each publication.

ACTION: A. Burfoot will pursue this idea with the Computing Department whose students could potentially assist in establishing a database to track faculty publications.

1. Multimedia issues

Discussion focused on difficulties with using various forms of multimedia and how to submit requests for purchase:

- Streaming videos are increasingly popular. Faculty is increasingly adding multimedia to Moodle course sites to make it accessible to classes throughout the term.
- It was emphasized that the library has money available to purchase multimedia and that it is very important for faculty to send requests to purchase materials to the liaison librarian for the appropriate discipline. Multimedia may be available in several formats – DVD, streamed (ongoing or limited term license), or streamed in-house for particular

courses, or as part of a more comprehensive database. Any of these formats may pose a particular challenge. The library can investigate the options. It was noted that faculty should provide as much advance time as possible because it takes some time to investigate the options and to obtain multimedia products that are required for class.

- Advertising Images is a very expensive database that might be of interest to several disciplines. For more expensive purchases like this the Library maintains a “wish list”. Purchases are made when one-time only money becomes available or when something is no longer needed and is then cancelled thus freeing up money for other purchases.
- The Library tries to purchase public performance rights for multimedia and streaming rights are available for some multimedia. If public performance rights are not available the material cannot be shown in the classroom but students can view it individually in the library or borrow it. The library has been unable to institute a multimedia booking service so it is recommended that faculty request that multimedia that cannot be streamed be placed on reserve in the library. Multimedia can be viewed in Moodle but not downloaded. It is important to ensure DVDs are captioned for accessibility.

7. Next meeting:

J. Drury will poll the members to ensure an optimum time when the majority of members can attend the Spring 2011 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.