

## **Library Advisory Committee for Law – November 13, 2019**

**Present:** Graduate Student Representative, Adam Godlewski (JD Student Representative), Meghan Goodchild (Head, Discovery and Technology Services), Amy Kaufman (Head Law Librarian), Professor Nicolas Lamp, Courtney Matthews (Head, Open Scholarship Services), Ian Robson (Head, Information Resources), Leslie Taylor (Law Librarian), Michael Vandenberg (Interim Vice-Provost (Digital Planning) and University Librarian), Professor Robert Yalden

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

### **2. Library Updates**

Amy acknowledged the passing of Nancy McCormack this past spring. A celebration was held in September honouring Nancy's life and her enormous contribution to the Faculty of Law, Lederman Law Library, and to the students who benefited from her energy, warmth, and intellectual vigour. A forthcoming issue of the *Canadian Law Library Review* will be dedicated to Nancy.

This past spring Vice-Provost (Digital Planning) and University Librarian, Martha Whitehead, accepted the position of Vice President for the Harvard Library and Harvard University Librarian. Michael Vandenberg is acting as Interim Vice-Provost (Digital Planning) and University Librarian. The appointment of a permanent replacement for Martha will be informed by the External Review of the Library, which is in process at this time. External reviewers made their campus visit on October 31 and November 1<sup>st</sup> and are now preparing a written report for presentation to the University administration.

### **3. Omni and E-Reserves**

Omni is the name of the new academic search tool which will replace QCAT and Summon on December 10, 2019. Queen's is participating with 13 other Ontario universities in this project. Omni searches all collections in Queen's Library, both electronic and physical items. Among the new features, which are seen to be an improvement over Summon, is the ability to search the library collections of all 14 consortium members simultaneously.

Leslie Taylor will be announcing training sessions for faculty and students during the weeks before the launch of Omni. Leslie will also be happy to provide individual instruction in her office by appointment.

Logging in to Omni with net id and password will permit users to place requests for items located at other Omni libraries. Users will be able to apply filters to refine their searches by facets such as format, resource type, publication date, and subject limiters. Other features will allow the user to select citation styles, create 'favourites' folders (by 'pinning'), to email results, and to choose other export options. Separate folders can be created for different research projects with the 'pinning' feature by designating a 'label'. Another enhancement is the 'Virtual Shelf', whereby one will be able to 'browse' for related titles as they would appear on the 'real' shelf, adjacent to a searched item in the library's collection.

Please note that the University of Toronto is not a member of the consortium; however, all other law school libraries are, and their resources will be accessible through Omni. One of the significant transitions for faculty may be the way that electronic reserves are

delivered to students. Briefly, the retirement of Summon and QCAT will mean that any existing links using Summon or QCAT records will no longer work. The library wishes to convey to faculty that services are available to ensure that links and readings are updated and available. Efforts have been made to advertise this widely; however, the library is still exploring other avenues to reach affected users. Leslie will speak at Faculty Board on Friday (November 15). The Dean's office may distribute a message via email to faculty. Sessional faculty certainly must be alerted.

**Question:** Will off-campus access remain in place? **Answer:** Yes, off-campus access or services should not change.

#### **4. Open Scholarship Information Series**

Open Scholarship Services offers Queen's faculty and students support in research data management (RDM), scholarly publishing, and access to openly available resources. The Open Scholarship Information Series (<https://library.queensu.ca/about-us/news-events/open-scholarship-services-information-series>) seeks "to introduce researchers to the services and expertise that support them throughout the life of their research and in their teaching". The next session on November 20, *Introduction to Data, Government Information and Maps and GIS* (<https://library.queensu.ca/about-us/news-events/nov20-introduction-data-government-information-and-maps-and-gis>) will introduce participants to "key personnel and the services ...that can help you and your students navigate" these important but complex resources.

The series will be offered again in the new year, exploring data, grant requirements, and more.

Open Scholarship Services offers several Scholarly Publishing Services (<https://library.queensu.ca/help-services/scholarly-publishing>) including the Qspace repository and a Journal Hosting Service (<https://library.queensu.ca/help-services/scholarly-publishing/journal-hosting-service>). It was noted that the Faculty of Law has a subscription service with SSRN for the dissemination of research; however, Qspace may be a good place to publish material such as preprints that might not otherwise be openly available.

#### **5. Modifying Acquisitions Practices and Scholarly Communication**

The presentation is an update on our Modifying Acquisitions Practices (MAP) work, an element of the library's Information Resources Strategies. Started over two years ago, these strategies have focused on engaging with the Queen's community on multiple occasions and undertaking a comprehensive analysis of journal usage and value for faculty and students. The goal is to move to a more open and sustainable model of scholarly communication to meet the library strategic priority of modifying acquisitions practices to address the issues of current publishing models and support new and continuing research needs.

Queen's University Library is committed to providing our community members with the information they need while serving as responsible stewards of public funds. As previously reported to the Law Library Advisory Committee, the library is actively engaged in addressing these issues in ongoing consultation with Queen's academic community and external partners.

The library's multi-year Information Resources Strategies aim to ensure access to the information needed for learning, teaching and research, and the responsible use of public funds.

Since the last committee meeting, the library has continued with a pilot project to provide alternative access to a subset of Springer journal articles. We continue to provide access to a subset of high value 2019 Springer content through a service called Reprints Desk and are in the process of negotiating a license for subscriptions to high value journals directly with Springer. Other pre-2019 content remains accessible via our perpetual access licenses. We anticipate minimal impact on access to information resources as a result of this change, with access to content through Reprints Desk taking approximately fifteen minutes. For more information, please visit <https://library.queensu.ca/about-us/planning-assessment/accountability>.

Loose-leaf subscriptions are the most expensive type of subscription for Law, and annual increases in costs outpace inflation. Consequently, selected titles are being purchased on a 3-year cycle. A selection of Thomson Reuters loose-leaf titles held in the Lederman Law Library are available electronically from Proview (<https://library.queensu.ca/search/database/elooseleafs-proview>) as "eLooseleaves".

Faculty expressed a need for access to full-text newspapers: The New York Times, Financial Times, and Financial Post among others with related content. The online resource PressReader (<https://www.pressreader.com/catalog>) carries a vast range of international titles. It was suggested that PressReader should be consulted for required titles, and Amy will follow up with the faculty members with specific information about library access to each of these titles.

The Library's Information Resources division continues to stress that the Library remains committed to getting the resources needed by faculty and students.

