

**Collection Analysis Group Open Meeting
June 21, 2017 – 1:30-3:30PM
Pane Room – Alexander Library**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Kayo Denda (recorder), Rebecca Gardner, Tom Glynn, Karen Hartman, Mei Ling Lo, Jim Niessen, Megan O'Connor, Jamie Smith, Gracemary Smulewitz, Ela Sosnowska, Ann Watkins, Ryan Womack, Tao Yang (convener).

CAG Members Excused: Jonathan Saucedo, Julie Still, Mary Beth Weber

1. Interim AUL/CDM report (Tao Yang)

Faculty request purchases. Tao announced that in the near future a new practice to address faculty request purchases will be implemented, enabling faculty requests to be filled most of the year. After the discretionary spending period is over (usually in May), selectors will be able to send faculty requests to Monograph Acquisitions of CTS, which in turn will order the requested material. This practice will continue during the period from the end of fiscal year roll over (usually in July) to the allocation of non-state funds to selectors. Tao suggested allocating a percentage of the non-state funds for faculty request purchases.

Questions were raised about how to operationalize the new practice. The orders sent to the Monograph Acquisitions should include a prominent note indicating “faculty request” and the name/email of the librarian who should be notified. System generated notification to requesting academic faculty seems confusing and may be discontinued or revised.

Currently the Monograph Acquisitions is understaffed (with only four people) and has limited ability to handle/submit orders while also receiving new books.

Collection assessment. Ela and Mei Ling have added RUL-wide collection assessment responsibilities in health sciences and sciences, respectively. Assessment data presents evidence helpful to communicate library impact to university administrators. Collection assessment is essential for decision-making in collection development.

Gracemary and Tao calculated journal inflation that was included in the last budget request for FY18.

The negotiation with Sage and Springer subscription renewals will take place in fall 2017. Assessment will play an important role in the negotiations.

Structural deficit. The structural deficit (\$300,000) in collection happens because RUL did not get the inflation increase over two recent budget cycles. This situation is expected to improve because the university administration began to cover journal inflation. Tao presented a draft

proposal to address the structural deficit. His proposal includes weeding \$200,000 worth of resources off the "state funds" using evident based approach in order to reduce the structural deficit by \$100,000 and free funds for new resources worth \$100,000 dedicated to priority areas. Tao believes that this new model will ensure funding to support emerging areas of need in collections.

After some discussion, the print journal duplicate emerged as one possibility to start the weeding project. Among many aspects for consideration is whether journal titles are direct subscriptions, part of aggregate products, e-journal subscription tied with print, and usage. Gracemary and Collection Services have already captured many of these parameters.

Since journal subscription renewal generally starts in October, there is a need to mobilize immediately and create a workflow to enable selectors to weed.

2. Collection assessment project reports – Gracemary Smulewitz and Ela Sosnowska

Calculating annual collections inflation rate. Gracemary presented three documents in which the Collection Services Department collects information to calculate annual collections inflation. 1. Journal collections. 2. Ten most used databases. 3. Titles acquired via the VALE consortium. In addition to provide data for annual inflation rate, the documents are helpful in monitoring usage, cost fluctuation, added/deleted content, and percentage of the collection used. The selectors should monitor these data and make informed decisions regarding collections.

Analysis of Science Direct health science backfiles. Ela analyzed data to calculate the total cost of turnaways of Elsevier health science journal backfiles and compared with ILL cost to get the same number of articles. Her conclusion is that it is more cost effective to purchase the backfiles than use the ILL. This was part of the evidence used successfully in persuading the university administrators to fund the Elsevier backfiles. Tao said additional benefits of the backfile purchase include the substantial reduction of inflation rate for the Science Direct subscription and the potential of space savings throughout the Libraries, which were also presented to the university.

3. Brainstorming on FY18 activities for the CAG.

This item was tabled for the next meeting.

4. Round robin reports (All)

Meghan O'Connor. Monograph Acquisitions/CTS has backlogs at present. They plan to catch up during the roll over period. Only course reserve materials are processed at present. The CTS changed its workflow recently. They receive the books; they process the invoice before cataloging the books. This new workflow ensures that the invoices are paid immediately.

Jamie Smith. Holdings Management is currently working with the Alcohol Studies Library material moving to LSM. The Alex and LSM duplicate weeding projects are ongoing. Alex project involves 40,000 copies, primarily on level 2B. The LSM project involved 5,000 copies.

Jim Niessen. Jim, Kevin Mulcahy and legacy NBCG subgroup chairs met with Jeanne Boyle to select titles to purchase with end-of-the-year \$12,000 in NBL non-state allocations (one time). They selected titles from the desiderata list CSRS maintains.

Ella Soskowska. The RBHS librarians are experiencing difficulties with high-level academic faculty hires who demand specific (and high-priced) resources in their field. Smith Library has shelving space issues; weeding will be necessary in the near future.

Mei Ling Lo. Mei Ling is currently serving as the coordinator for the LSM weeding project working with LSM colleagues.

Ann Watkins. Ann reported that Au is leading efforts in the inventory project at Dana Library, which includes identifying unbarcoded books and deciding to either keep or discard them. Stephanie Mikitish is analyzing borrowing and lending data from E-Z borrow to identify trends by call #, by user category and by subject. We suggested Tao invite Stephanie for a talk or discussion with CAG.

Gracemary Smulewitz. The Collection Services department is processing orders. There is a small backlog, but the department is catching up. They are contacting vendors for late invoices.