

Joint Report for CCDO Collection & Technical Services Big Heads: New York University

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“Top of Mind” (Challenges, Issues, etc. to surface)

- Upcoming Ex Libris Alma and Primo-VE implementation, scheduled go-live January 2024
- Onboarding several new subject area liaisons creates a need for documentation for collection development and management
- Providing metadata support for Area Studies and distinctive collections in languages where there is a lack of qualified catalogers and/or metadata providers.
- Developing more granular metadata prioritization -- including enhancements to the existing collections. There is a need to better align processing with the research and teaching needs specific to the NYU community.
- Continued work creating a more inclusive, diverse and accessible collections, services, and work-environment. Effort requires intense collaboration and sensitivity.
- Providing flexible and/or hybrid work options for teams primarily involved in print or service operations.
- Dealing with backlog of unprocessed physical materials accumulated during periods of closures and limited in-person staffing due to COVID-19
- General infrastructure questions with a clear demand for inter-library, library-vendor collaboration
 - We're working on several projects (whole ebook ILL, Palace project with OPDS feeds and ebook reader, thinking through CDL infrastructure) that aim to free ebooks and the end user experience from the vagaries of vendor platforms.
 - Prospective print collections: Post pandemic and the resulting focus of ebooks, we're focusing attention on print collections and the role of consortia.
 - Access collections vs heritage collections: We're thinking through the budget and collection development implications of a growing number of access only offerings (newspapers, film collections, audio collections without or with exorbitantly priced perpetual rights)

Budget Update

Our materials budget increased 5% in FY 21-22. We continue to experience an increased demand for digital versions of copyrighted materials and streaming media for teaching and learning. Resources and staffing for materials processing, storage, remediation, and preservation is not funded at the same level as new acquisitions and therefore remains challenging.

Staffing and Organizational Changes/Update

NYU Libraries is participating in the [NYU Faculty Cluster Hiring Initiative](#) to recruit, welcome, and support new library faculty working across the Division on timely themes of social importance, such as Inequality and Anti-racism, Population Health and Health Equity, Open Science and the Public Good, and Urban Environments and Politics. To date, we've successfully recruited:

- Amanda He, Librarian for STEM Instruction & Engagement
- Maria Mejia, Open Scholarship Librarian
- Kristen Owens, Librarian for African American and Black Diaspora Studies.
- Chelsea Gizzi, Metadata Librarian for Audiovisual Resources
- Roxane Pickens, Community Engagement Librarian and Head of External Engagement
- Dawn Cadogan, Librarian for Education & Human Development
- Jiebei Luo, Financial & Economic Data Analysis Librarian

Cluster hiring will continue in the coming year. We have also hired key management positions in Knowledge Access & Resource Management Services (KARMS) and Collections & Content Strategy (CCS) departments, which strengthen our capacity for metadata strategy, materials processing, collection analysis and development. Positions include:

- Fernando Aguirre, One-Time Acquisitions Supervisor (KARMS)
- Catherine Christian, One-Time Acquisitions Associate (KARMS)
- Jane Excell, Collections Services Specialist (CCS)
- Freddy Kpeli, Serials & Payment Supervisor (KARMS)
- Alex Whelan, Metadata Strategist Librarian (KARMS)
- Rashad Bell, Stacks Supervisor (CCS)
- Alexandria Chu, Data Technology Specialist (KARMS)

New Programs or Initiatives

Inclusion, Diversity, Belonging, Equity & Accessibility (IDBEA)

Harmful Language Feedback and Outreach: The Authorities Working Group fully implemented a solution for replacing harmful language, such as the subject heading 'illegal aliens,' in our Primo discovery layer using normalization rules rather than directly modifying text strings in bibliographic records. Following, the working group also launched a [feedback form](#) inviting conversation with users about the contents of catalog records, and [outreach communications](#) explaining the importance of this work in our library values.

Alternate Vocabularies for Inclusive Metadata: Archival Collections Management and Knowledge Access began creating SACO-Lite subject headings in Wikidata (such as those around [Japanese-American Removal, 1942-1945](#)), as well as implementing Homosaurus and MeSH subject headings, to address euphemistic language and bias in Library of Congress Subject Headings.

