Middlebury College

Library Annual Report 2015-2016

Library Mission

We strive to be a center of intellectual and scholarly activity that advances teaching, learning, research, and innovation at Middlebury.

We connect our community to the universe of information; steward our unique and rare resources for the needs of current and future generations; design compelling spaces for collaboration, creation, and contemplation; and foster intellectual community, critical inquiry, and transformative scholarship and teaching; all in the service of instilling in our students a lifelong passion for personal growth and learning.

Library Values

1. We seek out innovations and ideas that improve Middlebury and our community. We embrace learning and growing as individuals and as an organization, striving to be agile and bold in our efforts, encouraging experimentation and informed risk taking, while learning from our experiences.

2. We achieve our mission, vision, and goals through individual accountability, team-work, collaboration, and regular assessment.

3. We seek to know and understand our community and our co-workers. We believe that productive debate and the discussion of difference strengthen our work together.

4. We make decisions openly whenever possible and involve stakeholders in the process.

Introduction

We've organized this year's annual report around our key strategic directions for the library. These directions reflect our quest to continually improve and evolve our services in support of both the changing modes of pedagogy and inquiry at the college, and the fast-moving world of technology and scholarly communication.

Strategic Directions

1. Sustain access to collections that delight our current and future scholars
2. Provide spaces that inspire excellence in teaching, study, research and the production of knowledge
3. Develop and deliver educational programming to support student and faculty development
4. Support the development of expert staff that are critical to our on-going and new initiatives

You'll find here our primary accomplishments, some facts and figures about the library, and some of our future plans. We have also included some miscellaneous plans that don't fit neatly into any of the other categories. We conclude with a recap of new and departed staff from the past year, as well as a summary of staff publications, presentations, and other forms of professional service.

Michael Roy
L. Douglas and Laura J. Meredith
Dean of the Library

Sustain Access to Collections that Delight our Current and Future Scholars

Key Accomplishments

Deselection In order to ensure that our physical collection fits into our existing space and are focused on the needs of our students and faculty, we need to continually manage the size of our collection. This past year we withdrew 2,400 items. We are also a founding member of the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust, a consortium focused on preserving "last copies" of monographs, which will, over time, allow us to withdraw rarely- or never-used items with the assurance that other copies will remain available through this network.

Analysis of collection We looked at the effectiveness of the various ways in which we order books, and refined these methods based on what we found. We also shifted the manner in which we acquire ebooks in order to address budgetary problems caused by recent publisher changes in how ebooks are priced.

Open access policy We participated in a faculty-led effort to pass an Open Access policy for the undergraduate college, which will allow us to share faculty articles with the world through an institutional repository.

Lever Press Forms We participated, along with over 45 other small liberal arts colleges, in forming a new Open Access monograph press called the Lever Press that will provide a digital-first platform for the publication of high quality scholarship.

College web archive launches Middlebury College Web Archive launched in 2015, now includes over 50 sites - including Tumblrs, blogs, and faculty web pages that document Middlebury's life online, such as acapella groups, sexual violence, broccoli in the dining halls, and Queer Faces.

FY16 Facts and Figures

Circulation: 83,622

InterLibrary Loan: borrowed 9,130, lent 23,475

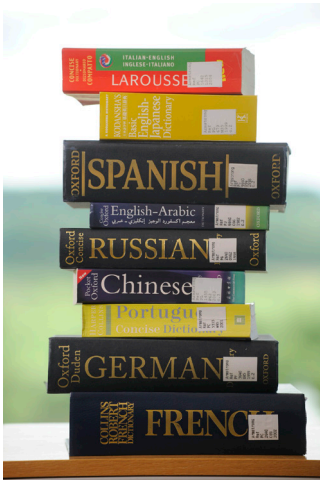**Special Collections and Archives:** 1,722 visitors (an increase of over 26% from FY15)

Print books held by the library: 691,987

Number of serials held by the library: 169,207

Looking Forward

Library Catalog Evaluation We will evaluate options for replacing our library catalog (MIDCAT) with a new system.

