

## Library Liaison Advisory Group

### Agenda

May 18, 2021

1. **Tentative expectations for the libraries in fall quarter (Michael Levine-Clark, Carrie Forbes, Jack Maness)**
  - a. We haven't received confirmation yet on if the spaces in the library will be used for fall classes or not.
  - b. We will resume regular hours, 7 days a week for fall.
  - c. Starting over the summer, we will transition from curbside pickup to item pick-up at the Lending Desk inside the AAC. Reservable outside lockers for materials pick-up will be available for the foreseeable future.
  - d. Lower Level and Book Stacks may remain closed for part of the summer as we transition our spaces, but will be open for fall.
  - e. We are tentatively expecting library service desks in the AAC to start reopening for in-person services over the summer, if things keep going well.
  - f. We are still limiting building access to the DU community only (no visitors) over the summer and into the fall (as long as DU maintains controlled swipe access to buildings).
  - g. Details are still being ironed out on return to work policies by the Work @DU taskforce
    - i. Recommendations for transitioning back to campus, facilities, and remote work should be released by the beginning of June, maybe sooner.
    - ii. There are still uncertainties about how visitors to campus will be managed.
  - h. Any questions?
    - i. Law School starts in mid-August a month before the rest of DU
      1. Currently open 7 days a week 10am-6pm, unsure about fall.
      2. Might continue to be restricted to Law community only.
      3. Potentially opening up to the DU community, but not to non-DU.
    - ii. How long will curbside pick-up of books continue?
      1. Curbside will be available until at least mid-July, after that we will be transitioning to pick-up at the Lending Desk. Outside lockers will remain available.
    - iii. Will students be able to stay in the library to study for longer periods of time?
      1. Yes, they can swipe in now if they are cleared for campus.
      2. There are some spaces in the AAC that are not open/accessible, but the main and upper level are open for study.
    - iv. What about group study rooms?
      1. Study rooms on the upper level are available on a first come, first served basis (no reservations). The rooms do have capacity limitations which are clearly marked.
      2. Some rooms are currently offline and are being used for furniture storage.
      3. Rooms should be available for groups to use in the fall.

2. Nexis Uni subscription discussion given the [LexisNexis contract with ICE](#) (Shannon Tharp)

- a. Keep in mind this is the beginning of the conversation and there will probably more on this topic coming in the future.
- b. The databases Nexis Uni and Westlaw are owned and operated by LexisNexis and Thompson Reuters.
  - i. They have both contracted with ICE to provide data to locate people with little oversight.
  - ii. Our current subscription with Nexis Uni runs until June 2022, we don't currently subscribe to Westlaw in the main library.
- c. DU mission and vision as "a great private university dedicated to the public good"
  - i. Difficulty squaring this with continued spending on companies that cause harm to our members of our community.
  - ii. Collection Development committee has spent time discussing this
    1. Would like to now begin to talk to faculty about thoughts and potential alternatives that we might consider.
    2. From the article linked above:
      - a. "In our initial conversations, we've already seen that libraries may want to begin planning now to recalibrate relationships with vendors that actively contribute to broader systems of surveillance—and that this recalibration will take different forms for different institutions. Some may be able to walk away from a vendor or significantly reduce their spend. While for many others, it may not be possible to walk away for now, and recalibration may start with a renewed focus on contractual terms (particularly privacy clauses) and taking steps to educate faculty and students about vendors' surveillance activities. In the long term, recalibration may require building alternatives that do not currently exist."
- d. What kind of thoughts and questions do you have?
  - i. This is obviously a disturbing level of online surveillance that is unnerving. The problem is that LexisNexis has us over a barrel because they have exclusive contracts for media resources and data we need. Their game plan is to have these exclusive contracts. I've explored other ways to get the data, but there just isn't. If other scholars have access to the data and we don't, they'll be able to do work that we can't. I don't support what they are doing, but the thought of not having access would be a big problem for multiple, major research projects. Not sure how to work around that.
  - ii. This is exactly what came in our discussions and we recognize their monopoly on the information people need access to. We are here to start talking and we are not going to pull the rug out from under you.

I am grateful that you have initiated this discussion. My personal stance has been #NoTechForICE. There are other vendors as well.

<https://notechforice.com/>
  - iii. Are anonymized library cards possible?

