Collection direction: pandemic effects

Museum of Tea Ware in Hong Kong Park, pic by LD

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3 pandemic effects ...

- Online
- A holistic library identity
- Care-ful
- Equity and empathy
- Aligned
- Focused on community needs / institutional strategy
Online

A holistic library identity

The moment when the library is seen as a service and expertise rather than as a collection and a building?

So much of the value and identity of the library is still bound up with the place and the physical collection.
“Viewed as Equals”: The Impacts of Library Organizational Cultures and Management on Library Staff Morale

Ann Glusker, Celia Emmelhainz, Natalia Estrada & Bonita Dyess

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Transformations through kindness - tonal shifts in the University of Sussex Library,
Ciaran Clark

Summary
- Tone is fundamental
- Shifting our tone has had several strands but the core is kindness
- We’ve prioritised silliness
- Brought social justice to the foreground
- Shifted away from neutrality and embodied authenticity
- Staying true to institutional values and elevating them
- Developed empathic care and support into our voice

Careful Equity and empathy
Then: careful construction of a **locally acquired collection**.

Now: optimally satisfy research and learning needs from a **facilitated network** of resources (local, collaborative, open, commercial, etc.).

Now: the collective management of print collections is well underway. Licensed collections are typically managed collectively.

### A new relationship to collections 1

- **Facilitated**
  - From acquired to facilitated
- **Collective**
  - Systemwide organization
- **Inside-out**
  - Institutional assets
Increasingly organize collections at the network or systemwide level.
Focus on space.
The BIG Collection

Commitment to an Interdependent Future:
A Statement by the Big Ten Library Leadership

We, the leaders of the libraries within the Big Ten Academic Alliance, are committed to coordinated stewardship of the print scholarly record. Our history of collaboration positions our libraries to play a significant role in sustaining access to the unique and distinctive resources held in our collections, and our growing network capacity offers significant potential for working at scale to effect greater collective impact going forward.

Networks are inherently interdependent. The reality of today’s world of networked access to information means that research libraries are increasingly interdependent. The current dominant approach, which has each library acting independently and cooperating with others when it is to its advantage, worked incredibly well in a pre-networked society. The Big Ten Academic Alliance libraries believe this model motivated by self-interest must transition to an approach leveraging the affordances of a networked reality.
### Some collective collection questions

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The facilitated collection

Assemble a coordinated mix of local, external and collaborative services around user needs.

Reevaluate how to provide targeted, relevant resources given move online.
The ‘external’ collection:
Pointing researchers at Google Scholar;
Including freely available ebooks in the catalog;
Providing access to Open Access and Open Educational resources
Creating resource guides for web resources.

Collective collections

The ‘owned’ collection

The ‘borrowed’ collection

The shared print collection

The shared digital collection

The shared scholarly outputs

A collections spectrum

The ‘licensed’ collection

The ‘licensed’ collection

The ‘demand/data-driven’ collection

The ‘facilitated’ collection
Observations

In response to different drivers, the library has taken action to re-think collections while ensuring that our patrons have access to the information that they need for research, teaching, and learning. While we have a strong commitment to “open”, we have a companion commitment to “available”. By looking beyond local print and online collections, and traditional ILL, we have found like-minded institutions grappling with similar intersections of access, ownership, preservation, digitization, resource sharing, and collection management at scale.
The inside out collection

Create, manage and make discoverable evidence, community, memory..

... reevaluate research behaviors.
Stakeholder Interest in Research Support Areas

Communications
- RIM
- Research Analytics
- ORCID Adoption

Academic Affairs
- RDM
- RIM
- Research Analytics
- ORCID Adoption

Faculty Affairs & Governance
- RIM
- ORCID Adoption

Research Administration
- RDM
- RIM
- Research Analytics
- ORCID Adoption

Information & Communications Technology (ICT)
- RDM
- RIM
- Research Analytics
- ORCID Adoption

The Library
- RDM
- RIM
- Research Analytics
- ORCID Adoption

THE UNIVERSITY

"Stakeholder interest in research support areas" by OCLC Research, from Social Interoperability in Research Support: Cross-campus Partnerships and the University Research Enterprise (https://doi.org/10.25333/wyrd-n586), CC BY 4.0
A new relationship to collections 2

- Optimised
- Data driven, focused
- Tradeoffs

- Pluralised
- Respect communities of interest
Libraries have focused on building, managing and sharing collections. Greater attention is now turning to optimizing collections, locally and across groups.
Categorising collections

To meet this challenge we have embarked on a major programme of categorising our physical and digital collections to establish where our true strengths lie. Once strengths have been identified we will use this categorisation to guide all decisions relating to purchase, subscription, location, preservation and digitisation of our collections, whether analogue or digital. Collections will be categorised as follows.

