

Duke University Libraries Joint Report

June 2023

CORE Chief Collection Development Officers of Large Research Libraries

CORE Technical Services Directors of Large Research Libraries

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Budget Update

FY23 was the last of a 3-year overarching budget reduction, mostly absorbed by collections. For FY24, we received just under \$500K increase to cover collections inflationary costs. We also expect another round of expanded endowment income distribution (12.5% annually the last two years) though it will be triangulated against our non-endowment university allocation.

Staffing and Organizational Changes/Update

- [Technical Services is now Collections Services](#)
- [Senior Leadership Appointments](#)
- Staff with collections related roles + responsibilities newly appointed in FY23:
 - Heather Baker, Metadata Associate
 - Diego Godoy, Librarian for Latin American, Iberian and Latinx Studies
 - Deric Hardy, Science & Engineering Librarian
 - Sarah Holsapple, Collection Analysis Librarian
 - Mary Mellon, Metadata Archivist
 - Kaelin Rasmussen, Rare Materials Cataloger
 - Amelia Rodarte, Electronic Resources Management Specialist
 - Jenna Strawbridge, Science Librarian
 - Joanna Welborn, Monographic Acquisitions and Processing Assistant

New Programs or Initiatives

[New Residency Program for Early Career Librarians](#) - In the 2023-24 academic year, we will launch a three-year diversity residency program focused on retaining the residents we are able to recruit into these positions. Our goal is to recruit at least two residents into early career positions of strategic need to the libraries and to enhance their first three years in DUL with the goal of retaining them. Recruitment took place this spring and we hope to announce appointments for a Resident Librarian for Resource Description and a Resident Librarian for South & Southeast Asian Studies by the end of June.

[Duke to Implement Alma](#) - After a thorough review of library services platform environments with a focus on the best fit for Duke, we have selected the Alma platform from Ex Libris. We will be able to leverage this system for our staff and our users in order to meet our needs now and some time to come. We will begin a nine-month implementation in September with a go-live date of July 2024. This is a significant shift for Duke University Libraries. Over the past two years, DUL has incrementally implemented modules of FOLIO, and we were one of the early adopters of FOLIO

ERM, Courses, and Inventory. During this time, we have worked diligently to prepare, document, test, and iterate data loading and configurations in order to implement other FOLIO modules. We prudently delayed full implementation from summer 2023 to summer 2024 based on gaps in functionality desired by Duke. After carefully considering all the information available, senior leadership decided it is in DUL's best interest to implement Alma for our next library services platform. The decision was not made lightly, and we emphasize our focus on Duke University Libraries and supporting the Duke community, including the Professional School Libraries and Duke Kunshan University Library. Taking everything into account—including our financial resources, impact on staffing, and the sustainability of the wide-ranging library technology projects DUL has heavily invested in—we believe this is our best path forward.

Local, National, International Partnerships

Co-signatory to the Ivy Plus Libraries Confederation [Directors' letter to the Office of Science Technology and Policy on the "Nelson Memo."](#)

Collection Assessment Activities

With the hire of our new Collection Analysis Librarian last fall, we are in the early stages of developing an assessment program to enable scalable, sustainable, and dynamic collections intelligence. Her initial tasks included an environmental scan of how this work is carried out by peer libraries, informally gathering information from internal stakeholders about collection assessment needs and use cases. She also undertook a wide-reaching baseline collections intelligence project to define our existing collection across dimensions for which we didn't have readily available data in current systems, such as subject criteria.

The environmental scan revealed a diversity of approaches at peer institutions, some with devoted roles clearly defined and others with collections assessment highly distributed across general assessment units, subject librarians, and collections strategy roles. Anecdotally, there appears to be an increase in postings for collection analyst roles in the last couple years, and we examined various position descriptions when defining the new Collection Analysis Librarian position. The inventory of data sources in support of comprehensive collections intelligence revealed areas of ease (e.g., expenditures by budget category, holdings by format, etc.) and challenge (e.g., expenditures by format, holdings by subject, etc.). The intelligence project is an ongoing effort, and it may be shaped by our transition to Alma Analytics, which will afford different analysis capabilities than Aleph/ARC.

Notable and Newsworthy Collection Development and Acquisition Models

[PLOS Publishing Partnership for Duke Authors](#) - Duke University Libraries and Duke Medical Center Library have entered into a publishing agreement with PLOS. Duke authors will be able to publish without paying APCs during 2023 and 2024. The agreement includes all Duke professional schools, health system, and Duke Kunshan University. We anticipate this being really impactful for our researchers.

[TRLN Publishes Guide to Negotiating Accessibility in E-Resource Licenses](#) – The E-Resources Management Working Group (ERMWG) of the Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) created this guide to help TRLN member libraries engage in conversations with vendors around e-resource accessibility. Recognizing that licensing is key to codifying the shared understandings and priorities of vendors and libraries, the TRLN E-Resources Management Working Group sought to create “a reference tool for library staff involved in licensing and e-resources management as they advocate for strong accessibility assurances in their formal contracts with service and content providers.”

Exhibition

[The Library Uncovered: Behind the Scenes with Collections Services – December 19, 2022 – June 4, 2023](#) - Staff members from the Library Collections Services Division curated an exhibition to share the many skills involved in getting researchers what they need. This exhibit highlights the labor that it takes to purchase, catalog, repair, and prepare library resources for the shelf and online. This exhibition was sponsored in part by the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.