Deselection Continues The work of analyzing our current print collections and making decisions about which titles we can remove from our collection will continue for a second year.

ArchivesSpace Integration Having launched a new system for allowing our patrons to more easily discover the rich collections in our Archives, we will take the next step of integrating that system with our other discovery tools (e.g. MIDCAT and Summon) as well as national and international databases (e.g. WorldCat and ArchiveGrid).

Repository Selection We will select a new system for providing long-term storage for important digital collections and other campus data which will support, among other things, our recently approved Open Access policy.

Evaluation of Journal and Database Packages We plan another of our periodic evaluations of our journal and database packages, looking at factors such as usage, cost, and alternate access options.

Provide Spaces that Inspire Excellence in Teaching, Study, Research and the Production of Knowledge

Key Accomplishments

Physical Space

Learning space assessment We examined all of Middlebury's learning spaces as part of an effort to develop a long-term classroom improvement plan.

Library Space Team We convened a Library Space Team to examine how our library space is being used, and to develop plans - both simple and grand - for how this space might be adapted to better meet the community's needs.

Wilson Media Lab We redesigned the Wilson Media Lab in the library to provide a space that encourages collaboration and small group work.

Electronic Space

Canvas After evaluating several candidates for a new course management system, we selected Canvas as our replacement for Moodle.

Cyberinfrastructure inventory We created an inventory of the Platforms and applications that we make available to the academic community. This will help us better organize that environment, making it easier for our community to know what tools they have at their disposal.

FY16 Facts and Figures

Annual Gate Counts: 615,035

Wilson Media Lab Stats: Requests for help: 2,457 (30% by faculty, 70% by students)

Stacks Maintenance: shifted 6,500 linear feet (1.23 miles) of books

Looking Forward

Classroom improvement, a multi-year plan We will analyze the results of our survey of Middlebury classrooms and develop for improving our teaching spaces over the coming years.

Axinn 105 We will renovate Axinn 105 into a computer classroom similar in design to the Wilson Media Lab.

Armstrong library collection reduction We will continue the planning work begun last year on how to carefully reduce the size of the underused print collection in Armstrong Library. This will allow us to free up space in the library for other uses, including classrooms.

Canvas and Panopto Implementations We will implement our new course management system, Canvas, and pilot a new video server called Panopto.

Develop and Deliver Educational Programming to Support Student and Faculty Development

Key Accomplishments

Infolit 2.0 We studied the recently published [ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](#), while assessing our current approach to integrating information literacy concepts into the curriculum.
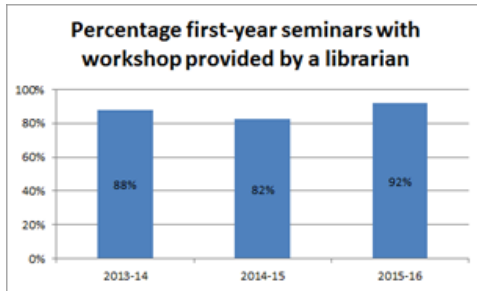
Communities of practice Over the last 12 months we interviewed faculty about teaching methodology or practice they found effective in their classroom. The results of these interviews were collected and organized on the Teaching at Middlebury site (http://sites.middlebury.edu/teach/). At the same time as a result of CTLR programming, seven communities have organically formed and are currently supported by ATG and CTLR staff: Flipped Classrooms, Rethinking Grading, Improving the Faculty Research Culture, Contemplative Pedagogy, Podcasting, [Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning](#) (POGIL), Science of Learning.