Heritage:
- Definition: Collections of internationally or nationally significant depth and breadth which the Library will continue to develop.
- Management: Heritage collections will be actively developed as live collections, able to respond to current teaching and research. Access to material will be via the most appropriate route, but outright ownership will always be considered. Items will not normally be withdrawn from these collections, but measures will be taken to preserve material of all formats contained within them. To develop these collections, items may be transferred in from elsewhere through collaborative collection development schemes, or received as donations.

Legacy:
- Definition: Collections which have historic strength. These may, in reflecting the output of a particular period or person, be of international or national significance, but they do not reflect current research and teaching needs. These will not usually be added to using Library funds.
- Management: Legacy collections will not be actively developed as live collections. Items will not normally be withdrawn from these collections, but measures will be taken to preserve the material of all formats contained within them. Material may be transferred in from elsewhere through collaborative collection development schemes, or received as donations.

Self-renewing:
- Definition: Collections which do not have sufficient depth or breadth to be of national significance, but which are required to meet the needs of current research and teaching. Material will only be retained within these collections for as long as it is required for teaching or research.
- Management: Items within self-renewing collections will be regularly considered for withdrawal from Library stock. Access to material will be via the most appropriate route. These collections will not generally require measures to ensure long term preservation, however items may be digitised to facilitate current teaching or research. Material will not be transferred into these collections from elsewhere through collaborative collection development schemes, or received as donations, unless to satisfy a specific academic need.

Finite:
- Definition: These are collections which have neither historic strength, nor relevance to current teaching and research. These collections will be considered for withdrawal.
- Finite collections will not be added to, either through purchases or donations, but may be withdrawn from stock, or transferred elsewhere through collaborative collection development schemes. No measures will be taken to preserve these collections.
Libraries are pluralizing their collections, services and perspectives - so that all the communities they serve recognize their own knowledges, experiences, voices and memories in library services.

They aim to decenter dominant perspectives and to help give a voice and name to all they serve.
Diversity in the Stacks: Immigrant Experiences in Children’s Literature

There has always been a certain susceptibility to the way we talk about literature written for children and young adults. Frequently, we find ourselves drawn to the language of praise and admiration when thinking of these works: they offer a window through which young people see other individuals and other realities; or a door through which they enter and experience other worlds, and sometimes these works are a mirror through which young people can see themselves. Perhaps this is because so much literature for young readers is narratively a way to transmit values, norms, and culture and foster a sense of belonging. In this sense, children’s books create a world for their readers where certain children are absent, where everyone does not belong.

Diversity in the Stacks aims to build library collections that represent and reflect the University’s diverse population. While few libraries in North America have acquired Kurdish materials, Kurdish collecting is substantial across the academic and research library landscapes. This is largely due to the marginalized status of the Kurdish language and publishing in the Middle East, and the increasing position of Kurdish and Kurdish Studies in Middle East Studies. As part of combating this trend, the Penn Libraries’ Kurdish collecting efforts build upon previous work from Middle East bibliographies as the Libraries seeks to ensure greater representation for the peoples and languages of Kurdistan.
CHARTING NEW COURSES IN COMMUNITY-DRIVEN ARCHIVES

RESOURCES

Archival Concepts

Archival Skills

Storytelling

Sustaining Archives

WHO WE ARE

About Us

The Community-Driven Archives project at the University Libraries, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, partnered with historically underrepresented history keepers in telling, sharing, and preserving their stories. Local history keepers steward stories and historical materials to make them available to current and future generations.

This four-year project, from March 2017 through March 2021, was based in the Southern Historical Collection at the Wilson Special Collections Library.

Through the support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, our Community-Driven Archives Team (CDAT) built and sustained meaningful partnerships with history keepers throughout the American South.

more about CDA  /  our TEAM
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A new relationship to collections

Holistic: the library is seen as a service and expertise rather than as a collection and a building?

Equity and empathy: move to center as strategic goals?

Aligned: sharp focus on parent organization’s mission and goals. Optimized: make everything count: review and commit.