Open Metadata Policy: NYU Libraries committed to an open metadata license for NYU-created metadata, declaring CC0, ODC-BY, and CC-BY-NC licenses on bibliographic records, digital collections metadata, and archival description.

Collection & Content Strategies

Open Standards/Digital Lending: We are working within a number of groups, publishers, and forums to promote, explore, and develop open standards for e-resource sharing, lending, and reading, including LYRASIS and Columbia University Libraries.

Content Delivery: We continued to offer robust paging and scanning options for all NYU users. Based on demand, we doubled our capacity for locker delivery service in the Fall 2022.

Collection Development Guidelines: We are engaged in a large project to create new collection development guidelines, review all approval plans, and provide enhanced documentation and training for selectors. This work seeks to forefront ethical stewardship and inclusive practices in managing collections and to provide clarity about workflows for selectors.

Collection Management

Print Collection Management: We are reviewing our collections stacking plans for both onsite and remote general print collections with an eye towards improving user experience, highlighting diverse and inclusive collections, and relieving stacks crowding. We are partnering with our remote storage vendor (Clancy Cullen) to build a new storage module, ready in Fall 2022.

Archival Collections Storage: In May 2022, we completed a move of 10,000 linear feet of archival collections from on-campus, near-site storage to our remote storage vendor. The collections included over 5,000 linear feet of unprocessed collections, stabilized and minimally inventoried before moving offsite. As a result, the Archival Collections Management department was also consolidated into a unified workspace in Bobst Library, adjacent to KARMS.

Metadata Services (Knowledge Access)

Metadata projects for open access resources: KA created an internship program to provide training for creating and maintaining standardized metadata for OA resources. The graduate intern participated in an evaluation of the metadata workflows and quality of the Arabic Collections Online. Based on this report and program, KA will create a training program for all departmental staff in metadata creation/maintenance for OA resources including continuing resources such as e-journals and integrating resources such as websites to compile multiple books or serials.

Outsourcing cataloging project with Backstage: A pilot was conducted and successfully completed. Books sent to Backstage consisted of scans for 85 books total: 58 Hindi, 9 Thai, 15 Greek, and 3 Turkish. Backstage agreed to catalog books using scans and bibliographic information added to a project-specific Airtable base. Using digital surrogates in Airtable eliminates shipping cost and loss, and this new approach streamlines our workflows tremendously. We're planning to send the second batch this year and books in Hindi, Greek and Thai are top priorities due to lacking language expertise. After the second batch is completed, the Hindi backlog will be eliminated and other language backlog is greatly reduced.

Documented metadata expertise by languages and resource types: KA created a [list of metadata expertise in languages and resources](#) for sharing information and cataloging backlog management.

NACO training for the department of Knowledge Access and Archival Collection Management: Participants consist of colleagues creating metadata for special collections, archives, distinctive collections and general collections.

Metadata quality assessment for NYU digital collections: We established small groups to evaluate the metadata quality of digitized collections prior to Alma migration and to support our long-term strategy for creating the metadata standards for digitized collections.

ALMA Metadata Standards and Policies Working Group was established in December 2021 to coordinate metadata remediation, mapping and best practices for Alma migration, including consortial members.

Data Analysis and Integration Services

Library Services Platform (LSP) migration preparation: Staff have been involved in several large-scale data remediation projects to prepare acquisitions, holdings, and bibliographic data for migration to a new LSP, Alma. The metadata remediation also includes a full review of metadata mapping used in our new discovery environment, Primo VE. As part of the migration effort NYU will re-architect our Library Data Warehouse and development environment to run on a cloud based computing platform.

E-Resource access: Several projects have been undertaken in an effort to improve E-resource access at NYU. A local knowledgebase has been developed to accurately track and update NYU's e-book entitlements to ensure our user's have timely access to these resources. NYU is partnering with Columbia University Libraries and LYRASIS on the Palace Project to develop an e-reader that meets the needs of academic users. NYU has made 250,000 ebooks, primarily course reserves, available through the project's mobile app. NYU is also collaborating with the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) to develop metadata feeds to allow NYU users to find peer-reviewed open access books through the Libraries' catalog.