Student technology skills project We made headway defining the sorts of technology skills employers are looking for in recent graduates, and in developing a way to help students discover who can best help them develop these skills.
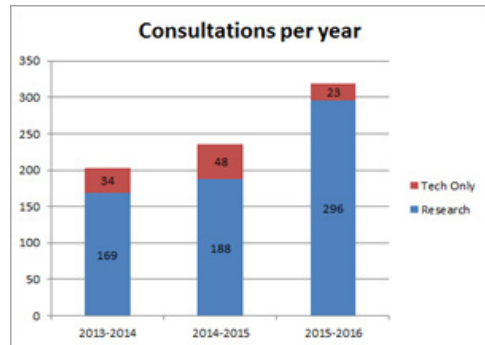
DLA workshops and fellowships We participated in 22 workshops and presentations that were offered through the Digital Liberal Arts Initiative, including

- Introduction to Digital Text Analysis Workshop
- Liberal Arts Data Bootcamp
- Behind the Scenes: The Collinwood Fire, 1908
- The Women Writers Project: A Look Under the Hood with Julia Flanders

FY16 Facts and Figures

Percentage first-year seminars with workshop provided by a librarian

Chart showing percentages: 2013-14: 88%, 2014-15: 82%, 2015-16: 92%

Percentage of first-year seminars with a workshop provided by a librarian: 92%

Consultations per year

Chart showing Research (blue) and Tech Only (red) consultations: 2013-2014: 169 Research, 34 Tech Only; 2014-2015: 188 Research, 48 Tech Only; 2015-2016: 296 Research, 23 Tech Only

Number of consultations provided by a librarian: 299

Workshops, roundtables, and Institute attendance: 506 (304 faculty, 161 staff, 38 guests, 3 students)

Looking Forward

Reframe Information Literacy as Student Research Based on last year's assessment of our information literacy efforts, we will be focusing more on the benefits of these skills for student research. We will partner more with individual faculty who are interested in integrating these activities into their courses, and focus somewhat less on outreach to faculty at the departmental level.

The Academic Technology Group with CTLR will continue to provide professional development through the:

- Teaching and Writing Retreat
- J-Term Lectures series
- Learning Institute
- Teach Project

Support the Development of Expert Staff

Key Accomplishments

Inquiry based techniques We've shared suggestions for workshop activities, including game-based learning exercises. We led an open discussion about how to improve our instruction techniques in the spring semester. In August, we gained hands-on experience with a student-directed teaching technique called POGIL (Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning) via a workshop with Glen Ernstrom, who has been using this technique in his classes.

Digital Liberal Arts The DLA organized a number of workshops, Behind the Scenes luncheons and presentations by Middlebury and invited speakers throughout the year. Examples include: Building Digital Exhibits with Omeka workshop, Fifty Years of Green: A Digital Exhibition by Kathy Morse & Alicia Peaker and The Shape of Data: A Research and Teaching Agenda for Digital Humanities by Julia Flanders.

In-service day We held a library staff retreat on April 1, 2016, with "crowd-sourced" programming available throughout the day. The events included: a presentation by Mike Roy on workplace productivity; a tree walk with campus horticulturalist Tim Parsons, or-ganized by Sue Driscoll; a "rapid" book reviews round robin hosted by Michele McHugh; and delicious meals shared by the entire Library staff, arranged by Doreen Bernier.

Digital Liberal Arts Exchange Grant We received a planning grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to examine the possibility of creating an exchange that would allow us to share expertise across a network of schools.

FY16 Facts and Figures

Conferences and Workshops attended by library staff: 48

Digital Liberal Arts Workshops and Talks held: 22

Looking Forward

Reading Group on the Future of the Library As part of this year's Envisioning Middlebury strategic planning process, we are establishing a book group to help us learn about and explore new ways the Library can support the work of the College as pedagogical methods, tools, and content constantly evolve.

Explore Creative Approaches to Staff Development In an era of fiscal constraints, we'll explore other creative approaches to ensuring that we provide our staff with opportunities to learn and grow throughout their careers within our organization

Other Activities

Key Accomplishments

Shakespeare! During February 2016, the exhibition [First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare](#), arrived in Middlebury on tour from the [Folger Shakespeare Library.](#) Rebekah Irwin, project director, worked closely with Special Collections staff, the Museum of Art, College Communications, the Town Hall Theater, and the Ilsley Public Library to plan over a dozen events held during the month. Over 5,000 people attended an event and visited the exhibition.