1. It is for physical items after they've been returned, but not sure about online access.
  2. We would have to use the 87# to create another anonymous ID to pass through, it's theoretically possible
    - That said, the proxy does not pass any personal information to the databases, This is one of the benefits of proxy system, it protects privacy fairly well. Data about users once they are in the database is another matter, but our systems do not by default share any information on individuals. See our Privacy Statement for more information:  
<https://library.du.edu/policies/records-privacy.html>
- iv. Law school has contracts with LexisNexis and Thompson Reuters Westlaw for student and faculty research within the Law school, but they are not available to the main campus
1. They are password driven based on our contracts which are authenticated by user.
  2. These are controlled by the user and not the library, so these are separate from the proxy on the main campus.
  3. Since students are creating their own accounts, wouldn't Thomson and Lexis then be able to get individual user?
    - a. Yes and no. There are likely ways that they can get into accounts behind the scenes. We, the library, cannot get into their accounts unless we have their passwords. We can reset their accounts, but we cannot access their searches.
  4. But the vendor can't they?
    - a. Yes, generally they can, although I am not sure whether the access is 100%.
  5. There are certain parts of Westlaw that the vendor does not have access to, for example when someone uploads a brief in the Brief Check product. It does not reside on the Westlaw server and disappears (supposedly) once the check has been completed.
- v. Are there any sort of alternatives that we can consider?
1. The two elements are legal and news for Nexis Uni. Their primary product is legal. While there are alternatives to things like statutes the case laws have head notes and key number systems that are value added which there are really no substitutes for.
  2. This could be the tip of the iceberg, ProQuest just got bought out by an international company and we don't know what alliances they are going to build.
    - a. I don't think we can make a decision unless we have policies that cover what happens outside of these two sources
    - b. Clarivate Analytics who owns Web of Science has just announced they are buying ProQuest, which includes Ex Libris, Alexander Street, and many other things.
    - c. ProQuest also provides our catalog and our discovery system and everything we use to provide access to things.

- d. The same company that owns Nexis also owns Elsevier, which also has unique content and we can't decide to unsubscribe to Elsevier because you can't get that content any other way, which is a problem at the publisher level.
- 3. Are there things we would subscribe to no matter what? Or is the better approach to think about safeguards for privacy and other protections?
- 4. This site for UCLA provides a few alternatives to LexisNexis and Westlaw: <https://libguides.law.ucla.edu/onlinelegalresearch>
  - a. the UCLA folks have been really big advocates for alternatives (and their law students have been very vocal).
  - b. It does note that some of things will not be freely accessible online but it's a start.
- 5. Microsoft also has a contract with ICE, so try to imagine not using Microsoft and disentangling all of your work from that.
  - a. What are the options for doing that? Try to use the Word option instead of alternative, because alternative still centers the thing that causes harm.
- 6. The same is also true for Amazon. Amazon's cloud services are part of many, many products.
- 7. Also check out and support our fab CAHSS faculty in the clinic for open source arts because they are trying to create tools that give us the kinds of options we lack in this situation :)  
<https://www.du.edu/ahss/opensourcearts/>
- 8. Please contact Derigan Silver as president of APC for senate to let him know.
  - a. Shannon is also Faculty Senate Secretary so (at least until June) she can contact Derigan.
- e. We have time for one more question
  - i. Please take this back to your faculty, this is something the library and the university is going to struggle with so start these conversations with your colleagues if you can.
  - ii. There is potential for this to emerge as a campus-wide conversation.
  - iii. In terms of questions about the privacy, I was also thinking about how you can sign in with ID # but then email yourself a copy of the article, or can email a student and I wonder if that information is accessible? (Just food for thought as the exploration of impacts continues).

### 3. Collections update (Shannon Tharp)

- a. Our current FY (2021) ends June 30<sup>th</sup>
  - i. We are working to reconcile our budget where we've received an 8% reduction for this FY.
- b. We don't have a number to report for 2022
  - i. Hopefully this will become clear in the next few weeks.
- c. Liaisons have been in communication with you about standing order subscriptions currently under way.

- i. We're set to have decisions about any discontinuations at the end of the month.
  - ii. We anticipate these conversations to become regular over the next few years.
  - iii. We will get information to you as it arrives to us.
- d. Recent addition to our collection, [American Prison Newspapers, 1800 – 2000](#)
  - i. Located in A section of our [A-Z Databases](#) list.
  - ii. DU helped to fund by Reveal Digital this past year.
  - iii. Hundreds of periodicals across the country with special attention to women's-only institutions and newspapers.
- e. DU Libraries is now looking at becoming a funder of Reveal Digital's Diversity and Dissent Fund.
  - i. Includes American Prison Newspapers (mentioned above) and another resource for student activism.
  - ii. They also have a third project in development to document civil rights and historically black colleges.
- f. The budget that will be submitted to the board for approval will have an increase over our current budget, but not back to what it was pre-Covid.
  - i. We are expecting to have a little flexibility in the collections budget, but not back to where we were before Covid-19.
- g. Reveal Digital is an interesting model where we pay in to help them identify and digitize these unique materials, then once they hit a threshold it becomes freely available.
  - i. Participating in any package from Reveal benefits researchers everywhere.
  - ii. There is some social good in working the Reveal Digital.
- h. Thanks to everyone including faculty and liaisons for engaging with us. We are on track to meet our budget and we'll probably need your help again next year, thank you for sticking with us.