Notable Acquisitions, Grants, Exhibits

Special Collections/Archives

In April 2022, NYU received funding from CLIR's *Recordings at Risk* grants for the proposal "Reframing 1970s-1980s NYC Through the Lens of Chinese Cable TV (CCTV): Preserving the Community-Produced Television Program", which aims to preserve the CCTV content that are part of the [Asian CineVision Records](#). CCTV was a community-led program that sought to add a new voice to representation in the media for the Asian American community, and was the first Chinese-language news program in the United States.

Special Collections, in conjunction with Glucksman Irish House, announced the new Ernie O'Malley Family Research Grants to facilitate research in the Ernie O'Malley and Cormac O'Malley Papers held in the Archives of Irish America at NYU. A grant was also received from the Government of Ireland to fund conservation work on [historical Irish County Society banners](#) held in the Archives of Irish America. Funding was also received from the Irish Institute of New York for accessioning and processing support for the Archives of Irish America.

Special Collections opened two exhibitions this year, including one physical exhibition for the first time since October 2019:

- *Portable Devices, 1574-1998: Notebooks from the Special Collections* (physical): Featuring a variety of notebooks drawn from across the NYU Special Collections, and ranging from limp vellum 17th century recipe books to spiral-bound notebooks from 20th century antiwar activists, the exhibition shed light on the notebook's role as a tool for organizing and storing information critical to personal, domestic, social, educational, creative and political expression and thought.
- *No Turning Back: 10 Years After Occupy* (digital): Marking the 10th anniversary of the encampment at Zuccotti Park in downtown Manhattan, this digital exhibition brings together materials from the Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives, part of the NYU Special Collections, to examine the first year of Occupy Wall Street. Taking themes from the "Declaration of the Occupation of New York City" the exhibition showcases archival materials that capture the movement's tactics, strategies, aesthetics and language as well as the variety of formats activists and protesters used to spread their message.

General Collections

Open Access investments: In the past year, Collections Services and Scholarly Communication & Information Policy departments created a criteria for open access investments to guide our decision-making. Like many, we are open to experimentation in this area but concerned about some of the models. Open Access investments in 2021-22 included:

- Jewish Historical Newspapers:
- Cambridge Read and Publish via NERL
- Casalini Torrosa Open
- Open Access pilot for Latin American monographs
- U MICH, MIT, DeGruyter OA books programs
- Global Press Archive

Notable and Newsworthy Governance Models

LibGuides created for DAI, KA and RM departments

- [KA LibGuides](#), [RM LibGuides](#) and [DAI LibGuides](#) were published in fall 2021. [ACM LibGuides](#) was published several years ago. All four KARMS departments have their own LibGuides for colleagues and users to search and find information worldwide.
- During this implementation process, three departments had numerous discussions on mission, vision, values and strategic directions and were able to share all of this important information outside KARMS.

Metadata Policy & Implementation Committee

- A new group was approved in January 2022: KARMS Digital Resources Metadata Working Group is charged to coordinate and develop the metadata policies and workflows for digital resources such as e-resources, digitized collections and digital objects, in compliance with national and international standards. This group includes the advisory committee with membership outside KARMS for their expertise. Therefore, this group will be able to establish holistic policies for digital resources metadata at NYU.
- BIBFRAME Study Group finished its training plans in 2021 and the group was renamed as Linked Data Study Group, which continued linked data training with a larger scope. The group met monthly in spring 2022.
- The KARMS E-resources Metadata Task Group has changed its scope to focus on issues related to Alma migration such as metadata remediation, e.g. creating separate records for digitized collections.

Local, National, International Partnerships

- NYU joined the 2021/2022 CONSER DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) Cooperative Cataloging project, following the PCC Provider Neutral Guidelines to create and authenticate e-serial records in OCLC. We cataloged these OA journals in English, Chinese, Italian and Spanish.
- The East Asian Cataloger joined the PCC NACO CJK funnel and will receive training on creating authority records for East Asian names.
- Share-VDE pilot tests, including serial modeling, authority services and upcoming J.Cricket entity editor integration; NYU and U of Alberta colleagues gave a presentation on serial modeling in linked data at the Core conference.
- NYU joined the OCLC SEMI (Shared Entity Management Infrastructure) advisory committee and participated in several tests. The NYU representative reported our test outcomes at the OCLC and Linked Data: an update on infrastructure testing and linked data quality on October 27, 2021.
- NYU joined the PCC Policy Committee in October 2021 and the RDA Steering Committee in January 2022.