We have continued to seek opportunities to **collaborate with other groups on campus**. These collaborations have given us a new window on student life and helped us strengthen relationships with faculty. Of note this year, we provided research support and outreach at the Anderson Freeman Center; joined forces with the Writing Program and the CTLR to co-sponsor the first-ever Middlebury Write-In; served on the Spring Symposium Planning Committee; teamed up with the Digital Liberal Arts initiative to lead a Data Bootcamp training series; and laid the groundwork for several projects developed in tandem with the CTLR.

MISO Results We participated again in the biennial [MISO survey](#) to help us gain a better understanding about how our community values the services and resources we provide.

ACTT Formation We reimagined the long-standing Curricular Technology Team as a new team with a more focused charge. This new Academic Cyberinfrastructure Transformation Team (ACTT) helps to ensure good communication and coordination across the many groups engaged in providing support for the virtual networks, tools, and services supporting Middlebury's academic ecosystem.

Looking Forward

Assessment 2.0 We have three interconnected projects this year that collectively will help us use our data more effectively to understand the trends in how we are interacting with our community, and how our community is interacting with the services and resources that they provide. These include our **library data project** which brings together data from a wide array of sources into a single dashboard for looking at trends, a **faculty engagement system** that will allow us to keep track of how who we are spending our time with, and last year's **MISO survey**.

Building Capacity for New Scholarly Methods The methods used by scholars in pursuing their research are changing. Developments in digital humanities and digital scholarship, along with an increased interest in using high performance computing to explore questions involving big data, challenge us as a library to think about what it requires to support these new methods. This involves questions of organizational structure, changing roles and responsibilities for staff, and core infrastructure and systems.

Staff Comings and Goings

Douglas Black, our new Collection Development librarian is working hard to focus our collections on user needs and to ensure the collection budget is spent appropriately.

Mikaela Taylor has worked exhaustively and energetically since her first day as our postgraduate intern for special collections, which began on September 1, 2015. Mikaela networks with students and faculty, oversees our social media presence, produces the award-winning Special Collections & Archives WRMC radio show Stacks and Tracks, and has curated or co-curated four exhibitions.

Amy Frazier is our new Film & Media Librarian. We have been able to call on her expertise this year not only for the creation of short videos featuring library resources, but also in support of faculty course development. Amy also has applied her creative energy to student engagement efforts including library posters, social media, and collaboration with the Writing Program on the first-ever Middlebury College Write-In.

Ryan Clement, our new Data Services Librarian has been instrumental in the advancement of data services for students and for the library. In his first full semester here, his appointment calendar was filled with student statistics consultations. Recently, he has been working with Bryan Carson on the Library Data Project in order to help us track, measure and assess our work across the organization.

Patrick Wallace, our inaugural Digital Projects & Archives Librarian, has blazed many paths since his start day, September 28, 2015. Patrick has launched the Middlebury College Web Archive and breathed new life into Middlebury's Internet Archive collection. He has stepped into several leadership positions: in the state-wide effort to share Vermont's library and archival collections in the Digital Public Library of America; the Open Access Working Group; and the Repository Evaluation Project.

Daniel Houghton officially joined the staff of the Library in July of 2015. He teaches 3D Computer Animation and runs the Animation Studio at Middlebury College where student teams collaborate with faculty on research projects and individual students pursue senior thesis work. His animations have screened internationally and online at The Atlantic, Huffington Post, Wired and PBS. Prior to his current endeavors he taught video production in the Film and Media Culture Department.

We're sad to have to say goodbye to **Stacy Reardon**, Research & Instruction Librarian extraordinaire. Her contributions to the library ranged from library instruction to user-focused website design to academic technology and more. We wish her the best in her new job as Literatures and Digital Humanities Librarian at University of California-ayresBerkeley.

The Interlibrary Loan Department said goodbye to long-time employee Kate Schmitt, who retired from her position as ILL Associate in December 2015.