#### **4. Announcements (Shannon Tharp, Carrie Forbes, Bridget Farrell)**

- a. Shannon Tharp - Last week I sent the call out at the end last week for the University Library Association Collection Development Program 2021-2022
  - i. Please take a look when you have a chance and share with your colleagues.
  - ii. You can also share with undergraduates and graduates.
  - iii. Contact your liaison librarian or Shannon if you have any questions.
  - iv. Proposals are due August 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - v. Awards this year will be \$3000 a piece again this year.
- b. Carrie Forbes – Information Literacy grants for next academic year
  - i. The call has not gone out yet, but we will send it out through the listserv.
  - ii. Information Literacy Grants
    1. Used to be called the Moreland Grants.
    2. Stipends for faculty and librarians to collaborate on revising or designing a class around issues of information literacy, research practices, library resources, etc.
    3. Both graduate and undergraduate classes are eligible.
    4. For fall courses the proposals will be due Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> so you have time to work with the subject librarians.
    5. Winter and spring proposals will not be due until October 8<sup>th</sup>.

- 6. If you have classes about the economics of information or information ethics like what we were talking about with LexisNexis and Thompson Reuters, these can be included under information literacy practices.
  - c. Bridget Farrell - Visual literacy workshop panel discussion later this summer
    - i. We will send out to listserv once a date is solidified.
    - ii. If you are interested in visual literacy and how to use that in your classes.
    - iii. Faculty will be talking about working with librarians, and experiences and research with visual literacy.
- 5. Library fines (Ryan Buller)**
- a. Library is changing how we do fines.
  - b. Over the last year and half the library has not been charging overdue fines, except for recalled items.
    - i. The library has decided to continue this into the future even after things get back to normal on campus.
  - c. Starting in summer, will no longer be charging or assessing overdue fines for circulating monographs.
  - d. We do have to introduce different kinds of accountability to make sure we get our materials back in a timely manner.
    - i. Account blocks for materials not returned within a certain period of time.
      - 1. No check-out, renewals, requests.
  - e. Hourly materials will still have overdue fines because they have high use
    - i. Gadgets
    - ii. Course reserves
  - f. Recalled overdues will still have fines.
  - g. We are just working to configure this in our system we just need time test the system.
  - h. Does this apply to everyone even non-DU community?
    - i. Yes
  - i. Does this include Prospector?
    - i. We will not be assessing fines for Prospector
  - j. Lost and item replacement charges will still exist
    - i. Goes into effect 30 days after due date
  - k. If you have any questions you can email [Ryan.Buller@du.edu](mailto:Ryan.Buller@du.edu)
- 6. WEST – important new regional library membership (Michael Levine-Clark, Jack Maness)**
- a. We will email some info out and maybe talk about this in the fall.
- 7. Artstor – brief demo on how replaces CourseMedia (Peggy Keeran)**
- a. Artstor for teaching and learning
    - i. Will be replacing CourseMedia.
    - ii. CourseMedia has become too fragile to use.
    - iii. Has an image management system that is similar to CourseMedia.
    - iv. Faculty, students, and staff can access without being enrolled in a class.
  - b. You can create Groups for images
    - i. These were called Galleries in CourseMedia.
  - c. Upload your own images
    - i. Visual Media Center can help migrate images from CourseMedia.
    - ii. Register to save and upload.

- d. To find, type “Artstor” into the database search bar on library homepage.
    - i. You can create your own registration after logging in with 87#.
    - ii. General and advanced search.
    - iii. Browse:
      - 1. Artstor Collections
        - a. Artstor partnerships with museums and cultural institutions.
      - 2. Institutional Collections
        - a. Images from DU.
      - 3. Public Collections
        - a. Public institutions that have made their collections freely available.
      - 4. Personal Collections
        - a. Your own uploads.
      - 5. Groups
        - a. Can create groups.
    - iv. It’s not just for art
      - 1. Science, medicine, social science images.
    - v. You can export to PowerPoint or share link to group.
    - vi. There is a Research Guide for more information  
<https://libguides.du.edu/artstor>
- 8. Outlook invites for future LLAG meetings (Peggy Keeran)**
  - a. We’ll continue doing this moving forward.
- 9. Other business?**
  - a. Out of time.