Staff Publications, Presentations, and Service

Joe Antonioli

- Invited to join the Expert Panel for the 2017 Higher Ed Horizon Report

Ryan Clement:

- Authored "The Data Librarian in the Liberal Arts College" in Databrarianship: The Academic Data Librarian in Theory and Practice

- Served on the panel "Measuring Up: How Are We Defining Success for Research Data Services?," Research Data Access and Preservation Summit in Atlanta, GA

- Presented "Beyond Finding and Managing: Extending Research Data Services at Liberal Arts Institutions," inaugural Oberlin Digital Scholarship Conference, Macalester College

- Served, with Patrick Wallace and Alicia Peaker, on a panel at the Oberlin Digital Scholarship Conference called "Collaborating Across Units to Support Digital Scholarship"

- Co-authored: Marquez, Joe J., Annie Downey, and Ryan Clement. "Walking a Mile in the User's Shoes: Customer Journey Mapping as a Method to Understanding the User Experience." Internet Reference Services Quarterly 20, no. 3–4 (October 2, 2015): 135–50. doi:10.1080/10875301.2015.1107000

- Presented work from his time at Reed College at the Digital Library Federation's Liberal Arts pre-conference on a multi-institution workshop on data management and curation

- Serves on the planning committee for the 2016 Digital Library Federation's Liberal Arts College Pre-Conference (part of the annual DLF Forum)

Dan Frostman

- Recorded 2 pieces as guest oboist on the Middlebury College Choir compact disc Not with Voice Alone, But Heart

Rebekah Irwin

- Served on two panels at the [annual conference](#) of the [Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS)](#) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL):
  - ◊ [My books smell good: fantasy and sentimentality in special collections](#)
  - ◊ [The view from the director's desk: managing soft skills in special collections](#)
- Presented on two panels at the Digital Library Federation (DLF) Liberal Arts Colleges Preconference in Vancouver, Canada:
  - ◊ [Long Live the Digital Projects Librarian!](#)
  - ◊ [Beyond Grunt Work: Putting Students at the Center of Digital Scholarship](#)
- Serves as the chair of the Board of Trustees of the Ilsley Public Library

Bill Koulopoulos

- Participated in a panel discussion for the US Department of State-sponsored group "Access for All: Enhancing the Lives of People with Disabilities"

Carrie Macfarlane

- Updated the "Do-It-Yourself" chapter of the 25th edition of *Magazines for Libraries*

- Serves on the Scholarship Committee of the Vermont Library Association, which awards scholarships to librarians and graduate students in order to promote professional librarianship in Vermont

Joy Pile

- Published book reviews with *Fontes Artis Musicae*:
  - ◊ "Beethoven by Wagner"
  - ◊ "Crosscurrents"

Stacy Reardon

- Served as a manuscript reader for the *New England Review*

Danielle Rougeau

- Serves on the Board of Trustees of the Henry Sheldon Museum as well as on the Stewart-Swift Research Center Advisory Committee

Mike Roy

- Authored "Open" for "Digital Pedegogy in the Humanities: Concepts, Models, and Experiments" Modern Language Association, Spring 2016

- Gave a talk "The End of Libraries" for the Society for Scholarly Publishing Annual Library Focus Group, Washington, DC, February 2016

- Hosted a webinar "Connecting the Dots: Synthesizing Key Topics in the Evolution of E-Content", EDUCAUSE Live Webinar, February 10, 2106

- Editor for the Educause "E-content" column, 2015

- Member of the Educause 2016 Annual Program Committee

- Founding chair, Lever Press Oversight Committee

Mikaela Taylor

- With Italian professor Tom Van Order, presented at a Digital Liberal Arts "Behind the Scenes: Demystifying Projects in the Digital Liberal Arts" session on Midd Italiano, a new online text for introductory Italian courses

Patrick Wallace

- Served on two panels at the [Oberlin Digital Scholarship Conference](#)

  ◊ Collaborating across units to support digital scholarship (w/ Alicia Peaker and Ryan Clement)

  ◊ Free for all: opening digital collections and supporting multi-institutional efforts with Internet Archive

Joseph Watson

- Serves as a convening member of the Addison County Cultural Heritage Emergency Response Network (ACCHERN)

Davis Family Library
110 Storrs Avenue
Middlebury, Vermont 05753